

Conference on “Migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the context of major risks prevention and management”

Biographies

14 October 2016, Lisbon



João Afonso was elected in November 2013 and is, since then, Deputy Mayor for Social Rights of Lisbon city Council, with skills in the areas of Citizenship, Human Rights, Economy and Social Innovation, Health, Youth, Gender Equality, Disability, Interculturality and Inter-religiousness, Aging, Childhood, Family, Homeless People and Pedestrian Accessibility. He holds a degree in Architecture from the Technical University of Lisbon (1994) and a graduate degree in Urban Design, at ISCTE-IUL (2002), he is also elaborating a doctoral thesis on "A contribution to the construction of Democracy in Portugal. A reading of Architecture in Portugal between 1948 and 1974".



Nazim Ahmad is the Diplomatic Representative of the Ismaili Imamato to the Portuguese Republic, and Head of the Department for Portugal and Other Lusophone Countries Affairs of the Ismaili Imamato. In parallel with his career as businessman and general manager of several companies since 1965, Nazim Ahmad held various functions in the Ismaili National Council for Portugal since 1979, having been appointed President thereof from 1990 to 1997. From 1997 to 2006 he was Chairman of the Aga Khan Foundation Portugal's National Committee.



Paola Albrito is the Chief of the Regional Office for Europe at the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). In her current role, she supported the delivery of disaster risk reduction coordinated actions and partnership development within the Hyogo Framework for Action implementation and braced the preparation of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. Paola holds a Master's Degree in International Relations and Political Science from the University of Turin, Italy.



Evangelos Avgoulas began his training at the *Blind Education and Rehabilitation Center* in Kallithea and finished the Primary School of Piraeus, participating in Pilot Training Program *Sun* (integration of blind students in public school class). He is a lawyer, currently working as a research assistant with the incumbent Minister of Interior and Administrative Reform. Mr. Avgoulas is also Regular Representative in Greece of ILO VIEWS for youth with visual impairments, and Deputy General Secretary of the Panhellenic Association of the Blind and Secretary of the Blind Panhellenic Youth Committee. He is currently completing a Master's degree in Civil Law.



Chiara Bianchizza is researcher with the Institute of International Sociology Gorizia (ISIG) in Italy since 2010 and deputy director since 2014. She worked as a lecturer of Sociology of Migrations from 2013 to 2016. Her main fields of research concern adaptation of community to external stress, vulnerability and resilience as well as engagement of civil society for territorial management and decision making.



Jean-Michel Caudron, for the last 26 years, has worked as a social engineering consultant, advising local authorities on their policies on aging throughout Francophone Europe, in parts of the French Caribbean, Morocco and Argentina. He has also worked alongside French, Belgian and Luxembourgish ministerial cabinets, providing advice writing reports and conducting research. For civil society, he spearheaded the writing of a draft international convention for the rights of the elderly, which today is brought to the UN by FIAPA, for which he is manager of communication and lobbying. He is also the FIAPA representative to the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe.



Stephen Curzon graduated from King's College London in the field of Law and subsequently specialised in EU Law, obtaining an LL.M. from the University of London and a joint-PhD from the Universities of Bologna (Italy) and Strasbourg (France). He joined the European Commission in 2009, working in the field of civil protection and emergency response and the Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian aid Operations (DG ECHO) to help respond to the ongoing migration crisis in Europe. He is team leader on international, policy and legal issues in the Civil Protection Policy Unit and responsible for drafting and negotiating new European legislation in the field of migration.



Carmen Diego Gonçalves, PhD in Sociology of Education, Communication and Information Technologies/ISCTE, UL. University Researcher. Was a post-doctoral researcher/ University of Coimbra, CES, with a research plan focusing on dimensions of vulnerability and resilience, exploring the composite nature of the concept of natural disasters. Conceptions and Perceptions of Risk, Risk Societies, Disasters and Catastrophes, Vulnerability and Resilience. Science Communication and Vulgarization. Controversies and Public Participation. Communication Strategies. Qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection and analysis. Presently, she is a voluntary contributor to JRSPortugal.



Eladio Fernandez-Galiano, is Head of the Democratic Initiatives Department, Council of Europe. An ecologist and environmentalist by training, he has worked since 1985 for the Council of Europe mainly on environment and disaster risk reduction issues, first as Secretary of a European Wildlife Convention (the Bern Convention), and also as Executive Secretary of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA), a platform of cooperation between European and Southern Mediterranean states in major natural and technological hazards. His main field of competence is risk management, biological diversity and other environment / sustainable development issues.



Anna Freitas began working in 1998, in the Ministry of Solidarity, moving, in 2004, to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, namely the National Authority for Civil Protection, to date. Currently, she represents ANPC in various international *fora*, such as the Civil Protection Group of the EU Council, the Committee of Permanent Correspondents of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement, (EUR-OPA) etc, and, in cooperation with the Portuguese-speaking countries, is responsible for the civil protection technical cooperation project, and provides technical assistance within the framework of the Portuguese-speaking countries Fire-brigade Unions, among other duties.



Mechthilde Fuhrer is Deputy Executive Secretary of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement of the Council of Europe. She is active in the field of educational, cultural and environmental issues and holds a Doctorate degree in Human Sciences and a Master's degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology. As part of her functions, she is working on the promotion and organisation of relief, through appropriate common initiatives with other organisations, in the field of major hazards prevention.



Lorenzo Guadagno is managing the International Organization for Migration's project on "Reducing the vulnerability of migrants in emergencies". He has worked and published on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation with the International Organization for Migration, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and several United Nations entities. He holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Sannio (Benevento, Italy).



Daniel Guéry is an honorary professor, educational adviser, trainer in communication. He is Director of Education of one of the local branches of the *Institut Universitaire de Formation des Enseignants de Lorraine*, involved in the International Movement of Apostolate in Middle and Upper Classes (MIAMSI) since 1997 and served 2 mandates as world president (2000 and 2008). He is the representative of MIAMSI, to the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe since 2008. Mr Guéry actively participates in various working groups, notably the "Europe-Mediterranean" group (Human Rights Committee) and activities organised under the auspices of EUR-OPA (Major Hazards Agreement) focusing on management and protection of vulnerable persons in the context of major hazards.



Jérôme Hamilius is Director of European Cooperation & Strategy at the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB). Prior to joining the CEB in 2015 he served in various senior management positions in private and public financial institutions (such as Senior VP at AXA Group and Secretary General of the EFSF, the "Euro Safety Fund") as well as the Ministry of Finance of his home country, Luxembourg. His triple experience in Finance, European as well as International Affairs and Strategy make Mr. Hamilius a recognised expert on institution-building and public international finance. He holds a Master in International Business Law from Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne.



Mohamed Hannan holds a Bachelor degree in social science from Dacca City College (Bangladesh). He has been working within Disabled Peoples' organisations in the last 18 years (in Bangladesh and Europe) and worked on developing the approach "Persons with disabilities self-initiatives to Development (PSID)". (www.bpkssbd.org). He has worked in project planning, developing action plans, project implementation plans, in supervision, monitoring, and follow-up; especially disabled persons' self-initiatives programs of equal rights, equal access to all opportunities and full participation in national-building activities.



Jean-Marie Heydt is chair of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe and permanent representative of the European Association (FESET) "European association of training centres for socio-educational care work", an European federation which gathers high schools and universities preparing students to work in the field of education and social care. Following a PHD in Compared Education Sciences and a Degree in European Studies (social and cultural changes in Europe, Paris), in 1999 he has started to teach in many Universities and High Schools.



Bodil Høyer Damsgaard (1969) from Denmark. Master of Arts (Social Politics/Religion). For many years lecturer at Teachers' and Social Educators' Training Courses. Since 2010 is a consultant in The Danish Federation of Social Educators which plays an active role in the work of AIEJI (The International Association of Social Educators). She is author of a range of literature concerning social topics.



Franck Iyanga, who is based in Rabat, is Secretary General of the one-of-a-kind Democratic Organisation of Immigrant Workers in Morocco, the Maghreb and Africa (ODT). He has acquired extensive experience as the leader of a union of migrant workers in a developing continent faced with the migration issues. He holds a Bachelor degree in Human Sciences and moved to Morocco in 2010 from the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Akiyoshi Kikuchi, Multicultural Society Coordinator, has been involved in planning and enacting programs regarding migrant integration in Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan since 2000. When the Great East Japan Earthquake struck in 2011, he, along with staff and volunteers, provided disaster-related multi-lingual information for migrants and foreign travellers. He has been researching "Disaster Risk Management in Multicultural Societies" for a doctoral course at Keio University in Tokyo while continuing to work in Sendai City. He also actively engages in establishing an organisation for professionals in Japan who strive to resolve difficulties in a multicultural society.



Panagiotis Kouroumplis, the first blind Greek to be elected in parliament, is a Member of the Hellenic Parliament elected in the second constituency of Athens. He holds a Law degree and a PhD in Sociology from the University of Athens. Born in Aetoloakarnania in 1951, at age 10 he lost his eyesight from the explosion of a German hand-grenade, a remnant of WW II. After attending the School for the Blind in Athens he became a pioneer in the creation of the Greek disability rights movement and took active part in student and popular movements. During the period 1976-1981 he championed the cause of the Blind, demanding the enshrinement of their rights to employment and education.



Audrey Morel Senatore is Director of the CERISC in ENSOSP since its creation in September 2013. She holds a Ph.D. in Public Law, working with ENSOSP since October 2008. She works on research, development and innovation. She is in charge of defining the strategic politics of research, works and partnerships of research coordination (e.g. Aix-Marseille University and industry). With her team, she works on the conceptualisation of operational practices as well as on the scientific definition of research needs through different communities of practice in the fire and rescue departmental units.



Sofoklis Panagiotou is the Coordinator of the Medical Department at the Smile of the Child. He works with children with health problems and their families, providing social and psychological support. He participates in the Preventive Medicine for Children Units, which are staffed with volunteer doctors, as well as a social worker and a nurse. Currently, he works closely with migrant and refugee children who live in Greece.



Lora Pappa, M.D., Co-founder and President of METAdrasi in 2009, has spent her entire professional life on human rights, migration and refugee issues. She coordinated and managed European projects concerning the reception and integration of refugees and asylum-seekers, with the National Youth Foundation, (under the auspices of the Ministry of Education), but also with the Greek Council for Refugees. She was a consultant to UNHCR over a six-year period, whilst serving as a scientific advisor to the Ministry of Interior for the organisation of the Global Forum on Migration and Development and was recently awarded the Council of Europe's North-South Prize for human rights.



Bertrand Pauvert PhD, is Assistant professor in law, Haute-Alsace University. He has written several books and articles about civil protection politics and safety rights. Director of CERDACC (EA 3992; European Research Centre for Risks and Major Hazards Law), he is a member of the Board of directors of a French Association for Law of Security and Defense. He is an expert adviser to the Council of Europe – EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement.



Viktor Poyarkov, PhD in Nuclear Physics is the Executive Director of the European Centre of Technological Safety since 1977. Former Director of the Ukrainian Radiation Training center, he is a member of the Health Physic Society of USA (1999), the Ukrainian National Commission on Radiation Protection (2002), the International Unit of Radioecology (2001) and vice-president of EUR-OPA (2013-2015). His key qualifications include analysis, development and education in risk management and emergency prevention, nuclear and radiation risk management, institutional strengthening and policy regulations and working with governments on issues related to risk management.



Radostina Primova, PhD, is the Director of the Climate and Sustainable Development Programme at the EU office of the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung in Brussels since November 2015. She is heading the project activities on climate action and energy policies with HBS international offices and partners worldwide, as well as providing political advice for European and international delegations on topics related to international climate cooperation, SDGs, energy transition, environmental justice and climate migration for European and international delegations. Radostina holds a BA in Integrated European Studies, an MA in Political Science from the University of Bremen and a PhD in Political Sciences from the VUB Brussels.



Khadija Quesmoun is a senior civil servant with the Ministry of Moroccans residing abroad, Head of Gender Department, currently on a sabbatical leave in order to pursue her research in social sciences in Rabat. She is a member of the bureau and research group on migration, in charge of relationships with Arab civil society. She is a Ph.D student in public law at the Université du Havre, preparing a thesis on "Civil society in Moroccan public law". She is associate Director of Effiscience cooperative.



Gilles Reckinger, Prof. Dr., is full professor for Intercultural Communication Studies and Studies of Risk at University of Innsbruck. 2016-2017 Guest Professor (European Ethnology) at University of Eichstätt. His is a member of AEDE (European Association of Teachers), co-founder of the Research Centre for Migration and Globalization Studies at University of Innsbruck.



Diana Reiners PhD, was senior scientist in social Anthropology, and assistant professor at University of St. Gallen (2009-2012). She is a lecturer at University of St. Gallen, University of Vienna, University of Innsbruck and University of Graz. Dr Reiners is a member of AEDE (European Teachers Association), board member of FREE (Fondation de la Recherche Européenne en Education) as well as board member of Mosaïques asbl (Transcultural psychiatry).



Alex Robinson holds a PhD in development studies and is co-founder of the Disability-inclusive DRR Network (didrrn.net). DiDRRN was established to ensure disability-inclusion in disaster risk reduction (DRR) post-2015. Alex's DRR experience spans applied research, policy and practice. Alex has recently stepped aside as Director for Indonesia and the Philippines for Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund and is currently working with UNESCAP on a disability-inclusive DRR e-learning course targeting policy makers in the Asia Pacific. Alex's professional interest is the use of information in development towards the delivery of practical inclusive-resilience solutions.



Lisette Robles is a Filipino doctoral degree student at the Ichinose Research Laboratory, Graduate School of Media and Governance, Keio University in Japan. she is currently pursuing her doctoral degree. Her master's thesis entitled: The Filipino Students' Narratives of Japan 3.11: Networks, Risk Perception and Response looked into the foreign students' behavioral responses during disasters by exploring points of vulnerabilities and capacities. Her present research concentration is on social capital available to migrants (foreign residents) and the disaster response and recovery of their communities.



Robert Rozinsky, is the main teaching officer for German as a foreign and second language at the Language Institute of the Austrian Armed Forces. From 1982-1987 he trained as a Professional NCO. From 2004-2008, he worked as a mobilisation officer in the military command of Vienna. From 2005-2012, he studied at the University of Vienna German philology with a focus on German as a foreign and second language. He obtained in May 2012 a Master's degree in German philology. Since 2009, he is the main teaching officer for German as a foreign and second language at the Language Institute of the Armed Forces of the National Defense Academy.



For **Anna Rurka**, direct contact with social realities in France and their intercultural dimension very quickly encouraged her to explore social work in France, in the area of street education work. Since 2008, Ms. Rurka was appointed at the University Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense as Senior Lecturer in Education Science, in the family education and family social work research team. Her research focus and publications involve participation in assessing measures for people receiving social work support, access to rights by vulnerable groups and systemic and institutional analysis of the power dynamics in public policies. She was elected President of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe in January 2015.



Malte Schönefeld, M.A., conducts research at the Institute of Psychology at the University of Greifswald, Germany. On behalf of the German Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance he developed a cultural competence training for civil protection staff. Currently he investigates relevant societal factors for cascading effects in crises in the realm of the EU-funded project "Snowball". He previously worked for the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Affairs and is a long-term volunteer in civil protection himself.



Jean-Luc Simon is a social worker with children and adults with disabilities, and ensures educational functions and psychiatric nursing. After a serious car accident that left him a paraplegic in 1983, he resumed studies of psychology at University following his dismissal for his "inability to function". From January 2002 to 2004, Mr. Simon was charged by the Ministry of Health, family and disabled persons to preside over the National Committee on Coordination of the European year of Disabled Persons 2003. He is the author of many books and articles focusing on the problems of rehabilitation and integration of disabled persons, notably " *vivre après l'accident*" ("live after the accident").



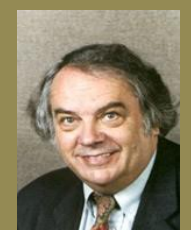
Nikolaos Sitaropoulos, PhD in Law, is Deputy to the Director and Head of Division at the Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights. Formerly Adviser to the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (2007-2009) and Lawyer and Head of Unit at the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe (2004-2007). From 2000 to 2004 he held the post of Legal Officer at the Greek National Commission for Human Rights. Member of the Bar in Greece since 1996. Visiting lecturer in European immigration and asylum policies, Institute of Political Studies, University of Strasbourg. He has published on subjects relating to international and European human rights, international humanitarian law, immigration and refugee law.



Dr **John Twigg** is a Senior Research Fellow at the Overseas Development Institute, London, UK. He has worked in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and international development for more than 25 years, in the academic, NGO and consultancy sectors, and is the author of over 50 publications as well as a number of technical reports. His areas of research include: socio-economic vulnerability to disasters; community resilience and community-based DRR; vulnerability and risk assessment methodologies; policy and institutional aspects of disaster management; and project planning and evaluation. He is particularly interested in the application of academic research to improving operational practice.



Lieutenant Colonel Varo is Head of the Corps of firefighters in the Principality of Monaco and also a permanent member of EUR-OPA since 2010. He is responsible for prevention, planning, organisation and the operational coordination of the emergency services and the fight against fires as well as technological and natural hazards in the territory of the Principality. He is currently Chair of the Bureau of Permanent Correspondents of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement.



William Yule is Emeritus Professor of Applied Child Psychology at King's College, University of London. He has worked both clinically and in a research capacity with unaccompanied refugee minors for many years and has been appointed as Chair of the British Psychological Society's Presidential Task Force on Refugees and Migrants. In 2005, he was awarded a lifetime achievement award by the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies for his work on post-traumatic stress in children. In 2007, he received the Aristotle Prize from the European Federation of Psychological Associations. In 2014, he was named by the UK Science Council as one of the top one hundred leading, practicing scientists.

