



## **European Platform on Learning Mobility in the Youth Field**

### **BI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**Learning Mobility in the Youth Field: Towards Opportunities for all**  
*Evidence, experience, discourse.*

Istanbul, 7-9 October 2015

**Contributors and support persons**

### **Adina Calatafeanu**



Adina Marina Calafateanu, PhD in Political Sciences (Comparative European Youth Policies in Romania and Turkey), with extended expertise in grassroots youth work and youth work methodologies and practices, youth participation methodologies and inclusion policies. MA in Comparative European Social Studies (MACESS) at London Metropolitan University, holding a BA in Political Sciences and one in Social Work – University of Bucharest. Her research interests are in the field of social policies for young people, structured dialogue and participatory youth structures, youth led movements, as well as into the transfer mechanisms of European policies and programmes to the local realities.

### **Agnes Sarolta**



Agnes Sarolta is a Social Policy Ph.D fellow at Eötvös Loránd University & holds a Master's degree in Social Policy. Her research focuses on inclusion for disabled people in Higher Education. She is member of EAIE ACCESS Expert Community. She was the Partnership Manager of Erasmus Student Network's Int'l ExchangeAbility Project in 2013/14. She was a Trainer at Study Session "Understanding &countering multiple discrimination faced by young disabled people in Europe" which took place at the European Youth Centre of the Council of in 2014.

### **Andreas Rosellen**



Andreas Rosellen currently works in several projects and programmes of Transfer e.V., an approved provider of independent children's and youth welfare services. The emphasis of the work lies on consulting and training, aimed primarily at professionals and facilitators in the areas of children's and youth travel and international youth work, health and well-being of young people as well as intercultural education. Andreas' focus of interest is the topic of social inclusion and the main projects he is engaged in deal with ways to improve chances and abilities of disadvantaged young person. Moreover he is active within the Research-Practice Dialogue, a network coordinating and facilitating an interdisciplinary and trans-organisational exchange between researchers and practitioners in the field of international exchanges. Andreas' professional background is in youth work and the work with children with mental disabilities. He has studied Social Work (BA), with a focus on international and intercultural (social) work in Duesseldorf and Politics, Sociology and Economics (BSc.) in Cologne. The most enriching experience for him was an exchange programme with a Ghanaian University and a

field research in the northern part of the country. Ongoing he is finalizing his master's degree in Non-Profit Management and Governance.

### **Andreas Thimmel**



Andreas Thimmel is a Professor for social work and youth work, head of the Research Center of Non-formal Education at the Cologne University of Applied Sciences, author of books and studies on German youth exchange, non-formal education, youth policy and European citizenship. Prof. Thimmel is also member of the steering group of the German Research-Practice-Dialogue on International Youth

Work and Head of the steering group in the scientific project 'Freizeitenevaluation' and member of the steering group in the project 'Evaluation of international youth exchange programmes'.

Andreas Thimmel has a vast experience with regard to International mobility and youth work and has been actively involved in activities of the EPLM since 2013.

### **Beáta Bozsó**



Beáta Bozsó's particular area of expertise is in supporting disadvantaged Roma and non-Roma university students who wish to gain high results in their profession and - being aware of social problems - would help the rising of Roma population and promote the dialogue between minority and majority groups. Acceptance, cultural diversity, inclusion of minority groups are considered to be especially important aspects of her work.

As a teacher of communication and media studies, latin language and as a trainer she has over four years experience practicing both formal and non-formal learning methods in higher educational institutions.

Afterwards at a cabinet office of a local municipality she gained three years of valuable experience in holding cultural projects and press issues. In both the private and public educational field and non-governmental area she learned relevant information about cooperation between different sectors, expectations and realities regarding the stakeholders and resources. She studied non-formal learning methods, tools and good practices in the frame of transnational cooperation activities in Turkey, Germany and Italy.

As a member of the project team at the Christian Roma College of Szeged Beáta Bozso is committed to help young people to develop their competences, go through their obstacles, initiate new ideas, cross the borders and share their knowledge. Mentor support, personal development plan and trainings for volunteers are provided to achieve this goal.

Among others she organizes job orientation camps, team building trainings, youth conferences and excursions abroad to learn about other etnical or religious minorities and share good practices with the aim of representing the importance of non-formal learning methods and mobility.

### **Beat Rohner**



In 2004, Beat Rohner was elected as a Board Member of the Youth Parliament St. Gallen (Switzerland). Additionally he became active in the organizing committee of the Lake Constance Youth Summit in 2005 and 2008. This is the biggest political youth event in the Lake Constance area with more than one thousand participants.

Together with 90 other young Europeans he had the honour to found the AER Youth Regional Network in Wiesbaden in 2008. This now is the biggest network of regional Youth Parliaments, Youth Councils and Youth Associations in Europe. Between 2012 and 2014 Beat was the

president of YRN.

Besides his political activities Beat Rohner is studying International Business Development at the University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland).

### **Bob McDougall**



Bob McDougall is a freelance trainer, project manager and EVS coordinator from Leeds in the United Kingdom. Having worked extensively with inclusion in the formal education sector, Bob's passion is for non-formal education to foster competences in young people who find themselves in a difficult situation. Bob is a key trainer on the European Voluntary Service training cycle in the UK as well as regularly

coordinating his own EVS projects and mentoring volunteers. Bob is in the pool of trainers for the UK National Agency.

### **Corinna Liersch**



- Since 05/2014 SNE / Policy Officer in DG EAC unit C.1: Youth Policies and Programme
- Since 2011 Policy Officer in the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs for Lower Saxony, Germany and Special Expert for the Minister for Education and Cultural Affairs of Lower Saxony
- 2009 – 2011 Head of Unit and Counsellor for Quality Management, Change Management and School Development in the Federal Education Authority Board of Lower Saxony, Germany
- 2003 – 2009 graduate secondary school Teacher for the subjects

Biology, Educational Science and Psychology; teaching e.g. Students who are specialising on youth work, working as a Coach for teaching and school-quality development announced by the federal state education board of Lower Saxony

- Studies: Biology (focus on Neurosciences) and Educational Science (focus in Psychology) at the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-University Bonn, Germany
- Scout since age of 7, volunteer youth worker



### **Daniel Briggs**

Daniel Briggs is Professor of Criminology at the Universidad Europea, Madrid, Spain. Daniel is a researcher, writer and inter-disciplinary academic who studies social problems. For nearly fifteen years, he has undertaken a significant amount of funded mixed-methods and ethnographic research into various social issues from street drug users to terminally ill-patients; from illegal immigrants to gangs; and from gypsies to deviant youth behaviours on holiday. He has lectured undergraduates and postgraduates across Criminology, Law, Sociology and Social Policy for six years and is the author of 'Crack cocaine users: High society and low life in south London' (2012, Routledge), the editor of 'The English riots of 2011: A summer of discontent' (2012, Waterside Press) and co-author of 'Assessing the impact and use of Anti-social behaviour orders' (2007, Policy Press). He currently teaches and researches in Madrid, Spain.

### **Daniel Poli**



Daniel Poli studied political science and works as head of department for qualification and further development of international youth work at IJAB - International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany in Bonn. As a central specialist agency for international youth work, IJAB works on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, the IJAB member organisations and other central bodies responsible for youth work. Its task is to strengthen and further develop international youth work and the cooperation in the field of youth policy - with countries in Europe as well as worldwide.

### **Elisa Briga**



Elisa Briga holds a Master Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy (University of Trieste) with a thesis on the role of youth information centres in the promotion of youth mobility. She is currently working as Programme, Project and Advocacy Coordinator for the European Federation for Intercultural Learning (EFIL). In the past she has worked as a trainee and staff member for the European Knowledge Center for Youth Policy at the EU-CoE youth partnership. In her spare time she volunteers for the international youth organisation CISV, focusing on Peace Education.

### **Emilia Kmiotek-Meier**



Emilia Kmiotek-Meier is researcher at the University of Luxembourg since 1st June 2015; prior to that she coordinated the Graduate Tracer Studies at the University of Cologne (Germany). At the University of Luxembourg she is involved in the EU-funded project MOVE: 'Mapping mobility – pathways, institutions and structural effects of youth mobility in Europe'. In her research she addresses the hindering/fostering factors in the process of mobility of young people. Her particular interest lies in the field of the intra-European

student mobility. She focuses especially the agency of young people during mobility, learning perspective in context of the academic mobility and the impact the mobility might have on the further life trajectory and further learning processes. Beyond that Emilia Kmiotek-Meier is engaged in the field of the acquisition and the measurement of generic competences in the academic context and the application of mixed-methods in empirical social research.

### **Eva Reina**

Eva Reina is the Director of ERYICA. Her professional background is rooted in the youth, education and training sectors. Her previous professional experience includes employment by ICF International, a global provider of consulting services to governments and multilateral institutions, and two European networks of universities. She has in-depth knowledge regarding EU policy development and implementation in the areas of formal education, non-formal learning, youth, and training. In the course of her career, Eva has conceptualised, drafted, and implemented numerous EU-funded projects, which aimed to support among others mobility of young people, youth entrepreneurship, non-formal and formal learning, and equal access to education. Her academic background and work responsibilities have also encouraged her to closely monitor the evolution of international trends in youth and education and training policies, and strengthened her ability to conduct research, carry out in-depth analysis of data, and draft articles and technical reports. She has likewise conducted research in the fields of higher education and youth, and contributed to scientific conferences, articles, and project-related publications in these fields.

Eva holds a Spanish Licenciatura in Translation and Interpretation, and a Master's degree in Communications and Public Relations (Great Distinction), and a Master's degree in European Studies (Great Distinction). She also completed a professional training course in EU Project Management at the College of Europe. Apart from her native Spanish, she speaks English and French fluently and some Arabic.

### **Gazela Pudar Draško**



Gazela Pudar Draško is working as a researcher at the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade. She serves as Board Member in European Youth Card Association, in charged for Partial Agreement for Youth Mobility through Youth Card.

### **Giovanni Maccioni**



Giovanni Maccioni has been working for Eurodesk Italy since 1998. He is responsible for the International Relations and National Networking. He is a member of the board of Eurodesk AISBL's Executive Committee. He started to work in several youth information centers in Italy and then from generalist Information I specialized on Mobility information and guidance.

He has experience as speaker and facilitator on national and international events in the field of youth work, mobility and funding information, and counselling and youth policy.

He is one of the coordinators of the quality group within the Eurodesk European Network. He is also a counsellor in his town.

### **Gisele Evrard Markovic**



For the past 18 years Gisele has been involved in the youth field with a particular focus on mobility projects (short and long-term volunteering), youth policy and recognition on non-formal education. She has been active on development and coordination of projects encompassing training courses (on intercultural learning and intercultural sensitivity, project

management, learning 2 learn and self-directed learning, etc.) and coaching, among others. Today and while working on her personal development she orientates herself towards leadership-related competencies and emotional intelligence. Besides, she continues her work as freelance trainer and learning facilitator with a specific focus on competence framework and development. Parallel to that, she also moderates and facilitates large-scale events such as conferences, seminars and symposium.

On top of her work, deep beliefs in alternative educational systems, a passion for photography and English Renaissance, Gisele is also involved with two colleagues and friends in the creation of Taaluma, an international training and education organisation. She is also the founder of purple8 – Agency for education and human potential development.

## **Hans-Georg Wicke**



Hans-Georg Wicke is a social scientist, born 1958. Since 1995 he is the head of JUGEND für Europa, the National Agency for Erasmus+: Youth in Action in Germany (Bonn). JUGEND für Europa functions as a centre for European Youth Policy and Youth Work. Main areas of work: support of European co-operation in the youth field, development of a European dimension in youth work and the support of non-formal and informal learning experiences for young people by means of transnational learning

mobility. He was previously managing director of the Association for International Education and Exchange (IBB) in Dortmund.

## **Isabelle Mallia**

Family circumstances meant that she left school as soon as soon as she completed compulsory school age. She entered the world of work, working my way up in a private company until she became the personal assistant of the Company director. What she learnt from this experience is that is that survival of the fittest will always predominate in the business world and that finance matters immensely when it comes to coming up with and implementing new ideas. Availing herself of the opportunities of lifelong learning, she left this sphere to try out something more humane. She spent the next years working in formal education and studying to become a learning facilitator in inclusive settings. The success registered in this field in the Maltese sector was overshadowed by the fact that inclusion was successful in primary settings but became more challenging when students made the transition from primary to secondary education. Making inclusion work for young people was her main impetus for studying youth work, where her main interests were disadvantaged young people, students with different needs and migrants. This and the phenomenon of migration led to her progression to culturally responsive education. She believes that the best preparation that young people can receive prior to embarking on their adult journey, characterised nowadays by non-linear pathways, should comprise a mix of formal and non-formal education, and that learning mobility constitutes an important element of the latter. She presently works as a youth work officer at Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ, the national youth agency of Malta. Youth empowerment cannot work without youth inclusion, participation, information and mobility. Her remit and challenge as a youth worker is to help young people recognise where they stand in their non-formal educational journey, and with regards to the latter to create a working environment where they will be able to identify where to progress next and what tools they will need to do so.

## Jacques Spelkens



Head of Territorial and CSR Networks Development and CSR Manager for Belgium - Service of Social Development & Solidarity Human Resources Directorate Group ENGIE. Jacques Spelkens was born in Brussels (Belgium). After graduating in Philology, in Philosophy and in Political Science at the ULB (Free University of Brussels), he started his professional career as a teacher and University Professor (Philosophy and Modern Languages) in Belgium and the United States. He's still teaching Master classes in "Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility" at ICHEC Brussels Business School and is a regular lecturer in several other universities in Belgium and France. He joined the SUEZ Group in 2003, in charge of Communication and Linguistics in several Belgian affiliates of the Group, before being asked in July 2008 to join the Corporate Department of Employment. He's currently still CSR Manager for the Group in Belgium (based in Brussels) and since 2010 also Head of the Department Development of CSR Territories and Networks at ENGIE (formerly GDF SUEZ) in Paris at Corporate worldwide level. Within this Department, he's in charge of a certain number of strategic topics like solidarity, fight against discrimination and exclusion, management of international partnerships and innovative policies regarding employability, education and training, and international networks on CSR issues. He's also Member of the Board of 'CSR Europe' and several organisations dedicated to social innovation and cross-fertilisation

## Jo Deman



Jo Deman has 25 years of experience in the youth work sector, both as a participant and as a volunteer. He is passionate about youth work, youth involvement and the opportunities of contributing to the development of EU policy. Jo has been working for the European Youth Forum since 2011 as Membership Support & Partnership Officer and now as Policy Officer on Youth Work. He holds a Master in International politics from the Catholic University of Leuven.

## Karin Schulz



- Degree in Social Work and Social Education (University of Bamberg);
- Own experience of learning mobility through a voluntary service in Northern Ireland;
- Programme officer for the European Voluntary Service since 1996 at JUGEND für Europa;
- Support, advice and assessment of Learning Mobility projects in Erasmus+: Youth in Action.



### **Manfred von Hebel**



Manfred von Hebel was born 1966, and is an Educational Scientist. He works in the field youth work and youth policies at national and European level for more than 20 years. During the years 2005 – 2009 he was Seconded National Expert at the Directorate General for Education and Culture of the European Commission. Since 2009 he works at JUGEND für Europa, the German National Agency for the EU-programme Erasmus+ YOUTH IN ACTION, as Head of Strategies and Projects, Deputy Head of the NA.

### **Maria-Carmen Pantea**



Maria-Carmen Pantea, PhD is a Member of the Pool of European Youth Researchers and a lecturer at BBU, Romania. She has authored over 60 academic publications and policy reports on social inclusion, youth work, education and youth entrepreneurship. In 2014, she co-edited Young people, entrepreneurship and non-formal learning. A work in progress. Brussels: SALTO Participation. Maria-Carmen worked as a consultant for the EU-CoE Youth Partnership, EACEA, CoE, UNIFEM, European Youth Foundation, European Youth Forum, among others. She holds an MA

with Merit in Gender Studies (CEU) and a MSc in Evidence-Based Social Interventions (Oxford).

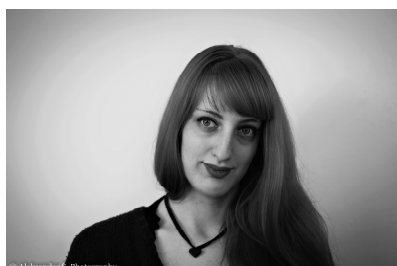
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### **Miguel Ángel García López**



Miguel Ángel García López is an evaluator and trainer working for more than 20 years in the youth field at European level. He is the President of Taaluma, a Belgian international NGO. He is also invited lecturer in the Universities of Osnabrück and Hannover, Germany. Miguel is a member of the pool of trainers of the Council of Europe, of the Pestalozzi network of education professionals and of the Latin-American organisation of evaluators.

### **Milanka Nolic**



Milanka Nolic graduated in World literature and theory of literature on Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, Serbia. Fighting for student's and youth with disabilities rights and chances, she is also a member of extended team Association of Students with Disabilities in Belgrade, Serbia. She is an activist in

Initiative Youth for Human Rights in Serbia. Milanka is also a writer in a few student's and alternative culture magazines and blogs online. She is also a journalist coworker on Radio Belgrade, the main national radio in Serbia. In her past and present work, as a journalist and student, she writes and talks about students and youth with disabilities.

### **Musa Akgül**



Musa Akgül lives in İstanbul, Turkey. He has been taking part in youth work since 2001 in different roles but mainly as a trainer or consultant. He is a member of the pool of trainers of Council of Europe, the European Youth Forum, and the Turkish National Agency. As trainer, Musa mainly works on intercultural learning, social cohesion and human rights education. At present he works with Unicef as a consultant at social adaptation and harmonization programme of the Turkish and Syrian people and also work with

Islamic Conference Youth Forum.

### **Niina Ljungkvist**



Niina Ljungkvist is a youth worker for the local municipality's youth services. Her personal interest and motivation for using learning mobility as tool for inclusion comes from two sources: her own experiences growing up and being able to participate in international projects and her previous work experiences at child social services. She did two Erasmus+ projects last summer; one about cultural awareness and the other about youth

participation & decision making. Her next project is being planned for local roma & immigrant youth for 2016.

### **Ozgehan Senyuva**

Ozgehan Senyuva, PhD is a member of European Pool of Youth Researchers and Expert Group on Recognition of Youth Work and NFIL. He has a youth work experience, mainly with exchange organizations and mobility of young people with fewer opportunities. He led or was part of research on youth mobility, most recently on European Voluntary Service and youth employment. Ozgehan Senyuva is also one of the authors of T-Kit 10 Educational Evaluation in Youth Work, published by Council of Europe.

### **Rita Bergstein**



Rita Bergstein lives in Cologne. She has been working for SALTO T&C RC since 2005, focusing on Youthpass and recognition of non-formal learning and youth work, since 2012 she is also working on competence development of trainers, youth workers and institutional staff. She has experience as trainer, facilitator, social worker and project manager at national/international levels. She is interested in nature, books and learning and education issues esp. with a different focus since she is raising a child together with her partner.

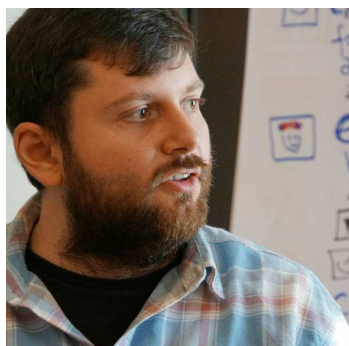
### **Søren Kristensen**



Søren Kristensen is from Denmark and has for many years been occupied with learning mobility, both at national and European level. In 1999-2002 he worked at the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training in Europe (Cedefop) as a expert in transnational mobility in a VET-context, and in 2004 he defended a PhD-thesis at the Danish University of Education with the title “Learning by leaving – placements abroad as a pedagogical tool in the context of vocational education and training in Europe”. His thesis was later published Europeanwide by Cedefop under the same title. He is a former director of the Danish PIU-

Centre, working with placements abroad in vocational education and training, and the Danish National Centre for the Development of Vocational Education and Training (NCE). He has participated in several major European-level studies on mobility in the field of education, training, labour and youth, and is frequently used as an evaluator of mobility programmes and projects.

### **Stefan Manevski**



Stefan Manevski is a programme coordinator of the Center for Intercultural Dialogue as well as the founder of the Union for Youth Work recognition in Macedonia. He works for over 10 years in the youth sector, constantly maintaining links with local youth work in Kumanovo. He is an active trainer in the youth field mainly offering courses linked with youth work development, youth participation, intercultural dialogue and inclusion. He is involved in youth policy processes on local and national level and cooperates with different

international youth organizations (Service Civil International, Youth For Exchange and Understanding, UNITED against racism and Out of the Box). Stefan is a member of SALTO SEE

Pool of trainers for the EVS training cycle, YFJ pool of trainers and the coordinator of the Pool of trainers of the National Youth Council of Macedonia.

### **Susie Nicodemi**



Susie Nicodemi has worked for European Mobility Programmes for 16 years. She has expertise in both youth work practice and policy development, enriched through her experience in working for the National Agency in the UK for Youth for Europe / Youth / Youth in Action / Erasmus+ Programmes, as well as for SALTO Cultural Diversity Resource Centre. She has recently started working freelance after the birth of her second child, and can offer native English (or indeed European English) support for international projects. Susie is working at this conference as the Coordinating Rapporteur.

### **Tony Geudens**



Tony Geudens has been working for SALTO Inclusion in Brussels since more than 15 years. With a background in social psychology, social relations and inclusion fascinate him. He did many training courses for inclusion workers and wrote a number of inclusion manuals. Gradually the SALTO work also involved him more in European policy (e.g. the Inclusion & Diversity Strategies for the European youth programmes) and inclusion research (e.g. [www.salto-youth.net/InclusionResearch/](http://www.salto-youth.net/InclusionResearch/)).

### **Uwe Finke-Timpe**



Uwe Finke-Timpe is a lawyer, born in 1962. Since 1998 he is working in the field of European and International Youth Policy. Since 2008 he is head of the unit. Main areas of work: Cooperation with different countries in the field of youth on bilateral level and in the European Union.

### **Valentina Pomatto**



Valentina Pomatto works as an Advocacy and Projects Co-ordinator at European Educational Exchanges- Youth For Understanding (EEE-YFU). Valentina holds a Bachelor Degree in Development Cooperation and a Master Degree in International Relations and Human Rights. She has acquired working experience with different NGOs in Belgium and in Senegal, focussing on community-led development and non-formal education. Prior to joining EEE-YFU, Valentina worked as a Volunteer Program Co-ordinator, with young people assigned to different volunteer positions across West Africa.

### **Yörük Kurtaran**

Yörük Kurtaran is the coordinator of Social Incubation Centre (of Centre for Civil Society Studies) at Istanbul Bilgi University. He previously was Coordinator of Youth Studies Unit (of Centre for Civil Society Studies), also at Bilgi University of Istanbul.