



***United Nations Alliance Of Civilizations
Fellowship Programme 2015***

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***2015 MENA cohort
Visit to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Germany, Belgium, the U.S.***

October 27th – November 12th 2015



Federal Foreign Office

The UNAOC Fellowship Programme is made possible by a grant from the Federal Foreign Office of Germany

Provisional Agenda

Berlin, Germany – October 30th to November 3rd

Hotel: Amano Grand Central

Friday, October 30th:

- 5:10pm: Arrival
- 8pm: Introduction session for the MENA cohort

Saturday, October 31th:

- 9:30am – 11:30am: Meeting at Amnesty International
- 2:30pm – 3:30pm: Visit to Stop War Worldwide¹
- 4pm – 6pm: Visit to a migrant centre
- 8pm: Alumni dinner at Nola's

Sunday, November 1st:

- 9:30am – 11am: Meeting with “Pocket Stories”²
- 11:30am – 12:30pm: Meeting with “Uber den Tellerrand Kochen”³
- 12:30am – 2:30pm: Cooking workshop with “Uber den Tellerrand Kochen”
- 3pm – 6pm: Visit to the Berlin Wall

Monday, November 2nd:

- 9:30am – 11:30am: Meeting at the Federal Foreign Office
- 12pm – 1:30pm: Lunch with Alumni
- 2pm – 3:30pm: Meeting with the intercultural project “Deutsch Plus”⁴
- 4pm – 5:30pm: Meeting with “Dialog Macht Schule”⁵

Tuesday, November 3rd:

- 9am – 11am: Meeting at the House of One⁶
- 12pm – 12:30pm: Meeting with UNAOC Chief de Cabinet and Spokesperson to UNAOC High Representative
- 12:30pm – 2:30pm Meeting with UNAOC Intercultural Innovation Award⁷ Alumni
- 3:25pm: Departure to Berlin Airport
- 6:25pm: Departure to Brussels

Brussels, Belgium – November 3rd to 6th

Hotel: Made in Louise

Tuesday, November 3rd:

- 7:45pm: Arrival in Brussels

Wednesday, November 4th:

- 8:45am – 12:30pm: Visit to the European External Action Service
- 2pm – 3pm: Meeting with FedAsil⁸
- 3:30pm – 5pm: Visit to a migrant centre with FedAsil
- 8pm: Alumni dinner at Casa Miguel

Thursday, November 5th:

- 8:30am – 11am: Visit to NATO
- 11:30am – 1pm: Visit to the European Endowment for Democracy⁹
- 2pm – 3:30pm: Meeting with the European Network Against Racism¹⁰
- 4pm – 5:30pm: Meeting with the NGO Foyer¹¹

Friday, November 6th:

- 7am: Departure to Brussels airport
- 10:15am: Departure to New York

New York, U.S. – November 6th to 10th

Hotel: Hampton Inn

Friday, November 6th:

- 12:55pm: Arrival in New York
- 4pm – 6pm: Meeting with New York City Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs
- 8pm: Alumni Dinner at Flo Cafe

Saturday, November 7th:

- 10am – 12pm: Visit to the MET Museum
- 2pm – 4pm: Meeting with New York Immigration Coalition¹²

Sunday, November 8th:

- 9am: Visit to Ellis Island Museum of Immigration and Statue of Liberty
- 3pm: Meeting with Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity¹³

Monday, November 9th:

- 9am – 11am: Meeting with UNAOC and International Organization for Migration
- 11:30am – 1pm: Meeting with the International Institute of Education¹⁴
- 1:15pm – 2:30pm: Reception at the Permanent Mission of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation to the UN
- 3pm – 4pm: Briefing at the UN on Migration issues
- 4:30pm – 5:30pm: Visit to the United Nations

Tuesday, November 10th:

- 6am: Departure to New York airport
- 8:05am: Departure to Washington DC

Washington DC, U.S. – November 10th to 12th

Hotel: Hampton Inn White House

Tuesday, November 10th:

- 9:30am: Arrival in Washington DC
- 12pm – 1pm: Meeting with the State Department Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration
- 2:30pm – 3:30pm: Meeting with the United States Institute of Peace¹⁵
- 4pm – 5:30pm: Meeting with the Special Representative for Religion and Global Affairs

Wednesday, November 11th:

- 9am – 11am: Meeting with the Migration Policy Institute¹⁶
- 11:30am – 1pm: Meeting with the Greater Washington Muslim-Jewish Forum¹⁷
- 2:30pm – 4:30pm: Visit to the National Mall and the National Museum of American History
- 5pm – 6pm: Closing session for the MENA cohort
- 7:30pm: Alumni dinner at Local 16

Thursday, November 12th:

All day: departure

Preparation Material

¹ StopWarWorldwide

StopWarWorldwide (SWW) was founded in September 2015 as a charity organization with the aim to help and support refugees from war torn countries worldwide. SWW advise and help migrants and refugees in all social, existential and bureaucratic matters (i.e. asylum registration) in Germany. SWW regards war as the main cause for human suffering and concentrates its efforts on people affected by conflicts. Focusing on specific demands, SWW provides emergency relief and create sustainable synergies for refugees. The most important aspect of SWW campaigns are targeting integration methods and capacity building within the refugee communities. (<http://www.stopwarworldwide.com>)

² Pocket Stories

Pocket Stories is searching for new ways to engage with immigration that leaves behind politics, activism and fear, but rather unite in common interests. Due to the popularity of travelling, we use travel-like experiences and storytelling as tools to engage a desensitised public. Building a thriving multicultural society is an ongoing process therefore Pocket Stories co-design its projects with migrants, locals and migration professionals. “Travel Faraway at Home” for Migration Professionals is a workshop by *Pocket Stories* that aims to unite migration professional to re-think human mobility in order to find creative integration solution to celebrate migration. This is a sub-project that will feed into “Travel Faraway At Home - By Migrants for Travellers” and inspire collaborations amongst migration professionals. (<http://www.ourpocketstories.org>)

³ Über den Tellerrand kochen

Über den Tellerrand kochen is German for “cooking outside the box”. Through cooking, the project works on bringing together people from all over the world, overcoming barriers and helping strangers to become friends. Über den Tellerrand kochen aims at improving the integration of refugees into German society. By using the topic of food as a media for cultural exchange, the project reaches out to both refugees and natives, putting the issue of asylum into a new, positive perspective, creating awareness for the diversity and cultural richness of human beings, giving way to valuable encounters with one another on an equal footing. The project promotes creative, educational and sportive programs with a strong cultural connection as the basis for mutual interest, respect and friendship. Through active exchange among refugees and natives, the projects aims at giving the opportunity for refugees to build a network of friends, allowing natives to develop knowledge of

new cultures and traditions. (<https://ueberdentellerrand.org>)

4 Deutsch Plus

Deutsch Plus is a German association looking to foster debate about diversity and integration by spreading knowledge about migration and the diverse lifestyles that exist in modern Germany. The "Deutsch Plus generation" was born and raised in Germany or immigrated some time ago. Having a migrant background as a German shouldn't feel like a dilemma or a conflict of loyalty, but as an enrichment in a globalized world. The team of Deutsch Plus sees itself as active participating citizens of the civil society with skills in daily intercultural work. Its members are actively involved in politics, administration, economy, science, culture, media and civil society, and aim to use their civic resource to shape the present and the future of Germany as an immigration society. (<http://deutsch-plus.de>)

5 Dialog Macht Schule

Dialog Macht Schule is German for "Dialogue with school". It teaches schools on ways to commit to a democracy in which all social groups can shape society regardless of their social and cultural origins. The association aims at helping schools to meet the demands of an increasingly diverse student body. It also help schools promote democratic awareness to encourage students to develop into self-determined individuals, guided by their own strengths and in collaboration with others'. Dialogue in school has been designed by taking into consideration the needs of ethnically diverse schools with a high proportion of socially disadvantaged students. The program focuses on enhancing personal development, civic education and inclusive teamwork. (<http://www.dialogmachtschule.de>)

6 The House Of One

Three religions, one house of worship. This is the project that, together, Jews, Christians, and Muslims want to achieve, by bringing a synagogue, a church, and a mosque under one roof. The three separate sections will be linked by a communal room in the centre of the building. This will serve as a meeting place, where worshippers and members of the public can come together and learn more about the religions and each other. When they embarked on their collaboration in 2010, the partners realized that it would be impossible to clear up in advance all the difficult theological and political questions raised by the project. With this in mind, they drew up a charter that, in connection with the founding of an association, created a legally binding, transparent structure that will serve as the foundation for all other plans from here on in. The charter states that the individual institutions each represent their own religion, but that they do not make any claim to

exclusivity. Other institutions and schools of thought are invited to join the project and share some of the aspects that make their respective religion so diverse. To do so, they must agree to abide by the principles contained in the charter. (<http://house-of-one.org/en>)

7 Intercultural Innovation Award

The Intercultural Innovation Award is a partnership between the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the BMW Group that aims to select and support the most innovative grassroots projects that encourage intercultural dialogue and cooperation around the world. The Intercultural Innovation Award is bestowed upon ten organizations. Awardees receive one year of support and consulting from the UNAOC and the BMW Group, which will assist their projects to increase their effectiveness. Support will also be provided to successful projects so that they can be replicated in other contexts or settings where they might be relevant. The specific support received will depend on the individual needs of the projects. A detailed needs assessment will be conducted in conjunction with each of the awardees. The UNAOC and the BMW Group will then mobilize resources to help those projects achieve their goals. After one year, a comprehensive evaluation will be performed in order to assess the impact of the Award on successful projects. (<https://interculturalinnovation.org>)

8 FedAsil

Fedasil is responsible for the reception of asylum seekers and other target groups and guarantees high-quality reception and conformity within the various reception structures. Fedasil coordinates various voluntary return programs. The NGO also guarantees equal services and integrated counselling attuned to the specific characteristics of the various target groups. The protection of personal integrity and the provision of a realistic image of the future are important points of attention in this regard. Fedasil strives to attain the requisite flexibility and decisiveness in order to be able to fully assume our responsibility. Some important success factors in this regard are: involvement in the preliminary phases and aftercare, a responsible organization that puts result-oriented and efficient management at all levels first and foremost, combined with the necessary transparency and regular follow-up. Fedasil wants to make an important contribution to the definition, the correct image, social acceptance and implementation of a just migration policy. To this end, Fedasil wishes to observe Belgium's international commitments, such as the conventions and treaties concerning human rights and European directives with regard to reception and asylum. (<http://fedasil.be>)

9 The European Endowment for Democracy

The European Endowment for Democracy (EED) has been created to promote the European values of freedom and democracy. A joint effort of the Member States and European Union institutions, the European Endowment for Democracy remains an independent private law foundation with its seat in Brussels. The European Endowment for Democracy seeks to advance and encourage “deep and sustainable democracy” in transition countries and in societies struggling for democratisation, with initial, although not exclusive focus, on the European Neighbourhood. Democracy and freedom cannot be imported or imposed from outside. National ownership is indispensable to ignite the engine of change and ensure sustainable and inclusive democratisation process. The European Endowment for Democracy aims at assisting the democratic change in the spirit of solidarity and partnership. The European Endowment for Democracy assists pro-democratic civil society organisations, movements and individual activists acting in favour of a pluralistic multiparty system regardless of their size or formal status. The EED also provides assistance to young leaders, independent media and journalists, provided that all the beneficiaries adhere to core democratic values and human rights as well as subscribe to principles of non-violence. Women rights organisations and female activists are among the recipients of support and gender perspective is mainstreamed in all decisions and EED-funded actions. (<https://www.democracyendowment.eu>)

10 The European Network Against Racism

The European Network Against Racism (ENAR) is the only pan-European anti-racist network that combines advocacy for racial equality and facilitating cooperation among civil society anti-racist actors in Europe. The organisation was set up in 1998 by grassroots activists on a mission to achieve legal changes at European level and make decisive progress towards racial equality in all EU Member States. Its mission is to achieve full equality, solidarity and well-being for all in Europe. We want to allow all members of society, whatever their skin colour, ethnicity, sex, gender, religion, disability, age or sexual orientation, to participate and be included in society. ENAR combats racism and discrimination based on colour, ethnicity, national origin, nationality, religion, culture, language or legal status. The association wants to promote a vibrant and inclusive society and economy that embrace equality and diversity and the benefits of a racism-free Europe. It strives at breaking down structural barriers and policies that limit migrants’ and ethnic and religious minorities’ opportunities to participate fully in

society and have, ultimately, a damaging impact on the well-being of all European residents. (<http://www.enar-eu.org>)

¹¹ Foyer

Foyer is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1969 as a youth centre. It is active on the municipal, regional and international levels, focusing on the integration of people of immigrant background. Foyer wants to contribute to an inclusive society, in which all people, regardless of their personal background, can participate. Foyer is a pluralistic organization with respect for diversity at all levels. Foyer considers staff and volunteers' commitment to the Foyer mission, as well as a professional approach, to be crucially important. Foyer has always been able to count on the financial support of public institutions as well as on that of individuals. Foyer's most important activities are children's and youth activities that build skills and self-confidence; activities for women of all backgrounds and ages; activities for men and fathers in the neighbourhood; activities related to intercultural mediation and prevention in health care; contributing to the protection of the rights of individuals, refugees, undocumented persons, Roma and Travellers; developing training sessions, tools and methods to spread information and raise awareness about diversity in society; dialogue activities; advice, counselling and change management for organizations and services that want to work in a culturally conscious way. (<http://www.foyer.be>)

¹² New York Immigration Coalition

The New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC) is an umbrella policy and advocacy organization for nearly 200 groups in New York State that work with immigrants and refugees. The NYIC is a leading advocate for immigrant communities on the local, state, and national levels, serving one of the largest and most diverse newcomer populations in the United States. The NYIC's multi-ethnic, multi-racial, and multi-sector membership base includes grassroots community organizations, non-profit health and human services organizations, religious and academic institutions, labour unions, and legal, social, and economic justice organizations. The NYIC provides both a forum for immigrant groups to share their concerns and a vehicle for collective action to bring about positive social change locally and nationally. Since its founding in 1987, the NYIC has evolved into a powerful advocacy voice, developing innovative policies, promoting and protecting the rights of immigrants and their family members, improving newcomers' access to services, developing leadership and capacity in immigrant communities, expanding civic participation, and mobilizing member groups to respond to

emerging issues and needs. (<http://www.thenyic.org>)

¹³ Alpha Phi Alpha

Alpha Phi Alpha, is a fraternity established for African American Men and was founded at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York by seven college men who recognized the need for a strong bond of brotherhood among African descendants in this country. The fraternity initially served as a study and support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice, both educationally and socially, at Cornell. The founders and early leaders of the fraternity succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity. Alpha Phi Alpha chapters were established at other colleges and universities, many of them historically black institutions, soon after the founding at Cornell. While continuing to stress academic excellence among its members, Alpha also recognized the need to help correct the educational, economic, political, and social injustices faced by African Americans. Alpha Phi Alpha has long stood at the forefront of the African-American community's fight for civil rights through leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, William Gray, and many others. Alpha Phi Alpha has been interracial since 1945. Since its founding on December 4, 1906, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has supplied voice and vision to the struggle of African Americans and people of colour around the world. (<http://www.apa1906.net>)

¹⁴ Institute of International Education

IIE was established in 1919 in the aftermath of World War I by Nobel Peace Prize winners Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University, and Elihu Root, former Secretary of State, and by Stephen Duggan, Sr., Professor of Political Science at the College of the City of New York and IIE's first President. They believed that lasting peace could not be achieved without greater understanding between nations—and that international educational collaborations formed the strongest basis for fostering such understanding. The Institute was created to catalyze educational exchange. It met the need for a central point of contact and source of information for both U.S. higher education and foreign nations interested in developing educational ties with the United States. IIE's mission is to advance international education and access to education worldwide. It aims at accomplishing this by managing scholarships, training, exchange and leadership programs, conducting research and facilitating, policy dialogue on global higher education, protecting scholarship around the world. (<http://www.iie.org>)

¹⁵ United States Institute of Peace

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) is an independent, nonpartisan institution established and funded by Congress to increase the nation's capacity to manage international conflict without violence. It was established in 1984, as a publicly funded national institution chartered with the mission to prevent, mitigate and resolve violent conflicts around the world by engaging directly in conflict zones and providing analysis, education and resources to those working for peace. Though conflict is inevitable, USIP believes that many conflicts can be addressed effectively without violence. Nonviolent means can be less costly, more sustainable and less destructive to human lives, livelihoods and well-being. USIP also argues that efforts to prevent, mitigate and resolve conflicts should be tailored to each issue, circumstance or conflict zone. Furthermore, efforts to prevent, mitigate and resolve violent conflicts must be grounded on empirical evidence and rigorously evaluated for impact. USIP aims at having a wide and long-term impact by working with partners in government, multilateral organizations, business and civil society around the world. USIP tries constantly to test new means of addressing challenges and incorporate lessons learned into future work. Whenever possible, we share our knowledge, techniques, experiences and resources that can help others build peace. (<http://www.usip.org>)

¹⁶ Migration Policy Institute

The Migration Policy Institute (MPI) is an independent, nonpartisan, non-profit think tank in Washington, DC dedicated to analysis of the movement of people worldwide. MPI provides analysis, development, and evaluation of migration and refugee policies at local, national, and international levels. It aims to meet the demand for pragmatic and thoughtful responses to the challenges and opportunities that large-scale migration, whether voluntary or forced, presents to communities and institutions in an increasingly integrated world. MPI is guided by the philosophy that international migration needs active and intelligent management. When such policies are in place and are responsibly administered, they bring benefits to immigrants and their families, communities of origin and destination, and sending and receiving countries. The international migration system now includes almost every country in the world. Many of them are relatively new to large-scale migration and have not developed the institutions, laws, and policies needed to manage migration flows optimally. Economic, humanitarian, social, and political priorities often dictate contradictory policy directions or conflict with international obligations. MPI uses the extensive expertise of its directors and staff to assist governments and civil-society organizations to develop solutions to these migration problems. (<http://www.migrationpolicy.org>)

¹⁷ The Greater Washington Muslim-Jewish Forum

The Greater Washington Muslim-Jewish Forum (GWMJF) sprang out of a desire of Jewish and Muslim leaders in the United States for deeper connection and solidarity between members of the two communities. The Foundation for Ethnic Understanding (FFEU) convened a meeting of local Muslim and Jewish leaders in late January 2014 to materialize this vision, to great receptivity. Today, the GWMJF focuses its efforts on three main areas of involvement: Standing up for Each Other; Educating Ourselves about Each Other; Organizing Cultural, Social Service and Festive Events As an umbrella organization comprised of the leadership of existing interfaith and inter-community endeavors, GWMJF advocates the efforts of its constituent groups, including publicizing events. Some of these constituent groups include: The Jewish-Islamic Dialogue Society (JIDS), Jews and Muslims– Washington, DC (JAM DC), The Washington, DC Jewish Community Centre (DCJCC), The All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS), Temple Rodef Shalom (TRS), The Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), The American Jewish Committee (AJC). (<https://www.facebook.com/gwmjf/>)