

Biography of the panelists

Mahmoud ABDALRASOUL was born in Greece and lives in Athens. He is a graduate of the Athens Medical School and a doctoral candidate for cardiology. He is engaged with the national school of public health and other organizations as an intercultural mediator on issues related to social integration and migration. He is a co-founder of Almasar, an organization working on social integration and the right of second generation immigrant children.



Samar Al BRADAN is a Syrian refugee living in Austria since 2015. She studies law and is engaged in civil society and political activities such as the Women Advisory Board for the Special Envoy for Syria (2019), the Syrian Civil Society Support Room and the Syrian Youth Assembly as well as the steering group of Globally Connected, network that aims to support and build trust and understanding between the Syrian diaspora, host communities and Syrians in Syria.



Lansana Bea Diallo is a Belgian politician, originally from the Republic of Guinea. He is a former boxing world champion and , a member of the Parliament of the Region of Brussels between 2004-2018 and currently the 1st alderman of the Socialist Party in Ixelles, Brussels, covering areas such as : Youth, Employment, Cities Twinning, International Cooperation, sports.



He is the Co-founder of the Emergence-XL, a project that uses sport to promote social and professional integration of youth seeking meaning in a society where benchmarks are becoming increasingly rare.

The Integration/inclusion department's mission is social and professional integration through sport. The objective is to be able to support young people in difficulty as well as job seekers by coaching them through sports coaching and job coaching

Udo C. ENWEREUZOR is a senior adviser on migration, minorities and Right to citizenship in COSPE. With an academic background in the natural sciences, he has been engaged in research, consultancy and professional training on racism, equal opportunities and migration and integration policies. From 1998 to 2001, he served as an expert member of the Commission for Integration Policies under the department of social affairs, presidency of the council of ministers, in Italy. Between 2001 - 2014, he served as coordinator of the National Focal Point (NFP) for Italy within the RAXEN and FRANET networks, sat up by the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) and European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA). From 1998 to 2002, he served on the Management Board of the European Network against Racism (ENAR).



Céline FABREQUETTE is the civic engagement & communication manager at ADYFE (African Diaspora Youth Forum Europe) in this function she developed and led the 'DiasporaVote Program'. She has worked at the European Commission and was advocacy and communication assistant at END FGM European Network.



Karen Kaneza studied Political Sciences, specializing in International Relations at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB). She is currently actually working as a Chief of Staff in Brussels. She is a board member of ADYFE and is currently in charge of governmental affairs and public policies. She was appointed as the second co-chair of ADYFE in June 2019 and is coordinating and monitoring ADYFE'S partnership and strengthening the main pillar of the organization: Entrepreneurship, Employability and Civic Engagement, alongside the first Co-chair.



Gérardine Mahoro is the CEO and founder of MOJOA, committed to spread African narratives, and a specialist in strategy and international development. She has been nominated as a Crans Montana's Leader for 2019 -2022. She is has also been nominated for the **Young Leader under 40**, by the French-Africans Foundation under auspices of president Emanuel Macron and president Nana Akufo-Addo. She worked with AfDB, UN, PWC before creating ActO5 Agency for African lobby. She is currently working on Mojoa platform. She speaks 4 languages and is a member of the board of directors of ADU University.



Lefteris PAPAGIANNAKIS is the vice President for Refugee matters of ECCAR (European Coalition of Cities against Racism) and the president of the board of the Greek Council for Refugees and general Secretary of the Hellenic League for Human rights. Prior to this, he chaired the Council for the Integration of Migrants of the Municipality of Athens and the working group on Migration and Integration of the Euro cities Network. In 2014 Lefteris was elected into the municipal council of Athens and named vice mayor on migrant and refugee affairs. He had served as a parliamentary assistant at the European Parliament and worked on the education of the Muslim minorities in Greece (in Thrace).



Payman QASIMIAN is from Iran and has been a refugee twice in his life. Firstly, escaping Iran as a teenager and receiving international protection in the United States, and secondly in his 40s in Slovenia, after trying to visit his home country after many years and falling into the hands of secret police of Iranian regime, accusing him of espionage. Having experienced these challenges, he has been engaged with the refugee community in Slovenia acting as a community interpreter and intercultural mediator, currently active with Društvo Humanitas, also as an interpreter and global education trainer building a bridge between refugee community and local population.



Ali Ahmad SAFI worked as a researcher and journalist in Afghanistan for various international research and media organizations and has published extensively. He works for the VIDC as a consultant on political, security and social issues in Afghanistan. Trained as physician, Ali has also studied peace and conflict studies at the European Peace University and is currently pursuing his PhD at Donau University Krems (DUK) on Migration Studies.



Magda SEEWALD is political scientist and works with Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (VIDC) focusing on the Arab Region as well as the gender sensitization of men. Magda Seewald is a co-founder of the network 'REloading Feminismus'. Her latest publication as a co-editor is 'Krise, Revolte und Krieg in der arabischen Welt'(2017)



Sonila TAFILI is originally from Albania and studied political science at the University of Florence. She has been working in the social field and is a founder of IParticipate association, a youth organization based in Florence which works on active citizenship, social inclusion and co-development.

