
BUILDING NEW NARRATIVES: MIGRATION AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO EUROPEAN SOCIETY

THE MAX PROJECT FINAL EVENT

25 NOVEMBER
 **BRUSSELS**

SPEAKERS OF THE CONFERENCE



WWW.MAXAMIF.EU

BUILDING NEW NARRATIVES

Migration and its contribution to European society

Over the last 3 years, the [MAX project](#), an initiative funded by the European Commission, has been working to change the narrative around the migration discourse. A total of 6 policy and research reports, two training courses on a solution-focused approach to migration reporting for over 100 journalists in 20 different countries, an online Diversity Film Festival and Award Ceremony with hundreds of candidates and more than 20 online and physical events are some of the outcomes of that work.

The MAX team believes that well-managed migration to Europe contributes to our societies, culture and economy. The integration and social inclusion of people with migrant backgrounds, refugees and asylum seekers is crucial for cultural exchange, economic development, fighting against the downward demographic slope and community cohesion. It also helps address skills gaps and labour shortages, and to boost economic performance overall. Currently in the EU, too many migrants face challenges in terms of unemployment, discrimination, non-recognition of certificates and diplomas, lack of educational and training opportunities, language barriers and limited social interaction with other local communities.¹

European societies are, and will continue to become, increasingly diverse. Notwithstanding the efforts and progress made, many third-country nationals across the EU continue to fare worse than EU citizens in terms of employment, education, and social inclusion outcomes.²

The 25th and 26th November the MAX project invites you to hear and debate with us the findings of the MAX project and, most importantly, the voices and experiences of the migrants, as well as all those actors working on social inclusion and migration policies at local, national and EU levels, to continue working together for real inclusive societies. On the 26th, the role of art, culture and creativity in changing the narrative will be highlighted through film screening, music, food, literature and art exhibitions.

¹ EC press release 22 July 2020, Integration of migrants: Commission launches a public consultation and call for an expert group on the views of migrants, https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1364

² See Eurostat data: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Migrant_integration_statistics_-_overview and OECD/European Union (2015), Indicators of Immigration on Integration 2015 – Settling In: <http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/Indicators-of-Immigrant-Integration-2015.pdf>.

Building new narratives: Migration and its contribution to European society

SPEAKERS OF THE FINAL EVENT

Adem Kumcu

President of UNITEE



Adem Kumcu is the President of Brussels based UNITEE, the New European Business Confederation, advocating the interests of entrepreneurs with a migrant background, whom we refer to as «New Europeans»: people who live in Europe but have connections with more than just the country where they live.

Through its 7 national federations and 78 associations, UNITEE is a unique organisation representing thousands of entrepreneurs and business professionals across 24 European countries and from all the major sectors of the European economy.

Dr. Kumcu has long combined his entrepreneurial experience with a career in academia. He is an experienced specialist of regional economic development in the age of disruption and global international migration. Making cosmopolitan cities globally competitive, socially synergetic and ecologically sustainable has become his life mission.

Similarly, Dr. Kumcu has demonstrated his civic engagement by dividing his time between the profit and non-profit sector.

Agnieszka Kosowicz

Founder and president of the board of the Polish Migration Forum Foundation



Agnieszka Kosowicz – graduate of Journalism Studies at the Warsaw University, as well as the Protection Learning Programme of UNHCR. Involved in work for migrants and refugees since 2000 – initially as External Relations Officer at UNHCR branch in Warsaw. From 2007 founder and president of the board of the Polish Migration Forum Foundation, one of the main Polish organisations assisting refugees and migrants. Designer of numerous migrant integration projects, author of several publications on migration and refugee protection. For the last 15 years, author and coordinator of migration-relating projects tackling information and awareness raising.

Anya Sitaram

Communications consultant and professional conference moderator



Anya Sitaram is a communications consultant and professional conference moderator. A former BBC World News anchor and ITN Health and Science Correspondent, Anya is Executive Producer at Rockhopper Media an award-winning television and film production company. Anya has overseen scores of television documentaries which have run on channels including BBC World News, PBS, Discovery, Nat Geo and Al Jazeera among others. Anya has been moderating panels and been Master of Ceremonies at high level conferences for the European Commission and UN bodies for the last 15 years. She began her career as a BBC trainee before becoming an award winning television news reporter and presenter on the BBC's flagship science programme Tomorrow's World.

Camilla Giannetti

Educator of Duemilauno Agenzia Sociale



I graduated in education in 2008 with a thesis on Italian psychiatric hospital for people who serve a prison sentence. Also in the same year I was hired by the Cooperative "Duemilauno Agenzia Sociale" making my entry in the world of social work. After the first year, which I worked in the field of disability and psychiatry, alongside

people with multiple diagnoses, my career turned into the sector of socially marginalized families, specializing in educational practices aimed at the mother-child dyad. Thanks to this service i came into contact with the reality of migrant women and their specific requests. A year ago i started working at the "Ciliegi" Trust quarantine facility where i play the role of community educator carrying out the necessary tasks to act on the dynamics of first reception of unaccompanied foreign minors.

Catherine Edwards

Journalist, editor and trainer of The Local



Catherine Edwards is a journalist, editor and accredited Solutions Journalism trainer based in Vienna. She has lived and worked in Italy, Germany, Sweden and now Austria, and has won awards for her work as Europe Editor at The Local, in particular for her work engaging with readers. She believes that journalists have a responsibility to work with their communities and with under-represented groups, and to report on issues in a constructive way that can help lead to real change.

Charlie Dannreuther

Lecturer at the Leeds University



Dr Charlie Dannreuther has been researching SME policy in the UK and the EU for the past twenty years and through this contributed to a wide range of political and academic debates. While at the University of Leeds he has promoted innovation in teaching that engage with real world agendas, led Europe's largest project on the financial crisis and developed a research interest in the legacies of slavery on European capitalism. He

recently co-launched a new programme on Global Political Economy at Leeds focusing on post-colonial narratives of global integration.

Chiara Ginanni

Project manager of Consortio Communitas



Chiara Ginanni has been working for several years in the design and management of projects, at local, national and EU level, with special regard to the themes of social economy and integration of refugees and migrants. Since 2005 she has been committed with the Caritas network (Consortio Farsi Prossimo and Caritas Ambrosiana) and Confcooperative/Federsolidarietà. Since the beginning of 2021, she is Director of Consortio Communitas: founded in 2009, Communitas aims to create a flexible but permanent form of collaboration between the member bodies (cooperatives, foundations, associations promoted by the Diocesan Caritas) to develop, coordinate and implement initiatives aimed at studying and developing knowledge of migratory movements and integration of migrants, asylum seekers and holders of international protection, as well as to develop and coordinate initiatives for the accompaniment and assistance of people at risk of social exclusion and in conditions of poverty.

Denis Sabanadze

Lecturer of Youth Included



Denys has been working in the field of IT for more than 5 years, co-founded 5 startups, one of which closed an investment round for \$ 150,000, and managed to work in large and small IT companies in different countries of the world.

Dionke Konate

Founding member of the [Coop Ipad Mediterranean](#)



I'm Dionke Konate and I live in Tiggiano, I was born in Mali. This is where my journey began, which led me to look for work in Europe over 10 years ago. After years of hardship and difficulty, I started a path of inclusion that led me to find increasingly stable jobs until I became a founding member of the Coop Ipad Mediterranean where I now work. Thanks to this new stability my path continues, and I hope to soon reach the goals I have set myself and which will allow me to improve my level of education.

Eleonora Lamio

Project manager and policy officer at [Diesis Network](#)



Eleonora joined Diesis in 2019 as a project manager. She's responsible for the implementation of several Diesis projects in different fields. Graduated from LUISS Guido Carli University, she holds a Bachelor in International Relations and a Master in Public policies, both with honours. Her final dissertations from the Bachelor and the Master were both selected, and awarded, by prestigious Italian institutions. She is specialised in European public policies with a focus on social affairs and social economy. She has lived and studied for many years abroad, from South and North America to Asia, and in several European countries. Therefore not only she is dynamic and open minded, but she is also fluent in several languages.

Frankie Reid

Program Manager & Project Coordinator at Migration Matters



Before starting at Migration Matters, I worked in the social sciences department at Kiron Open Higher Education while studying remotely for my Master's in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies from the University of London. I have been with Migration Matters since November 2019, producing short educational video series on the relationship between climate change and migration, how to talk about migration, and belonging and identity for young migrants in Europe.

František Bradáč

Head of the social assistance and prevention department at Office of city district of Prague 14



František has been involved in projects and activities supporting the involvement and integration of people with foreign background at the local level since 2009. Either as fundraiser, project manager, subsidy officer, community-planning coordinator or as the head of the department responsible for these agendas. His goal is to assist in gradually building up a sustainable network of partners who provide educational and social services to migrants and cultural and community cohesion support to all inhabitants of City district Prague 14.

Frohar Poya

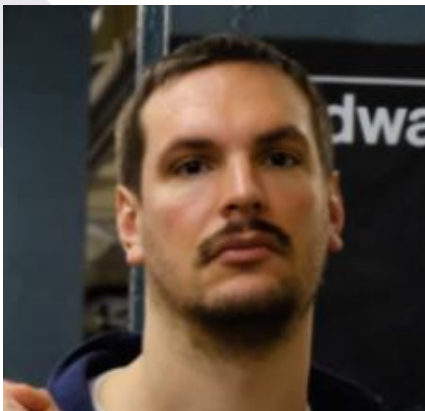
Project Officer at European Network of Migrant Women



Frohar is an experienced migration researcher and oral historian. With MA in Cross-Cultural Psychology and Community Oral History, she has led refugee research projects and worked as independent Refugee and migrant community oral history trainer in the UK. Her experience in the EU is working with the European Network of Migrant Women, European Women's Lobby and the European Youth Forum. She has worked with women victims of domestic violence and developed trainings on women's rights for NGOs in Afghanistan.

Giacomo Toffano

PhD fellow of the Research Council – Flanders (FWO) and a member of ECHO, the research group on media, culture, and politics at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel



Giacomo Toffano is a PhD fellow of the Research Council – Flanders (FWO) and a member of ECHO, the research group on media, culture, and politics at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium. He obtained his MSc in Journalism and Media (2020 – VUB), and his research now focuses on genre-hybridizations in migration narratives. In particular, Giacomo studies the production of hybrid media contents on migration that combine fiction with journalism, cartography, and data visualization. He also holds an MSc in Political Science – European Studies (Università degli Studi di Padova - 2014) and has worked for five years as Accredited Parliamentary Assistant at the European Parliament.

Gianluca Pastorelli

Executive president of Diesis Network



At the head of DIESIS for 12 years, he is in charge of the overall coordination and strategy of DIESIS, and makes available his experience and expertise both in creating new projects and partnerships and in implementing them. Over the years he has coordinated and carried out cross-border studies, research and activities to serve the needs and priorities of SMEs, social economy enterprises and cooperatives, in partnership with the main co-operative and social economy organisations all over Europe. While deepening a sound experience in project writing and management he has thereby gained a broad insight into the fields of social innovation, social dialogue and industrial relations, training and entrepreneurship.

Gianluca earned a first degree in political sciences at Bologna University, followed by a master's degree in advanced neurolinguistic programming. Since the mid-90s he has been working as a researcher and consultant for the co-operative and social economy movements at both national and European levels covering a wide range of activities: training, project design, tutoring of innovative start-ups, developer of networks, changemaker.

In 2008 he was among the cofounders of the European Alliance for Responsible Tourism and Hospitality (EARTH) the first European Network created by experts of responsible tourism.

Also a European Activist he is Member of the Board of the Association Jean Monnet – European Association promoting and revitalizing the work and thought of Jean Monnet, one of the Founder Fathers of Europe.

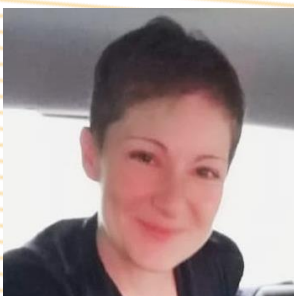
Gina May

Cultural mediator

Gina May is a recent Syrian migrant to Italy, Rome. She worked in Lebanon for seven years as a cultural mediator, interpreter and teacher in many development projects after leaving Syria. She has a master's degree in translation and interpretation and a diploma in education. She is interested in the language and cultural aspects of MENA migrants' integration into European societies.

Giulia Gori

Project officer for the Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy (FCEI) – Humanitarian Corridors Programme



Giulia Gori works as a project officer for the Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy (FCEI) – Humanitarian Corridors Programme. She also carries out policy and advocacy work in the field of migration and asylum at national and European level. She has a legal background and a master's degree in Theory and Practice of Human Rights at the University of Essex.

Hakan Aycicek

Secretary General of European Professionals Network



Researcher at UCLL, Secretary General of European Professionals Network, co-writer and implementer of European funded projects and psychotherapist. His focus is self-adaptation process and psychology of immigrants and refugees into host countries. He studied Guidance and Psychological Counselling and Educational Psychology. As a psychotherapist, he provides sessions regarding coping strategies for stress, anxiety, and depression.

Hans-Gerd Nottenbohm

Netz NRW



Iffat Rose Gill

Founder of The Code To Change



Iffat Rose Gill is social innovator, digital strategist and a global leader for digital inclusion of women. She has extensive experience in setting up programs and initiatives for economic empowerment of women through digital inclusion via public-private partnerships to address the shortage of skilled labor and the gender digital divide.

Ms. Gill's initiative The Code To Change is working in Europe to bridge the gender and e-skills gap in the technology industry. She has been named one of the Wonder Women of Amsterdam by city of Amsterdam. Her work has been recognized by Startup Amsterdam (Amsterdam City Council) as one of the top 10 diversity initiatives in the Netherlands. Her work has been featured in two publications by German government.¹ Her recent success, The Code To Change Pakistan, has trained 900 women in digital skills and the project is now gearing up to launch an extensive program for entrepreneurs in Pakistan, in partnership with Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences.

Iffat's new venture, Digital Starling is a for-purpose company that brings together female-led founder teams with specialized digital assistants from under-represented communities. With Digital Starling, Iffat is tackling a two-sided problem: female talent is chronically underrepresented on a global scale, and many early-stage businesses cannot afford the talent that they need to scale.

Since launching the organization in 2010, Iffat has trained over 1200 women to be tech-job ready, and in the process impacted the lives of over 5,000 women. For her efforts in the field, in 2020 she has been nominated for the UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education by the South Asia Foundation.

Ms. Gill has a strong focus on up-skilling and re-skilling the current talent pool to meet the ever growing and evolving needs of the digital economy. She has been at the forefront of shaping the global policy debate of women's digital inclusion for more than a decade. She has advocated for digital and entrepreneurship skills education and gender diverse workforce at many policy level platforms, including the UN's World Summit on the Information Society-WSIS Forum, the UN's Internet Governance Forum and the European Parliament.

In 2010, Ms. Gill's project Community Technology Center for Women in Pakistan won the Syster's Award from the Anita Borg Institute. Ms. Gill has specialized in Internet Governance issues after finishing her degree in Pharmacy. In her free time, Ms. Gill loves to teach children about building and programming robots!

Isabelle A.J. Durant

Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)



Isabelle A.J. Durant is a Belgian politician, member of the Ecolo party. She has been serving as Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) since 2017.

Between 1999 and 2003, Durant served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Mobility and Transport in the Belgian federal government.

Durant was a member of the Senate between 2003 and 2011. As a Senator, she served on Committees for Foreign Affairs, Social Affairs and participated in many elections observation missions.

Durant became a Member of the European Parliament in the 2009 European elections. She served as Vice President of the European Parliament between 2009 and 2014. In addition, she was a member of the Committee on Budgets, the delegation for relations with Iran and the delegation to the ACP–EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly. On 15 September 2010 Durant supported the new initiative Spinelli Group in the European Parliament, which was founded to reinvigorate the strive for federalisation of the European Union (EU).

In June 2017, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, in consultation with Mukhisa Kituyi, decided to appoint Durant as Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Jessica Phelan

Journalist, editor and trainer



Jessica Phelan is a journalist, editor and accredited Solutions Journalism trainer based in Rome. Originally from the UK, she has reported from France, Germany, Japan and Italy for a range of digital media and radio, including Radio France International, PRI and Monocle. As an editor at The Local, she has worked to position the network as a community-based resource for immigrants, by immigrants.

Judit Ferrer Fuentes

Technician of the Nuevos Senderos Project since 2016 at the Cepaim Foundation in Teruel



Judith Ferrer Fuertes has been a Technician of the Nuevos Senderos Project since 2016 at the Cepaim Foundation in Teruel. Judith has a degree in Business Sciences, with a postgraduate in Social and Labour Integration of People at Risk of Social Exclusion from Jaime I University of Castellón. She specialized in International Sales Management from ESADE Business School of Castellón and has a Certification Approved by the Community of Madrid as a Director of Social Services Centres.

She has received several trainings of equality, diversity management, employment orientation and corporate social responsibility. Since 2015 and after having resided in Castellón región and London city for professional reasons, currently she is located in the centre of the Cepaim Foundation in Teruel, one of the regions with the least population density along with Soria in Spain. From 2016 to this moment, she is developing the Project socio-labour integration of immigrant families in unpopulated rural areas, Nuevos Senderos, in that same territorial centre.

Karolina Czerwińska

Board Member of the Polish Migration Forum Foundation, communication specialist and project manager



Karolina's work within the Polish Migration Forum Foundation focuses on social inclusion of vulnerable groups (refugees, single mothers), accessible education in diverse environment and innovation in social work. She's a cultural anthropologist by profession, graduated from Warsaw University, with focus on migration and human rights.

Katharina Bamberg

Policy Advisor on migration and integration at Eurocities



Katharina Bamberg is Policy Advisor on migration and integration at Eurocities, the leading network of major European cities. She is responsible for the network's policy work related to migrant integration and diversity in cities and manages the city working group on migration and integration, including through mutual learning and capacity building activities.

Prior to Eurocities, Katharina worked as a policy analyst at the European Policy Centre, researching issues related to the Common European Asylum System, resettlement, relocation, integration, and discourses on migration. She also worked at the Odysseus Academic Network for Legal Studies on Immigration and Asylum in Europe at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. Katharina holds a master's degree in global migration from University College London (UCL), where she specialised on the intersections of forced migration, gender and agency, and a bachelor's degree in European Studies from Maastricht University.

Liudmila Gasina

Intercultural worker at City Council of Prague 14 and project manager at Youth Included



Liudmila Gasina, English teacher by occupation, Bachelor of Education (English language) in USPU, Master in Philology (English literature and linguistics) in UPOL, an intercultural worker at City Council of Prague 14, works in cooperation with numerous nonprofit organizations. Has experience in collaboration with migrant communities, has been organizing creative workshops in Prague 14, assisting in the organization of multicultural festival "Refufest," coordinator in local initiatives in Prague aimed at the integration of young people into community life. Speaks English, Russian and Czech.

Madeleina Kay

Social media campaigner for the Media Diversity Institute's Get The Trolls Out! Project



Madeleina is an artist and activist from the UK, awarded 'Young European of the year' in 2018 and the Charlemagne Youth Prize in 2020. She currently works as a social media campaigner for the Media Diversity Institute's Get The Trolls Out! project, combatting anti-religious hate-speech and disinformation online and in European media.

Maria Grazia Montella

Project Manager at the Council of European Municipalities and Regions



Maria Grazia Montella is an urban anthropologist and PhD in Urban Planning at Sapienza University of Rome with a thesis on the impact of urban planning policies on the integration of migrants in Rome and Amsterdam. She won a Marie Curie ITN Fellowship at the University of Poitiers, Laboratoire Migrinter in 2015-2017. She has been working for several migrant organizations in Brussels, writing and managing European funded projects on migrant socio-economic, political and spatial inclusion (MAX project, RIDE project, MILE project – starting in 2022). She is currently working at the Council of European Municipalities and Regions as project manager of IncluCities and policy coordinator of the CEMR Task Force on Migration and Integration. She recently funded an independent think-do-thank based in Brussels, INTEGRIM Lab and she is a mother of 2.

Marco Visintin

Educator of Duemilauno Agenzia Sociale



I have been an educator since December 2008. Over the last few years I have worked in several services provided by the Cooperative Duemilauno Agenzia Sociale.

I began my career supporting disabled minors in schools and municipal recreational facilities but also working with disabled and psychiatric adults within the "supported living" project.

Since May, as educator within the Duemilauno Cooperative, I deal with unaccompanied foreign minors on fiduciary isolation.

Massimo Buccarello

Founding member of IPAD - Cooperativa Integration peace and development



I was born in Gallipoli (LE), and I have always lived in this extreme land, the easternmost of Italy. I was trained here and over time I have cultivated my passion for migrating peoples. This land of mine has always been affected by the passage of people who come from the sea and seek their fortune by escaping from wars, poverty and dictatorships. For two years I have been part of the Ipad cooperative, I am a founding member together with the President Enzo Chiarello, Kalid Kakar, Ippazio Belcuore, Yaya Krubally, Vito Ferraro, Mba Cessay and Dionke Konate.

Monder Ram

Professor and Director of the Centre for Research in Ethnic Minority Entrepreneurship (CREME)



Professor Monder Ram OBE is the Director of the Centre for Research in Ethnic Minority Entrepreneurship (CREME). He is a leading authority on small business and ethnic minority entrepreneurship research and has published widely on the subject and has extensive experience of working in and acting as a consultant to small and ethnic minority businesses. Monder is a regular keynote speaker at international conferences and advises the government on the importance and value of ethnic minority businesses through his position on the APPG for BAME Business Owners. He also holds visiting positions at Warwick University and the University of Turku.

Laura Barranco Miranda

Co-coordinator of the Rural Development area of Cepaim Foundation



Co-coordinator of the Rural Development area of Cepaim Foundation in Spain. This area includes different projects related to local development and revitalisation of rural areas. Laura holds a Degree in Social Education from the University of Salamanca, a Master's Degree in Conflict Mediation from the Rey Juan Carlos University in Madrid and a Master's Degree in International Cooperation from the National University of Distance Education of Spain (UNED). She has received several trainings on equality and employment orientation and she has experience in Greece and Italy working with people at risk of exclusion. She has also organized and participated in different Erasmus + trainings. She is currently based in Soria, where she is originally from, one of the most depopulated regions of Spain. She has been working as project manager in the Nuevos Senderos project (New Paths Project) and now she is coordinating this project in several regions of Spain for the social and labour inclusion of immigrants in depopulated rural areas among other projects related to rural development at the national, regional and local levels.

Oksana Pestrykova

Historian and political scientist, a specialist in migration and legalization issues in Nasz Wybór [Our Choice] Foundation



Before engaging in migrant matters, she studied in graduate school in Ukraine and researched Polish-Ukrainian scientific contacts in the historical science of the XIX century. In Poland, she received a master's degree in Administration and Political Science, and she studies the peculiarities of the use of historical narratives in the political sphere in Central Europe. Since 2020, she has been working as a legalization specialist at a migrant consultation center at the Ukrainian House in Warsaw. She mainly provides consultations in the field of the stay permissions and legal employment of foreigners. Her main responsibilities include helping foreigners to contact Polish administrations and offices, assisting in filling out and gathering documents, holding information meetings for migrants, etc.

Patricia Martinez

Thematic expert and project manager at AEIDL (European Association for Information on Local Development)



Patricia is a thematic expert and project manager with 7 years of professional experience in EU programme and project management in social affairs.

After working in ConexxEurope as the project coordinator of the Erasmus + project European Network of Socially Responsible universities, Patricia joined AEIDL in 2016 to work as the Project Executive of the Social Innovation Community project. She has been the project coordinator of the 12-partner COSME project European Migrant Entrepreneurship network during the period 2017-2020 and she is currently project manager of the AMIF projects Maximising Migrants Contribution to Society and European Platform of Integrating Cities projects.

She holds degrees in Law and Political Science, a Master's degrees in European integration, with a specialisation in European Law, and in European Project Planning and Management.

She speaks Spanish (mother tongue), English, Italian, French and Portuguese. She also holds three diplomas from the United Nations University - Merit on Migration Studies.

Pietro Boriotti

Project manager at [Legacoopsociali](#)



Pietro Boriotti has 24 years in the design and management of projects, at local, national and EU level with a special regard to the themes of vocational training and job market integration of people in situation of disadvantage. He is working for a Consortium of 17 Social cooperatives that is a proud member of Legacoopsociali and represents the biggest example of social cooperativism in the Region Friuli Venezia Giulia. He is a consultant of the social services of several municipalities in designing job driven projects for the social integration of disadvantaged people especially long terms unemployed (over 50, women, migrants). Actually, his curiosity lead him to explore how CSR and corporate welfare can create more opportunities to social enterprises.

Razan Ismail

Founder and president of [Asociación Kudwa](#) and project manager and policy advisor in [New Women Connectors](#)



Razan Ismail is a Member of the Migration Expert Group at the EU Commission representing the common interest of Migrant and Refugee women's rights and gender equality in inclusion and integration policies. The founder and president of Asociación Kudwa, working on the inclusion of migrants in Spain through building a collective intercultural identity. She is also project manager and policy advisor in New Women Connectors.

Razan is a policy expert, intercultural trainer, and community mobilizer currently laser-focused on creating meaningful participation and representation of migrants and refugees in the decision and policy-making processes.

Sedat Arif

Deputy mayor, City of Malmö



Sinem Yilmaz

Integration Policy Analyst at Migration Policy Group



Sinem is the Integration Policy Analyst at Migration Policy Group. She conducts research and analysis of integration policies for different projects. Her expertise covers labour market integration, socio-cultural integration, and gender.

Sinem holds a PhD in Sociology from Ghent University and a Master in Science degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. Sinem previously worked as a Senior Project and Policy Officer at European Network of Migrant Women.

Stefano Manservigi

Chair of the governing board at GCERF (Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund) and former Director-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO)



Stefano Manservigi joined the European Institute of Peace as a Senior Advisor at the beginning of 2020. He currently also serves as Special Advisor to the European Commissioner for Economy Paolo Gentiloni and Professor at the Sciences Po's Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA). In addition, he is a Member of the Board of several Foundations and Think Tanks.

Previously, Manservigi was Director-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO) at the European Commission. Prior to that, he was the Head of the Private Office of Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Commission Vice-President. In 2014, he was the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Turkey. Before that, he held different positions at the Commission, including as Director-General for Migration and Home Affairs, and Director-General for Development and Relations with African, Caribbean, and Pacific States. He has also headed the Private Offices of the Commission's President Romano Prodi and Commissioner Mario Monti. Manservigi is a lawyer by training, having studied law at the Universities of Bologna and Paris-Sorbonne.

Vesa Latifi

Project assistant at Diesis Network



Originally from Kosovo, Vesa holds a Master's degree in New Media and Society in the EU from the Free University of Brussels. With a background in Communications, she acquired extensive experience through her past internships in social issues by working with projects in migration, gender equality, youth entrepreneurship, and digital inclusion. Ever since she remains even more committed to promoting human rights and has grown very fond of related fields. Vesa speaks English, Dutch, and Albanian. She enjoys multiculturalism and feels at home within the Diesis Network team, which she joined in 2020.

Following the national measures in place, we remind you the need to show a “Covid Safe Ticket” (CST) at the registration desk. This is proof (via a QR code) of a complete vaccination (prior to 2 weeks), a negative PCR test (less than 48 hours old) or a recovery certificate (less than 6 months).

If a person participating in the conference is not in possession of one of these certificates, the organizers of the final MAX event will not be able to allow me to enter the conference venue.

Wearing a face mask inside the venue while not eating or drinking is also mandatory.

More information on:

<https://covidsafe.be>

<https://www.masante.belgique.be/#/>

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