



***UNAOC Fellowship Alumni – Coming Together  
To Fight Radicalization and Xenophobia  
December 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> – New York U.S.***

***Program & Provisional Agenda***

## – Background –

In the light of recent events, and considering the need expressed by international institutions (such as the European Commission) to rely on grassroots networks and local actors to counter radicalization, fight xenophobia, and foster intercultural understanding, UNAOC has decided to organize a series of consultations with Fellowship Alumni. The first one will take place in New York, from December 8<sup>th</sup> to December 10<sup>th</sup> 2015.

The goal is to encourage UNAOC Fellowship Alumni to use their resources and expertise to help fight radicalization and xenophobia through cross-cultural collaboration. For the first round, UNAOC has decided to gather Alumni leading local projects and grassroots initiatives at different levels. After going through the Alumni database compiled since April 2015 – and which will soon be available on a brand new UNAOC Fellowship website – UNAOC has selected 14 Fellowship Alumni currently working in their home country with civil society, local communities and actors, with a focus on youth and migration for MENA participants, and on interfaith dialogue for EUNA participants.

## – Agenda –

This round of consultations will be divided into 6 workshops to be held over three days, with a focus on UNAOC four pillars of action – education, media, migration and youth – as means to fight radicalization and xenophobia through cross-cultural collaboration.

### *Introductory session*

The event will start with an introductory session during which each participant will have 10 minutes to:

- Introduce briefly their organization/project/initiative
- Describe its role or potential role in fighting radicalization and xenophobia
- Identify structural and conjectural challenges
- Explain the type of collaboration that could be developed within the UNAOC Alumni network

## *The Workshops*

This first session will be followed by four workshops, reflecting UNAOC four pillars of actions:

1. Migration: “Engaging Migrant communities”
2. Education: “Educating and Empowering”
3. Youth: “Engaging Youth”
4. Media: “Promoting a narrative of dialogue and tolerance in the Media”

Each workshop will be three-hour long and will be divided as follows:

- In-depth presentations by 3 to 4 participants of their work
- Discussion and brainstorming
- Conclusion and identification of small scale strategies implementable by and within the Alumni network

When presenting their work, participants will also have to provide brainstorming elements on:

- How to engage civil society and local communities together with official authorities and governments in capacity building
- How to identify relevant and accessible actors at a local and national level
- How to assess the situation, its roots and its complexity
- How to involve international institutions in helping local stakeholders promote and implement inclusive social contracts
- How to promote a counter-narrative against radicalization and xenophobia and which measure is to be implemented in priority
- Propose ideas for regional and cross cultural collaborations
- Provide tools to measure progress
- Suggest implementation strategies on a small scale with the aim of fostering intercultural understanding and countering radicalism and xenophobia

For each workshop, there will be 2 rapporteurs in charge of (1) taking notes and writing a short report on the workshop and (2) drafting and presenting concluding remarks during the closing session.

## *Closing session*

This 90-minute session will summarize the different workshops and presentations led by Alumni. The session will end with clear propositions on how UNAOC

Fellowship Alumni, as individuals and as a network, could use Alumni's resources and expertise to participate in the global effort to fight radicalization and xenophobia.

**– Schedule –**

Introductory session

*December 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 – 12:30 at UNAOC HQ or UN HQ*

Workshop 1: Engaging Migrant communities

*December 8<sup>th</sup> 14:30 – 17:30 at UNAOC*

Workshop 2: Engaging Youth

*December 9<sup>th</sup> 9:30 – 12:30 at UNAOC*

Workshop 3: Empowering through Education

*December 9<sup>th</sup> 14:30 – 17:30 at UNAOC*

Workshop 4: Promoting a narrative of tolerance and dialogue in the Media

*December 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 12:00 at UNAOC*

Preparation for the closing session

*December 10<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 12:45 at UNAOC*

Closing session

*December 10<sup>th</sup> 13:30 – 15:00 at UNAOC*