



Human Rights, Diversity and Civic Engagement

Athens, Greece | October 4 to 11, 2015

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# About the Program

The Athens Study Trip, “Human Rights, Diversity and Civic Engagement,” takes place during a time of extraordinary challenge in international and European realms. Many countries in Europe have been struggling with the consequences of the economic crisis and austerity measures for years. Moreover, Europe is currently seeing an unprecedented number of refugees and migrants from regions in conflict, particularly Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. Greece, in particular, has been confronted with these challenges in serious ways.

This study trip offers the opportunity for participants to learn, discuss and better understand contemporary dynamics and discourses currently pervading Greek society and the impact of the economic crisis on Greek political life, social affairs as well as on minority and marginalized groups. The program focuses on human rights, democracy and diversity as well as on civic engagement. It will provide historical and contemporary insights from experts and practitioners in Greece – scholars, NGO professionals, community leaders and members of minority groups.

Humanity in Action selected a total of 30 individuals to participate in the study trip – 15 students and recent graduates from Greece and 15 participants from within the Humanity in Action transatlantic community of Senior Fellows.

The aim of the study trip is to create an international learning experience and a platform for constructive exchange and dialogue. The program is comprised of lectures and discussions, meetings as well as skills-building workshops. Participants will learn from invited speakers and from one another in a respectful learning environment.

Through this study trip, Humanity in Action seeks to empower emerging leaders with the knowledge, skills and tools to become civically engaged to fight social injustice, exclusion, and the discrimination of vulnerable groups in their home communities and around the world.

Humanity in Action requires all participants to develop and implement an activity in their home community after the study trip that reflects the learning experience from the program.

With the financial support of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Humanity in Action began in 2013 to include Greek university students and recent graduates in its international programs. This inclusion has led to a fruitful international exchange on the challenges Greece faces today and how the next generation can advance human and minority rights, social justice, diversity and pluralism.


The Humanity in Action community looks forward to enlarging its network in Greece as well as creating more exchange and cooperation among emerging leaders in Greece and beyond.

With thanks,



**Kaoutar Abousmir**

National Director,  
Humanity in Action France



**Antje Scheidler**

International Director of  
European Programs

Paris, October 2015

Berlin, October 2015



# Our Supporters

We are very grateful to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation for its generous support of this study trip. The content of this program does not represent an expression of opinion by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.



We also thank the Germeshausen Foundation for additional support. The content of this program does not represent an expression of opinion by the Germeshausen Foundation.

## Germeshausen Foundation

We thank our many speakers and those institutions and individuals hosting us. We are especially grateful to our Greek Advisory Board and our Greek Fellows and Senior Fellows for their support and guidance in developing the curriculum for this program and its implementation.

# Participant Biographies



## **ADEOLA ADEREMI**

### **GREECE**

Kafilat Adeola Naomi Aderemi was raised in Niger, Nigeria and Ioannina, Greece. She now lives in Athens, Greece. Adeola studied Speech and Language Therapy and is currently working as a radio producer, a program facilitator and a social media coordinator for the NGO Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality and Diversity. She is also a certified yoga instructor, and very mindful about life. A wanderer by nature and multilingual by birth, Adeola Naomi is currently working on raising awareness among the general public on the issue of human trafficking and on the empowerment of women.

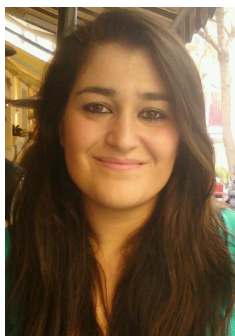


## **SARAH ASMELASH**

### **THE NETHERLANDS**

Sarah Asmelash was born in Eritrea and raised in The Netherlands. She is a multilingual young professional with ambitions in the field of Civil and International Law. Sarah has travelled frequently to Eritrea where she was confronted with the reality of poverty and human rights violations. This experience was decisive in her becoming actively engaged in social justice and human rights issues. She completed a BA in Law and minored in Human Rights and Transnational Legal studies at the VU Amsterdam University. Her research focused on the position of undocumented persons and asylum seekers in The Netherlands. In addition, Sarah completed an interdisciplinary BA in Social Legal Studies whereby she minored in Mediation and Intercultural Communication. She just finished an internship at the Dutch section of the International Commission of Jurists for Human Rights, whereby she focused on the position of marginalized groups such as student mothers and asylum seekers, as well

as on ethnic profiling. She conducted research in various human rights issues and organized brainstorm sessions with various professionals and students. At the moment she is completing an MA in Civil Law at the VU Amsterdam University and her ambition is to become a Civil Law lawyer and work for social justice. Sarah is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2014 Amsterdam Fellowship Program.



**VASILIKI BATHRELOU**  
**GREECE**

Vasiliki Bathrelou hails from Gytheion, a small town in Southern Greece. She is an archaeologist, who is now completing her MA in Cultural Anthropology. She is currently conducting research in LGBTQ+ asylum seeking. Vasiliki used to volunteer for Amnesty International, where she also worked for the Face2face program. She is very interested in LGBT+ issues/politics in Greece as well as in people on the move. Last July, Vasiliki helped implement the International Summer School Migboard 2015 on the island of Lesbos. As musician – playing the guitar, bouzouki & singing – she is fascinated by the influence immigration and refugee-ness have on art, especially on "rembetiko", a music genre that was shaped during the exchange of population between Greece and Turkey, in the early 20th century.



**SAMIR BEHARIC**  
**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

Samir Beharic from the city of Jajce, Bosnia & Herzegovina, is a Journalism student at the University of Sarajevo's Faculty of Political Science. Samir spent an academic year at the Free University in Berlin and one semester at the University "Ondokuz Mayıs" in Samsun, Turkey. His active engagement in civil society goes back to his high school days, when he was involved in projects dealing with youth and student issues. As someone who has

attended a so-called "two schools under one roof", fighting segregation and nationalism in the Bosnian education system has become his focal point of interest. As a National Representative of the Erasmus Student Network BiH, Samir has advocated for several important initiatives concerning student standards at the University of Sarajevo, including the successful "Erasmus+ protests", after which Bosnia & Herzegovina actually joined the EU Erasmus exchange program. His articles on student activism and civic engagement have been published in numerous national and foreign media outlets. He has attended numerous international conferences and study sessions on human and minority rights, media freedom and fighting hate speech online. Samir Beharić is a 2015 Humanity in Action Fellow of the Copenhagen Fellowship Program.



**VLASIOS BENETOS**  
**GREECE**

Vlasios Benetos is currently completing his bilingual MA in Intercultural Communication and European Studies at the University of Applied Sciences in Fulda, Germany. Vlasios, who was born in Athens, speaks seven languages. He used to be active as a volunteer with the ELIX (former PEEP), a Greek NGO with a focus on the protection of the environment, the preservation of cultural heritage, the promotion of civilization and social service in Greece and abroad. In 2013 he did a European Voluntary Service in Stuttgart, Germany where he implemented the project "Connect and promote - International volunteering as a bridge between different countries and cultures for common local action". From time to time he does volunteer work for the organization "Save me", which offers assistance to refugees in Fulda. On March 2015, along with his colleagues, he helped organize a research trip to Israel and Palestine. Among the research topics were the conflict in the Middle East, the role of the EU and the situation of refugees. In June 2015 he organized, along with a colleague from the US, a panel discussion on "Migration Policies within the European Union and its current challenges".



**ILIANA BOMPOU**  
**GREECE**

Iliana Bompou is a trainee lawyer in Greece and doing her Master in International Law and Diplomatic Studies. During this semester, Iliana is working on her thesis concerning Trafficking in Human Beings and Human Rights. During her Master program she was able to work on a variety of subjects including the work of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Cypriot issue, cultural diplomacy, EU human rights policies at the time of the Arab Spring etc. Meanwhile Iliana had the chance to work with the Greek Council for Refugees as a legal researcher. Currently she is doing an internship in the National Commission of Human Rights, which gives her the chance to work on special projects including LGBTQI issues and the impact of the economic crisis on human rights.



**MEGAN CARROLL**  
**UNITED STATES**

Megan Carroll is from San Diego, California. For the past year, she served as a White House Fellow and Policy Advisor at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations' Washington, DC office. Prior to this, she led the United Nations Development Program's Democracy and Participation portfolio in South Sudan focused on the constitutional review process and elections. She has also served as Acting Director/Deputy Director of The Carter Center's Democracy Program in South Sudan and Sudan; Democracy and Governance Advisor to USAID/South Sudan at a critical juncture when the mission transitioned from a U.S. Consulate to Embassy in a newly-independent South Sudan; and an international observer for South Sudan's referendum on independence. Throughout her work, Megan

developed and maintained relationships with host government representatives, international and national NGOs, civil society, and donors. She has work experience on five continents, including managing Harvard's Scholars at Risk Program and teaching in Japan through the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program. After graduate school, she spent a year as a Sauvé Scholar at McGill University, Canada. Megan holds a Master in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School and a B.A. in Political Science from Amherst College. Megan is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2002 Berlin Fellowship Program.



**EIRINI CHRISTIDOU**  
**GREECE**

Eirini Christidou was born and grew up in Athens. She obtained a B.A. in Hellenic Civilization. She spent nine years working for a telecommunications company before deciding to continue her studies. In 2012 she obtained an MA in Human Rights and Democratization. During her studies she participated in the project "The future of China and education sustainable goals". She also participated in a week long study field trip to Kosovo, where she visited international organizations and institutions, as well as local and regional NGOs active in human rights issues, such as property claims, torture related questions, legal advice, women's rights, democratic elections, free media and children's rights. In 2012 she worked in the research department of the Danish Institute for Human Rights. In 2013, being passionate about democracy and human rights, she participated in the election observation mission of OSCE/ODIHR in Albania. In 2014 she took a traineeship in the European Commission Joint Research Centre in Italy where she obtained valuable experience in the subject area of International External Aid, participating in the project: "EU Aid Explorer". Eirini is also interested in expatriate communities.



**VASILEIOS CHRISTOGIORGOS**  
**GREECE**

Vasileios (Bill) Christogiorgos is currently completing his MA in South Eastern European Studies, at the University of Thrace. His dissertation focuses on human rights issues. Vasileios studied Law at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and is a qualified attorney at law. He is mostly interested in immigration law and immigration policies, as well as the way

they relate to integration and development. Bill is a member of the Bar Association's Committee for the protection of human rights. He is interested in German philosophy, ancient Greek drama and Balkan music.



**NDEYE DIOBAYE**  
**FRANCE**

Ndeye Diobaye holds a BA from Sciences Po Paris, where she specialized in Political Sciences and International Law with a concentration in Europe-Asia relations. She spent one year in Bangalore, India as an exchange student during which she also worked as a journalist for both French and Indian media. She soon became interested in diversity issues in the media. She then

took a year out of school and worked as a communications officer for a news network in Paris, France and a pay-TV service in Pointe-Noire, Congo. She is currently a candidate for an MA at the Department of Media and Communications at the London School of Economics. Upon graduating, Ndeye aspires to join a public relations firm and focus on governmental and political communications. Ndeye is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2014 Paris Fellowship Program.



## **AISHA FUKUSHIMA**

### **UNITED STATES**

Aisha Fukushima is public speaker, educator, singer, and 'RAPtivist' (rap activist). Fukushima founded RAPtivism (Rap Activism) a global hip hop project spanning 10 countries and four continents, highlighting the ways culture can contribute to universal efforts for freedom and justice by challenging apathy with awareness, ignorance with intelligence, and oppression with expression. She is a multilingual, multiracial African American Japanese woman whose work is influenced by her global upbringing with roots spanning from her birthplace of Seattle, Washington to her other hometown of Yokohama, Japan. As a leader of the 'RAPtivism' project, Aisha has engaged in hip hop communities across the United States and from France to Morocco, Kazakhstan, Japan, Germany, England, South Africa, Senegal, India, Denmark and beyond. Aisha's 'RAPtivism' work has been featured by Oprah Magazine, KQED Public Television, The Seattle Times, TV 2M Morocco, The Bangalore Mirror, HYPE, South Africa's #1 Hip Hop Magazine, among others. Aisha is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2007 Amsterdam Fellowship Program.



## **ALEX HACKFORD**

### **UNITED STATES**

Alex Hackford runs the A&R department at Sony Computer Entertainment America/ Playstation. In this role, he finds new talent to record original songs for SCEA title games, as well as sequencing and selection of licensed tracks. Prior to working at SCEA, Alex was an artist manager at Sanctuary Artist Management, where he managed up and coming acts EARLY MAN and SUPAGROUP, as well as handling day to day duties for SLIPKNOT and GUNS N' ROSES. Prior to Sanctuary Artist Management, Alex was an A&R Manager at Columbia Records, working with such artists as John Legend



and Cypress Hill. Alex graduated with a BA double major in English and Philosophy from New York University. He is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 1999 Copenhagen Fellowship Program.



**SANNE HETTEMA**  
**THE NETHERLANDS**

Since her participation in the Humanity in Action Fellowship Program in New York City in 2009, Sanne Hettema has been an active Senior Fellow in the organization. She even worked for the Dutch Humanity in Action office for a year. Sanne has a broad range of interests, which resulted in her doing a BA in Philosophy, a BSc in Economics, a MSc in Development Studies and a MSc in International Business at the University of Amsterdam and the University of Edinburgh. She worked as a journalist for the youth department of a Dutch broad sheet, founded a homework program for underprivileged youth and organized weekly debates between Dutch economists and politicians. After two years of working as a strategy consultant at Booz & Company (now called Strategy&), she just quit her job to pursue her ideals. Currently she is kicking off some projects around social entrepreneurship for e.g. the municipality of Amsterdam and The Hague Process on Refugees and Migration. Sanne has a particular interest in challenging prejudices, connecting people and structuring chaos, but also loves to cook and eat, read and ride her bicycle.



**CHRYSOULA ILIOPOULOU**  
**GREECE**

Chrysoula Iliopoulou is completing a BA in Psychology. She comes from Amalia-da, a town in the south Peloponnese and lives in Athens. She spent a semester in Spain, as an Erasmus exchange student. Chrysoula has been playing the violin since the age of seven; this has been an important part of her life and played a decisive role in the formation of her personality.

During the last couple of years she has had an active interest in issues concerning sexual health, sexual education, sexual rights as well as LGBTQI+ rights. Thus, has been volunteering for the Greek NGO Colour Youth, as well as for Amnesty International ("My body, my rights" Campaign). She has attended many seminars, congresses and trainings on issues relating to sexuality and sexual rights. Last year she developed an interest in the subject of the psychosocial identity of homosexuals in Greece; this is the research subject of the BA thesis that she is currently completing.



## **MARGARITA ILIOPOULOU**

### **GREECE**

Margarita Iliopoulou is an Athens Law School graduate and a qualified lawyer recently admitted at the Athens Bar Association. She worked as a trainee lawyer for more than a year at the Legal Department of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs working on cases in front of the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights. Parallel to that, she has been pursuing an MA in European Economic Policy (AUEB-LSE) focusing on transparency regarding economic governance, the rise of technocracy and the emerging European banking union. Margarita has been offering her services at a series of NGOs, such as Transparency International, and think tanks, such as the Hellenic Foundation for Foreign and European Affairs (ELIAMEP). Her fields of interest include anti-corruption legislation, banking sector's transparency, financial inclusion, new age (economic) human rights etc. Thus, she has been working on launching a transparency law clinic, in order to fight corruption, develop good practices regarding transparency, defend the victims of corruption and provide public authorities/citizens with practical solutions to their corruption related problems. Furthermore, she is launching a platform so as to connect European Youth on their common topics of concern, such as labor rights, education etc.



## **DIGANT KAPOOR**

### **KUWAIT**

Digant (Dig-unth) Kapoor, whose first name means *horizon* in Sanskrit, was born and raised in Kuwait. During his Humanity in Action Fellowship Program 2012 in Amsterdam his research focused on the peculiar case of un-deportable refugees. The Fellowship instilled in him the importance of being an active citizen to protect hard-won democratic rights. Digant's family history and first-hand experiences of global events such as the partition of India-Pakistan, the Gulf War, the 2003 Iraq War, and now the ISIS threat, have taught him that the consequences of politics transcend geographical borders. Since 2014, he has been spending 1 to 2 months every year working with the Aam Aadmi Party in India on issues of anticorruption. He was a Booth Management Coordinator during the 2015 Delhi elections, managing a team of 750. Writing is Digant's creative outlet. His work on Indian politics and culture has been featured in online media outlets such as The Huffington Post, Daily News & Analysis, and Youth Ki Awaaz. His blog, The Inquisitive Indian, has garnered over 50,000 views. Digant is the COO in his family business (textiles: furnishing fabric) in Kuwait, and is seeking to expand to more stable markets and cleaner industries. He studied Economics and International Relations at Emory University and University of Cambridge.

## **KONSTANTINOS KOGKAKIS**

### **GREECE**

Konstantinos Kogkakis is a senior Sociology student who recently returned to Greece after having spent a term as an Erasmus student in Berlin, Germany. He now plans to pursue an MA in Gender Studies, somewhere in the world. Gender related issues are his main area of focus, however he is also interested in social movements and forms of organizing that draw upon anarchist theory. Konstantinos has a broad interest in Anarchism. Furthermore, he has worked as a student assistant for the GGCrisi research project (The Greeks, the Germans, and the Crisis) at the Department of Sociology at the Free University in Berlin. The project's aim is to investigate public discourse, i.e. media reports, between

Germany and Greece – the main actors – in relation to the economic crisis. In Berlin Konstantinos volunteered for an organization that offers assistance to the homeless and was also offering help in one of the city's refugee reception centers. His biggest academic obsessions are the work of Michel Foucault (a friend once told him that he *foucaults* everything) and Judith Butler. His non-academic (or almost non-academic) obsessions are chocolate and disliking pictures of himself – therefore he has none.



## **ALEZINI-EIRINI LOXA**

### **GREECE**

Alezini Eirini Loxa comes from the island of Zakynthos, but has have been living in Athens for the past three years, studying Law and working in order to promote human rights in Greece. Her academic interests focus mainly on European and International Law and specifically on the opportunities they provide one with supporting human rights on a supranational level. Professionally, she has been involved in supporting refugee, LGBTQ+ and prisoner's rights. Eirini has devoted her life to finding ways to support those in need and stepping up in order to promote active civic engagement. Her five-month stay in Lund, Sweden, as an Erasmus exchange student, has been one of the greatest inspirations so far. During that time, she realized that the society she envisions – a society in which feminism is not made fun of and in which individuals are respected – is a feasible goal. This inspiration, combined with her passion for the promotion of human rights, motivate her to work for the progress of the society she is part of.



**LETICIA MORA**  
**UNITED STATES**

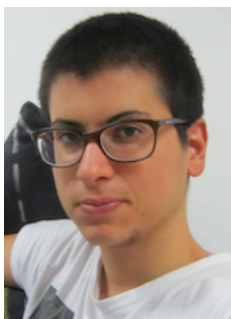
Leticia Mora graduated from Florida State University in May 2013 with degrees in Theatre and Psychology. She was on the Dean's List, received the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute Award, and the Humana Academic Scholar Achievement Award, and was recognized for her extensive outstanding work with the Model United

Nations program. During her undergraduate studies, she worked with the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, where she completed a Directed Independent Study on sex trafficking and policies instituted to combat this crime. While at Florida State University, she also worked with the theatre troupe, Latinos In Performance, to produce "Latins Anonymous", which narrated stories of immigration, collective memory, and hardship to a largely marginalized group. Leticia worked full time as a Success Coach with FSU's first generation program, Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement, to help first generation and minority students accomplish academic and extracurricular success on campus. At Miami Law, Leticia hopes to continue her work with human rights and trafficking issues. Leticia is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2013 Amsterdam Fellowship Program.



**THEODORA OIKONOMIDI**  
**GREECE**

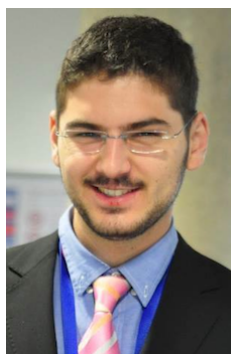
Theodora Oikonomidi was born on the island of Kos, Greece. She holds a BSc in Psychology and a MSc in Stress Management and Health Promotion. Her areas of interest include minority stress and its implications for individuals' health and wellbeing, human sexuality, and gender identity. As an activist, her primary focus is on LGBTQI+ rights.



## **MYRTO PAPADAKI**

### **GREECE**

Myrto Papadaki was born in Chania, on the island of Crete. She studied Graphic Design, Illustration and Visual Communication Theory in Athens. Her research brought together ideas and theories from different fields (literature, philosophy, art history, semiotics) so as to investigate the construction of the mythical image in modern and contemporary propaganda. As a visual artist working with various media (mostly video, installation and drawing) she has participated in festivals and group shows in Greece. Over the past few years her interest has gradually shifted towards the potential of art practice as a means for the expression and integration of thoughts, experiences and emotions through the process of creation and sharing. In this context, she is particularly interested in developing such workshops and activities both in Greece and abroad. Being a passionate traveler, Myrto currently lives and works in Zagreb, Croatia.



## **PANOURGIAS PAPAIOANNOU**

### **GREECE**

Panourgias Papaioannou is currently completing his BA in English Studies at the University of Athens. He is an alumni of the Evaggeliki School and has attended, as a delegate, Chair and Member of the Organizing Committee, several Model United Nations and Model of the European Union simulations all around Europe. Panourgias represented Greece at the seminar of the Council of Europe concerning the "Access of the youth into their social rights". He is also an online activist for the campaign "No Hate Speech Movement" of the Council of Europe and has participated in the Annual Forum of the No Hate Speech Movement that took place in Azerbaijan. He is an alumni of the Olympia Summer Academy, a project supported by the Yale and St. Andrews Universities and a Young Global Advocate for the Challenging the Crisis project which

promotes Social and Solidarity Economy. He was an Erasmus exchange student at the John F. Kennedy Institute in Berlin; he considers this as one of the best experiences in his life so far. In his free time he loves reading poetry and learning foreign languages.



## **JARMILA RYBICKA**

### **POLAND**

Jarmila Rybicka was born and raised in Gdańsk, the cradle of Poland's Solidarity movement. In 2011 she began her travels in Asia, experiencing life in the Global South for a year. Since then she has found her way in activism, mostly connected to human rights. Jarmila is involved in the No Hate campaign the mission of which it is to promote human equality through education and advocacy. She has organized the "International Roma Community Day," a series of debates by the title "Warsaw for refugees", as well as a petition to the Polish Prime Minister against violence in Ukraine. She also co-authored the "Alternative Warsaw Guidebook" for the International March for Climate and Social Justice. Jarmila is active in the Warsaw Food Cooperative. At the same time she is also working on her MA at the University of Warsaw, which focuses on the war in Syria. She presented her paper about social scientists involved in wars, in two research conferences: the "Young Sociology Congress" and the "Critical sociology" conference at Jagiellonian University. In 2014 Jarmila received a scholarship to attend a program about Human Rights and War at the University of Utrecht. During her stay abroad she worked for the Plastic Soup Foundation in Amsterdam, dealing with the problem of plastic waste in oceans. Since she returned to Poland she has been leading a project on learning assistance for underprivileged Roma children in Warsaw's Praga district. Jarmila is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2014 Warsaw Fellowship Program.



**PINAR SAYAN**  
**TURKEY**

Pinar Sayan graduated from the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Marmara University in 2006. She completed an MA degree in Political Science and International Relations at Bogazici University in 2009, and a MSc degree on Comparative Politics at London School of Economics in 2014, for which she obtained the Jean Monnet Scholarship. Pinar conducted her PhD dissertation research with an Erasmus grant at the Free University Berlin, and is currently a PhD candidate on the European Union Politics and International Relations, at Marmara University. Her main area of interest is the human rights dimension of ethnic politics especially in Europe, South Caucasus, and Turkey. Between 2007 and 2015, she worked as a Research Assistant at the Department of International Relations at Okan University. Since 2015, Pinar has been working as the Turkey Director for the Imagine Center for Conflict Transformation, and as the Turkey Editor for its publication, Caucasus Edition. She also works as a freelance researcher and consultant on human rights related projects. Pinar is the co-founder of Roman Medya, a project that aims to strengthen the strategic communication capacities of Roma NGOs, as well as raise awareness in the society regarding Roma issues. Pinar is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2013 Copenhagen Fellowship Program.



**HANS SCHEPERS**  
**THE NETHERLANDS**

Hans Schepers graduated with an MA in Social Sciences from the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. His research focused on the ways in which scientific research shapes reality, just like other forms of politics. He has experience organizing public discussions about topical societal issues, such as institutional racism and achievement pressure in the 21st century. He is also a co-



editor of a website facilitating discussions about the future of the university, where he is working on an edition about why university curricula are so *white* and exclusionary. Previously, Hans studied in the United States and worked in the US Congress. He is currently trying to find work in the public service sector. Hans enjoys speechwriting and intersectional feminism. Hans is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2012 Amsterdam Fellowship Program.



**FRANCIS SEECK**  
**GERMANY**

Francis Seeck hails from Berlin and identifies as gender queer\_non-binary trans\* and uses the pronouns they / their / them. Francis is currently writing a Master-Thesis in the field of Gender Studies and Social and Cultural Anthropology at Humboldt University Berlin. Their ethnographic study is

concerning the intersectionality of grief/mourning and the practices of an initiative in Berlin (Grave with many names) that fights for a right to grief. For the last couple of years Francis has been involved in transgender, queer and anti-racist activism in Berlin. They are part of the advisory board of AB Queer e. V., an initiative that implements workshops at schools and youth centers in Berlin concerning lgbtq topics. Francis is also volunteering with an initiative that facilitates workshops concerning racism and discrimination at schools in Berlin and Brandenburg. Francis loves words and is involved in queer spoken word activism and poetry. They often perform on stage concerning queer topics, class and grief/ mourning. Last year they finished their first novel. Besides that, Francis loves boxing, meditating and reading. They will start pursuing a PhD in the field of queer studies/intersectionality next spring. Francis is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2010 Warsaw Fellowship Program.



**ARNE SEMSROTT**  
**GERMANY**

Arne Semsrott lives in Berlin. He works at the Open Knowledge Foundation on the Freedom of Information Portal [FragDenStaat.de](http://FragDenStaat.de). Apart from that, he is a part-time freelance journalist, a city guide on lobbying and an activist for Transparency International on corruption in academia. Arne has studied Political Science in Berlin and Istanbul. Together with other Humanity in Action

Senior Fellows, Arne is the initiator of the international project "Pull the Brake on Discrimination Against Roma". Arne is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2014 Warsaw Fellowship Program. He likes watching films and dancing (mostly in his living room).

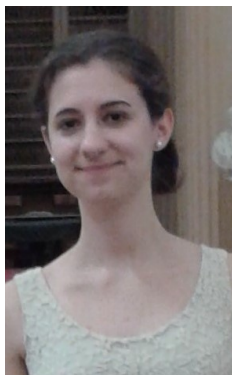


**EDA ELIF TIBET**  
**TURKEY**

Eda Elif Tibet is an independent documentary filmmaker and a visual anthropologist. She mostly films and produces her own films on local livelihood rights and social justice. Through her award-winning film "Amchi" (2013) on Tibetan healers, Eda Elif was

named most inspiring filmmaker of the year by the Jakarta Film Festival (2014). Her film "Hey Goat!" (2014) on nomadic pastoralists of Turkey has been screened at the History Museum of Geneva and received the jury prize at Slovakia's International Festival of Sustainable Development Films. Her latest musical documentary 'Refugee Here I Am' (April 2015) is co-directed with Enzo Ikah, a Congolese musician and refugee himself. Having already premiered in cinemas, it is currently touring the world intending to create dialogue between the displaced and the authorities in charge. Awarded the World Humanitarian Gold, Enzo was also named the "star of peace" (2015). Eda Elif holds an MPhil in Social Anthropology from the University of Kent (United Kingdom). Whilst completing her doctorate at Bern University in Switzerland, she currently works as a researcher on a Swiss

National Science Foundation funded anthropology research project documenting unaccompanied minor refugees' biographies in Turkey. Eda Elif is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2012 Copenhagen Fellowship Program.



## **CHRYSOULA TITI**

### **GREECE**

Chrysoula Titi recently completed an MA in Postcolonial Studies at the University of Kent in Canterbury and Paris. Chrysoula is Greek-Albanian and grew up in Tripolis, Greece. She holds a BA in English Language and Literature from the National Kapodistrian University of Athens. She was an Erasmus exchange student at Universidad de Cadiz, Spain, and a summer school student at the University of Edinburgh.

Chrysa has primarily studied Literature with reference to literary theory and politics, a relation, which she explored in depth for her MA dissertation on Dystopia and Dictatorship in Albania and Libya. Her main academic interests lie within the field of postcolonial studies, which allows for an interdisciplinary approach that speaks to her interest in gender and cultural studies, aesthetics, history and language. Issues of discrimination, identity and human rights have been the focus of her studies and she is currently trying to put these into perspective in order to understand how they relate to current events. Chrysoula enjoys travelling and learning new things and is looking forward to meeting you all.



## **NIKI ZIANIKA**

### **GREECE**

Niki Zianika is an Athens based trainee lawyer. She is a graduate of the Law School of the University of Athens (L.L.B) and will be admitted to the Athens Bar Association in 2016. Niki interned at the Programs Department of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation in 2014 and has worked for a Greek corporate and commercial law firm. Currently, her interests are focused on

civil and commercial law, human rights, employment discrimination, immigration, and cultural heritage.

# Program Schedule

>> Sunday, October 4, 2015

## Welcome and Introduction

Location: Impact Hub Athens, Karaiskaki 28,  
Athens 10554

17:00-18:00 **Welcome and Introduction to  
Humanity in Action**

- Magnus Harrison, National Director,  
Denmark
- Katerina Oikonomakou,  
Program Coordinator, Greece
- Antje Scheidler, International Director  
of European Programs, Germany

18:00-19:30 **Group Discussion: Expectations  
Towards the Program and Experiences  
in the Field**  
Facilitated by the Humanity in Action Team

Location: Taverna Enastron, Mikonos 4 | Psirri Square,  
Athens 10554

20:00-21:30 **Welcome Dinner**

>> Monday, October 5, 2015

## **Fostering International Dialogue and Understanding**

<u>Location:</u>	Impact Hub Athens, Karaiskaki 28, Athens 10554
9:00-9:15	<b>Introduction to the Day</b> Humanity in Action Team
9:30-10:15	<b>Team Building I: Agreeing on Guidelines and Ground Rules for Cooperation during the Program</b> Facilitated by the Humanity in Action Team
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break
10:30-12:00	<b>Team Building II: Bring an Object - An Intercultural Exchange</b> Facilitated by the Humanity in Action Team
12:00-13:30	Lunch
13.30-16:30	<b>Workshop: Embracing Challenging Conversations</b> Facilitated by Lenka Hora Adema, mediator and coach (The Netherlands)
16.30-17:00	Coffee Break & Snacks
17:00-18:30	<b>Keynote: The Consequences of the Economic Crisis and Greek Civil Society's Responses</b> Prof. Dimitris A. Sotiropoulos, Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Athens; Senior Research Fellow at ELIAMEP

18:30-18:45	Coffee Break
18:45-19:45	<b>Debriefing and Discussion</b> Moderated by the Humanity in Action Team
19:45-20:00	<b>Closing Conversation</b>

>> Tuesday, October 6, 2015

## **The Crisis and Its Impact on Greek Society**

Location(s): NGO ARSIS, Tenedou 21, Kypseli,  
Athens 11257;  
NGO PRAKSIS, Day Centre for the Homeless,  
Deligiorgi 26-28, Metaxourgeio 10437

9:00-10:30 **Site Visits – Learning from Good Practice Examples**

NGO ARSIS (Association for the Social Support of Youth)

**A Compass to Human Rights – An Example of the Work of ARSIS with Young People in Athens**

Antonis Antoniou, Youth Counselor,  
Coordinator of Support Activities

NGO PRAKSIS (Programs of Development, Social Development, Social Support and Medical Cooperation)

**How to build a strong civil society?**

Dina Vardaramatou, Coordinator of the Medical Center Athens of PRAKSIS

10:30-11:30 Change of Location

Location: Impact Hub Athens, Karaiskaki 28,  
Athens 10554

11:30-13:00 **The Social Impact of the Economic Crisis in Greece**

Prof. Manos Matsaganis, Athens University of Economics and Business, Department of International and European Economics



13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:30-15:30	<b>Debriefing and Discussion</b> Moderated by Participants: Sanne Hettema and Chrysoula Iliopoulou
15:30-15:45	Coffee Break
16:00-18:30	<b>Workshop: Skills and Tools for Effective Communication and Cooperation</b> Facilitated by Lenka Hora Adema, mediator and coach (The Netherlands)
18:30-18:45	Closing Conversation
<u>Location:</u>	Restaurant Salero, 51 Valtetsiou Street, Athens 10681
19:30-21.00	<b>Networking Dinner</b> With Greek Humanity in Action Senior Fellows

>> Wednesday, October 7, 2015

## Immigration and Diversity

Location:

Impact Hub Athens, Karaiskaki 28,  
Athens 10554

9:15-9:30

**Introduction to the Day**

9:30-10:00

**International Perspectives &  
Good Practice Examples**

Presentation of Action Projects implemented  
by Humanity in Action Senior Fellows

10:00-11:30

**Immigration to Greece: Trends and  
Challenges**

Prof. Dimitris Christopoulos, Associate  
Professor, Department of Political Science  
and History, Panteion University (Athens GR)  
and Vice-President of the International  
Federation for Human Rights

11:30-12:00

Coffee Break / Change of Location

12:00-13:00

**Embracing Diversity - Second  
Generation Immigrants in Greece**

Andromachi Papaioannou and Nikos  
Odubitan, Executive Director, NGO  
Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality, and  
Diversity

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:00

**Debriefing and Discussion**

Moderated by Participants:  
Chrysoula Titi and Sarah Asmelash

15:00-16:00

Change of Location

## Exploring Diversity in Athens

Location(s): Shedia, Favierou 24, Athens 10438, 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
Melissa Network, Feron 18, Plateia Victorias, Athens 10434

16:00-18:00 Site Visits in Groups  
**Tour 1: Shedia Tour - Athens from the Perspective of the “Invisible”**  
  
**Tour 2: Visiting the Melissa Network - Network of Migrant Women in Greece**  
Nadina Christopoulou, Anthropologist and Co-Founder of the Melissa Network

Optional: **Evening Activities**  
Facilitated by Greek Humanity in Action Senior Fellows

>> Thursday, October 8, 2015

## **The Situation of Refugees**

<u>Location:</u>	Impact Hub Athens, Karaiskaki 28, Athens 10554
9:15-9:30	<b>Introduction to the Day</b>
9:30-11:00	<b>The Current Refugee Situation in Greece</b> Kalliopi Stefanaki, UNHCR Protection Officer
11:15-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	<b>Panel Discussion: Meeting the Challenge - Experiences and Approaches from Civil Society and Humanitarian Networks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Chrysanthi Protogerou, Director, Greek Council for Refugees</li><li>▪ Yonous Muhammadi, President, Greek Forum of Refugees, Member of the Bureau of European Migration Forum in Brussels</li><li>▪ Vasilis Lyritsis, Managing Director of the Refugee Reception Centre of the Hellenic Red Cross, in Lavrion, Attica</li><li>▪ Moderation: Katerina Oikonomakou, Program Coordinator, Humanity in Action</li></ul>
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:00	<b>Debriefing and Discussion</b> Moderated by Participants: Eda Elif Tibet and Iliana Bompou
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break

## **The LGBTQI Community**

15:30-17:00

### **The LGBTQI-Community in Greece**

Penelope Kaouni, Activist and Board Member  
of Colour Youth

17:15-17:45

### **Closing Conversation**

## **Free Evening**

>> Friday, October 9, 2015

## Roma in Greece

<u>Location:</u>	Impact Hub Athens, Karaiskaki 28, Athens 10554
9:15-9:30	<b>Introduction to the Day</b>
9:30-11:00	<b>The Roma Minority in Greece</b> Andriani Papadopoulou, Office of the Greek Ombudsman
11:00-11:15	Coffee Break
11:15-12:15	<b>Working with the Communities - Perspectives from Within</b> Yiannis Christou, National Project Officer, National Support Team ROMED (Mediation for Roma)
12:20-13:00	<b>International Good Practice Examples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Poland: Mentoring Roma Children in Warsaw</b>, Jarmila Rybicka (Humanity in Action Senior Fellow)</li><li>▪ <b>Turkey: Roman Medya</b>, Pinar Sayan (Humanity in Action Senior Fellow)</li></ul>
13:00-14:00	Lunch

## The Muslim Minority

14:00-15:30	<b>The Muslim Minority in Greece</b> Christos Iliadis, PhD/University of Essex, Board Member of the Hellenic League of Human Rights
15:30-15:45	Coffee Break

15:45-16:45      **Debriefing and Discussion**  
Moderated by Participants:  
Leticia Mora and Vlasios Benetos

16:45-17:15      Coffee Break

## **Civic Engagement: Fighting Discrimination and Racism**

17:15-18:45      **Stop le Contrôle au Faciès –  
Successfully Campaigning against  
Racial Profiling in France**  
Tara Dickman, Community Organizer at  
Studio Praxis and Humanity in Action Senior  
Fellow (France)

18:45-19:00      **Closing Conversation**

>> **Saturday, October 10, 2015**

## **The Jewish Community**

<u>Location:</u>	Meeting Venue, Ermou 134, 10553 Athens
10:00-11:15	<b>The Jewish Community in Greece</b> <i>tbc</i>
11:15-11:30	Coffee Break

## **Action Academy**

11:30-12:30	<b>Workshop: Own Your Story – Identifying One’s Own Area for Civic Engagement</b> Facilitated by Tara Dickman, Community Organizer at Studio Praxis and Humanity in Action Senior Fellow (France)
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-17:00	<b>Workshop: Own Your Story – Community Organizing</b> Facilitated by Tara Dickman, Community Organizer at Studio Praxis
17:00-17:30	Coffee Break
17:30-18:30	<b>Group Work: Bazaar of Ideas for Civic Engagement</b>
18:45-19:30	<b>Closing Conversation</b>
19:30-20:00	<b>Reflections on the Program</b> Facilitated by the Humanity in Action Team
<u>Location:</u>	Restaurant Klimataria, Plateia Theatrou 2, Athens 10552
20:30	<b>Farewell Dinner</b>



# Speaker Biographies

ANTONIS ANTONIOU



## **ANTONIS ANTONIOU**

### **GREECE**

Antonis Antoniou's professional background is mostly connected to working with socially disadvantaged populations. These include people with addiction problems, young offenders, refugees and immigrants as well as groups inside penitentiary centers.

In 1999 he graduated from the Department of Psychology of the University of Crete in Rethimno. After that, he attended two Masters Degree Programs: the Counseling Psychology Program at the National University of Athens and the Organizational and Economic Psychology program at Panteion University.

Since 2002 he has been attending training programs at the European Center for the Study of Anthropos (AKMA). He has been a collaborator of the center since 2009.

In 2009 he started his private practice, which includes individual and group psychotherapy.

His collaboration with ARSIS began in 2002. He worked in various fields, including interventions in prisons and schools. He has also coordinated and supervised a number of projects. From 2009 to 2011 he was the general supervisor of the office of ARSIS in Athens. Right now he is the coordinator of the support activities of the organization and a youth worker, while also being the supervisor of the volunteers and the interns of ARSIS.

Outside of work, Antonis Antoniou's passions are music (playing drums, percussion, guitar), art (drawing, comics), cinema and travelling.



## **DIMITRIS CHRISTOPOULOS**

### **GREECE**

Dimitris Christopoulos is an Associate Professor of State and Legal Theory at the Department of Political Science and History of the Panteion University of Athens, where he has taught since 2000. Since 2013, he is Vice President of the International Federation for Human Rights, previously having chaired the board of the Hellenic League for Human Rights from 2003 until 2011. His courses include Introduction at the European Legal and State Theory, Minorities in Europe, Citizenship and Migration and Art, Freedom and Censorship. He has taught as a visiting professor and has provided lectures in different universities in Europe and the United States. He has published in Greek, English, French, Portuguese, Hebrew, Albanian and Serbo-Croatian in scientific reviews or journals in the field of legal and political theory, focusing on issues related to human rights, minorities, migrants and citizenship. Prof. Christopoulos is frequently interviewed by international or Greek media and writes regularly in the Greek press and certain web portals.



## **NADINA CHRISTOPOULOU**

### **GREECE**

Nadina Christopoulou is co-founder and coordinator of Melissa, an umbrella network for migrant women and their organizations. She studied Anthropology and Political Science at McGill University and then pursued an MPhil in Social and Political Theory and a PhD on social memory through the Roma storytelling practices. Her recent research and writing focus on childhood migration and migrant women's networks.

She has been involved in the development of various educational and action-research projects on cultural diversity as well as a documentary series shot in 14 countries, presenting the stories of 28 people living in each other's homelands. She is currently developing a digital photo-

graphic archive on the same subject, jointly curated with Magnum photographer Nikos Economopoulos, tracing the cycles of migration that Greece has experienced in the 20th century. She is also serving as the general secretary of the Board of the Greek Council for Refugees.

## **YIANNIS CHRISTOU**

### **GREECE**

Yiannis Christou studied Theology and Translation and was certified by the Council of Europe in the field of Roma mediation in 2011. He started to work officially as a mediator in May 2010, while at the same time volunteering at the Byzantine Museum in Athens, where he assisted with Roma children visiting the premises. Around the same time, he was also engaged in the program Education of Roma Children – under implementation by the Kapodistrian University of Athens, as a school mediator until October 2012.

From October 2012 to April 2013, Yiannis Christou interned at the Council of Europe Development Bank, Department of Studies and International Relations, in Paris, France. During his internship, besides obtaining knowledge regarding the concept, structure and operation of the Bank, he participated in high level meetings and shared insights on all matters of the Bank with regard to Roma issues, and did research on National Roma Integration Strategies of most EU Member States.

From October 2013 until now, Yiannis Christou has been engaged by the Council of Europe to work in the ROMED 2 Program "Democratic Governance and Community Empowerment through Roma Mediation" as National Project Officer for Greece. Recently, along with six other Roma experts, he established the first Roma NGO in Greece by the name "Hellenic Roma Action" (abbreviated title: HEROMACT). The organization has undertaken a project aiming to establish an Association of Greek Roma Scientists.



## **TARA DICKMAN** **FRANCE**

Tara Dickman is the co-founder of Studio Praxis ([www.studiopraxis.fr](http://www.studiopraxis.fr)), an Actors Studio-inspired social enterprise dedicated to developing the power of leaders, organizations and projects enhancing civil rights of minorities in France through community organizing, educational programs and strategy consulting services.

She holds an MA in Comparative Politics from New York University, where she worked on the 2005 riots in France and the “jeunes des quartiers” (youth from underserved urban areas) from an international minority rights perspective. Prior to her MA, she graduated in Information and Communications at Université Paris 8, studied EU cultural and social politics, and attended Brown University on a year-long exchange program on race and urban politics.

Tara Dickman is a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow and participated in the 2007 Paris Fellowship Program. From 2007 to 2012, she worked for Humanity in Action France. In 2011, she built the first nation-wide grassroots leaders-lead coalition fighting police abuse and racial profiling at the legal, media and political levels.

She was born and raised in France by South African Buddhist parents of Irish Catholic, Polish Jewish, Serbian Orthodox and Franco-Swiss Algeria-born atheist descent. She grew up between central Paris and the banlieues, where she was involved in theater and film projects for many years.

Tara Dickman was awarded the 2014 Humanity in Action Barney A. Karbank Senior Fellows Award for exceptional leadership, was a 2013 Ariane de Rothschild Social Entrepreneurship and Interreligious Dialogue Fellow, and a 2012 Echoing Green Social Innovation Fellowship worldwide finalist.



## **LENKA HORA ADEMA**

### **THE NETHERLANDS**

Lenka Hora Adema, LL.M MOC is working as a self-employed senior mediation expert, facilitator and process designer, and organizational coach in The Hague (The Netherlands). She is specialized in (co-operation) disputes with and within organizations and governments. Lenka Hora Adema works regularly in projects abroad, as an advisor in conflicts, a facilitating mediator or organizational coach. Born from an Armenian-Iraqi father and a Dutch mother, her personal experience with different cultures is a treasure trove for her work.

With two partners she started DoDemocracy.eu (*DoeDemocratie.nu*), an organization facilitating and organizing dialogue between citizens and governments, for example a dialogue about refugees in the Netherlands and what that means for neighborhoods.

She also works as a mediation trainer, teacher and assessor both in the Netherlands and abroad for one of the oldest institutes for mediation in The Netherlands, *Centrum voor Conflicthantering* (CvC.nl).

She is an editorial staff member of the specialist journal for mediators in the Netherlands, *Tijdschrift Conflicthantering* (Journal for Conflict Management).

Previously Lenka Hora Adema worked as a lawyer and academic staff member at the Supreme Court of the Netherlands. During this period she worked for Lawyers without Borders and as a board member of the Association for Law and Administration in Developing and Transition Countries.



## **CHRISTOS ILIADIS**

### **GREECE**

Christos Iliadis holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Discourse Analysis from the Department of Government at the University of Essex. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History from Panteion University (Athens) and his Master of Arts in

Political Science from the University of Athens. Christos Iliadis has been a board member of the Hellenic League of Human Rights since 2013 and is working as a trainer-facilitator for the Council of Europe in Romed2, a project targeting Roma integration. Until April 2015 he was a post-doctoral researcher at Panteion, while during the last years he has taught International Relations at Essex (2009-2011) and worked in projects related to the training of the police and public officials in Greece on issues of integration of third countries' nationals. His published work and his PhD thesis focus on the history of Greek minority policies in Western Thrace.



## **PENELOPE KAOUNI**

### **GREECE**

Penelope Kaouni has a degree computer engineering and is a musician. Currently Penelope is a postgraduate student in a graphic arts and multimedia program. Since 2012, they are a queer activist and a board member of the NGO Colour Youth – the LGBTQ youth community of Athens, having actively participated in most of its activities so far.



## **VASILIS LYRITSIS | GREECE**

Vasilis Lyritsis works for the Hellenic Red Cross as the Director of the Centre for Temporary Accommodation for Asylum Seekers in Lavrio, Attica. He has studied Modern and Contemporary History and he has an MA in Political Science. He has also worked at supportive living accommodations for persons with intellectual disabilities.



## **MANOS MATSAGANIS GREECE**

Trained as an economist in Greece (AUEB) and in England (MSc Health Economics at York; PhD at Bristol), Manos Matsaganis came to his current job at the Athens University of Economics and Business after research and teaching positions at the London School of Economics and the University of Crete, and a spell as Policy Adviser at the Prime Minister's Office (1997-2001).

At AUEB he is Associate Professor of Social and Employment Policy, and co-ordinator of the Policy Analysis Research Unit ([www.paru.gr](http://www.paru.gr)).

He has considerable experience as consultant or advisor to international organizations such as the European Commission, the OECD, UNICEF, the World Bank, and the Berlin-based Friedrich Ebert Foundation. In 2012-2014 he was a member of the Expert Group on Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion on the invitation of European Commissioner László Andor. Since 2013 he sits at the Advisory Board of Solidarity Now, an Athens-based charity supported by Open Society Foundation.

As an economist with an interest in public policy, he has written on a variety of topics including labor taxation, youth unemployment, health care, pensions, income support, poverty, European social policy, tax evasion and others. He has published papers in peer-reviewed journals such as

Quarterly Journal of Economics, Fiscal Studies, Journal of Health Economics, European Journal of Health Economics, Social Science and Medicine, International Journal of Health Services, Health Policy, Health Policy and Planning, Political Studies Review, British Journal of Industrial Relations, Journal of Social Policy, Journal of European Social Policy, Social Policy and Administration, Critical Social Policy, International Journal of Social Welfare, South European Society and Politics, Basic Income Studies and others. Moreover, he has refereed papers for several journals, and is a member of the editorial or advisory board of South European Society and Politics, Politiche Sociali, and Greek Review of Social Research.

Manos Matsaganis has participated in a number of European research projects such as, among others, "Poverty reduction in Europe: social policy and innovation" (ImPROvE), "EU Social Situation Monitor" (SSM), "EUROMOD-microsimulation tool for modelling the impact of policy measures" (EMupdate), "EU Social Situation Observatory" (SSO), "Accurate income measurement for the assessment of public policies" (AIM-AP), "Micro-level analysis of the European Social Agenda: combating poverty and social exclusion through changes in social and fiscal policy (MICRESA)", "Combatting poverty through guaranteed minimum income programmes in South Europe (FIPOSC)"; "Social exclusion, social policy and the role of the EU" (EXSPRO), "A European tax-benefit model" (EUROMOD) and "European models for purchasing strategies" (EuroPurse).

His current research focuses on the distributional implications of the Eurozone crisis, the political economy of austerity in Greece, and the effects of the minimum wage on employment, earnings and poverty.

In 2014-2015 Manos Matsaganis visited the United States as a Fulbright Scholar (winter term: Center for European Studies at Harvard; spring term: Center for Equitable Growth at UC Berkeley), then Italy as visiting professor (Università dell'Insubria; Università degli Studi di Milano).





## **YONOUS MUHAMMADI**

### **GREECE**

Yonous Mohammadi is the President of the Greek Forum of Refugees and a Bureau Member of the European Migration Forum in Brussels. He was born in Afganistan, where he studied Medicine and worked for the Red Cross.

During the last semester of his studies, the town of Masar-i-Sharif where he was living at the time, fell into the hands of the Taliban. In order to escape political, racial and religious persecution, Yonous Mohammadi decided to flee his country. On his way to Greece - already a refugee (1997 - 2001) - he found himself working with other refugees in settlements in Pakistan and Iran. Upon his arrival in Greece, in 2001, he joined the Medecins du Monde as a volunteer.

From 2002 to 2013 Yonous Mohammadi was employed at a private clinic, while also doing voluntary work for the Medical Rehabilitation Center For Torture Victims. Since 2005 he has been working for the Klimaka - lolaos Centre in Athens. In 2007 he was a founding member of the Afghan Community in Greece and its president until 2013.



## **NIKOS ODUBITAN**

### **GREECE**

Nikos Odubitan was born in Athens in 1981 to migrant parents. He is currently a student at the European Civilization Studies Department at the Greek Open University. Nikos has been actively involved with the second generation movement since 2006. Today he is the Executive Director of Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality, and Diversity. He holds a degree in Computer Science and

Network and a diploma in Intercultural Mediation. He has been employed as an Intercultural Mediator and has a long experience as a human rights activist on migration policies, legislation, consultancy, advocacy, and a deep knowledge of migration and second generation issues in Greece.



## **ANDRIANI PAPADOPOULOU**

### **GREECE**

Andriani Papadopoulou holds a PhD degree in Sociology, received in 1994 from York University Toronto, Canada, where she also completed her undergraduate studies (iHonour's BA in Philosophy and Sociology) and her MA degree (in Sociology).

As a Sociologist/Educator/Senior Investigator in the Human Rights Department of the Greek Ombudsman and a Researcher, she has acquired extensive expertise on the issues that concern the Roma and immigrants and in general the violation of human rights.

Andriani Papadopoulou has considerable experience in university teaching in Canada (at York University-Toronto Ontario, Bishop's-Lennoxville Quebec, UCCB Sydney-Nova Scotia) on a variety of subjects, including minorities/vulnerable communities. In addition, as an instructor at the National School of Public Administration, she has extensive experience in training (including experiential teaching) public servants and municipal police, on issues regarding equal treatment and the social integration of Roma and immigrants.

As a senior investigator in the Greek Ombudsman, Andriani Papadopoulou examines cases pertaining to violation/protection of human rights and implementation of equal treatment legislation; proposes legislative and organizational changes; performs on-site investigations; composes documents/ reports; communicates with citizens; intervenes to ensure resolution of disputes amongst members of vulnerable groups and the general public and participates in national and international bodies as a representative of the Greek Ombudsman, especially for Roma and immigrant issues. She has also written several articles pertaining to the situation of Roma in Greece. She has an excellent ability in both, English and Greek languages.



**ANDROMACHI PAPAIOANNOU**  
**GREECE**

Andromachi Papaioannou hails from Athens, Greece and has lived in Thessaloniki, Rome, London, Bologna and Athens, which made her not only a citizen of the world but also fluent in Greek, English and Italian. She holds a BA in Political Science from Aristotle University, a MA in Social Anthropology from London School of Economics, and

a PhD in International Cooperation and Sustainable Development Policies from the University of Bologna, with a focus on Anthropology and Migration and most specifically on the notions of citizenship, identity and belonging among youth of African background in Athens. Andromachi Papaioannou resides in Athens since 2010 working on migration issues and most specifically on second generation issues both as a researcher and a social activist. She is actively involved with the NGO Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality, and Diversity and has a long experience in migration policies and legislation, consultancy, intercultural mediation and advocacy.



**CHRYSANTHI PROTOGEROU**  
**GREECE**

Chrysanthi ProtoGEROU is the Director of the Greek Council for Refugees. She has many years of professional experience as to the legal assistance, legal support and counseling of refugees. Before taking up her current position, she was member of the Appeals Committees within the national and international

protection procedure (MPC), representing UNHCR.

In 2008/09 she served as Special Advisor at the Ministry of Interior, Cabinet for Migration Policy and Integration of Migrants and was also a member of the Task Force, formed by the Ministry of Interior for the 3rd Meeting of the "Global Forum on Migration and Development" under the Greek Presidency.

Chrysanthi Protogerou has studied Law at the University of Athens and has been a member of the Law Bar Association of Athens since 1993.



**DIMITRIS A. SOTIROPOULOS**  
**GREECE**

Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos is Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Athens, Research Associate of the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy Studies (ELIAMEP, Athens) and Research Associate of the Hellenic Observatory at the London School of Economics (LSE).

He has studied at the Law School of the University of Athens, the LSE (M.Sc. 1986) and Yale University (M.A., M.Phil. and Ph.D. 1991). In 2009-2010 Dr. Sotiropoulos was Visiting Fellow, Southeast European Studies (SEESOX), St. Antony's College, Oxford. He has also taught at the University of Crete and the Institute Juan March, Madrid, Spain. His publications include: *Is Southern Europe Doomed to Instability?*, co-edited with Thanos Veremis, London: Frank Cass, 2002; and *The State and Democracy in the New Southern Europe*, co-edited with Richard Gunther and P. Nikiforos Diamandouros, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006.



**KALLIOPI STEFANAKI**  
**GREECE**

Kalliopi Stefanaki is working with UNHCR in Greece as a Protection Officer and Head of the Protection Unit. She has studied Law in the Kapodistrian University of Athens and completed her post-graduate studies (DEA) in Public

International Law in the University Paris II Sorbonne. She is a lawyer, member of the Athens Bar Association, working in the field of human rights and refugee rights since 1998. She served in the Greek Ombudsman's Office, in the Human

Rights Department for eight years. She has participated as a speaker in a number of conferences related to the above mentioned fields and has published a series of articles on the same topics. During the years 1994-1996, Kalliopi Stefanaki worked with the European Commission and the Office of the European Parliament in Paris. She is a member of the Hellenic League for Human Rights, an NGO active in the human rights field in Greece, and a member of the International Federation of Human Rights. She is married with two children.



## **DINA VARDARAMATOU**

### **GREECE**

Dina Vardaramatou is the Coordinator of the PRAKSIS Polyclinic in Athens which offers its legal, medical and social services to socially or/and economically excluded people such as immigrants, refugees, homeless, unaccompanied minors, ex-inmates, ex-drug users etc. She is a social worker/sociologist with a Master of Arts Degree in Social and Community Work Studies. She has carried out research on trafficking in persons, genetic screening, social inclusion, sexual rape, gender-based violence.

Dina Vardaramatou has worked as Scientific Advisor of Project Empowerment of Socially Excluded Women in Georgia (2003-2005). Since 2012 she has been serving as General Secretary of the NGO Centre of Research and Action on Peace - formerly she was President of the Board (2003-2006) and a member of the Executive Board. She has worked as a Project Coordinator of Stop Trafficking of People Now (STOP NOW - 2000-2009), and was the founder and coordinator of the Galatsi Group (ad hoc group of stakeholders - state agencies, international organizations and NGOs working on anti-trafficking issues, 2002-2009).

Dina Vardaramatou has served as a member of the Committee of Social Agencies, at the Ministry of Health (2008-2012). She was Member of the Coordinating Committee of the Observatory Against Gender-based Violence (2007-2012), a member of the Executive Board of the international NGO Association of Women of the Mediterranean Region (AWMR) (1996-1998). She has worked extensively - as a professional, activist and volunteer - with

socially or/and economically excluded groups such as victims of trafficking, drug users, people from vastly different and culturally diverse backgrounds.

# About Humanity in Action

**Humanity in Action** is an international organization that educates, inspires and connects a network of university students and young professionals committed to promoting human rights, diversity and active citizenship in their own communities and around the world.

Humanity in Action has educated over 1,500 young leaders who now form a unique international community. The annual Humanity in Action Fellowship brings together more than 150 European and American university students and young professionals each summer in programs in Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and the United States to discuss, learn and research in international groups. Humanity in Action Fellows meet leading experts and activists to study historical and contemporary cases of institutional violations of human and minority rights.

Humanity in Action supports all Fellows financially for the duration of their programs, allowing for the merit-based selection of diverse applicants. Humanity in Action also provides professional development opportunities. It maintains an international network of students, young professionals, established leaders, experts and partners for which it organizes a range of educational and career opportunities, including seminars, workshops, study trips and fellowship positions at leading civic and political institutions, such as the European Parliament and the United States Congress. These opportunities encourage emerging leaders to develop their professional abilities and introduce established leaders to the ideas of the younger generation.

Humanity in Action's network of leaders is a valuable resource to policy-makers, diplomats, educators, business leaders and civic-minded individuals and organizations. By the end of the decade, Humanity in Action will connect over 2,500 professionals working in all sectors, on a range of critical issues, in countries around the world.

Humanity in Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization with governing and advisory Boards in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and the United States. Humanity in Action's international headquarters is in New York City.

# Program Staff Biographies



## **ANTJE SCHEIDLER**

National Director  
Humanity in Action Germany

International Director of European  
Programs

Antje Scheidler has been with Humanity in Action since 2002, when she became Program Director of the, then new, German program. She is the National Director of Humanity in Action Germany and also oversees the European programs of Humanity in Action. Antje was born in East Germany and has lived for almost her entire life in Berlin, where she experienced the fall of the Berlin Wall as a teenager. Antje studied English and American studies and Social Sciences at Humboldt University Berlin and the University of Toronto and became very interested in immigration related issues and matters of social cohesion. She was a researcher at Humboldt University in the Department of Demography from 2000-2007 and editor-in-chief of the newsletter "Migration und Bevölkerung" (*Migration and Population*) from 2000-2011.



## **MAGNUS HARRISON**

National Director  
Humanity in Action Denmark

Magnus Harrison is the National Director of Humanity in Action Denmark. He holds an MA in global political economy and EU studies and a BA in European History. Lately, Magnus has mostly been interested in the relation between narratives and minorities, especially how minorities can break out of the narrative the majority has of them and create their own. He is also a returning speaker at CanopyLAB, an interactive learning laboratory for youth from across the world. Magnus has given



several public talks and taught high school students in human rights, activism, minority protection and narratives.



### **KATERINA OIKONOMAKOU**

Program Coordinator (Greece)

Katerina Oikonomakou has started her engagement with Humanity in Action in 2013. She cooperates with the international staff on Humanity in Action's outreach to Greece, particularly the study trip to Athens.

Katerina is the initiator and author of [berlininterviews.com](http://berlininterviews.com), which features interviews with Berlin-based artists and authors. For many years she was deputy editor-in-chief of the Greek edition of Marie Claire magazine. She has also worked for many years as a journalist for the Greek daily press. She is a member of the editorial team of the Greek monthly book review "The Books' Journal". Along with her journalism work, she has been active in the area of arts administration.

Between 2010 and 2012, she was project manager and coordinator of the "Talks and Thoughts" Program of the Onassis Cultural Center in Athens. The program featured 20 to 25 public lectures annually, with noted international intellectuals on current affairs and contemporary culture. She came to Berlin in 2011, as a European Journalism Fellow, at the Free University Berlin, in order to research the life of the Greek-Jewish cantor and Holocaust survivor Estrongo Nachama. Katerina splits her time between Berlin and Athens.

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#### **Yulia Shalomov**

Coordinator of Admissions  
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#### **Karcheik Sims-Alvarado**

John Lewis Fellowship  
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Program Director

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# Notes