



Invitation to roundtable and conference:

“Diaspora engagement in the EU”

4th November 2019, 9:00 -10:00, Room PHS 1C51, EU Parliament, Brussels

Over 34 million persons born in a third country live in the European Union, representing 6.9 percent of its total population. Their active participation in the society, apart from the integration in the labor market, is key to maximizing their opportunities, welfare and dignity, which will contribute to development of the EU. To promote the efficient management of migration flows and the implementation, strengthening and development of a common Union approach to asylum and immigration, the EU established the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) in 2014. The transnational project “We all need new engagement!” (WANNE), funded through EUAMIF, attempted to foster the engagement of third country nationals in the communities of the receiving countries. 15 partners from seven EU member states, including, Austria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, and Slovenia, supported the educational, cultural and social activities of the diaspora and migrants in their communities.

Representatives from the EU parliament, the commission, experts, the project partners and the diaspora organizations will take part in a round table and conference to take stock of the status quo of the diaspora engagement within the EU and discuss following questions:

- What are the major challenges facing the diaspora engagement within their communities in the EU
- How are NGOs and diaspora organizations addressing these challenges?
- What are the potential areas of engagement with diaspora within the EU
- What are the missing links in harnessing the benefits of diaspora engagement within the EU?
- How can the EU support the member states, NGOs and diaspora organizations?

*To register for the event, please send following details to Leila.salehiravesh@suedwind.at by October 29th: Name, date of birth nationality, and the personal ID or passport number!





MEP Mr. Petros KOKKALIS and the partners of WANNE project invite you cordially to a [European Round table](#)

Agenda of the roundtable

“European Round table on Diaspora engagement in the EU”

4th November 2019, 9:00-10:00

Room PHS 1C51, EU Parliament, Brussels

- 8:00-8:30** Registration
- 9:00- 9:10** Welcome and opening remarks: Leila Salehiravesh, Project Manager, Südwind
- 9:10-9:25** Short presentation of the results of the transnational study on the status of diaspora engagement in the EU by Leila Salehiravesh
- 9:25-9:35** Short presentation of the status of diaspora in Greece
- 9:35-9:45** Short presentation of the status of diaspora in Italy
- 9:45-10:00** Q&A





MEP Mrs. Pierrette HERZBERGER-FOFANA, MEP Ms. Samira RAFAELA and the partners of WANNE project cordially invite representatives from the EU Parliament, the Commission, the project partners and the diaspora organizations will take part in a conference to discuss challenges and opportunities of the diaspora engagement within the EU.

Agenda of the conference

“European Conference on Diaspora engagement in the EU”*

4th November 2019

First session- 14:00- 16:00, ASP5E1, EU Parliament, Brussels

- 14:00-14:05** Welcome remarks by Leila Salehiravesh, Project Manager, Südwind, Austria
- 14:05-14:10** Opening remarks by MEP Mrs. Pierrette HERZBERGER-FOFANA
- 14:10-14:15** Opening remarks by, MEP Mr. Petros KOKKALIS
- 14:15-15:00** **Panel discussion, Diaspora and political participation**
- Moderator:** Ms. Magda Seewald, Program coordinator at VIDC, Austria
- Panelists:** Ms. Samar Al Bradan, Syrian Human Rights Activist, currently based in Vienna, Austria
- Ms. Celine Fabrequette, Head Project Manager #Diaspora Vote, ADYFE, Brussels
- Mr. Lefteris Papagiannakis, vice President for Refugee Issues of the European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR), President of the board of Greek council for Refugees, Athens, Greece
- 15:00-15:45** **Panel discussion, Social & cultural engagement of diaspora organizations in the EU**
- Moderator:** Mr. Udo C. Enwereuzor, Senior Policy Adviser on Migration, Minorities and Rights of Citizenship, Cospe, Italy
- Panelists:** Mr. Ali Ahmad, Danube University Krems, Austria
- Ms. Sonila Tafili, president of IParticipate, Florence, Italy
- Mr. Payman Qasimian, global education trainer, Humanitas, Centre for Global Learning and Cooperation, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Mr. Mahmoud Abdelrasoul, president of Almassar, Athens, Greece
- 15:45-16:00** Q&A





16:00-16:15 Coffee Break

Second session- 16:15 -18:00, A5G-1, EU Parliament, Brussels

16:15-16:20 Welcome remarks by Leila Salehiravesh, Project Manager, Südwind, Austria

16:20-16:25 Opening remarks by MEP Ms. Samira RAFAELA

16:25- 17:25 **Panel discussion: Economic engagement: Diaspora as a development actor?**

Moderator: Ms. Karen Kaneza, African Diaspora Youth Forum in Europe

Panelists: Mr. Lansana Bea Diallo, 1st alderman of the Socialist Party in Ixelles, Brussels

Ms. Geraldine Mahoro, the CEO and founder of Mojoa.co

Mr. Modou Gueye, Sunugal, Milan, Italy

17:25-18:00 Q&A

