



*United Nations Alliance Of Civilizations*

*Fellowship Programme 2018*

*“Fostering Youth Resilience to Prevent Violent Extremism  
and Build Sustainable Peace”*

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*Participants from Europe and North America (EUNA)*

*August 29<sup>th</sup> – September 12<sup>th</sup> 2018*



Federal Foreign Office

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2018 UNAOC Fellowship Programme – EUNA Participants





**Abbas Kazmi (U.K.)** is a multi award winning social entrepreneur. Founder of the Ascend Africa Foundation and of Spirited, he is passionate about peace-building, youth empowerment and innovative solutions to tackle the conditions conducive to violent extremism. Abbas is committed to using his business success towards helping young people develop and live free of violence. He was chosen as a Forbes 30 Under 30 Standout in 2017.



**Callie Chamberlain (U.S.)** is the co-founder of Refugee Relief Project, a \$30k fund supporting humanitarian aid entrepreneurs on the front lines of the refugee crisis in Greece. She is now developing Harmoni, a micro-work application connecting 1 billion refugees globally to income opportunities. Callie is the founder of New Leaders Council-Twin Cities, a fellowship creating a network of Millennials committed to a more equitable region.



**Ciaran Finlay (Ireland)** works in the legal division of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. He has also held legal and policy roles with the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN in Geneva, the UN Refugee Agency and the Free Legal Advice Centers, which promotes equal access to justice. Ciaran is training to qualify as a lawyer and is passionate about human rights, equality and intercultural understanding for young people.



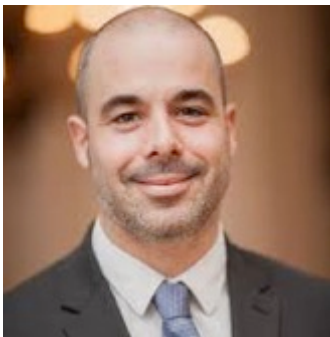
**Hunderra Assefa (Finland)** is a founding member of the NGO Young Muslims and is responsible for the organization's CVE/PVE activities. He currently works as Supervisor of Youth Work for the City of Espoo and serves in various committees related to radicalization and Islamophobia. Prior to that, he worked as a freelance consultant and trainer, as well as for Monik, a multicultural NGO where he led a career-coaching project for young migrants.



**Julie Feremans (Belgium)** works for the Belgian Ministry of Interior as an attaché on Security and Prevention within the radicalization unit. She manages BOUNCE, a training project co-funded by the European Commission, which targets young people vulnerable to violent extremism and radicalization. She is also involved in a project that supports families of radicalized youth and working groups on domestic violence and the administrative approach of organized crime.



**Najma Ahmed-Hussein (France)** is a program development specialist. She worked on developing the Niger Community Cohesion Initiative, a program seeking to reduce the threats of violent extremism and armed conflict through small-scale cross-sectorial activities funded by the USAID and implemented by IOM in the regions of Diffa, Tillaberi and Agadez. Her areas of interest include cultural diplomacy, non-violent conflict resolution, gender mainstreaming and legal empowerment of marginalized groups.



**Nereo Peñalver (Spain)** is a policy advisor at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament. He is also a Visiting Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges. Nereo has worked for Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament, Josep Borrell, former President of the European Parliament, the spokesperson of Javier Solana, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, and the Parliament's Director General for External Relations.



**Nevena Vukašinić (Serbia)** is vice-president of the European Non-Governmental Youth Sports Organization and focal point of UN's Major Group of Children and Youth. Encouraging exchange among UN and International Olympic Committee, she has co-founded "Road to 2030 – SDGs through sports with youth" programme. She works on fostering entrepreneurial mind-sets and new (ICT & soft) skills among youth in Europe and the MENA region for them to develop sustainable, peaceful and interactive initiatives together.



**Sarah Markiewicz (Germany)** is a lecturer of Religious Studies and Intercultural Theology at Humboldt University in Berlin. Her work focuses on the promotion of dialogue, religious literacy and peacebuilding through inter-faith and intra-faith understanding. Sarah focuses on the Islam-West and Christian-Muslim encounter and she has conducted research in MENA and EUNA, engaging with faith leaders, scholars, think-tanks, NGOs and refugees. Sarah has been involved in projects supported by EU and Robert-Bosch-Foundation.



**Selim Cherkaoui (Belgium)** is a Belgian-based countering violent extremism mission manager in prison. His experience and fields of activity include violent radicalization prevention and de-radicalization. Designing tailor-made programmes for disengagement from violence, he is, above all, a front-line practitioner. He personally meets young individuals incarcerated for violent extremism/terrorism offences to initiate with them curative work on resilience and acceptance of responsibility for their actions.



**Serena Bonato (Italy)** is an analyst with expertise in political affairs, promotion of dialogue, civil society, and strengthening democratic institutions and human rights. She has worked with international and non-governmental organisations focusing on Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia. She is the coordinator of the youth-led project Human Faces of Conflicts, an online storytelling platform involving people affected by conflicts in Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and the Balkans.



**Yehuda Silverman (Canada)** recently completed his Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution and has a strong focus in youth advocacy. He collaborated in a Pilot Peace Pal Program with the Boys and Girls Clubs to teach children about peace and nonviolence through reading, art, and writing activities. Yehuda also worked with at-risk youth in Thailand and South Africa, and was a court-appointed special advocate for abused, abandoned, and neglected children.