

Tenth GFMD Summit Meeting

Overarching Theme: **“Towards a Global Social Contract on Migration and Development”**

All GFMD 2017 Summit delegates are invited to attend the following side event, to be held on 29 June 2017 in Berlin, Germany. This side event will be held upon the initiative of the organizers. While the topic to be discussed may be relevant to GFMD themes and roundtable discussions, **in particular Roundtable Session 3.2**, the GFMD 2017-2018 Co-Chairs and Taskforce, as well as the GFMD Support Unit, are not directly involved in its organization.

For registration and/or any question, please contact the organizers directly.

*Title of the Side Event: **Fostering Migrant Integration Through Innovative Civil Society Actions***

Date and Time	29 June 2017 (Thursday); 10h50 – 11h50
Organizers	United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)
Contact person(s) / email address(es)	Thibault Chareton, Project Management Specialist – Media & Migration, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC); Email: thibaultc@unops.org
Partners	Intercultural Innovation Award (IIA) – a partnership between UNAOC and BMW Group
Background materials	https://interculturalinnovation.org/the-award/

Brief description of the side event

As part of its work toward a more peaceful, more socially inclusive world, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) has researched and explored how different actors in society can work together to find concrete solutions towards a better integration of newcomers – refugees, asylum-seekers, and migrants pursuing family reunification, education or employment – within our modern societies.

Throughout its various programs and initiatives, UNAOC has brought together journalists, media experts, academics, civil society organizations, youth and young leaders, policy makers, representatives of governments and international organizations, educators, migrants, as well as the business community, including tech companies, to come up with global recommendations to help integrate immigrants and refugees into more welcoming societies.

This endeavor stems from the understanding that regional and domestic civil society initiatives are among the most creative and innovative when it comes to creating conditions that are conducive to the integration of newcomers. Civil society initiatives are often designed by communities that are directly impacted and affected by the arrivals of new groups.

In this context, civil society organizations can help promote non-discrimination, provide training, foster trust and engage communities. They can also act as trusted reporters providing valuable information on incidents and delivering effective strategies and campaigns, as they often have experience in developing methods, definitions, and indicators related to migration.

As part of its side event at the 10th GFMD Summit Meeting, and on the margins of Roundtable 3.2, “Strengthening Cooperation – Enabling Civil Society Contributions in Migrant Integration,” UNAOC will showcase the work of various civil society organizations that have received its Intercultural Innovation Award, a joint initiative between UNAOC and BMW Group that aims to select and support innovative grassroots projects which encourage intercultural dialogue and cooperation around the world, making vital contribution to prosperity and peace.

Format:

Presentations by civil organizations representatives and/or beneficiaries will take the format of a TED talk: each presentation will be concise (7-10 minutes maximum) with a focus on lessons learned and recommendations. Each speaker will present standing and will be encouraged to use visual elements (video, photos, etc.) to keep the audience engaged.

Speakers:

- Mr. Guillaume Capelle, Co-founder, SINGA France (+ beneficiary of organization -- name TBC)
- Mr. David Lubell, Executive Director, Welcoming America
- Mr. Bill McAndrews, Vice President Communications Strategy, Corporate Communications, BMW Group Germany
- Ms. Annamaria Olsson, Founder and CEO, Give Something Back to Berlin (+ beneficiary of organization -- name TBC)
- Ms. Nihal Saad, Chief of Cabinet and Spokesperson for the High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

Organization	Country	Activities
Give Something Back to Berlin	Germany	Makes social engagement and neighborhood work accessible to the migrant population in Berlin, Germany.
SINGA France	France	Connects refugees and residents around passions and projects, creating tools and spaces to meet, interact and build a successful society together. The SINGA incubator, named KIWANDA, supports refugees to begin their own business or social venture.
Welcoming America	While Welcoming America’s initial focus is on communities across the United States, its activities and model are now scaling globally.	Provides local governments with models to help them proactively welcome newcomers through immigrant-friendly policies, practices, and programs.