



United Nations Alliance Of Civilizations

Fellowship Program 2016

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Participants from Europe and North America (EUNA)

November 6th – November 23rd 2016



Federal Foreign Office

The UNAOC Fellowship Program is made possible thanks to a grant from the Federal Foreign Office of Germany



Anca Gliga (Romania) is a Romanian youth advocate, involved in the youth field, with an emphasis on development and peace education, for more than 6 years. She was president of AEGEE Cluj-Napoca (part of AEGEE Europe – European Students' Forum), where she focused on encouraging youth participation, active citizenship and fostering intercultural communication. Later on, Anca has worked with PATRIR – Peace Action, Training and Research Institute of Romania, as a Coordinator of GlocalTour, a national educational campaign on the Millennium Development Goals and Development Education. For 2 years, she was based in London and worked as European Coordinator for Peace Revolution, an international project focusing on youth empowerment through peace education. Anca is involved as Youth Representative with the United Network of Young Peacebuilders and the UN Major Group for Children and Youth and has spoken on their behalf at the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul and at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development Goals, at the United Nations in New York. Anca has been part of the team working on the UN SCR 2250 resolution on Youth, Peace and Security. She holds an American MPA in Community Development with a thesis in Development Education and BA in Communication.



Annegret Meinel (Germany) works as a secondary school teacher for Spanish and French in colorful Mannheim, Germany and is interested in multicultural experiences. In 2011, she was the German team leader of the "youth in action" project "city talks" in Canakkale, Turkey and in 2005 one of 6 German participants in the "Metropolis Youth Congress" that united young people from all over the world in Berlin. During her formation she helped young immigrants to pass the final secondary school examination. Besides German she speaks French, Spanish, English and some Turkish, Italian (and Latin) and is politically and culturally interested. This made her also participate in the project "Europamobil" in 2014 where she led workshops in schools in sensitive regions around Paris together with young people from 11 European countries.



Aurore Du Roy (France) is passionate about education, development and digital tools. She has specialized in education policy issues in the North and the South, and is interested in the impact digital tools have on learning and on the governance of education systems. She is the head of the French branch of Kiron Open Higher Education, an organization aiming at giving refugees access to higher education through a blended learning approach. Before, she has worked both in the private sector and in international organizations on various projects related to education. She worked for the conference of education ministers of francophone countries (CONFEMEN) where she was involved in its first international assessment. This evaluation program collected data to give an overview of the education systems of 10 of its member countries. She has also worked as a consultant for a French startup specialized in developing digital tools for schools. Aurore holds a master's degree in international cooperation in education and training from Paris Descartes University, France. In her free time, she loves to read, write, travel and volunteer in various organizations.



Bostjan Jerman (Slovenia) is Project Manager and Executive Board Member of UNA Slovenia, mainly leading projects concerning global education, active citizenship and development issues, with more than 10 years of experience. In years of civil society engagement he has implemented several projects, whereby the most relevant are: (1) campaign Stand Up and Take Action Slovenia in 2008 and 2009 – raising awareness about MDGs among youth, mobilizing over 8,000 people in Slovenia; (2) in 2013 he initiated with partner organizations the first Slovenian global education portal Together Strong (in Slovene: Skupaj monejši) for primary and secondary school pupils and their teachers, including workshops on global education (about 5 per year); (3) as Executive Board Member of Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO his leading the UNESCO Youth Platform and launched in 2016 pilot project Connecting Cultures Slovenia (inspired by Connecting Cultures Oman) with the mission to build sustaining partnerships between youth organizations in EURO-ARAB regions through expeditions in nature; (4) in 2016 he launched a new web media in Slovenia called “pOZNavalec” covering issues on the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals.



Ian Plunkett (Ireland) currently heads up public policy communications for Europe, the Middle East and Africa for Twitter. An alumnus of the London School of Economics, Ian has BA in International Relations and an MSc in Political Science and Communications. His master's dissertation focused on contemporary Saudi society and was awarded a distinction from the LSE. Ian worked on Capitol Hill for Congressman Michael McMahon who sat on the Subcommittee for Foreign Affairs and he is a graduate

of the Washington-Ireland Program for Service and Leadership, a post-conflict program that brings Catholics and Protestants together from across the island of Ireland. Ian also worked for Tech City UK, a non-partisan body that advised UK Prime Minister David Cameron on technology policy. Whilst working there he worked on the launch of the Digital Business Academy. Passionate about the intersection of technology, policy and politics, Ian spent time in the West Bank pursuing the idea that new technologies can be a force for positive social change. In his role at Twitter, he works on issues relating to countering violent extremism and the power of digital platforms to foster societal tolerance.



Ilaria Verratti (Italy) is a young anthropologist and specialist in human development with more than six years of work experience in the fields of research and development cooperation, - specifically on inclusive education and social inclusion with a focus on vulnerable groups. From 2009 to 2013 she carried out in-depth studies on minority rights, youth culture and the Tamazight language as key element of claim of right in the Maghreb. In the last three years she has been working for UNDESA, the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs of International Cooperation of Italy and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation as specialist in development cooperation in the fields of education, prevention of violence and juvenile justice in Central America. She previously worked with civil society organizations supporting rural and indigenous communities with education and training activities, especially for young people and women. In addition, she volunteered for the National Civil Service helping migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and refugee minors from the Middle East, Africa and South America to exercise their rights on issues pertaining to education, health, employment, family reunification and social protection.



Jeffrey Ansloos (Canada) is an interdisciplinary educator with a specialty in child and youth care, peace studies, and indigenous studies. Jeffrey is currently an Assistant Teaching Professor in the Faculty of Human and Social Development at the University of Victoria in British Columbia, Canada. As an educator, Jeffrey's primary role is supporting university students learning and scholarship primarily in the area of community-based youth work. His research focuses on Indigenous perspectives on nonviolence and human rights; peace-building and restorative justice with youth; intersections of religious and racial identity, community and ethics; complex psychological violence; indigenous and refugee mental health; and youth movements and activism. Jeffrey completed his M.A. and Ph.D. in Psychology in which his research focused in part on Iraqi refugees, specifically children and women's mental health. Jeffrey's undergraduate studies were in religion, and he has a strong interest in interfaith dialogue, especially between the Christians, Muslims, and Jewish traditions.



Marissa Gutierrez-Vicario (U.S.A.) is an educator and community activist engaged in human rights work both within the United States and abroad. This work includes having: investigated human rights abuses and worked on a documentary film in Mexico, conducted human rights research in India, and volunteered for a women's rights nonprofit in Guatemala. Within the United States, she has planned and organized service-learning trips for youth and young adults, coordinated events for and with youth, and worked with community organizers to address violations of human rights. She also currently serves as a Program Leader for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee College of Social Justice. Through her work with Art and Resistance Through Education (ARTE), as Executive Director, Marissa works to engage young people in human rights education through art, design, and technology. As a graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Marissa has a Master's degree in Education, focusing on the Arts in Education. She has also received a Master's degree in Public Administration, focusing on Non-Profit Management and Public Policy from New York University and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Southern California.



Mustafa Kemal Akbulut (Turkey) is a policy officer in the Education and Youth Department at the Ministry for European Union Affairs in Turkey. His professional area of expertise covers education and youth policy in the EU, Turkey and the partner countries neighboring the EU and he is mainly responsible for Transnational Cooperation Activities in the field of youth. Before starting to work at the Ministry for EU Affairs, he represented the Republic of Turkey in the 25th Ship for World Youth Programme in Japan in 2013. During his undergraduate studies he studied in the Department of International Relations and European Integration at the University of Stuttgart in Germany as an Erasmus exchange student and holds a bachelor degree in International Relations from Ankara University. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Social Policy at Middle East Technical University. His research interests are education and youth policy in the EU and Turkey, development, EU social policy, EU governance and institutions, social policy in Turkey and international political economy.

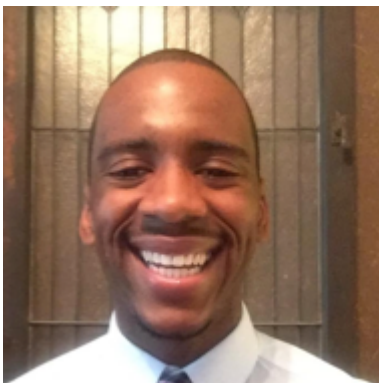


Orla Murphy (Ireland) is a three-time graduate of University College Cork, holding a B.A. in English and Politics, a Master's in International Public Policy and Diplomacy, and a Postgraduate Law Degree (LL.B). With an interest in development education, Orla engaged with grassroots organizations in Ireland throughout university, and in 2015 was appointed as the first Irish Youth Delegate to the United Nations in 2015, where her role focused on the promotion of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda. A volunteer with the Irish Red Cross for well over a decade, Orla has represented youth of the organization nationally on the International Advisory Group, a sub-committee of the Board of Directors, and the Strategic Advisory Group for Migration, and internationally at the Federation's Statutory Meetings, Youth and Refugees Summits, as well as on the Irish First Aid Team. She held the position of International Humanitarian Law Advocacy Officer at the Irish Red Cross Secretariat from 2015-2016. In June 2016, Orla took up the role as Advocacy Officer with UNICEF Ireland working toward the recognition of youth rights in government policies, and encouraging youth active citizenship particularly in regard to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development.



Rafal Szczurowski (Poland) had been an international relations columnist for over ten years for a Polish daily in New York, Nowy Dziennik. He has been teaching at the City College of New York (CCNY) since 2012. His academic interest includes global values and international organizations. Rafal oversees CCNY Model United Nations program and serves as its Faculty Advisor. In 2015, he was appointed the Head of CCNY NGO to the UN DPI. Rafal also works as an Academic Advisor at CUNY Baccalaureate for Unique

and Interdisciplinary Studies (CUNY BA) where he founded and administrates an Academic Conference Series and a Leadership Academy. Most recently, Rafal represented CUNY BA at the 66th UN DPI/NGO Conference in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea on May 30 to June 1, 2016. Due to his participation in the drafting of the Gyeongju Action Plan (adopted at the Conference), the document urges Member States and the UN to promote experiential learning, interdisciplinary studies, and intercultural exchanges. Rafal has been born and raised in Poland and currently resides in New York City. He holds a B.A. from Hunter College and an M.A. in Political Science from The Graduate Center.



Trent Lawrence (U.S.A.), a proud native of Chicago, has an unapologetic passion for knowledge and learning about the world around him. Born and raised in one of Chicago's historically Black neighborhoods, the Ida B. Wells, he has excelled through numerous programs that not only helped him understand his role in academia, but also his admiration and love for teaching. After enrolling at DePaul University in Chicago, his appreciation for education was amplified. Toward the end of his junior

year, he was accepted into an intensive summer course in Rome, Italy for Italian Culture and Film Studies, his first experience abroad. This program redefined his fascination with traveling and brought to the forefront the importance behind intercultural immersion. A year later after graduating in 2013, Trent joined the Center for Teaching in Learning in China as an English Instructor in the city of Shenzhen, China for two years. Upon his return to the U.S., he decided to pursue his graduate studies for the 2017/18 academic year. He currently serves as a New Sector Alliance Summer Fellow with the Chicago Public Education Fund.