



5th International Mayors' Conference NOW  
"Shaping the Future - Social Cohesion in our Cities"

# EXTENDED LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

## PANELISTS & WORKSHOP-HOSTS



**ABADO, Marwan**  
Mobile Music School  
Music Director  
AUSTRIA

Born 1967 to a family of Palestinian refugees in Beirut, Lebanon. Abado moved 1985 to Vienna, which has become ever since the center of his personal and artistic life. Abado steps across the borders between orient and occident seeking dialogue and building bridges between various traditions and musicians. The outcome, Abado's specific sound: cosmopolitan, borderless music.



**AKINCI, Halil Ibrahim**  
Sultanbeyli Municipality  
Director of the Strategic  
Development Dpt.  
TURKEY

In 1987 Akinci graduated from Karadeniz Technic University, department for construction. In 1993 he started his career at the Istanbul Police department. After moving to Sultanbeyli in 1995 he started working between 2004-2006 for the Reconstruction and Urbanism Directorate. Moved from 2006-2007 to the Culture and Social Affairs Directorate, Since 2012 Director of Strategic Development. His mission is ensuring the inclusion of all individuals living in Sultanbeyli.



**AMER, Amer Bani**  
Al-Hayat Center for Civil  
Society Development Head  
JORDAN

15+ years of experience in Electoral Politics, Corporate Governance and, public and political participation. Experienced trainer with diverse target groups in terms of age, nationality, gender and, educational and professional backgrounds. Founder and general director of Hayat Center - RASED.



**ANTOUN, George**  
Mercy Corps, Lebanon  
Country Director  
LEBANON

George Antoun is the Mercy Corps' Lebanon Country Director and Regional Program Advisor. His portfolio includes a broad scope of emergency response programmes, targeting Syrian refugees and host communities, with activities ranging from water and sanitation projects to distributions and shelter assistance. He also oversees longer term economic growth/livelihood programmes as well as conflict mitigation and local governance capacity building activities, especially in relation to working with municipalities.





**ASADI, Shams**  
Human Rights Office, City of Vienna  
Head  
AUSTRIA

Shams Asadi is the Human Rights Commissioner of the City of Vienna. She studied architecture and urban planning. She has many years of practical and academic experience in urban regeneration and urban development with a focus on European and international affairs. The human rights dimension of urban development accompanied her from beginning of her professional life and since 2010 human rights are the main subject of her career.

**BRAININ, Elisabeth**  
Hemayat  
Psychoanalyst and Psychiatrist  
AUSTRIA

Elisabeth Brainin is a specialist in psychiatry and neurology, psychoanalyst, educational analyst, child analyst (Vienna Psychoanalytical Association, WPV/IPA), and former head of the Child Guidance Clinic in Vienna. She is a board member of ESRA Vienna and the scientific advisory board of the journal "Kinderanalyse". Her publications are tackling the issues of child psychoanalysis, anti-Semitism, trauma and the history of psychoanalysis.

**BRIZI, Federica**  
Federazione delle Chiese Evangeliche: Mediterranean Hope  
Humanitarian Corridors Reception System Coordination  
ITALY

Federica Brizi works for the Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy – at the refugees and migrants programme since 2001, working as a social advisor for refugees and projects concerning migrants, and since 2013 in charge of Humanitarian Corridor's reception system of the Mediterranean Hope Office in Rome.



**COLAS, Geneviève**  
Secours Catholique-Caritas  
Trafficking in human beings, Unaccompanied minors, Juvenile Justice  
FRANCE

Geneviève Colas is the coordinator of the "Collective Together Against Trafficking in Human Beings" project, bringing together 25 associations in France around the issue of prevention, public awareness and support for victims, a formation of professionals in advocacy, as well as promoting networking between associations and public actors. She is also a member of the Platform of Civil Society Against Trafficking, created by the European Commission and the Steering Group "Coatnet global network" on the same issues. Furthermore, she collaborates with the UN committee of children rights, is special rapporteur regarding trafficking in persons.



**CRUL, Maurice**  
University of Amsterdam  
Chair: Diversity and Education  
Professor of Sociology  
NETHERLANDS

Maurice Crul mostly works on the topic of education and children of immigrants in a comparative European and transatlantic context. In 2017 he was awarded the ERC advanced grant for the project Becoming a Minority (BAM), with the focus on the integration of people of native descent in majority minority cities in Europe. He is the international chair of IMISCOE, a network including 39 research institutes in the fields of migration and diversity in 18 EU countries.





**CZERNOHORSZKY, Jürgen**

Vienna's City Councillor for Education, Integration, Youth and Personnel

AUSTRIA

Jürgen Czernohorsky (40) grew up in Vienna and Styria. He studied sociology and in 2001 became one of the youngest members of the Vienna City Council and Provincial Parliament. 2011–2015 he served as Federal Chairman of Österreichische Kinderfreunde before becoming President of the Vienna School Board. In January 2017 he was appointed Executive City Councillor for Education, Youth, Integration and Personnel.



**DRAGOLOV, Georgi**

Jacobs University Bremen

Research Associate

GERMANY

Georgi Dragolov is a researcher at Jacobs University and PhD fellow in Sociology at the Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences. He holds an MSc in Sociology and Social Research from Utrecht University. His research interests are in the fields of social stratification and quality of life. Besides publishing on these issues in the leading journal European Sociological Review, he has co-authored the books Social Cohesion in the Western World and What Holds Asian Societies Together.



**DUZDAR, Muna**

Member of Austrian Parliament

AUSTRIA

After finishing her law studies at the University of Vienna, Muna Duzdar completed a master's degree in International Law / Law of the Arab Countries at the Sorbonne. She worked from 2012 on as an independant lawyer. Between 2001 and 2004 Duzdar was District Councilor in Vienna-Donaustadt and from 2010 to 2012 Federal Councilor Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs. In 2012 she moved up to the Vienna State Parliament and Municipal Council. In 2016, Ms Duzdar became State Secretary for „Administration, Public Services, Diversity and Digitalization“ at the Federal Chancellery of the Republic of Austria. In the National Council elections 2017, she reached a mandate, since 9 November, 2017 she is a member of the Austrian Parliament.



**ESSAID, Jihane**

Resource Center For Gender Equality - ABAAD

Program Manager Emergency Safe Housing

LEBANON

Jihane Essaid is a programme manager for ABAAD, tackling the issue of gender based violence for Women and Girls.



**FEDER, Ana**

International Centre for Migration Policy Development - ICMPD

Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project Project Manager

MALTA

Since 2016, Ana has been project manager for the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration project (MC2CM) at ICMPD. Previously, she worked as project officer and policy advisor for migration at Eurocities. She has also worked with Council of Europe and with philanthropic sector organisations on migration, social inclusion and migration issues. She holds a Masters degree in contemporary European studies from Sciences Po Paris.







**GLAWISCHNIG, Katharina**

**Asylkoordination**

Expert for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers

AUSTRIA

Katharina Glawischnig studied law and international development and worked as a legal advisor for asylum seekers, and is since 2014 working for "Asylkoordination Österreich" and is the founder of "Kinderflüchtlinge unterstützen und integrieren" (KUI). She is a representative in different networks, such as the "Austrian National Coalition on children's rights (NC) and the Separated Children in Europe Program (SCEP).



**GUTIERREZ, Monica**

**Fundamental Rights Agency - FRA**

Research Support Officer

AUSTRIA

Monica Gutierrez is a member of the 'Rights of the Child' and 'Migration' teams, her areas of expertise with respect to the FRA's work include: the rights of the child; gender equality and mainstreaming, and related methodologies; socio-legal research. She holds a masters in law and a post-graduate degree on international aid with a focus on international human rights law.



**HELLER, André**

**Act.Now**

Co-Founder

AUSTRIA

André Heller is one of the most influential and successful multimedia artists in the world. In 2016 he co-founded Act.Now with Patricia Kahane and entrepreneur Elke Zuckermann to work towards a respectful and appreciative social coexistence in the near and distant future.



**JAMAL, Meera**

**Journalist**

GERMANY

Meera Jamal is a journalist from Pakistan and used to cover human rights issues for one of the leading English language newspapers. In 2008, owing to threats regarding her work, she had to leave Pakistan and came to Germany as a refugee. She worked as an editor for Reporters Without Borders' Blog 'Journalist in Exile'

**JOHNE, Gilda**

**migrare - center for migrants**



Project Manager

GERMANY

Gilda Johne studied journalism and social pedagogy/social working in Berlin. She is working as an educational and project manager at migrare - center for migrants in Linz. She is currently managing „NACHBARINNEN - visiting family work in transcultural context“. Gilda has extensive experiences in social and educational work with migrant women. In Berlin she was co-founder of Lesewelt e.V. She completed a qualification in poetry and bibliotherapy, work self-employed as coach and is writing biographies.





**KAHANE, Patricia**

Act.Now  
Co-Founder  
AUSTRIA

Patricia Kahane, born 1953, is President of the Swiss Kahane Foundation and supervisory board member of the family's companies. In 2016 she co-founded Act.Now with media artist André Heller and entrepreneur Elke Zuckermann to work towards a respectful and appreciative social coexistence in the near and distant future.



**KAZEPOV, Yuri**

University of Vienna  
Professor at the Department of Sociology  
AUSTRIA

Professor of International Urban Sociology and Comparative Social Policy. He has been Fellow at the EUI; visiting professor at the University of Bremen, Lund, Växjö, Leuven; Fellow at the Graduate Center CUNY. He is a founding member of the Network for European Social Policy Analysis and the immediate-past president of the Research Committee on Urban and Regional development of the International Sociological Association. His fields of interest are urban governance, citizenship and social policy.



**LATCHEVA, Rossalina**  
Fundamental Rights Agency  
- FRA

Senior Programme Manager,  
Statistics and Surveys  
AUSTRIA

Rossalina Latcheva holds a PhD in sociology and is currently appointed as a Senior Programme Manager for Statistics and Survey at the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights in Vienna. Her areas of expertise include. Migration and integration, discrimination, xenophobia and ethnic exclusion, gender-based violence, and mixed methods research. She has published a number of articles and book chapters on migration, national and European identity, ethnic exclusion, and violence against women.



**LEKA, Besnik**  
Care: Young Men Initiative  
Project Coordinator  
KOSOVO

Besnik Leka has been working as a project coordinator for the last seven years, training, supervising and monitoring local partner organizations in the Balkan region for the project "Men and Boys as Partners in Promoting Gender Equality and Violence Prevention". He has been organizing trainings with fathers and fathers to be for the program "Engaging Men in Fatherhood".



**LUCHMANN, Rüdiger**  
UNICEF Austria  
Country Coordinator  
AUSTRIA

Mr Luchmann has been appointed Country Coordinator Austria for the UNICEF Response to the European Refugee and Migrant Situation in early 2017. Prior to this, Mr. Luchmann served with UNICEF in Ukraine, Guyana, Malaysia, the occupied Palestinian territory, Kosovo (UNSCR 1244) and the Russian Federation since 2000. Mr. Luchmann is a national of Germany. He graduated as a medical doctor from the Humboldt University in Berlin.





**LUNDE, Helge**  
International Cities of Refuge  
Network - ICORN  
Executive Director  
NORWAY

Helge Lunde was from 1998-2005 the director of Kapittel, the Stavanger International Festival of Literature and Freedom of Speech. He was among the main figures behind founding ICORN, the International Cities of Refuge Network in 2006, where he became the first executive director, a position he has been holding since. ICORN provides a safe haven for writers, artists and human rights defenders at risk, and has at present about 70 cities from Europe and beyond as members.



**MANGAN, Ronan**  
UNHCR Regional  
Representation for Western  
Europe  
Child Protection Officer  
Belgium

Based in Brussels, Ronan Mangan is the Regional Child Protection Officer for UNHCR Regional Representation office for Western Europe. Ronan is a graduate in Social Work and Social Policy (BA (Hons) UCC, Ireland) and Social Policy Research and Evaluation (MRes BU, UK) with a specialisation in child protection and child and youth rights. For the last 12 years he has worked on policy and practice issues pertaining to the Rights and Wellbeing of children and young people in Europe.



**MAVROMICHALI, Elena**  
SolidarityNow  
Lead for Community Engagement  
and Entrepreneurship  
GREECE

Elena has more than 18 years of professional experience in Culture and Philanthropy, starting her career at Sotheby's Auctioneers in London UK and later at the Onassis Foundation in Greece as Head for Grants and Public Benefit Projects. She studied English Literature and Art History and continued with post graduate studies in Cultural Management.



**MILIĆ, Nikolina**  
Belgrade Centre for Human  
Rights  
Legal Officer  
SERBIA

Nikolina Milić is a Legal Officer at the Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, one of the leading NGOs in Serbia and since 2012 an implementing partner of the UNHCR for providing free legal assistance to asylum seekers and refugees. For the past three years Nikolina has been involved in various activities and projects tackling the protection and integration of vulnerable groups of refugees, more specifically unaccompanied and separated children.



**MISIK, Robert**  
Bruno Kreisky Forum for  
International Dialogue  
Journalist/Author  
AUSTRIA

Robert Misik is a Journalist and author and curator of the Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue.





## MITRI, Tarek

Issam Fares Institute for  
Public Policy and International  
Affairs

Director  
LEBANON

Dr Tarek Mitri is the Director of the Fares Institute on Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut, former Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Libya. He has served in four Lebanese governments as Minister of Environment, Administrative Reform, Culture, Information and acting Minister of Foreign Affairs. He taught at the Université Saint Joseph, Balamand University, the University of Geneva, Amsterdam Free University, Harvard University and the American University of Beirut. He wrote on contemporary Arab issues, religion and politics, interreligious and intercultural dialogue.

## NAJEM, Merhej

Habbariyeh Municipality

Expert for Education, Culture,  
Information

LEBANON

Merhej Najem is a member of the Habbariyeh Municipality staff, involved in organising education and media activities in this region.



## PREITLER, Barbara

Hemayat

Psychotherapist  
AUSTRIA

Barbara Preitler. Co-Founder and psychotherapist at Hemayat - Organization for Torture and War Survivors in Vienna. Lecturer for Psychotraumatology, Crisis Interventions and Community based intervention after Desasters in Austria and internationally. Author of publications in Psychotraumatology. Latest publications: "Grief and Disappearance". Los Angeles, London, Delhi: Sage. and „An ihrer Seite sein. Psychosoziale Betreuung von traumatisierten Flüchtlingen.“ Innsbruck: Studienverlag.



## RAHEB, Viola

5th NOW Conference

Curator  
AUSTRIA

Viola Raheb, educationalist, theologian, activist for peace and gender equality and assistant at the Institute for Religious Studies at the University of Vienna is the curator of the 5th NOW Conference. She is Senior Fellow of the Bruno Kreisky Forum of International Dialogue.



## SAX, Helmut

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of  
Human Rights

Key Researcher  
AUSTRIA

Helmut Sax is a Key researcher at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, Vienna. His main areas of work address human rights of children and of victims of trafficking in human beings; current research interests include rights-based child protection systems and protection of children from violence and exploitation, child trafficking and children on the move, children's rights at school, juvenile justice, and the generational dimension of human rights of children.





**SCHAFFELHOFFER-  
GARCIA, Elisabeth**  
Coalition Children's Rights  
Coordinator  
AUSTRIA

Elisabeth Schaffelhofer-Garcia studied law in Vienna and Madrid, worked as a journalist and children rights trainer. She is also a coordinator of the Austrian National Coalition for the implementation of the UN-CRC.

**SCHRODT, Heidi**  
Education Initiative  
"BildungGrenzlos"  
Chair  
AUSTRIA

Heidi Schrodtt is the president of the association „BildungGrenzenlos" (Education without Borders). She is a teacher in English and German and the principal at a Viennese grammar school, additionally being an instructor as a teacher trainer. Heidi Schrodtt works also as a consultant of the Mayor of Vienna and of the Federal Minister of Education. She has numerous publications on education subjects.

**SEMAAN, Maria**  
KAFA  
Child Protection Program  
Coordinator  
LEBANON

Child Protection Program Coordinator in KAFA (enough) Violence and Exploitation since 2008. Her role is to provide technical leadership related to project design and development, planning implementation, and overall project management of the Child Protection program. Her duties also include forming a strong collaboration with the partner organizations, providing training and ongoing technical support and mentor for the team leaders and mobilizers to develop professional and technical competency.



**SOLERA, Gianluca**  
COSPE  
Policy Advisor  
ITALY

Gianluca Solera is an activist and writer, co-founder of the first Italian political green platform, after studying regional and urban planning at IUAV in Venice, EHESS in Paris and TU in Berlin. He spent ten years as a political advisor to the Green party in the European Parliament, and eight years as civil society coordinator of the Anna Lindh Foundation. He is the founder of the SabirFest and is member of the European Alternatives' Advisory Council.



**SPORRER, Anna**  
Austrian Supreme  
Administrative Court  
Vice President  
AUSTRIA

Since 2014 Vice-President of the Austrian Administrative Court. Previously deputy section leader in the constitutional service of the Federal Chancellery. Chair of the Arbitration Commission of the Medical University of Vienna. Member of the Bioethics Commission at the Federal Chancellery. 2004 - 2008 Training as a lawyer. 1999 - 2001 Deputy Member and 2009 - 2013 Member of the Human Rights Advisory Council in the Ministry of the Interior and from 2012 the Ombudsman's Office. 1995 - 1998 Chairman of the Equal Treatment Commission for the private sector. 1994 to date: Lecturer at various Austrian universities on constitutional, union and international law topics of the fundamental and human rights, in particular in the area of gender equality.





## STIGENDAL, Mikael

Malmö University

Professor in Sociology

SWEDEN

Mikael Stigendal is professor in Sociology at Malmö University, Sweden. Since the mid-1980s, he has in his research focused on the emergence of social exclusion in European cities, from a societal perspective. Many of these projects have been carried out in collaboration with e.g. municipal employees, voluntary workers and young people. His latest book, "Combatting the Causes of Inequality Affecting Young People Across Europe", will be published by Routledge in spring 2018.

## THER, Philipp

University of Vienna

Researcher

AUSTRIA

Philipp Ther (\* 1967) is professor of Central European History and director of the Institute of East European History at the University of Vienna. Previously he was a professor of comparative European history at the EUI in Florence. His most recent publication *Die neue Ordnung auf dem alten Kontinent. Eine Geschichte des neoliberalen Europa*, Frankfurt a.M.: Suhrkamp Verlag, 2014, was awarded with the non-fiction bookprize of the Leipzig bookfare. An English version titled *Europe since 1989: A history* was published by Princeton University Press.

Fields of specialization: International human rights law; migration and humanitarian affairs; policy and advocacy; development and capacity building

Work experience:

- Policy and Advocacy Specialist, UNICEF
- Protection Officer, UNOCHA
- Legal Advisor & Programme Manager, Danish Institute against Torture
- Special Assistant to the Senior Advisor to the Haitian Prime Minister (DFID)
- Researcher, International Centre for Transitional Justice Legal Advisor
- Danish Red Cross' International Law Committee

Irina Todorova serves since 2013 as a senior specialist on assistance to vulnerable migrants for the UN Migration Agency's (IOM) regional office in Brussels. She is responsible for analysing regional thematic trends, supporting liaison with the EU Institutions and EU member states, and leads the human trafficking prevention and protection programme in Europe.

## TODOROVA, Irina

International Organization for Migration - IOM

Senior Specialist on Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants

BELGIUM

## TUITE, Margaret

European Commission

Commission Coordinator for the rights of the child

BELGIUM

Margaret Tuite is the European Commission coordinator for rights of the child since 1 November 2011 in the unit responsible for fundamental rights policy in DG Justice and Consumers. Among other activities, the Commission organises an annual European Forum on the rights of the child. Prior to this post, from 2008-2011, Margaret was deputy head of unit for criminal justice. She has worked for the European Commission for almost 33 years, 17 of them in the justice and home affairs domains.





**WEIDENHOLZER, Josef**

Member of European Parliament

AUSTRIA

Member of the European Parliament (Group of the Progressive Alliance of Social Democrats), Member of the Social Democratic Party in Austria, fighting for human rights and more. Emeritus University Professor of social policy. Founding member and chairman of the congress series "Momentum".



**WINKLER, Astrid**

ECPAT

Director

AUSTRIA

Master degree in sociology, political and communication sciences. Coordination of ECPAT in AT since 2001. Expert, trainer, networker and lobbyist on prevention of child trafficking and child abuse & in developing child protection policies; coordination of relevant projects in Austria and abroad; lecturing at University for Applied Studies, conducting seminars in various countries; member of the Austrian Taskforce on combating THB; consultancy/training child protection and migration.

**YOU, Nicholas**

Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation

Director Global Partners and Programmes

KENYA

Nicholas You is a veteran urban specialist and thought leader. He served as the senior policy and planning advisor to UN-Habitat and as the manager of the Habitat II Conference. He is the founder and honorary chair of the UN-Habitat World Urban Campaign Steering Committee, and chairs several public and private think tanks. He regularly advises government, industry and civil society organizations on urban sustainability, strategic planning, knowledge management and green finance.

**ZACCHIROLI, Benedetto**

European Cities Against Racism (ECCAR)

President

ITALY

Born in Bologna, graduated in Theology in Rome. Elected City Councillor since 2011, then elected as Metropolitan Councillor, called by the mayor to serve as the Deputy Mayor. Since spring 2015 president of ECCAR and since 2016 appointed by the president of the Council, Matteo Renzi, to be his Chief of Cabinet until the end of his period. Currently working as an advisor for the General Secretary of the Presidency of the Council for the relations between the state and religious confessions.



**ZUCKERMANN, Elke**

Act.Now

Co-Founder

AUSTRIA

Elke Zuckermann is a communications and organisational development consultant. In 2016 she co-founded Act.Now with entrepreneur Patricia Kahane and artist André Heller to further a respectful and appreciative social coexistence.



## MAYORS

### ZAVAGLIA, Maurizio

#### Assistant Mayor of Municipality of Gioiosa Ionica

ITALY

Local development agent, 10 years' experience as a radio journalist in print media, from 2013 to 2016 deputy mayor of the Gioiosa Ionica Municipality. Currently president of the „Nelson Mandela“ social cooperative, which deals, along with other things, with welcoming Syrian families in the humanitarian corridors.



### MARENTIC, Igor

#### Mayor of Postojna Municipality

SLOVENIA

Before running as Mayor of the Postojna municipality, his first professional career led him to Slovenia's wood industry, following a career as an external consultant for the local newspaper as a photographer, collecting photos during his overflights over the Postojna-Pivka valley.

### HOT, Kenat

#### Mayor of Tutin

SERBIA

Previously deputy president of the community, he has been Mayor of the Tutin municipality since November, 2017. He holds a master's degree in economics from the University of Belgrade and is a member of the SDA party (Stranka Demokratske Akcije).



### MUJOVIĆ, Hazbo

#### Mayor of Sjenica

SERBIA

2016 - present Municipality of Sjenica, Job title: Mayor  
2012 – 2016 Municipality of Sjenica, Job title: Mayor  
2011-2012 Municipality of Sjenica, Job title: Deputy Mayor  
2004 - 2010 PUC Vrela, Sjenica  
Position: Head of Maintenance  
2001 - 2004 PUC Vrela, Sjenica  
Job title: Chief Executive  
2001 -2001 Mayor of Sjenica Municipality  
1999 - 2000 Highschool, Dr.Husein Dzavic, Velika Kladusa (BiH)







**STOYANOV, Stefan**  
Deputy Mayor of Plovdiv  
Municipality

BULGARIA

A second-term Deputy Mayor of Plovdiv, responsible for education, business development, European projects and international cooperation. Participates in the development of Trakia Economic Zone as a leading space for international investments. Advocates for a series of educational reforms - the introduction of the Montessori pedagogy to the public kindergartens and schools. Awarded as one of the top 100 innovators from Central and Eastern Europe according to a ranking of Google, published by the Financial times.

**MATTAR, Charbel**

Mayor of Naameh  
Municipality

LEBANON

Charbel Mattar has a law degree and is currently Mayor of the Naameh Municipality in Lebanon.



**AL-MAHARMEH, Abbas**

Mayor of Sahab Municipality

JORDAN

Abbas Al-Maharmeh is in his second period in office as mayor of the Sahab municipality.



**ALRHAIBEH, Hassan**

Mayor of the Village Um Al  
Jimal

JORDAN

President of Ibn al-Sabil Charity Association  
1988-2017

President of Al Hussein Cultural Club

1998-2000

Deputy Mayor Of Umm Jemal municipality  
2003-2007

Mayor Of Umm Jemal municipality 2013-2017

Mayor Of Umm Jemal municipality 2017-2022

**GAWAGZEH, Ali**

Mayor of Jerash Municipality

JORDAN

Ali Sulaiman Qogzah (Gawagzeh) holds a PhD in law and currently works as mayor of Municipality of greater Jarash. He holds a PhD in Law from the Arab University of Amman, 2012 and has a master of Law from the University of the House, obtained in 2004. Bachelor of Law from Jerash University, 1999. Worked as a Legal Director in the Greater Jerash Municipality (1996-2013). He was the mayor of Jerash Municipality in the period 2013-2017.





**BARTELS, Tjark**  
Administrative District  
Hameln-Pyrmont  
Head of Administration  
GERMANY

Bartels ran as a mayor of the municipality Wedemark and is since September 2006 in this function. In October 2013, he won in a runoff for the district election, chosen by the SPD of Hameln-Pyrmont. His activities include opportunity management in rural areas and the economic reorganization of municipal enterprises. One of his most significant projects was the spontaneous opening of a first reception facility in Hameln, in September 2016, in which up to 1000 refugees found a safe shelter.



**KOLOKAS, Pantelis**  
Deputy Mayor of Ioannina  
GREECE

Deputy Mayor of Education, Social Affairs, Youth, Sport and Volunteering with responsibilities in refugee issues.



**VOURNOUS, Emmanouil**  
Mayor of Chios  
GREECE

Emmanouil Vournous was born on the island of Chios, in 1972. He studied Architecture at the National Technical University of Athens and received his M.A. in Conservation of Historic Buildings from the University of York. As an architect, he has worked on several conservation projects and on introducing contemporary architecture in historic context. His project "Antouaniko Mansion" in Kampos, Chios, has been awarded in 2015 with the EU Prize for Cultura.



**BABLER, Andreas**  
Mayor of Traiskirchen  
AUSTRIA

Studied political communications. Member of the city council since 1995. Assistant to the Mayor and later head of IT, Communications & New Media. Became Mayor in 2014 and scored 73,1 percent at the local elections in Jan 2015. He was active for local and federal social democratic youth organisations and was vice president of the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY).

Board-member of the Association of Austrian Cities and the Association of Austrian Municipalities.

Since 2011 Renate Habetler is mayoress of the market town of Bernstein, in the Southern Burgenland. After studying (domestic- and nutritional sciences and history) she worked full-time in the family-owned "Edelserpentinwerkstätte". Furthermore she was the project manager of: „Gemeinsam gesund im Bezirk / Together healthy in the district“; „Gemeinsam gesund alt werden / Grow old healthy together“; „Bewegt im Park/Moving in the park“; „Asylwerber in der Gemeinde – Herausforderung, Integration / Asylum seekers in the community - challenge, integration“.

**HABETLER, Renate**  
Mayoress of market town  
Bernstein  
AUSTRIA





**POSCH, Dieter**  
Mayor of Neudörfel

AUSTRIA

Born on the 10th August, 1960. Since 1997 mayor (SPÖ) of the market town Neudörfel. Neudörfel has a population of 5,000 people, providing about 2,300 jobs and is also known for the relaxed coexistence of people of different backgrounds.



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