

## 3<sup>rd</sup> European Policy Dialogue Forum on Refugees and Migrants Fostering social inclusion and enhancing participation of refugees and migrants in host societies

Organised by the International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID) with the Network for Dialogue and the European Council for Religious Leaders/Religions for Peace Europe (ECRL/RfP Europe) with the kind support of the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

### Annotated Agenda

Last update: 15 October 2021

**Date:** Tuesday 19 October and Wednesday 20 October 2021

**Location:** Inter Continental Hotel, Lisbon, Portugal (Hybrid event)

#### Monday 18 October 2021

07:00pm -09:00pm Informal welcome dinner

#### Tuesday 19 October 2021

##### Introduction

**Time:** 09:00am–9:40am

Representatives of the organising institutions welcome guests and provide the framing of the Forum.

##### Words of welcome

- **H.E. Faisal bin Muaammar**, Secretary General of The International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID)

##### Keynotes

- **H.E. Cláudia Pereira**, Secretary of State for Integration and Migration of Portugal
- **Ms. Tanja Fajon**, Member of the European Parliament (*recorded message*)

#### Opening Plenary: Bridging cultures: Closing gaps in the participation of refugees and migrants in the political and civic life of host societies

**Time:** 09:40am–11:00am

Refugees and migrants are often excluded from policy discussions and decision-making due to their legal status and questions of citizenship. Enabling the participation of refugees and migrants in both formal and informal contexts depends on many factors, such as general awareness of opportunities to be active in one's community, of existing national or local initiatives that support their participation, and of partnerships between refugee and migrant-led organizations and other CSOs and FBOs. The Opening Plenary examines the current state of refugees' and migrants' participation in their host societies with a focus on challenges and new approaches. For example, what impediments are refugees and migrants facing across Europe, how can more active participation in host

societies be encouraged, what are the roles of religious leaders and policymakers, and how can interreligious and intercultural dialogue support that process?

**Moderator: Ms. Amina Khalid**, Head of Sustainable Communities at Initiatives of Change UK; Network for Dialogue member

- **Ms. Afshan Khan**, UNICEF Regional Director for Asia, Special Coordinator for the Refugee and Migrant Response in Europe (*virtual*)
- **Chief Rabbi Michael Schudrich**, Chief Rabbi, Jewish Community of Poland
- **Ms. Anila Noor**, Founder and Managing Director of New Women Connections
- **Dr. Lakshmi Vyas**, President of the Hindu Forum Europe
- **Mr. Pedro Calado**, Deputy Director of the Gulbenkian Sustainable Development Program

**Break:** 11:00am–11:30am

### **Plenary: Mapping the field of participation: The progress, challenges and possible ways forward**

**Time:** 11:30am–1:00pm

A number of European politicians have focused more on how to seal borders and return migrants and refugees than on how to protect their rights, encourage social inclusion and empower minority communities. This plenary presents four discussion papers that have been commissioned for this Forum on the policies needed to support refugee and migrant inclusion, specifically volunteering, participation in political life, access to education and educational initiatives to countering hate speech as an input for the working sessions. This moderated session seeks to generate discussion and expert feedback on the content of the papers, particularly:

- Which of the proposed recommendations stand out as having greatest potential and why?
- What needs to be considered in terms of methods, models and partnerships, for it to be successful?

Input paper 1-3: Presenter: **Dr. Majbritt Lyck Bowen**, Research Fellow, University of Winchester (*virtual*)

Input paper 4: Presenter: **Ms. Olivia Quinn**, Programs and Partnerships Head, Code on the Road

**Moderator: Dr. Hanna Siarova**, Research Director, Public Policy and Management Institute (PPMI) (*virtual*)

Commentators:

- **Mr. Alexander Mundt**, Senior Policy Adviser for the Europe Bureau of UNHCR
- **Prof. Giancarlo Penza**, Community of Saint' Egidio
- **Ms. Rachel Bayani**, Representative of Brussels Office of the Bahai International Community (BIC) (*virtual*)
- **Ms. Laura Batalla Adam**, Migration Policy Representative, Ashoka Hello Europe
- **Dr. Andrew Orton**, Director of Education, Associate Professor, Durham University (UK) (*virtual*)

**Lunch:** 1:00pm–2:30pm

### **Working session 1: Inclusion through dialogue: How interfaith and intercultural dialogue supports integration**

**Time:** 2:30pm–4:00pm

Many refugees and migrants continue to struggle with problems of exclusion, racism and discrimination despite having lived in a host country for many years and sometimes even after obtaining citizenship. Such problems cast doubt on how well social inclusion processes are working, particularly those that enable refugees and migrants

to actively participate in social processes. In each of the four tracks dedicated to different aspects of social participation, short input presentations from refugee or migrant-led organizations and policymakers or policy advisors will be followed by exchanges among participants on how to best address the challenges they are facing.

- **Track 1: The participation of migrants and refugees in volunteering in their local community** – this thematic track will focus on the participation of refugees and migrants in different voluntary organizations as a pathway to more active engagement within society. Volunteering can help migrants and refugees establish new contacts and find new roles in their host communities, however there are numerous obstacles, from individual to the community and policy levels, which make it difficult for them to take part.

**Input speakers:**

- **Mr. Lawrence Robinson**, Senior Policy Coordinator at Global Refugees Sponsorship Initiative
- **Mr. Abdirahim Hussein**, Executive Director, Moniheli - Finland

- **Track 2: Increasing refugee and migrant participation in political life and democratic processes** – the importance of migrants' public policy participation is underlined in a number of European legal instruments. This track will explore how policymakers, faith-based organizations and religious congregations and leaders can help improve the essential engagement of migrant- and refugee-led organizations in public policymaking processes in Europe.

**Input speakers:**

- **Mr. Syed Hasnain**, UNIRE-Italian National Union of Refugees and Exiles
- **Mr. Vincent Catot**, Policy Officer, DG Home, European Commission (*virtual*)

- **Track 3: Ensuring equitable access to compulsory formal education for refugees and migrants** – many refugees and migrants face challenges pertaining to cultural, linguistic, religious, racial and other identity barriers within the formal education system. By involving refugee and migrant families as well as refugee and migrant-led community groups in such programmes, religious actors can facilitate social interaction and encourage dialogue and cooperation among different actors in the education system.

**Input speakers:**

- **Ms. Alexandra Marques**, Director of Education, Aga Khan Foundation Portugal
- **Ms. Mary Consolata Namagambe**, Founder She for She, Denmark

- **Track 4: Combating hate speech against refugees and migrants through interreligious and intercultural dialogue** – supporting the active participation of refugees and migrants may be a less effective at creating inclusive and cohesive societies as long as intolerance, hate speech, negative stereotypes and prejudices towards newcomers prevail in public discourse. The main focus of this track will be the efforts to counter rising levels of hate speech through interreligious and intercultural dialogue, in order to strengthen social cohesion in Europe. The specific focus of this track is on the field of education and on how governments can guide the educational space to counter hate speech by using dialogue as a tool.

**Input speakers:**

- **Mr. Larry Moore Macaulay**, Founder and Managing Director, Refugee Radio Network (Germany)
- **Ms. Irena Guidikova**, Head of division Inclusion and Anti-discrimination, Council of Europe (*virtual*)

**Break:** 4:00pm–4:30pm

## Human library

**Time:** 4:30pm–5:30pm

During this session, participants will have the opportunity to take part in the Human Library where several participants will share their experiences through stories to an interested audience. Human Library challenges prejudices and creates space for dialogue.

Moderator: **Mr. Jon Rasmussen**, World Organization of the Scout Movement, Denmark/Network for Dialogue member

## Wednesday 20 October 2021

### Introductory plenary for Day 2

**Time:** 9:00am–9:30am

There are many examples across Europe where the social inclusion of refugees and migrants is supported by their active participation. During this session, social inclusion models and policies that have been effectively implemented in their own national or local context will be highlighted.

*Introductory remarks:*

- **H.E. Daniele Verga**, Diplomatic Adviser of the Grand Chancellor of the Sovereign Order of Malta (*virtual*)
- **Mr. Omar Al-Rawi**, Member of Vienna City Council
- **His Grace Bishop Maximos**, Holy Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain (*virtual*)

### Working session 2: Identifying the means to strengthen participation of refugees and migrants

**Time:** 9:30am–11:00am

Supporting the active participation of refugees and migrants in consultative and decision-making processes can help empower them and ensure that integration and inclusion policies are more effective and reflect real needs. Returning to the four thematic tracks of Day 1, groups will draw further on their respective discussion papers to explore the questions:

- What recommendations are particularly relevant and have greatest potential to succeed?
- What would the role of religious leaders and faith-based groups be in implementing them?
- How can interreligious and intercultural dialogue help?
- What new policies could be recommended to facilitate the proposed responses on the part of the different stakeholders?

**Break:** 11:00am–11:30am

### Working session 3: Developing recommendations to foster social inclusion through participation

**Time:** 11:30am–1:00pm

To build more inclusive societies where refugees and migrants actively participate, it is necessary to enhance their contribution to existing policies. However, this is a two-way process. This session builds on the previous two working sessions and the discussion papers to put forward each group's own proposals:

- What are the possible ways of obtaining more refugee and migrant perspectives on policy and getting their voices heard?
- What are the main recommendations on developing strategies for increased dialogue between newcomers and policymakers?

The results will be presented in the High-Level Dialogue Forum on Social Cohesion that is taking place the day after the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Policy Dialogue Forum on Refugees and Migrants.

**Lunch:** 1:00pm–2:30pm

## Informal networking

**Time:** 2:30pm–3:30pm

Participants of the Forum will have an opportunity to meet and converse during an hour of informal networking in the format of a Dialogue Café.

## Closing plenary: Ways forward to advancing social inclusion through active participation

**Time:** 4:00pm–5:30pm

The closing plenary session of the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Policy Dialogue Forum on Refugees and Migrants will include the presentation of the policy recommendations created in each track and will open up discussions about the way forward. The main conclusions and recommendations will be taken into consideration in the final versions of the four research papers which will be published after the Forum.

*Moderator:* **Prof. Mohammed Abu-Nimer**, Senior Advisor of The International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID)

- **Ms. Sónia Pereira**, High Commissioner, High Commission for Migration (ACM) in Portugal
- **Sheikh Ibrahim Mogra**, Assistant Secretary General of Muslim Council of Great Britain
- **Ms. Alice Szczepanikova**, ODIHR Migration/Freedom of Movement Advisor (*virtual*)

*The way forward:*

- **Ms. Isabel Martins da Silva**, MEERU | Abrir Caminho/Network for Dialogue member
- **Mr. Johannes Langer**, Europe Region Senior Programme Manager, KAICIID
- **Dr. Aleksandra Djuric Milovanovic**, Network for Dialogue Project Manager, KAICIID

## Official dinner with cultural performance

**Time:** 7:00pm–9:30pm

The dinner takes place at the Museo do Oriente and participants will be transported by busses to the location, departing at 6:30pm from the hotel. At the location, the artist Natasha Marjanovic will present “East Wind” and will tell her life story as a refugee arriving in Portugal.

## High-Level Dialogue on Social Cohesion Countering hate speech in Europe by strengthening cross-sector collaboration between religious or belief actors and policymakers

**Date:** Thursday 21 October 2021

**Location:** InterContinental Hotel, Lisbon, Portugal (hybrid event)

**Focal point:** Frances ROSE, Programme Manager for Regional Collaboration and Networking, [frances.rose@kaiciid.org](mailto:frances.rose@kaiciid.org)

### Annotated Agenda

Last update: 15 October 2021

#### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October

##### Introduction

**Time:** 09:00am–9:15am

Representatives of the organising institutions welcome guests

- **Welcome remarks:** H.E. Faisal bin Muaammar, Secretary General of the International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID)
- **Greetings:** Rev. Dr. Thomas Wipf, President of the European Council of Religious Leaders / Religions for Peace Europe (ECRL/RfP Europe)
- **Greetings:** Dr. Kishan Manocha, Head of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination at OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

##### Keynote address

**Time:** 09:15am–9:45am

Leading religious and policymaking representatives address the challenges faced by European communities due to hate speech, and the opportunities for cross-sector consultation and collaboration.

- **Keynote address:** H.E. Margaritis Schinas, Vice-President of the European Commission for Promoting our European Way of Life (*recorded message*)
- **Keynote address:** H.Em. Metropolitan Emmanuel of Chalcedon, member of KAICIID Board of Directors (*virtual*)

##### Opening plenary: Countering hate speech and embracing diversity in Europe: What is the outlook for policy-driven approaches?

**Time:** 09:45am–10:30am

Europe celebrates its diversity as a source of cultural wealth and inspiration, protected by laws that guarantee equality and freedoms for minorities. The recent increase in hate speech is undermining social cohesion and putting democratic principles to the test. As hate speech is a complex phenomenon driven by geopolitics, socio-economic inequalities and deep-seated fears, and facilitated by the Internet's reach and anonymity, novel alliances and holistic approaches are clearly required to deal with it. This opening plenary session asks

religious leaders and policymakers what conditions foster and support social cohesion in Europe, and through what means European actors can create or sustain these conditions, with a particular focus on countering hate speech:

- What policies are needed?
- Which are working and which are not?
- How can the need for context-specific solutions be balanced with the need for measures that apply across the continent?
- Will Europe be able to deliver on its promise to protect and maintain a free and positive existence for diverse communities?

Moderator: **Ms. Milica Pesic**, Executive Director of the Media Diversity Institute (MDI)

Speakers:

- **Msgr. Indunil Janakaratne Kodithuwakku Kankanamalage**, Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue
- **Chief Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt**, President of the Conference of European Rabbis (CER)
- **H.Em. Grand Mufti Dr. Nedžad Grabus**, Grand Mufti of Sarajevo and Co-Chair of the Muslim-Jewish Leadership Council (MJLC) (*virtual*)
- **Prof. Maria Marouda**, Chair of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) (*virtual*)
- **Mr. Hamdan Al Yammahi**, Executive Office, Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities (TBC)

**Break:** 10:30am–11:00am

### **Plenary: Bridging divides in European society through inclusive partnerships and sustainable interventions**

**Time:** 11:00am–12:30pm

In recent years, European actors have singled out the problem of hate speech for special consideration because of its damaging impact on the morale and solidarity of societies – it invades mainstream discourse and contributes to real acts of aggression, discrimination and violence. Solutions to tackle the problem include educational, social and legal approaches, including some that stress consultative and collaborative approaches. This plenary discussion will focus on the results of some of these initiatives, including a research paper that builds upon the findings of an expert consultation, surveys and four regional consultations on countering hate speech. The following questions will be considered:

- Are the trajectories and recommendations put forward correct?
- Are there changes in the approach, focus or scale that need to be considered by stakeholders hoping to counter hate speech?

Moderator: **Mr. Robert Templar**, Director of Programmes at the International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID)

Input Presentation: **Dr. Friederike Mieth**, author of KAICIID's research paper on countering hate speech efforts in Europe.

Speakers:

- **Rev. Richard Sudworth**, Secretary for Inter Religious Affairs to the Archbishop of Canterbury and National Inter Religious Affairs Advisor, member of KAICIID Board of Directors
- **Dr. Mark Owen**, Secretary General of the European Council of Religious Leaders/Religions for Peace Europe (ECRL/RfP Europe)



- **Sheikh Dr. Umar Al-Qadri**, Chair of the Irish Muslim Peace & Integration Council and Chief Imam of the Islamic Centre of Ireland
- **Prof. Regina Polak**, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions (*virtual*)
- **Prof. Peter Petkoff**, Director of the Religion, Law and International Relations Programme, Centre for Religion and Culture at Regent's Park College, University of Oxford, UK

**Lunch:** 12:30pm–2:00pm

## Four parallel panel discussions on countering hate speech in Europe

**Time:** 2:00pm–3:30pm

Four break-out panel discussions followed by Q&As. After input from the speakers, participants are invited to come up with questions at their tables to encourage further discussions. The same will be done through break-out groups for those participants joining in the online space.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Panel discussion: Shaping new ways to counter hate speech online

KAICIID's recent survey identified that individuals are most likely to encounter hate speech online, as well as fake news and radicalizing material. Although freedom of speech and anonymity are considered empowering features of the Internet, attempts to monitor and control this are regarded with suspicion. This session will ask:

- How can online platforms strike a balance in their policies without encroaching on freedom of speech?
- What can religious actors and leaders do to address the ways that their communities engage and are heard in the online space?
- What techniques, tools and reporting mechanisms should users be aware of to complement hate speech prevention efforts?
- How can positive narratives get more traction?

Moderator: **Dr. Paloma Viejo Otero**, Senior Research Assistant, National Anti-Bullying Research and Resource Centre at Dublin City University (*virtual*)

Speakers:

- **Ms. Lejla Hasandedic-Dapo**, Board member of the European Interfaith Youth Network (EIYN), Religions for Peace (*virtual*)
- **Imam Yahya Pallavicini**, President of the Italian Muslim Religious Community (COREIS)
- **Dr. Kiran Bali**, MBE JP, Global Chair of the United Religions Initiative (URI)
- **Ms. Julia Mozer**, Hate Speech Advisor at CEJI-A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe (*virtual*)
- **Mr. Hannes Ley**, initiator of #ichbinhier ("I am here") to counter hate speech online

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Panel discussion: Proposing effective means to counter hate speech against refugees and migrants

Migrants and refugees are often vulnerable to hate speech. This has been particularly true during the COVID-19 crisis – they have been scapegoated as possible spreaders of the disease, while socio-economic tensions have framed them as a drain on resources or competitors for valuable local jobs. Building on the first two days of discussions at the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Policy Dialogue Forum on Refugees and Migrants, this panel will consider what policymakers and religious actors can do to counter hate speech within (and directed towards) migrant communities, and address the root causes of the conflicts that affect them and their well-being.

Moderator: **Dr. Aleksandra Djuric-Milovanovic**, Network for Dialogue Project Manager, KAICIID



Speakers:

- **Chief Rabbi Schlomo Hofmeister**, Community Rabbi of Vienna
- **Mr. Yonus Muhammadi**, Member, Expert Group on the Views of Migrants in the field of Migration, Asylum and Integration, European Commission
- **Dr. Anna Hjälm**, Programme Manager of A World of Neighbours, Church of Sweden (*virtual*)
- **Prof. Miriam Díez Bosch**, Professor at Blanquerna Observatory of Communication, Religion, and Culture, Ramon Llull University, Barcelona
- **Ms. Flaminia Vola**, Regional Coordinator for Western Europe at the Vatican's Migrants and Refugees Section (*virtual*)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Panel discussion: Cross-sector collaboration – advancing new contracts to counter hate speech

Religion and politics have a delicate relationship, in a context in which the division of “church” and “state” is seen to be intrinsic to the shape of modern European society. Nonetheless, fruitful collaborations have been cultivated with great effort and care from the local to the European level and beyond. This session will ask:

- What has been learned so far about the role and value of interfaith and cross-sector dialogues and partnerships to counter hate speech?
- What principles, rules, structures and frameworks enable these partnerships to thrive?
- What do religious leaders and policymakers most cherish about them?
- What do enabling spaces and respectful relations look like?
- What sort of support and structures can be recommended to encourage better working relations in the future?

Moderator: **Prof. Patrice Brodeur**, KAICIID Senior Advisor and Professor at the Institute of Religious Studies, University of Montreal

Speakers:

- **Rev. Christian Krieger**, President of the Reformed Protestant Church of Alsace and Lorraine, President of the Conference of European Churches (CEC)
- **Mr. Abdassamad El Yazidi**, Secretary General of the Central Council of Muslims, Germany
- **H.E. Amb. Dr. Teresa Indjein**, Head of Cultural Policy at the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (*virtual*)
- **Chief Imam Sayed Ali Abbas Razawi**, Chief Imam of the Scottish Ahlul Bayt Society, UK
- **Rev. Dr. Laurent Basanese**, Official of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue (*virtual*)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Panel discussion: Promoting civic participation and inclusive decision-making in European cities

The policies and partnerships that facilitate inclusion and combat discrimination are often tested and implemented where minority groups – including refugees and migrants – are among urban city-based groups and institutions. Likewise, the dialogues and relationships between religious and political authorities, or between members of minority groups and their peers with different identities, take place in a local context. Drawing on the experience of those seeking change at municipal level, this session will ask:

- Which approaches to countering hate speech and building trust are working best?
- What practices make the difference when it comes to participation?
- How can faith communities and local authorities improve collaboration?
- What national or higher-level policies are most needed to support the work at municipal levels in cities?

Moderator: **Mr. Johannes Langer**, Senior Programme Manager of Europe Region at International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID)

Speakers:

- **Sheikh David Munir**, Imam of the Central Mosque of Lisbon
- **Ms. Leoni Lewis**, Cities of Faith and Community Forum (CFCF) (*virtual*)
- **Mr. Rehman Chishti MP**, Member of Parliament for Gillingham and Rainham, House of Commons, UK
- **Ms. Marianne Vorthoren**, Project Leader of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG)
- **Mr. Jasvir Singh OBE**, Vice Chair of the Faiths Forum for London and Chair of City Sikhs

Break: 3:30pm–4:00pm

**Closing plenary: Countering hate speech in Europe – the way forward**

Time: 4:00pm–5:00pm

This closing plenary will take stock of the findings, selecting measures that seem most promising or warrant more attention. It will review when and how religious and policymaking sectors can complement one another's work with integrity rather than undermine it, and will consider what skills and spaces might still be needed to enable collaborations to promote solidarity and a sense of belonging. The High-Level Dialogue is a space to reflect on what has been learned during the Forum, to consider the gaps and collect specific ideas and recommendations on ways to counter hate speech in Europe's future.

Moderator: **Ms. Frances Rose**, Programme Manager for Regional Collaboration and Networking

Speakers:

- **H.E. Prof. Stefania Giannini**, Assistant Director General for Education at UNESCO (*recorded message*)
- **Bhai Sahib Mohinder Singh Ahluwalia**, Chairman Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (*virtual*)

*The way forward:*

- **Rev. Dr. theol. Thomas Wipf**, President of the European Council of Religious Leaders/Religions for Peace Europe (ECRL/RfP Europe)
- **Dr. Kishan Manocha**, Head of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination at OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)
- **H.E. Faisal bin Muaammar**, Secretary General of The International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID)