

## **Youth Partnership**

---

Partnership between the European Commission  
and the Council of Europe in the field of youth



EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

# **Symposium on youth participation in a digitalised world**

**14-16 September 2015**

**European Youth Centre Budapest**

**Zivatar utca, 1-3**

**1024 Budapest, Hungary**

**Bio's key note speakers**

## **Snežana Samardžić-Marković**

Snežana Samardžić-Marković is a Serbian politician who has been the Council of Europe's Director General for democracy since February 2012. She was previously Minister of Youth and Sports in the Government of Serbia. Samardžić-Marković graduated from the University of Belgrade Faculty of Philology and is working on her MA thesis at the Faculty of Drama Arts. In the period 2005–2007 she was Assistant Minister of Defence and was in charge of strategic planning, international military cooperation and the Verification Centre, as well as Co-President of the Serbia-NATO Defence Reform Group. From 2001 to 2005, she worked in the bilateral department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Deputy Director for Neighbouring Countries, Deputy Head of Mission and Adviser at the Serbia and Montenegro's Embassy in Oslo and Adviser at the Directorate for Europe.

## **Tibor Navracsics**

Tibor Navracsics is Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport in the European Commission; before he was a Hungarian lawyer and politician, who served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade from June to September 2014 and as Minister of Administration and Justice between 2010 and 2014. He is a member of the Fidesz-Party. He holds a degree in law (University of ELTE 1990) and a higher degree as judge (1992) and also received a PhD in political science. Navracsics's field of research were comparative politics and internal politics in the European Union. He was elected „Teacher of the Year 2007” by the students of ELTE University.

## **Péter Szijjártó**

Péter Szijjártó is a Hungarian politician, who has been Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade since 23 September 2014, when his predecessor Tibor Navracsics resigned due to his new position in the European Commission. He graduated from Budapest University of Economic Sciences and Public Administration (today Corvinus University of Budapest) on international relations and sports management. He began his political career in 1998, when he was elected the youngest member of the Municipal Assembly of Győr. Szijjártó is a member of the National Assembly of Hungary since 2002. He was the youngest Member of Parliament from 2002 to 2006. He was appointed Vice Chairman of the Committee on Youth and Sport Affairs in 2004, holding the office until 2006.

## **Roman Gerodimos**

Roman is a Principal Lecturer in Global Current Affairs in the Media School at Bournemouth University, founder and convenor of the Greek Politics Specialist Group of the UK's Political Studies Association, and a faculty member at the Salzburg Academy on Media & Global Change in Austria. He holds a BSc in International & European Studies (2000, Panteion University of Social & Political Sciences, Athens, Greece); an MSc in European Politics & Policy (2001, London School of Economics); a PG Certificate in Academic Practice (2006) and a PhD in Political Communication (2010, Bournemouth University). Roman's work focuses on emerging patterns of civic engagement and behaviour with particular reference to the phenomena of globalisation, extremism and digitization. He is also interested in the relationship between Europe's urban landscapes, public sphere/spaces and civic culture. From October 2013 to January 2014 he worked as a visiting scholar in the Engagement Game Lab at Emerson College in Boston, USA.

## **Jutta Kloiber**

Jutta is a Project Leader at Open Knowledge Foundation (OKF), Germany; she works since February 2011 as project leader in the area of Civic Apps and Open Data for OKF. Amongst others she managed during last year projects such as Civic-Incubator Stadt Land <Code> (urban – rural) (<http://stadtlandcode.de/>), Energy Hackday and Apps and the City (<http://appsandthecity.net/>). Currently she works on the project Code for Germany. Before joining Open Knowledge Foundation she worked as freelancer in the area of online marketing, conceptualisation of campaigns and video production. Next to her professional work she volunteers in Digitale Gesellschaft e.V. (digital society association). In the area of Open Data she sees a key challenge in not only opening data but encouraging users (and multipliers) to develop attractive tools and apps out of the data in order to make them available to a broader public and using them for social and democratic purposes.

## **Anna Ludwinek**

Anna is research manager at the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound) in Ireland. She is from Poland has joined the Living Conditions and Quality of Life Unit as a research officer in May 2008, working predominantly on the network of European cities for local integration policies for migrants (CLIP), Eastern European mobility as well as labour integration issues. She is involved in transnational work on of migration. She previously worked in Brussels, for a European industry association, Eucomed, where she was representing the interests of medical technology. She was responsible for the management of Governmental affairs, and the liaison with European and international institutions, healthcare and national level policy-makers. Anna holds a Masters in Political Science and a Bachelor degree in International Relations. She is a Fellow of the German Marshall Fund Transnational Forum on on Migration and Integration. She is currently studying for a Master in Social Applied Research at the Trinity College, Dublin.

## **Manfred Zentner**

Manfred is researcher at Danube-University Krems, Austria, Department for Migration and Globalization. He studied Mathematics and Philosophy but works as a youth researcher since 1997. His main fields of interest are youth cultures, political participation of young people as well as attitudes and values. Furthermore he is active in evaluation studies on youth policy and on the implementation of preventive concepts and health promotion in youth work. From 1997 to 1999 he was researcher at the Austrian Institute for Youth Research where he became scientific director in 2000. From 2001 to 2013 he worked in the fields of research and knowledge transfer at the private research organisation jugendkultur.at in Vienna. Since 2013 he is engaged at the Danube-University Krems in the Department for Migration and Globalization as researcher and lecturer. Furthermore he is lecturer at various teacher training colleges in Austria. Already in the late 1990's he was involved in the network of experts on youth research and one of the national correspondents for the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy since its start. In the year 2007 he was rapporteur in the Council of Europe international review team for the national youth policy in Hungary and four years later for the international review of the youth policy in Belgium.

## **Inga Tiede**

Inga is a Project Manager at Liquid Democracy e.v. in Germany and responsible for Controlling and Financial Management. She studied Public Management, Nonprofit Management and Public Governance in Berlin. She works as adviser, consultant and lecturer in the public sector with special emphasis on accounting and bookkeeping systems. Before she worked for various research institutions and as a trainee at Goethe-Institute in Moscow.

## **Geoffrey Pleyers**

Geoffrey Pleyers is a Professor of sociology at Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium (FNRS). Geoffrey holds a PhD (Sociology) from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris (2006). In July 2014, he was elected as president of the Research Committee 47 "Social classes and social movements" of the International Sociological Association, for a four year term. His research interests include social movements, youth, food movements, and social movements in Mexico. The underlying argument of his main book "Alter-Globalization. Becoming Actors in the Global Age" (Cambridge, Polity, 2010) is that current social movements develop two parallel cultures of activism in their quest for social change. One focuses on a bottom-up approach, implementing changes at the local scale and giving a prominent place to experience, subjectivity, experimentation and the local scale. The second one, the "way of reason" is based on a citizen expertise and institutional regulation. Geoffrey has also worked as an expert in the reflection group on Youth Participation.

## **Nuala Connolly**

Nuala is currently working at the National University of Ireland, Galway as a Lecturer. She is appointed member of the European Commission and Council of Europe expert Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR). In 2012 she completed a PhD at UCD School of Information and Library Studies as a scholar of the HW Wilson Foundation, for which she was awarded the International Emerald / EFMD 2012 Outstanding Doctoral Research Highly Commended Award. She has also worked as a lecturer at the University of Maynooth and as a part-time Lecturer and Module Coordinator, Research Fellow and Research Assistant at UCD Ireland. In her work she focuses currently on Privacy & Technology, Human Rights, Youth Research.