

5th European Policy Dialogue Forum “Young People and Social Inclusion in Cities”

Location: Rotterdam, Netherlands

Date: 13-15 November 2023

Last update: 11 November 2023 – Contact: europa@kaiciid.org

AGENDA

The 5th European Policy Dialogue Forum (EPDF) is dedicated to addressing “Young People and Social Inclusion in Cities”. In the bustling city of Rotterdam, Netherlands, from 13-15 November 2023, we are bringing to the forefront the challenges that young people face in urban communities, with a strong emphasis on the power of intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

The EPDF is a collaborative effort led by the International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID), in partnership with the European Council of Religious Leaders/Religions for Peace Europe (ECRL/RfP), the KAICIID-supported Network for Dialogue and the local partner Multicoloured Religions Rotterdam. We also have the valued support of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in the Netherlands.

Our goal is clear: to **inspire, connect and engage** a diverse range of stakeholders, including religious actors, policymakers, civil society and young people, in our shared mission to foster more inclusive and harmonious cities across Europe. We aim to provide spaces for mutual learning through dialogue in action and build bridges between cultures and religions. We anticipate 120 participants from 30+ European countries, one-third aged 18-30.

Sunday, 12 November 2023

Arrival of participants at the ship “SS Rotterdam” which serves as hotel and meeting venue.

18:30-19:30 **Informal introduction about the 5th EPDF (optional)** *Ambassadors Lounge*
This optional and informal session is particularly designed to better understand how the EPDF works and ask any questions before the official start of the Forum.

19:30-21:00 *Informal dinner*

As from 13 November, participants are encouraged to visit the EPDF Knowledge Hub located in the Queen’s Lounge outside the Plenary Hall any time throughout the conference days, where relevant information about the EPDF past and present editions as well as future initiatives are available and accessible also online.

Monday, 13 November 2023

09:00-10:00 **Opening session and introduction**

Plenary Hall

Welcome remarks:

H.E. Dr. **Zuhair Alharthi**, Secretary General of the International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID)

Opening plenary:

Rev. Dr. **Thomas Wipf**, President of European Council for Religious Leaders (ECRL)
 Dr. **Kishan Manocha**, Head of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, OSCE Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)
 Ms. **Marianne Vorthoren**, Chair, Multicoloured Religions Foundation Rotterdam

Moderator: Dr. **Aleksandra Djurić Milovanović**, Network for Dialogue Coordinator, KAICIID

Keynotes: Prof. **Nazila Ghanea**, UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion and Belief (*recorded*)
 Ms. **Lidia Pereira**, Member of the European Parliament, Portugal (*recorded*)
 Mr. **Mohammed Shehadat**, Director, Youth for Peace Initiative, Switzerland

About the Forum: Mr. **Johannes Langer**, Senior Programme Manager, Europe Region Programme, KAICIID

10:00-10:30 Presentation of input papers: Where do we get inspiration?

This part of the Opening Session will focus on the key findings of the 3 KAICIID input papers, providing the grounds for further reflection during the break-out sessions, where participants can engage in an interactive discussion.

Speakers: Ms. **Neringa Tumenaite**, Fulbright-Schuman Fellow, FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard University; KAICIID consultant for Input Paper #1, Words that heal
 Ms. **Andreea Petre-Goncalves**, President and Founder, Flare Governance; KAICIID consultant for the Input Paper #2, Cities fostering belonging
 Mr. **Josh Cass**, Interfaith expert, KAICIID consultant for Input Paper #3, Leadership in action

Moderator: Ms. **Teresa Albano**, Europe Region Programme Officer, KAICIID

10:30-11:00 Coffee/tea break

11:00-12:30 Break-out sessions: Discussing the input papers

The six parallel break-out sessions are meant to provide an interactive and safe space to further explore the topics discussed in the Input Papers and illustrated in the previous session. a moderator and a facilitator will help engaging participants and leverage their experiences and contributions for greater awareness.

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:15 Break-out sessions: Deep dive into the input papers

In continuation of the break-out sessions from the morning, the six parallel sessions will further elaborate on the input papers and the recommendations that will be turned to policy papers after the Forum.

Words that heal #1 <i>Room: Cape Town</i>	Cities fostering belonging #1 <i>Room: Vancouver</i>	Leadership in action #1 <i>Room: Guadeloupe</i>
Facilitator: Ms. Emina Frljak , Project Coordinator, Youth for Peace and International Youth Committee of Religions for Peace Session host: Ms. Valentina Laferrara , Network for Dialogue	Facilitator: Mr. Daniel Eror , Youth for Peace and President of United Religions Initiative Session host: Ms. Dima Mahjoub , Network for Dialogue	Facilitator: Ms. Khadijah Tirha , iDove-Interfaith Dialogue on Violent Extremism Session host: Ms. Nejra Kadić Meškić , Network for Dialogue

Input: Mr. David Grob , Switzerland, Reformed Church Zürich	Input: Mr. Felipe Carvalho , Portugal, Lawyers' Christian Fellowship - Director of students and young lawyers	Input: Mr. Jovan Aksentijević , Serbia, Secretary of the Council for Gender Equality
Words that heal #2 <i>Room: Haiti</i>	Cities fostering belonging #2 <i>Room: Tilbury</i>	Leadership in action #2 <i>Room: Juneau</i>
Facilitator: Ms. Siobhan Anderson , Interfaith Expert Session host: Rev. Vedran Obućina , KAICIID Fellow Input: Ms. Iva Naskova , North Macedonia, former Youth delegate to Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe	Facilitator: Dr. Maja Nenadović , Co-founder Reflectory Session host: Dr. Kamel Haythem , Network for Dialogue Input: Ms. Sofia Lanza , Italy, Volunteer Co-ordination and Community Outreach in Edinburgh Interfaith Association	Facilitator: Mr. Josh Cass , Interfaith Expert Session host: Ms. Mabrouka Rayachi , Network for Dialogue Input: Ms. Alice Cardoso , Portugal, Youth Net, Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union (COMECE)

15:15-15:45 *Coffee/tea break*

15:45-16:15 **Reflection & Exchange of Results**

Plenary Hall

Speaker: Fr. **Andrew Small**, Secretary *pro tempore* of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors
Presentation of main takeaways from six parallel sessions by facilitators to allow for joint learning. The results will be further available in the Knowledge Hub area of the Forum.

16:15-17:30 **Market Space of ideas**

Plenary Hall

The "Market Space" offers the opportunity to illustrate 15 projects that are building social cohesion across Europe for closer interaction. Participants are encouraged to move around the room, exchanging ideas and exploring new partnerships in an informal and vibrant atmosphere.

Exhibiting Projects – Market Space of Ideas		
#1 Ambassadors Programme , Muslim Jewish Leadership Council (MJLC)	#6 Youth Voluntary Service , Municipality of Arandjelovac, Serbia	#11 Building Bridges in Schools , Teachers Programme, Austria
#2 Network for Dialogue , Pan European Network	#7 KAICIID Fellows Programme & Interfaith Harmony Colouring Book	#12 Arabengers & Shofto , Journalism and Film Projects, France
#3 Coalition Building Guide , HIAS Europe	#8 Refugee 4 Refugee Programme , Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, Serbia	#13 Interfaith Youth Action , Religions for Peace UK
#4 Democratic Dialogue at School , Online Toolkit, Greece	#9 Kalam Aflam , Arabic Arts Project, France	#14 New Voice , Storytelling Platform, Netherlands
#5 Urban Ecology, Where Do I Fit In? Workshop Programme, Bulgaria	#10 Youth Research & Policy Project , The Faith & Belief Forum, UK	#15 Meaningful Participation , Migrant Integration through Locally Designed Experiences

18:30-20:00 *Dinner*

Grand Ballroom

20:00-22:30 Fireside talks

Smoking Room

Open spaces for dialogue where participants can continue conversations on themes emerging from the Forum and discuss relevant topics of shared concern.

Tuesday, 14 November 2023

09:00-09:20 Plenary – Keynotes

Plenary Hall

Speakers: Chief Rabbi **Schlomo Hofmeister**, Community Rabbi of Vienna; MJLC Board Member
Rev. **Stina Tysk**, International Youth Committee, Religions for Peace

Moderator: Dr. **Alba Sabaté Gauxachs**, Vice Director, Blanquerna Observatory on Media, Religion and Culture, KAICIID Europe Fellow

09:30-10:30 Break-out sessions – Inspirational Talks

Inspirational talks and further conversations on the three topics are provided. In six parallel sessions participants can further connect and inspire each other.

Words that heal #1 <i>Room: Cape Town</i>	Cities fostering belonging #1 <i>Room: Vancouver</i>	Leadership in action #1 <i>Room: Guadeloupe</i>
Facilitator: Ms. Emina Frljak Input speakers: - Imam Dr. Sayed Razawi , Chief Imam and Director General of the Scottish Ahlul Bayt Society (SABS)	Facilitator: Mr. Daniel Eror Input speakers: - Mr. Ilan Cohn , Director of HIAS Europe and Network for Dialogue - Ms. Sherin Ahmed , Chairwoman, Coexister Germany	Facilitator: Ms. Khadijah Tirha Input speakers: - H.Em Mufti Nedžad Grabus , Mufti of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, MJLC Co-Chair - Ms. Cyrcia Manwa , Councillor, Thurrock Council UK
Words that heal #2 <i>Room: Haiti</i>	Cities fostering belonging #2 <i>Room: Tilbury</i>	Leadership in action #2 <i>Room: Juneau</i>
Facilitator: Ms. Siobhan Anderson Input speakers: - Mr. Pasha Shah , Head of Faith, Levelling Up UK - Mr. Gabriel Andrei Brezoiu , President, Group of European Youth for Change, Romania	Facilitator: Dr. Maja Nenadovic Input speakers: - Mr. Joachim Roth , EU Integration Affairs Coordinator, Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS) - Mr. Marko Lončar , Advisory Board on Youth of Council of Europe	Facilitator: Mr. Josh Cass Input speakers: - Colonel Lieutenant Mostafa Hilali , Dutch Ministry of Defence - Protodeacon Mladen Kovačević , St Sava Cathedral in Belgrade, Serbian Orthodox Church

10:30-11:00 Coffee/tea break

11:00-12:30 Human Library: Storytelling corners

Plenary Hall

By bridging the rational and the emotional, stories can entertain just as they can instruct, providing rich insight into complex emotions and situations, enabling us to create meaning out of complexity. 8-10 diverse stories will feature in respective “Storytelling corners”, providing personal insights into the topics under discussion.

Human Library – Storytellers		
#1 Ms. Nataliia Pavlyk , PhD candidate, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas and KAICIID Fellow	#5 Mr. Hysni Skura , Lecturer at Bedër Centre of Islamic Studies and Imam, Muslim Community of Albania	#8 Ms. Laura Sani , Grand Mufti's Office, Bulgaria; Ayaan Institute, UK; BRIDGES - Eastern European Forum for Dialogue, Bulgaria
#2 Mr. Benjamin Mesbah , Baha'i International Community	#6 Rev. Laura Huovinen , Advisor for interfaith relations, Church Council of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland	#9 Mr. Rudi Osman , Student, UEE-Union des étudiants exiles
#3 Deacon Branislav Rajković , Serbian Orthodox Church Mostar	#7 Mr. Ronald Eichhorn , President, European Buddhist Union (EBU)	#10 Ms. Chantal Suissa-Runne , Chair, Dialogue Committee, Liberal Jewish Community, Amsterdam
#4 Bhairavananda Swami , Executive Director Swami, Shiva Forum		

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:30 **Reflective Dialogue Sessions – Developing capacities for effective dialogue**
Participants will be encouraged to select the area of action that can provide untapped potential towards partnerships and initiatives that can move forward an inclusive and equitable urban agenda, supporting social cohesion at local level. Six parallel workshops have been designed with the intention to offer sources of reflection and possible engagement for a wide, cross-cutting range of stakeholders.

Session #1: Mitigating online hate speech and empowering young people *Cape Town*
Online hate speech profoundly affects the lives of young people. This session, led by seasoned practitioners, explores innovative strategies to mitigate the disruptive effects of hate speech while empowering young people.
 Moderators: Ms. **Milica Pešić**, Executive Director, Media Diversity Institute and Mr. **Frans Jennekens**, former Head of Diversity and Editor-in-Chief at Dutch public broadcaster NTR

Session #2: Religious leaders dynamically engaging young people in today's environment *Haiti*
This session offers a space for religious leaders and young leader, fostering an open exchange across religions and faiths and to further elaborate how to engage with young people in dynamic ways.
 Moderators: Rev. **Stina Tysk**, International Youth Committee, Religions for Peace and Ms. **Emina Frljak**, Board Member, Interfaith Youth Network of Religions for Peace Europe

Session #3: Bridging youth and policymakers for inclusive urban communities *Vancouver*
Effective policymaking is essential for shaping inclusive and cohesive urban communities. Discover how to bridge the gap between young voices and policymakers, ensuring youth perspectives are heard and integrated.
 Moderators: Mr. **Thomas Andersson**, member of social committee, City of Östersund, Sweden, and Dr. **Emiliano Alessandri**, Vienna Migration Conference of International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

Session #4: Leveraging youth volunteering for trust and unity *Tilbury*
Youth volunteering holds immense potential for forging emotional bonds and mutual understanding within diverse communities. Uncover practical strategies that promote unity and empathy through volunteering.
 Moderators: Ms. **Isabel Tootill** and Ms. **Isabel Martins da Silva** from MEERU Portugal and Dr. **Amjad Mohamed Saleem** of International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC)

Session #5: Crafting impactful policy papers for social inclusion *Guadeloupe*
Effective policy documents serve as vital tools for advocating social inclusion in urban communities. This session offers a deep dive into the techniques and strategies for constructing a common language.
 Moderators: Prof. Dr. **Howard Williamson**, University of South Wales CVO, CBE, FRSA, FHEA and Mr. **Mustafa Field**, OBE, Director, Faiths Forum London.

Session #6: Engaging the ‘movable middle’ through young refugees and migrants

Juneau

This session explores the ‘Moving the Middle’ project of the IOM in the Netherlands which focuses on labour mobility, social inclusion, diaspora engagement, and countering hate speech through refugee and migrant voices.

Moderators: Ms. **Sandra Kluivers** and Mr. **Rick Jan Molanus**, IOM Office in the Netherlands; Mr. **Roshn Najmeddin**, Moving the Middle ‘Migrant Ambassador Advisory Board’

15:30-16:00 Coffee/tea break

16:00-18:00 Site visits in Rotterdam

After discussing about the situation in many places around Europe, the optional site visits provide the chance to visit local projects that engage young people through interreligious dialogue in practice.

- Birlik Foundation, mosque
- Sri Ram mandir, Hindu temple
- Victory Outreach Church, evangelical church

18:30-22:30 Reception, including a cultural performance

World Museum

All participants are warmly invited to join for the reception at the World Museum in Rotterdam which includes a seated dinner and an interreligious musical performance. Dress code is semi-formal / cocktail attire. The busses to the reception leave at 18:00 and 19:00.

Wednesday, 15 November 2023

09:00-09:30 Plenary - Keynote

Plenary Hall

Three keynote speeches provide vital input for the last day of the Forum and offering further insights on the topics under discussion. A short summary of the main outcomes of the discussions during day 2 will be provided together with an overview of operational tools that KAICIID proposes for possible follow-up actions.

Speakers: H.Em. **Metropolitan Emmanuel Adamakis**, Metropolitan Elder of Chalcedon
Imam **Yahya Pallavicini**, President, Comunità Religiosa Islamica Italiana (COREIS); President, European Muslim Leaders Majlis (EuLeMa)
Dr. **Alexandre Guesse**, Special Representative on Antisemitic, anti-Muslim and other forms of religious intolerance and hate crimes, Council of Europe

Moderator: Ms. **Vera Ferreira**, Head of Regional Programmes, KAICIID

09:30-10:30 Break-out sessions – Action Planning Workshops (part I)

According to the three thematic areas, and pooling the knowledge, the skills, partnerships and tools, including those offered by KAICIID, participants will be encouraged to join the respective workshops that will discuss needs, opportunities and challenges for possible follow-up actions.

10:30-11:00 Coffee/tea break

11:00-12:30 Break-out sessions – Action Planning Workshops (part II)

Continued discussions on the follow-up action in the same groups.

12:30-14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00-15:15 Reflective Dialogue Sessions – Joining efforts for common actions

Participants continue in the same breakout group and will be encouraged to share the reflections stemming from the previous sessions for further exchange of views with discussants, who will collect and report the results in the concluding plenary session, paving the way to follow-up initiatives.

Words that heal #1 <i>Room: Cape Town</i>	Cities fostering belonging #1 <i>Room: Vancouver</i>	Leadership in action #1 <i>Room: Guadeloupe</i>
Discussant: Mr. Emilio Dogliani , Policy Adviser for Culture and Youth, Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union (COMECE) Facilitator: Ms. Emina Frljak	Discussant: Dr. Maryana Hnyp , President, European Network on Religion and Belief Facilitator: Mr. Daniel Eror	Discussant: Mr. Saji Prelis , Director, Children & Youth Programmes and Co-Chair, Global Coalition, Youth, Peace and Security Facilitator: Ms. Khadijah Tirha
Words that heal #2 <i>Room: Haiti</i>	Cities fostering belonging #2 <i>Room: Tilbury</i>	Leadership in action #2 <i>Room: Juneau</i>
Discussant: Prof. Dr. Dževada Šuško , Chief of Office, Department for Foreign Affairs and Diaspora at the Islamic Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina Facilitator: Ms. Siobhan Anderson	Discussant: Mr. Xavier Donker , Board Member, European Network for Anti Racism (ENAR) Facilitator: Dr. Maja Nenadovic	Discussant: Ms. Rachel Cohen , Senior Programme Coordinator, Faiths and Belief Forum Facilitator: Mr. Josh Cass

15:15-15:45 *Coffee/tea break*

15:45-17:00 Plenary - Closing session, way forward and pledges

Plenary Hall

Discussants from the previous session will shortly present the action plans which will provide further reflection with the panel, followed by the way forward and closing remarks.

Keynote: Ms. **Jennifer Ndzana Eloundou**, Founder, Safe for Youth, France

Speakers: Mr. **Andrej Poglajen**, Deputy Mayor of Idrija, Slovenia
Mr. **Denis Piplaš**, Deputy Secretary-General, Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO)
Dr. **Barbara Ruiz-Bejarano**, Director, Fundación Las Fuentes, Spain

Moderator: Dr. **Aleksandra Djuric Milovanovic**, Network for Dialogue Coordinator, KAICIID

Way forward: Mr. **Johannes Langer**, Senior Programme Manager, Europe Region Programme, KAICIID

Closing: H.E. Dr. **Zuhair Alharthi**, Secretary General, International Dialogue Centre – KAICIID