

Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

ENGLISH only

**PREVENTION OF RACISM, XENOPHOBIA AND HATE
CRIMES THROUGH EDUCATIONAL AND AWARENESS-RAISING
INITIATIVES**

10–11 November 2011

Hofburg, Vienna

Biographical Information: Speakers and Moderators

Keynote Speaker:

Mrs. Doreen Lawrence, Founder and External Director of the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust, Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)

Mrs. Lawrence was born in Jamaica and migrated to the United Kingdom at an early age. After leaving secondary school, she married and gave birth to three children: two boys, Stephen and Stuart and a daughter, Georgina. After raising her children, she returned to complete her studies as a mature student, embarking on a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities Honour degree in 1993. During the first year of her studies, her son Stephen was murdered in a suspected racially motivated attack. In the face of this tragedy, Mrs. Lawrence continued her studies while advocating for justice for her son. Part of her advocacy efforts involved challenging the manner in which the initial investigation into her son's murder was conducted, and in particular exposing institutional racism within the criminal justice system and policing practices.

After the initial investigation into her son's murder, five suspects were arrested but never convicted. Due in large part to her tireless efforts, in 1997 a judicial inquiry was conducted into the initial investigation by Sir William Macpherson. Published in 1999, the inquiry examined the original investigation into her son's murder, concluding that the police investigation into Stephen Lawrence's murder was seriously flawed due in part to a combination of institutional racism and professional incompetence. The final report set out seventy recommendations for reform, including recommendations aimed at eliminating racial prejudice and increase fairness in policing and the criminal justice sector.

On 18 May 2011, it was announced that one of the original suspects, and another man, are to stand trial for the murder.

After completing her studies, Mrs. Lawrence worked as a Domestic Violence Advisor in the voluntary sector. In 1998, she continued her studies and in 1998 gained a

postgraduate certificate in Counseling Skills and later obtained a diploma in Therapeutic Counseling.

In 1998, Mrs. Lawrence founded the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust in her son's memory and now acts as its External Director. The mandate of the Trust is to provide bursaries to young people who are interested in pursuing their studies in architecture, a passion and goal of her Stephen Lawrence's. In addition to her work with the Trust, Mrs. Lawrence also established the Stephen Lawrence Centre, an organization dedicated to providing a broad range of professional and vocational skills to youth and support to a wide range of community groups and artists.

Mrs. Lawrence is a frequent public speaker, and has conducted numerous presentations in the educational and non-governmental sector. She has been awarded with five honorary degrees and is an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE).

SESSION I: Challenges and Perspectives for Prevention of Racism and Xenophobia

Speaker:

Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris, Director, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Ms. Brands Kehris joined the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities as Director in 2011 and been served as the chairperson of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) Management Board since 2009. She was vice-chairperson of the Management Board of the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) from 2004 to 2007, and has since been a member of the FRA's Executive Board. She has also been a member of the Advisory Committee of the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities since 2006, where she holds the position of first vice-president.

She was the Director of the Latvian Centre for Human Rights from 2002 until 2011, a non-governmental organization active in the areas of civil liberties, fundamental freedoms, human rights in closed institutions, asylum, anti-discrimination and minority rights. Her own research focus has been on minority rights, citizenship, anti-discrimination and intolerance.

Moderator:

Ms. Floriane Hohenberg, Head, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, ODIHR

Floriane Hohenberg has been working for ODIHR since 2005. She has acted as the Head of the Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department since 2009. From 2000 until 2004 she was the Head of the Representation in Germany of the French Commission for the Victims of Spoliation Resulting from the Anti-Semitic Legislation in Force during the

Occupation. She co-authored a study commissioned by the French government on the extent of the confiscation of Jewish assets in France during World War II published in 1999.

SESSION II: Challenges in Combating Hate Crimes, Racism and Xenophobia: Role of Awareness-Raising Initiatives and Public Discourse

Speaker:

Mr. William Gaillard, Advisor to the President, Union of European Football Associations (UEFA)

As part of his responsibilities with UEFA, Mr. Gaillard advises the UEFA President on political matters and oversees all activities relating to external communications. This includes the international media, relations with the European government authorities as well as UEFA's social responsibility and charity programmes.

Educated, inter alia, at Sciences Po Paris, The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and Harvard University, William Gaillard has had a multi-faceted international career in both the public and private sectors. His diverse professional experiences include his work as Chief of External Relations for the Multinational Force and Observers (1983), Head of External Relations for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) (1985) and Director of Communication and Political Affairs for the UN International Drug Control Programme (1990).

Mr. Gaillard joined UEFA in 2004 as the Director of Communications and Public Affairs and was appointed Senior Adviser to the President in 2009.

Moderator:

Dr. Rafal Pankowski, Deputy Editor, Never Again Association

Dr. Pankowski has served as deputy editor of 'Nigdy Wiecej' (Never Again) magazine since 1996. He has published widely on racism, nationalism, xenophobia and other related issues. His publications include the books 'Neo-Fascism in Western Europe' (1998), 'Racism and Popular Culture' (2006) and 'The Populist Radical Right in Poland: The Patriots' (2010). He currently works as a lecturer at Collegium Civitas and head of the Warsaw-based East Europe Monitoring Centre set up by the 'NEVER AGAIN' Association in cooperation with the Football Against Racism in Europe network. He is the coordinator of the RESPECT Diversity campaign supported by UEFA in the lead up to the

European Football Championships in Poland and Ukraine in 2012.

SESSION III: Education for Tolerance and Mutual Respect Understanding: Good Practices from IGOs, Governments and Civil Society

Speaker:

Mr. Oleg Smirnov, Chair of the Board, the Integration and Development Centre for Information and Research

Mr. Smirnov is a candidate in Philology (Odessa State University, 1991) and an associate professor of the Department of Inter-Language Communication and Journalism at Tavrida National University. He currently serves as head of the Board of the Integration and Development Centre for Information and Research (Max van der Stoep Award Winner in 2009) and the Regional Resource Agency “Crimea-Perspective”. From 1997 until 2003, Mr. Smirnov was the Director of the Program ‘Integration of Formerly Deported Crimean Tatars, Armenians, Bulgarians, Germans, Greeks into Ukrainian Society’ at the International Renaissance Foundation, where his responsibilities included the development of program strategies, and project proposals.

Mr. Smirnov’s research interests are largely focused on ethnic relations in Crimea, methods of early conflict prevention, education and the management of diversity practices in the Crimea region. He has participated in a number of diverse projects including the Council of Europe “Universities as sites of Citizenship” Project (1999 – 2000); the US Institute of Peace “School of Peace” Project at the Tavrida National University (2000 –2001) and the joint project initiated by the Tavrida National University and the G. Mason University (USA) on the introduction of conflict resolution and peacebuilding courses for students of Crimean Universities (2000 – 2003). Mr. Smirnov has also been heavily involved in the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities initiatives “Management of Inter-Ethnic Relations in Crimea” (2006 – 2010) and “Supporting Inter-Cultural Education in Crimea” (2006 – 2013).

Mr. Smirnov has presented the results of his research at more than 30 international conferences. Throughout his professional career, he has remained committed to promoting intercultural educational methodologies in the region, and has worked with such diverse stakeholders as civil society representatives, national community leaders, school teachers and government officials.

Moderator:

Ms. Felisa Tibbitts, Director, Human Rights Education Association (HREA)

Ms. Tibbitts is co-founder and co-director of Human Rights Education Associates (HREA), and is also engaged as Adjunct Lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and the UN University for Peace where she teaches courses on human rights education. At the Harvard Kennedy School of Government she co-teaches a course with the director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy called “Human Rights Tools for Practice”.

Ms. Tibbitts has carried out trainings in over 20 countries and provided technical assistance or served as a textbook author in educational initiatives in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Croatia, El Salvador, Estonia, Gaza, Kosovo, Northern Ireland, Morocco, Romania, Ukraine and the United States. Ms. Tibbitts has published numerous articles, manuals and book chapters in the area of human rights education and contributed to the development of policy documents for the United Nations.