

NACIONĀLAIS
INTEGRĀCIJAS
CENTRS

An international conference

A HARMONIOUS EUROPE (?)

INTEGRATION POLICY IN EUROPE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

May 15–16, 2013

“Splendid Palace”, Elizabetes iela 61, Riga, Latvia

WORK PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15TH

10:00–11:00 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

11:00–11:10 OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE
Parliamentary Secretary of Ministry of Culture Ms. Inese Laizāne

OPENING PLENARY

Moderated by Olga Procevska, University of Latvia, PhD candidate

11:15–12:00 **“AFTER AUSCHWITZ: THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION AND THE RISE OF XENOPHOBIA IN EUROPE SINCE THE 1950s”**

Prof. Dr. Leo Lucassen (NL), Professor of Social History,
Leiden University Institute for History

12:00–12:45 **“UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF DIVERSITY”**

Michael Pyner (Ireland), Award winning social entrepreneur and creative advisor
working internationally in civic engagement, leadership and creative industries

13:00–14:00 LUNCH in the Green Hall, “Splendid Palace”





NACIONĀLAIS
INTEGRĀCIJAS
CENTRS

An international conference

A HARMONIOUS EUROPE (?)

INTEGRATION POLICY IN EUROPE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

PANEL 1 – CIVIC CULTURE

Moderated by Dace Akule, researcher, Centre for Public Policy "Providus"

- 14:00–14:30 **"DIVIDED CITY, SHARED CITY?"**
Hazel Francey (UK), MA BSSc Hons,
Good Relations Manager Belfast City Council
- 14:30–15:00 **"PUBLIC INTELLECTUALS AS POLITICAL ACTORS
IN POST-COMMUNISTIC WORLD"**
Olga Procevska (LV), University of Latvia, PhD candidate
- 15:00–15:30 **"DISCOURSE OF THE INTEGRATION OF SOCIETY
IN LATVIAN SOCIOLOGY SINCE 1991"**
Dr. Vladislavs Volkovs (LV), The University of Latvia,
Institute of Philosophy and Sociology
- 15:35–15:50 COFFEE-BREAK

PANEL 2 – SOCIAL MEMORY AND HISTORICAL MEMORY

Moderated by Olga Procevska, University of Latvia, PhD candidate

- 16:00–16:30 **"POLITICALLY UNITED – COMMEMORATIVELY DIVIDED?
NARRATING (HISTORICAL) DIVERSITY IN EUROPE"**
Rainer Ohliger (DE), Social scientist and historian, co-founder and
board member of the Network Migration in Europe
- 16:30–17:00 **"CHILDHOOD IN ACTION: SOCIAL MEMORY, PORTRAYALS
OF BLACKNESS, AND MEETING THE "OTHER" IN LATVIA"**
Lauren Monsein Rhodes (USA), PhD, Visiting Lecturer Cultural
and Social Anthropology Program, University of Latvia
- 17:00–17:30 **"IDENTITY AND POLITICS OF MEMORY IN EASTERN EUROPE"**
Mārtiņš Kaprāns (LV), PhD, Mobilitas Post-doctoral Research Fellow,
University of Tartu, Estonia
- 18:00–20:00 RECEPTION
Speakers and participants of the conference are invited by the Ministry of Culture
and National Integration Centre in cafe "TINTO", Elizabetes iela 61, Riga

END OF DAY 1



European Fund
for the Integration of Third-country
nationals





NACIONĀLAIS
INTEGRĀCIJAS
CENTRS

An international conference

A HARMONIOUS EUROPE (?)

INTEGRATION POLICY IN EUROPE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

THURSDAY, MAY 16TH

9:00–9:30 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

PANEL 3 – EDUCATION AND LANGUAGE

Moderated by Olga Procevska, University of Latvia, PhD candidate

- 9:30–10:00 **“INCLUSIVE EDUCATION POLICY FOR MIGRANTS AND MINORITIES: INCLUSION IN WHAT?”**
Marija Golubeva (LV), Senior Consultant at ICF GHK,
associated researcher at Center for Public Policy “Providus”
- 10:00–10:30 **“DIVERSITY IN SCHOOLS: CLAIMING THE BENEFITS, AVOIDING THE RISKS”**
Adam Newman Turner (UK), Senior Consultant iCoCo Foundation,
Director Real Outcome Learning
- 10:30–11:00 **“THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF MOTIVATION IN THE PROCESS OF INTEGRATION”**
Vera Grigorjeva (LV), Headmistress of Bauska 2nd High School

PANEL 4 – DEMOCRACY AND INFORMATION SPACE

Moderated by Dace Akule, researcher, Centre for Public Policy “Providus”

- 11:30–12:00 **“FRAMING MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION IN THE MEDIA – RESULTS OF CONTENT ANALYSES”**
Georg Ruhrmann (DE), Institute of Communication Research,
University of Jena
- 12:00–12:30 **“THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN AN ETHNICALLY DIVERSE SOCIETY: FUELLING NATIONALISM, EXCLUSIONISM AND XENOPHOBIA, OR PROMOTING A MORE INCLUSIVE SOCIETY”**
Inta Mieriņa (LV), PhD, Assistant Professor at University of Warsaw,
Department of Sociology
- 12:30–13:00 **“PUBLIC EXPRESSION AND COVERAGE OF SENSITIVE ISSUES IN THE DIGITAL AGE”**
Rita Ruduša (LV), Open Society Institute Media program
- 13:00–14:00 LUNCH in the Green Hall, “Splendid Palace”

CLOSING DISCUSSION – IDENTITY AND DIVERSITY

Moderated by Dace Akule, researcher, Centre for Public Policy “Providus”

- 14:00–15:30 Participants: Hazel Francey (UK, NI), Reiner Ohliger (DE),
Maria Golubeva (LV) and Adam Newman Turner (UK)

END OF DAY 2



European Fund
for the Integration of Third-country
nationals





CONCEPT

Every year integration process poses challenges to Europe – to politicians, social workers, historians, academics and of course, our citizenry, with different backgrounds. Can we meet those challenges, and can we say that we live in harmony today, and if not, can we identify the formulas for attempting this?

On the 15th and 16th of May, the National Integration Centre* will host an international conference in Riga to develop a discourse on the key components of successful integration along the following subject lines:

TOPIC 1: CIVIC CULTURE

An actively engaged civic society is one of the cornerstones of the European Union. Participation by citizens in social and political problem solving builds trust in the nation-state as “our common concern” thereby strengthening national identity. However, the ethnic and social diversity which has continued to grow since the inception of the EU, challenges the commonly held notion that in a democracy, its various constituent groups are interested in working together for a common good and that this engagement is based on some kind of rational reasoning. The diversity of European society and its internal fragmentation highlights issues about civic society’s capacity to develop and overcome hurdles.

How to promote the active civic engagement of immigrants? How to strengthen the idea of national belonging in a transnational world? How to achieve political engagement among young people? These are just a few of the issues looking for solutions in many European countries.

TOPIC 2: SOCIAL MEMORY AND HISTORICAL MEMORY

Common identity emerges from a common narrative; it is always in process and always evolving through every day life, memories and histories. The nation state can be imagined and shared amongst people through uniting narratives and histories. Social and historical memory in Latvia is fractured, especially along ethnic lines; where it has become rather more of an obstacle than a source of common identity. The social and historical memories can divide people for several generations and even centuries.

Why and how we share memories of the 20th century in Europe and beyond? For example, why we need to know and share social and historical memory about the holocaust or soviet occupation in the Baltic states, and how can we share these memories as a basis for common identity in Europe? What role does colonial and imperial past play in these processes? It would be naïve to pretend that there were no sufferings and oppressions. The question remains – what can we do to move towards a more harmonious common identity creation processes in Europe and its nation states.



TOPIC 3: EDUCATION AND LANGUAGE

This is the most practical topic, grounded in everyday systematic processes and knowledge sharing across borders. We want to learn from each other how the education processes are implemented from early childhood and pre-school education through all school levels as well as in higher education. In particular, we want to hear experiences, challenges and success stories of how children with migrant backgrounds (and their parents) are included in these systems. Currently, the segregated school system with different languages of instruction (Latvian or Russian) tends to broaden the gap and does not lead to cohesive society building processes.

TOPIC 4: DEMOCRACY AND INFORMATION SPACE

Media is the most important channel of re-enacting democracy on an everyday basis and interaction between individuals, power and society. However, media often does not lead to more harmonious national identities and diversity in an enriching sense but widens the gap between different ethnic communities and reinforces living in parallel information spaces. For example, the ethnically complex populations of the former Soviet bloc, and religiously confrontational communities in Switzerland and elsewhere in Europe.

In this sense there is a porous boundary between media as a soft power and media as weapons of propaganda. Democracy can become a very fragile if it is systematically attacked through the media. Democracy does not have strong self defence mechanisms under such attacks. However, we can improve democracy without undermining diversity through better regulatory mechanisms and principles on national and supranational levels. This also refers to the need to rethink media content that reaches most of the population through news, lifestyle, entertainment media content etc.

CLOSING DISCUSSION: IDENTITY AND DIVERSITY

As the broadest subject of all, it serves as an umbrella to discuss a range of issues: rights and obligations of the nation state to preserve and develop its culture and cultural space, and how to broaden and enrich its national identity. Migration can be a source of enrichment and strength as well as a global/local sense of place and nationhood. People want to belong – either to places, nations or various groups. A sense of belonging cannot be undermined under globalisation. Thus, identities are always complex and evolving. This panel will address the issues of belonging that enrich and respect diversity.

****The National Integration Centre**, is a project of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia financed by the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals (Project No. IF/2011/1.b./1) (75% funded by the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals and 25% financed by the budget of Republic of Latvia).*

Content of this material is sole responsibility of the Ministry of Culture of Republic of Latvia.

This conference is organised in close co-operation with the EUNIC (European Union National Institutes for Culture) cluster in Riga.





NACIONĀLAIS
INTEGRĀCIJAS
CENTRS

An international conference

A HARMONIOUS EUROPE (?)

INTEGRATION POLICY IN EUROPE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

SPEAKER'S PROFILES



Leo Lucassen is a professor of Social History and Academic Director at Leiden University Institute for History. Specialization in migration, integration, urbanisation, global history, comparative history, police and criminality, social control, bureaucratisation, aliens policy, gypsies and travelling groups.

Title of Speech: "After Auschwitz: the Cultural Revolution and the Rise of Xenophobia in Europe Since the 1950s."



Reiner Ohliger is a board member of the Network Migration in Europe and a social scientist and historian. Ohliger's research focuses on questions of international and historical migration, interethnic relations and education in immigrant societies.

Title of Speech: "Politically United – Commemoratively Divided? Narrating (Historical) Diversity in Europe."



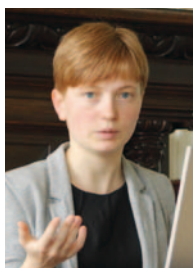
Micheal Pyner is Award winning social entrepreneur and creative advisor working internationally in civic engagement, leadership and creative industries in the U.K. and abroad. He is the Chair of Development Trust Northern Ireland, Board membership – Somewhere to, Social Enterprise London.

Title of Speech: "Unlocking the Potential of Diversity."



Hazel Francey is the Good Relations Manager for Belfast City Council. She is a member of the Board of the Community Relations Council for Northern Ireland and has chaired its major grant making Committee. Mrs. Francey has undertaken research in various fields and set up a Unit to provide impartial information and support to elected Members of Council – the first in Northern Ireland.

Title of Speech: "Divided City, Shared City?"



Olga Procevska is a PhD candidate at University of Latvia. Her research interests focus on history and sociology of public intellectuals, but also include Soviet popular culture, cultural memory studies, metaphors and cognition. She is also a member of the board at Center for Cognitive Sciences and Semantics of University of Latvia.

Title of Speech: "Public Intellectuals as Political Actors in Post-Communist World."



Vladislav Volkov, doctor of sociology, researcher of the Institute of Philosophy and sociology (the University of Latvia). Scientific interests – Sociology of Nation and Ethnicities, the sociological analysis of Russian minority in Latvia. The author of several scientific monographs and numerous papers.

Title of Speech: "Discourse of the Integration of Society in Latvian Sociology Since 1991."



European Fund
for the Integration of Third-country
nationals





NACIONĀLAIS
INTEGRĀCIJAS
CENTRS

An international conference

A HARMONIOUS EUROPE (?)

INTEGRATION POLICY IN EUROPE IN THE 21ST CENTURY



Rita Ruduša is a Latvian writer and editor known for her reporting and analysis of sensitive issues. London correspondent of Riga's Diena daily and was Editor-in-Chief, public policy website politika.lv. currently works in London as a media researcher and editor at the Open Society Foundations.

Title of Speech: "Public Expression and Coverage of Sensitive Issues in the Digital Age."



Inta Mieriņa, PhD, is the assistant professor at the Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw working on an EU funded international comparative survey covering 15 countries in Central and Eastern Europe.

Title of Speech: "The Role of Media in an Ethnically Diverse Society: Fuelling Nationalism, Exclusionism and Xenophobia, or Promoting a More Inclusive Society?"



Georg Ruhmann is a Professor for Communication Science and Director of the Institute for Communication Research at the University of Jena. Member of the "Council of Migration" (RfM) in Berlin and Member of the "Competence Center Right-Wing Extremism" at the University of Jena.

Title of Speech: "Framing Migration and Integration in the Media – Results of Content Analyses."



Vera Grigorjeva is the Headmistress of Bauska 2nd Secondary School and a school assessment expert – multiplier by Ministry of Education and Science.

Title of Speech: "The Crucial Role of Motivation in the Process of Integration."



Adam Newman Turner is an Associate Deputy Head Teacher in Community Cohesion Institute, Intercultural learning and local government strategies.

Title of Speech: "Diversity in Schools: Claiming the Benefits, Avoiding The Risks."



Maria Golubeva is a policy analyst and historian. She has worked as a researcher at "Providus", a public policy think-tank in Latvia. She has published a number of studies in education policy and integration policy. Currently a senior public policy consultant with ICF GHK, a consultancy company in Brussels.

Title of Speech: "Inclusive Education Policy for Migrants and Minorities: Inclusion in What?"



Photo Arina Solnceva

Lauren Monsein Rhodes is currently a visiting lecturer in the Cultural and Social Anthropology Program at University of Latvia. She holds a PhD and MA in Anthropology from University of Washington, a MSED in Museum Education from Bank Street College of Education, and a BA in Anthropology from Oberlin College.

Title of Speech: "Childhood in Action: Social Memory, Portrayals of Blackness, and Meeting the "Other" in Latvia."



Mārtiņš Kaprāns, PhD, is Mobilitas Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Institute of Government and Politics, University of Tartu. Besides academic research he has worked as freelance journalist for various Latvian newspapers and online publications and served as adviser to the Latvian Ministers of Defense and Culture.

Title of Speech: "Identity and Politics of Memory in Eastern Europe."



European Fund
for the Integration of Third-country
nationals

