

NECE Conference 2015

'Us' and 'Them': Citizenship Education in an Interdependent World

22 - 24 October 2015
Thessaloniki, Greece

www.nece.eu
#NECE2015

Conference venues:
Makedonia Palace Hotel & Goethe-Institut Thessaloniki

A conference organised by



In co-operation with



and the fellowship programme for young Europeans "Shaping Europe – Civic Education in Action" – a co-operation between the bpb and the Robert Bosch Stiftung.

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Background

The 2015 NECE Conference in Thessaloniki will build on the 2014 NECE Conference in Vienna, which focused on the conflicts in and around Europe. Starting point of this year's conference will be the question of how to reimagine and define the role of citizenship education in increasingly divided and polarized societies. Fundamentalist religious, ethnic and cultural perceptions of 'Us' and 'Them' play an ever more important role in the ongoing crises and upheavals in today's world.

The NECE Conference 2015 will look into the causes and the implications of this phenomenon in four areas relevant for citizenship educators:

- Europe's economic, social and political divisions, which have triggered discourses of fear and dissociation in core countries of the EU and have helped nationalistic and populist movements gain ground.
- The perception of an open confrontation between proclaimed values of the 'West' and the 'Islamic World' which has led to dangerous developments in societies on both sides of the Mediterranean.
- The impact of the refugee crisis on European societies in the short, medium and long term.
- The repercussions of the war in Ukraine and relations between Russia, Ukraine and the EU that have led to ideological and nationalist regression and hatred.

Aims

- Discussing the role of 'othering' in an interdependent world and critically reflect the role of citizenship education in this context;
- Collecting relevant research projects, publications, projects and approaches and provide a stocktaking space;
- Defining desiderata and potential actions;
- Creating a transnational space for networking and co-operation to work on the identified desiderata.

Programme

Conference moderation:

Almut Möller, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR), Berlin (Germany) & **Susanne Ulrich**, Center for Applied Policy Research (C·A·P) / Academy Leadership & Competence (Germany)

Thursday, 22 October 2015

Venue: *Makedonia Palace Hotel*

2:30 pm **Open Format**
Workshops, presentations of individual projects or initiatives and other formats will be held at two different locations:
Makedonia Palace Hotel & Goethe Institut Thessaloniki
(an overview is available [here](#))

4:00 pm **Coffee & Registration & Project Market**
at Makedonia Palace Hotel

5:00 pm **Welcome**

Who is who and what is NECE?

Interactive mapping session with an invitation to find out:

- Who is present?
- Which expectations and expertise are in the room?
- Which are the contexts where the perception of 'the other' is particularly relevant in citizenship education?

Aims of the mapping session:

- laying the ground for networking;
- identifying and collecting projects and competencies;
- brainstorming and collecting relevant questions and ideas to be discussed during the workshops.

6:00 pm **Opening Addresses**
Yiannis Boutaris, Mayor of the City Thessaloniki (Greece)

Thomas Krüger, President of the Federal Agency for Civic Education (Germany)

6:15 pm **Keynote**
'The West' as 'Us' and 'The West' as the 'Other': Mental cartographies in an interdependent world

Dipesh Chakrabarty, University of Chicago (USA)*

Discussant: Ulrike Guéröt, The European Democracy Lab, European School of Governance (Germany)

Discussion with the audience via Fishbowl format

8:30 pm Reception at Makedonia Palace Hotel

Friday, 23 October 2015

Venue: *Makedonia Palace Hotel*

8:30 am to 7 pm Project Market

9:00 am **Introduction**

9:15 am **Input**

What do we mean when we talk about citizenship?

A brief exercise of exploring terms offered by the CLEAR focus group

Facilitated by members of the CLEAR focus group

10:30 am Coffee Break

11:00 am **Input**

The impact of citizenship education in constructing ‘the other’ –
a critical reflection

Audrey Osler, Buskerud and Vestfold University College (Norway) /
University of Leeds (UK)

11:30 am Discussion

12:00 pm **Parallel Panels**

**Othering and identity politics in three different contexts:
Implications for citizenship education**

Three parallel panels, which will deal with the conflict in and around Ukraine, the dynamics and the function of othering in the European crisis and the perceived dispute/conflict between ‘the West’ and the ‘Islamic world’. International experts will examine these issues from different perspectives. The aim of the panels is to generate topics and questions that are relevant for practical citizenship education. These will afterwards be discussed in more detail in parallel workshops.

Panel 1: Russia, Ukraine and ‘the West’: Rethinking our mental cartography?	Panel 2: Where now for Europe? Identity discourses and politics in times of crisis	Panel 3: The ‘West’ and the ‘Islamic World’: Recent developments on both sides of the Mediterranean
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alona Karavai, MitOst e.V. (Ukraine/Germany) • Ivo Pertijs, journalist (the Netherlands) • Tatiana Zhurzhenko, IWM – Institute for Human Sciences Vienna (Austria) <p>Moderation: Chris Burns, Burnstorm Communications (Belgium) Facilitator: Susanne Ulrich, Center for Applied Policy Research (C·A·P) / Academy Leadership & Competence (Germany)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ulrike Guérat, The European Democracy Lab, European School of Governance (Germany) • Kenan Malik, writer, lecturer and broadcaster (UK) • Loukas Tsoukalis, Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (Greece) <p>Moderation: Almut Möller, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR), Berlin (Germany) Facilitator: Marinko Banjac*, University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mohamed Jouili, Tunisian Youth Observatory (Tunisia) • Asiem El Difraoui, Institute of Media and Communications Policy (Germany/France) • Noha El-Mikaway, Ford Foundation (Egypt) • Jakob Erle, Association for World Education (Denmark) <p>Moderation: Nelly Corbel, Lazord Foundation (France) Facilitator: Benjamin Wunsch-Grafton, Grafton Development (Austria)</p>

1:30 pm Lunch

Project Market – Networking

Venues: *Makedonia Palace Hotel & Goethe-Institut Thessaloniki*

3:30 pm **Parallel workshops session on issues of citizenship education**

In this part of the programme, at least 15 parallel workshops will be held: some will be organised by the organisers, others will be curated by NECE focus groups or result from the call for projects and papers. In addition, workshops proposed by the participants in the morning session will be offered.

General approaches, researches, practices and/ or models will be presented, followed by a discussion on the guiding questions: Where do we stand and what do we need?

1. Russia, Ukraine and 'the West': Rethinking our mental cartography?	2. Where now for Europe? Identity discourses and politics in times of crisis	3. The 'West' and the 'Islamic World': Recent developments on both sides of the Mediterranean
Workshops 1.1.-3.1 are designed and curated by the organisers		
<p>1.1. Dialogue – mission (im)possible: can non-formal citizenship education be a tool against othering and for mutual understanding of Russian and Ukrainian societies? workshop by MitOst e.V.</p> <p>This workshop is the space to share case studies and concrete experiences as well as to initiate discussion and common counselling on the following questions: Is it possible to resist the 'othering'-trend with non-formal citizenship education? What are the main obstacles and main limits for non-formal educational formats how can they be overcome? Which target groups could be brought together in Ukrainian-Russian groups and which ones are more complicated to reach with the educational formats?</p> <p>Elena Bobrowskaja (Russia)</p> <p>Alona Karavai (Germany)</p>	<p>2.1. Refugees in Europe – How to prevent unfair stereo-typing by citizenship education? How does a suitable interaction between civil society and refugees look like? Key challenges are to enhance an active dialogue locally and regionally between refugees, civil society and decision-makers and to support social acceptance of refugees while considering civil and human rights. What are best practice examples in this context? How can citizenship education help to prevent and to overcome "othering" by bridging different approaches and players?</p> <p>Dimitris Christopoulos, Panteion University Athens (Greece)</p> <p>Karl Kopp, PRO ASYL (Germany)</p> <p>Spyros Rizakos, AITIMA (Greece)</p> <p>Veszna Wessenauer (Hungary)</p>	<p>3.1. Prevention vs Empowerment? How citizenship educators can react to the radicalisation of youth A growing number of young men and women leave their homes to join jihadist movements. In this workshop experts will present existing strategies to fight these tendencies. Based on experiences from different countries participants will discuss appropriate approaches of citizenship education in this context.</p> <p>Martin de Koning, Radboud University Nijmegen (the Netherlands)*</p> <p>Gereon Flümann, Federal Agency for Civic Education (Germany)</p> <p>N.N. (UK)</p> <p>Wissem Missaoui, Tunisian Office of the project "Search for Common Ground" (Tunisia)</p> <p>Moderation: Nelly Corbel, Lazord Foundation (France)</p>

<p>Workshops 1.2.-3.3. are designed and curated by the NECE focus groups and/or result from the call for projects and papers.</p>		
<p>1.2. The otherness through the eyes of the generation of transition</p> <p>The workshop will explore the way the generation of transition understands the notion of "otherness" and how their current perception has been influenced by the process of transition towards democracy in the post-soviet space. The participants will present the results of a small-scale study on the topic, conducted in several countries from Eastern and Central Europe.</p> <p>Moderator and panelist: Louisa Slavkova, European Council on Foreign Relations/ Sofia Platform (Bulgaria)</p>	<p>2.2. NECE Focus Group Hard to Reach Learners: Othering and Identity: Theoretical reflections and the identity construction of youth Europeans</p> <p>Michalis Kakos, Leeds Beckett University (Greece/UK)</p> <p>Alistair Ross, London Metropolitan University (UK)</p> <p>Moderation: Tereza Vavrova*, Civic Education Centre (Czech Republic)</p>	<p>3.2. NECE Focus Group Exchange between Europe and North Africa: Preventing othering processes in Citizenship Education – Developing an evaluation tool</p> <p>The workshop is aimed at raising awareness for the mechanisms, which might lead to unconscious othering processes in the field of Citizenship Education. Subsequently to initial presentation the participants will create a tool, which can help in the development stage of projects to prevent othering processes.</p> <p>Presentation 1: Intergroup Contacts and Othering Processes: Debating the Lessons learned from a Civic Education Project by Andrea Szukala, University of Münster (Germany)</p> <p>Presentation 2: Tackling prejudices against Muslims in school text books by Pia Mikander, University of Helsinki (Finland)</p> <p>Presentation 3: Citizenship Education in British Schools: Stealing people's identities by Stuart Dunne, Youth Focus North West (UK)</p> <p>Moderation: Rana Gaber, Egyptian Youth Federation/ Ambassadors for Dialogue (Egypt)</p>
<p>1.3. Challenging Historical Narratives</p> <p>This session will demonstrate the work of</p>		

<p>EUROCLIO by reflecting on the development process of the project "Crossroads of Cultures" that has been realised collaboratively by educators from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.</p> <p>Yulia Kushnereva (Russia)</p> <p>Mire Mladenovski (Mazedonia)</p> <p>Steven Stegers (the Netherlands)</p>	<p>2.3. Roma in Europe: social inclusion and othering processes</p> <p>The workshop will explore new approaches and educational strategies aimed at enhancing the social inclusion of Roma e.g. in Kosovo and Romania.</p> <p>Irina Ilisei, Asociatia PLURAL (Romania)</p> <p>Ulrike Wolff-Jontofsohn, University of Education, Freiburg (Germany)</p> <p>Moderation: Petr Cap, Civic Education Centre (Czech Republic)*</p>	<p>3.3. NECE Focus Group Exchange between Europe and North Africa: Religion and Democracy</p> <p>The workshop tries to clarify and systematise relevant fields of tension between religion and democracy and will collect examples of activities and methods to address the issue.</p> <p>Mahmoud Elhossein, Hayaty NGO (Egypt)</p> <p>Florian Wenzel (Germany)</p>
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Workshops 1.4-3.5

<p>1.4. Title to be decided by the participants at the conference. Focusing on the guiding question: Where do we stand and what do we need?</p>	<p>2.4. The role of media and reporting on the European crisis</p> <p>Danae Ankel, University of Cologne (Germany)</p> <p>Ulrike Christl, eurotopics (Germany)</p> <p>Maja Henke, University of Cologne (Germany)</p> <p>Moderation: Tomaz Pusnik, University of Ljubljana (Czech Republic)*</p>	<p>3.4. NECE Focus Group CLEAR: Concepts Across Cultures and Words in Motion</p> <p>This workshop is intended to concentrate on specific concepts and words and to look at the different layers and perceptions of their meanings within and between cultures. With a clear goal of questioning the typically culturalist tunnel visions, the purpose of the workshop is to try to historicize and contextualize a number of notions and key concepts such as "Secularism", "Islam", "Islamism", "Modernity", "Rationality" and the "West".</p> <p>Driss Maghraoui, Al Akhawayn University Ifrane (Morocco)</p> <p>Kebir Sandy, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University (Morocco)</p>
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1.5. Title to be decided by the participants at the conference. Focusing on the guiding question: Where do we stand and what do we need?	2.5. Title to be decided by the participants at the conference. Focusing on the guiding question: Where do we stand and what do we need? Marinko Banjac* , University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)	3.5. Title to be decided by the participants at the conference. Focusing on the guiding question: Where do we stand and what do we need? Benjamin Wunsch-Grafton , Grafton Development (Austria)
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6:30 pm	End of the Workshop Session
8:00 pm	Cultural Performance "Confusion/ Diffusion" – an audio-visual performance by the Greek composer and musician Floros Floridis in co-operation with film-director Jeanine Meerapfel at <i>Olympion theatre, Aristotelous Square, Thessaloniki</i> .
Saturday, 24 October 2015	
9:00 am	Project Market and Networking
10:00 am	World Café At this stage in the programme we invite you to make your appointments to discuss future common projects, topics, ideas and inspire the NECE network for its future activities
12:00 pm	Keynote Beyond 'Us' and 'Them': Personal Observations and Open Questions Lizzie Doron , author (Israel)
01:00 pm	Farewell
	Lunch
03:00 pm	Sightseeing Tours (optional)