



United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

Fellowship Programme 2020

“Building Peace in the Age of New Media”

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Participants from Europe and North America (EUNA)



Federal Foreign Office

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



Alba Sabaté Gauxachs (Spain) is a journalist and professor of Journalism and Global Communication Management at the Blanquerna School of Communication and International Relations, Ramon Llull University, in Barcelona, Spain. She holds a PhD in Communication and serves as Deputy Director at the Blanquerna Observatory on Media, Religion and Culture, an interdisciplinary centre for research and dissemination in the field of communication

and religion. There she leads and is involved on the field in both local and international projects that address among other issues: interreligious and intercultural dialogue, innovation and religion, migration and technology, women, and youth. She is also writer for the digital magazine Catalunyareligio.org, member of the Global Board of Directors at the World Association for Christian Communication, KAICIID Europe Fellow 2019 on intercultural and interreligious dialogue, and member of the International Society for Media, Religion and Culture.



Anne Parsons (Ireland) is a photographer and videographer and the visual communications manager at Kiron Open Higher Education, a non-profit online learning platform for refugees worldwide and underserved communities in the Middle East. In 2017-2018, Anne was awarded the Bertha Foundation Social Impact Storytelling Fellowship with The Do School Berlin, which brought her to Kenya, Cambodia and Thailand to document and profile change-makers and

social entrepreneurs with innovative ideas to transform their communities. Anne is an expert in community engagement, recruiting and supporting Kiron students for her diverse portfolio of storytelling projects in Germany and Jordan. Convinced that technology and new media can be a force for positive social change, in her role at Kiron, Anne is currently working on the first worldwide virtual refugee conference to take place on World Refugee Day.



David Fischer (Germany) is a freelance journalist and communications specialist with a focus on human rights. He wrote articles for several newspapers in the Rhine-Main region of Germany before turning to public and private television channels where he reported for VOX, Hessischer Rundfunk and ZDF. Since 2015, he also gave courses in language and integration programs for migrants and refugees. In 2017, David moved to

Mexico to work as a videographer for the United Nations Information Center, focussing on UN projects and developments in the Mexico City area. In 2019, he joined the crew of the NGO ship *Mare Liberum* as Field Media Officer reporting on the situation of refugees in the Aegean Islands of Lesbos and Samos.



Elizabeth Arif-Fear (United Kingdom) is an award-winning writer and activist passionate about human rights and promoting peace. Her main areas of interest are community cohesion, in particular Jewish-Muslim relations and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, gender inequality and the rights of migrants and refugees. Elizabeth works in communications/marketing for an international development INGO and is active with various human rights, peacebuilding and interfaith organisations dedicated to promoting peace, eradicating prejudice and protecting human rights. In 2015, she founded the human rights and interfaith organisation "Voice of Salam" which works to promote human rights, interfaith understanding and socio-cultural cohesion. The blog features in the Expertido and Feedspot listings for the top 30/40 global and top 10 UK-based human rights blogs/websites, whilst VoS was also recognised at the 2018-2019 Faith and Belief Forum London Community Awards and is partnered with Combat Anti-Semitism and Charter for Compassion.



Jacopo Ottaviani (Italy) is an award-winning computer scientist and data expert who works for Code for Africa, as Chief Data Officer. Jacopo's most recent work combines data aggregations and visualisations that tackle burning social issues such as urban inequality (with Thomson Reuters) and immigration (with MSF) and SDGs (with UNDP and the Arab Development Portal). His unique mix of technical skills led him to be published by renown international media and news agencies. He is also the co-author of The Migrants' Files, a project that won the 2014 Data Journalism Awards and the 2015 European Media Prize. His web-documentary E-waste Republic also won the 2015 DIG Awards and 2015 Lorenzo Natali Media Prize. From 2016 to 2019 he served as an ICFJ Knight Fellow as part of their health program funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



Lorenzo Vargas (Canada) is a communication for development specialist and researcher on citizens' media. Based in Toronto, Canada, Lorenzo directs the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) Communication for All programme, which supports media and community development initiatives in Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa. Lorenzo has been especially involved in providing technical support to WACC partner organizations in Colombia seeking to advance reconciliation through community-based peace journalism, as well as in research on Agenda 2030, especially SDG 16. Prior to his time at WACC, Lorenzo worked with the Mosaic Institute, an action-oriented think tank seeking to engage Canada's diaspora communities in peace building efforts. During his time there, Lorenzo coordinated a network of volunteers carrying out "peace dialogues" on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on university campuses in three cities across Canada.



Lula Dualeh (United States) is a first-generation Somali-American Muslim woman from Charlotte, NC, currently living in New York City. She works as a Digital Advocacy Strategist mobilizing and engaging adolescents and young adults to create social impact within their communities. She is the creator of "iRunWithLula" a bi-weekly newsletter with over 20,000 subscribers to inspire the everyday woman. She has worked with the American Red Cross, US Chamber of Commerce, NewsOne, SEIU and the Democratic National Committee. Prior to moving to New York City, Lula was the first millennial woman to run for office in Charlotte, North Carolina. Lula is passionate about amplifying the voices of youth in global matters and connecting the local and national to the global. She is dedicated to fighting against racism, discrimination, gender inequality, and xenophobia.



Tim Mortimer (United Kingdom) is a leading British peacebuilder, currently working as Programmes Manager at the nation's biggest interfaith charity, The Faith & Belief Forum (F&BF). Tim's work focusses on building youth-led interfaith movements for social change, and amplifying young voices to provide positive alternatives to negative media narratives concerning religion and division. In his role at F&BF, Tim heads the ParliaMentors Leadership programme where he has trained over 280 students from different faiths over 6 years and facilitated mentorship experiences with 20 British MPs. Tim also oversees multiple intercultural training programmes, including Faith Media Power, which upskills young people of faith to seek more nuanced media representation. Tim sits on the Partnership Group for the Patchwork Foundation, supporting the participation of minority communities in British politics, and is a trained International Facilitator with the British Council's Active Citizens programme.



Ulriikka Myöhänen (Finland) is a journalist working at the world news desk of the Finnish Broadcasting Company and produces news for broadcast and web. As a journalist, she is dedicated to follow global developments, and her professional focus is on the Middle East. Ulriikka has a strong professional interest in peace building. She promotes constructive ways of covering conflicts. Her master's thesis focused on conflict journalism and the role of media in peace consolidation. Ulriikka was a board member of Finnish UN associations in 2015-2018. She raised awareness of the UN resolution 2250 and the role of youth in building and sustaining peace. In 2018-2019, she was a member of Finnish Agenda2030 Youth Advocate Group, which participates in national planning and implementation of sustainable development goals. Ulriikka has participated in journalistic trainings in Egypt and Morocco.



Veronika Verner (Russian Federation) is a communication specialist with five years of professional experience in international communication and advocacy, currently working for the Council of Europe in Tunis. She previously worked at United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in Senegal where she managed inter-agency communication and campaigns promoting SDGs and UN75. One of her projects included radio discussions between local youth and heads of UN agencies. Veronika also worked for non-profit organizations in the area of social policies and did an internship with UNDP, supporting AGORA portal for parliamentary development, planning an outreach campaign in West Africa and assisting in the research on SDG 16. She volunteered in social cohesion project in Paris aiming to reduce tensions among citizens from different cultural backgrounds. She is contributor in Open school of sustainable development in Russia and Caux Peace and Leadership Programme Alumni 2018.