

European Workshop

Democracy and participation in the face of global changes

The role of citizenship and human rights education

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Biographies



Barbara Bishay is currently working as a school social worker in Berlin and is also the vice chairwoman of Mayadin al-Tahrir, an NGO in Berlin and Cairo. She has completed her Master's degree in Middle East Studies at the American University in Cairo in 2010. Her thesis was titled "Till Death (or Conversion) do us part – Coptic divorces in Egyptian courts and their Implications", dealing with the many facets of coptic divorce and the relationship between the Coptic Church and the Egyptian State.



Elena Bobrovskaya is director of the Krasnoyarsk Regional Non-Governmental Youth Organisation "INTERRA", focusing on international youth work and civic education. She has been multiplier in Theodor-Heuss-Kolleg, a programme of the Robert Bosch Stiftung and MitOst e.V. Elena Bobrovskaya is responsible for the development of the Siberian cooperation programme "From idea to the action" in the Krasnoyarsk region.



Petr Čáp is a professional civic education trainer and evaluator. Currently he is director of the Civic Education Center at Masaryk University in the Czech Republic. At the Civic Education Center he is focusing on advocacy of civic education within the Czech system of further adult education and development of educational programmes to mitigate social tensions in socially deprived areas.



Nelly Corbel is currently working at the American University of Cairo (AUC) as the University Civic Engagement Programmes Manager of the John D. Gerhart Center for Philanthropy and Civic Engagement. She has developed a variety of educational programmes at AUC in intercultural dialogue and ethical leadership. In her capacity Nelly Corbel also participated in drafting recommendations for a variety of local and international organisations on youth, volunteerism and the democratic transition.



Jochum de Graaf is senior project manager at ProDemos – House for Democracy and the Rule of Law in the Netherlands. From the beginning, in 1989, he was involved in the development of "StemWijzer", the very successful political preference test in the Netherlands. Together with the German Federal Agency for Civic Education he played an active role in building the NECE network Vote Match Europe 2009 for the EP-elections.



Ahmed Driss is professor of international relations at the faculties of law and economic sciences and management of Tunis and president-director of the “Centre of Mediterranean and international Studies” (CEMI) in Tunis. He has been a member of the governing council of the “Académie internationale de droit constitutionnel” since 2000. Ahmed Driss has been director of the Tunisian School of Politics since February 2012.



May Elmahdi is an Egyptian journalist at Deutsche Welle and a founding member and vice-chairwoman of the board of Mayadin al-Tahrir. Currently she is finishing her diploma in political and social sciences at the Free University (FU) in Berlin with focus on the politics of the Arab world and its social and political transformations.



Judith Feige is a researcher at the German Institute for Human Rights. Currently she is working on the project “Courage and Competence for Inclusion: Historical Consciousness in the Future of Human Rights”. Further topics are inclusion, dissemination of knowledge on the UN-Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and inclusive human rights education.



Ronald Grätz has been the secretary general of the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations, ifa) and the editor of the quarterly magazine “KULTURAUUSTAUSCH” since September 2008. After heading the German Language Department at São Paulo for IOM Bonn, he became deputy director of a UNESCO project school at São Paulo. Furthermore, he worked at the Goethe-Institut Barcelona, Munich and Moscow and was director of the Goethe-Institut in Portugal.



Petra Grüne has been in charge of the Federal Agency for Civic Education’s Events Department since 2005. She has been working at the German Federal Agency for Civic Education since 1991 in a number of different fields and positions. Together with Christoph Müller-Hofstede, Petra Grüne is responsible for the NECE initiative promoted by the Federal Agency for Civic Education.



Fouad Hamdan is a political advisor, project manager and trainer in emerging Arab democracies. He managed Vote Match Tunisia in 2011, is now working on Vote Match Libya 2013 and trains civil society groups in Libya, Tunisia and Egypt. Fouad Hamdan was the founding executive director of the Arab Human Rights Fund in Beirut. He headed the communications department of Greenpeace Germany, established Greenpeace Lebanon and was the director of Friends of the Earth Europe in Brussels.



Maria Magdalena Isac is a research consultant in evaluation of educational effectiveness at the University of Bologna, Italy. She is currently earning her PhD in educational sciences at the University of Groningen, The Netherlands, on the topic of civic and citizenship education. Within her PhD project she conducted national and international comparative studies assessing the impact of citizenship education on several aspects of young people's citizenship competences.



Mari-Liis Jakobson is a lecturer in general political science and a PhD candidate at Tallinn University, Estonia. From 2009 to 2011 she was a research fellow in the EC Research DG 7th framework programme project "TRANS-NET: Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Multi-Level Analysis of Migrant Transnationalism". Her research interests and teaching expertise cover topics such as sociology of citizenship and globalisation, civil society and political communication.



Leif Kalev is an associate professor of state theory and state law and director of the Institute of Political Science and Governance at Tallinn University, Estonia. His research interests include state as political community, citizenship and the globalisation impacts on politics and governance.



Dimokritos Kavadias currently teaches methodology seminars as an assistant professor. He obtained his PhD in political science at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium. He worked as a researcher in the departments of sociology (VUB), political science (VUB), educational science (UA) and social work (UA). His current research activities focus on political socialization, political psychology, civic education, educational and social effectiveness and educational policy.



Peter G. Kirchschräger is co-director of the Centre of Human Rights Education (ZMRB) of the University of Teacher Education Lucerne and co-director of the International Human Rights Forum Lucerne (IHRF), Switzerland. He is member of the Board of the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights and its Cluster-Manager Human Rights Education, consultative expert for international and national organizations (e.g. UN, OSCE, Council of Europe, EU) and member of the Board of Advisory of the European Youth Summit, of the Expert-Jury of the Europeans for Peace-Program and of the Jury of the Swiss Ethics Award.



Riitta Korhonen is a lecturer and researcher in teacher education at University of Turku, Finland. Her subjects are education, special need education and culture education. She has made studies for teacher competences in different levels: in early childhood, pre-school, primary, special need and adult education. Her research interests are in education and pedagogy, culture, tradition, identity and citizenship.



Heinrich Kreft is a career diplomat and currently director for public diplomacy and dialogue among civilizations in the German Foreign Ministry. Prior to this assignment he served as Senior Foreign Policy Advisor in the German Bundestag. He was stationed for diplomatic terms in both Tokyo and Washington, D.C., and served for many years as part of the Foreign Policy Planning Staff.



Eduardo López Busquets is director general of Casa Árabe in Madrid since March 2012. He studied law and international policy and started his diplomatic career in 1985. Before, he was ambassador in Mozambique and Argelia (Iran), and executed diplomatic tasks in Bogotá, Brussels and Mexico. During his large professional trajectory, Eduardo López Busquets focused his activity in conjunct axes: political analysis with special interest in societies in transition, European and Euro-Mediterranean security and public diplomacy.



Markus Lux has been at the Robert Bosch Stiftung in Stuttgart since 2002. He is currently head of Section Good Governance and Education in the Department for International Relations for Central and South-Eastern Europe, CIS and China, in which he is responsible for exchange programmes in the areas of higher-education, administration and diplomacy.



Ralf Maslowski is assistant professor at the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences of the University of Groningen in the Netherlands and lecturer in comparative education, education policy and educational administration. His studies focus on school organisation, the effects of educational policies and citizenship education at school, including international comparative research.



Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk has been working as a project manager for international politics at ProDemos – House for Democracy and the Rule of Law in the Netherlands since 2006. In this position she is dealing with international citizen participation projects and with participatory and educatory projects in the Netherlands. Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk is the NECE contact person at ProDemos.



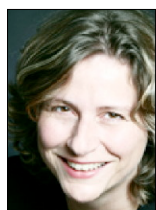
Christoph Müller-Hofstede has been a consultant at the German Federal Agency for Civic Education since 1988. Currently he is running a national project aimed at establishing new formats of citizenship education for young people with a migrant and/or Muslim background in German schools. Together with Petra Grüne, Christoph Müller-Hofstede is responsible for the NECE initiative promoted by the Federal Agency for Civic Education.



Concepción Naval is professor of education, and vice-president of the University of Navarra, Spain. She is editor of the journal “Estudios sobre Educación” (Studies on Education, ISI Web of Knowledge) and head of the line of research “Education and Citizenship” at the University of Navarra. Her research focuses on the foundations of education for citizenship, social participation, and family; the social impact on young people of information technologies; and educational innovation in higher education.



Pablo Oñate is professor (chair) of political science at Valencia University, Spain. He has published extensively on legislatures, party systems, political behaviour and political representation. He leads a research team with 16 members which receives financial support from the Spanish Research Plan since 2003 and that is linked to other European research groups on the field of political representation, parliaments and parliamentarians.



Anja Ostermann is managing director and project manager at the agency lab concepts in Bonn-Berlin, Germany. Since 1995, she has been actively involved in the design and the implementation of various education and cultural formats, especially for public sector clients. Anja Ostermann has provided process guidance/academic support in the Europeanization of cultural and citizenship education and the formation of political and cultural education networks.



Mimis Petridis functions as a freelance consultant for the EACEA programmes YiA, EfC and LLL and is settled in the Netherlands since 2010. In 2005 he was awarded a PhD from the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki for his thesis on the politics of European identity. He maintains his linkages with his country through reporting, blogging, joining periodically the activities of UNESCO Center Aristotelis and promoting projects of active social responsibility in football.



Tomaž Pušnik is a researcher at the Center for Critical Approach of Political Science at University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. His broader fields of research are political theory and political philosophy with a focus on concepts of citizenship, citizenship education and EU policies. At the moment he works on different projects: Youth in Action, POLIPEDIA – Online civic education and Jean Monnet and Engaging the youth – Building the future: teaching European democratic citizenship.



Daniel Reichert is the co-founder and chairman of Liquid Democracy e.V. He organises the association’s work and contributes to the theoretical framework of Direct Parliamentarism and the software Adhocracy. Daniel Reichert oversees the adhocracy platforms of the German Parliament’s enquete-commission “Internet and digital society”, the SPD Federal Executive Board and the Landesjugendring of Lower Saxony.



Elise Scheibler is project assistant at the agency lab concepts in Bonn. She studied “Regional Sciences of Latin America” majoring in Spanish and Economics. Since September 2011 Elise Scheibler has been supporting lab concepts and is also involved in the coordination of NECE projects.



Nicolas Sguiglia is a sociologist, holds a Master's degree in Human Rights, Immigration and Development and is a PhD candidate. Currently he is working on a research project of the Complutense University of Madrid on Urban Social Movements. For over 10 years he has been an active member of some of the most dynamic social movements in Spain and actively participates in La Casa Invisible (Social and Cultural Centre Civic Management), Universidad Nómada (Research Network) and the movement Democracia Real Ya.



Anu Toots is professor of comparative public policy at the Institute of Politics and of Governance at Tallinn University, Estonia. She has been engaged in comparative educational research including large-scale surveys by the IEA and education reform analyses by the Council of Europe. She is author of several textbooks on civic education and consultant on development of national curriculum.



Susanne Ulrich has been head of the Academy Leadership and Competence at the Center for Applied Policy Research (C·A·P), University of Munich since 2003. She is focusing on diversity and conflict management, Europe, democracy, tolerance, participation and evaluation.



Fernando Vallespín is professor of political science and administration at the Universidad Autónoma in Madrid, Spain. He is director of the Instituto Universitario de Investigación José Ortega y Gasset and of the Centre for Political Theory. Fernando Vallespín has been chairman of the Political Science Department and vice-chancellor of the University. His research is focusing on political and democratic theory.



Christine Wetzel has been working for the Federal Agency for Civic Education in Bonn, Germany since 2009. Following a trainee in the Communications Department there, she is now concerned with strategic fundraising and marketing issues. Before working for the Federal Agency for Civic Education, she was research fellow in Migration Studies at the Centre d'Etudes de Populations in Differdange, Luxembourg, research assistant at Trier University, Germany, freelance journalist, and has been involved in the students' participation and exchange.