Keynote Speakers, Facilitators and Organisers
HE Erna SOLBERG
Prime Minister
Norway

HE Erna SOLBERG holds a Candidatus magisterii Degree in Sociology, Political Science, Statistics and Economy) from the University of Bergen in 1986. HE SOLBERG was Minister of Local Government and Regional Development 2001-2005, in Kjell Magne Bondevik's Second Government. HE SOLBERG has represented the Conservative Party in the County of Hordaland at the Storting (Parliament) since 1989. At the change of government, she was the Conservative Party's parliamentary leader. She was member of the Standing Committee on Health and Care Services Affairs, the Standing Committee on Foreign and Defence Affairs and the Electoral Committee. She has previously been a member of standing committees on i.a. Finance and Local Government, and head of the Storting's delegation to NATO's Parliamentary Assembly. HE SOLBERG has been leader of the Conservative Party since 2004. HE Solberg has held the position as Prime Minister since 2013 and started off her second term after the election in 2017.

HE Dame Annette KING
Former Cabinet Minister and Deputy Leader
The Labour Party
New Zealand

HE Dame Annette KING is New Zealand's longest serving female Member of Parliament. Dame Annette King was Deputy Leader of the New Zealand Labour Party from 2008 to 2017 and has held senior cabinet positions in New Zealand governments, including portfolios on health, immigration, justice, defence, police, race relations and youth affairs. She was appointed Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services as a Member of Parliament in 2018. Dame Annette King will be attending the 12th Asia Europe Meeting Summit in her capacity as the Prime Ministers' Special Envoy.

Ms Françoise SCHEPMANS
Mayor
Molenbeek Municipality

Ms Françoise SCHEPMANS serves as the Federal Deputy, Vice-President of the House of Representatives and Mayor of Molenbeek Municipality. Prior to which, she served as the President of the Parliament of the French Community Walonia-Brussels. Ms SCHEPMANS is a member of the Belgian party Mouvement Réformateur (MR). Ms SCHEPMANS is a former lawyer and studied law at the Free University of Brussels.
Ms Khadija ZAMOURI serves as Member of Parliament in the Parliament of the Brussels-Capital Region since 2014. She is the chairman of the Health Committee and of the Board of the Flemish Community Commission. Prior to her political engagement, Ms ZAMOURI worked in the field of education for various years within the Belgian Ministry and as an English-Dutch Teacher at the Belgian School Kigali in Rwanda.

**SPEAKERS & PANELLISTS**
By alphabetical order

**Dr Razwana BEGUM BT ABDUL RAHIM**
Senior Lecturer
Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS)

Legally trained, Dr Razwana BEGUM BT ABDUL RAHIM wanted to work with offenders, identify their potentials and guide them towards leading a socially responsible lifestyle. Dr RAHIM started her career as a Social Worker before joining the Ministry of Social and Family Development as a Probation Officer. To improve her skills, Dr RAHIM studied social work, criminology and counselling. She completed the doctorate programme in ethics and restorative justice with Monash University. After close to 19 years of service with the Public Sector, she joined the Singapore University of Social Sciences. She works closely with different Ministries in the development of courses focusing on criminology, rehabilitation, public safety and security. Her research interests include crime, restorative justice, children, families and ethics. She has presented papers and conducted training sessions at various international platforms.

**Mr Kevin BROOKING**
Artistic Director & Co-founder
Clowns without Borders
Belgium

Mr Kevin BROOKING is an Ameropean, resident of Belgium for over 25 years. He has worked as a circus clown in Canada, Mexico, USA, UK and in Circus Krone in Germany. He has trained pigs, swallowed swords and his acrobatic tongue has appeared on BBC television. He is a laureate of the Festival de Cirque de Demain in Paris. Mr BROOKING was co-founder of the Espace Spéculoos/Art de la Rue with the support of the city of Brussels, a 6-year-programme to promote street arts in the Belgian Capital. He is also the co-founder of Clowns Without Borders/Clowns Zonder Grenzen/Belgium. CSF is a project that enables artists to bring joy and hope to distressed families. A student of some of the great clown teachers (2 years at Ecole Lecoq, Pierre Byland, Avner the Eccentric) Mr BROOKING has continued to teach clowning and theatre. His workshops “The Art of Accidents” and “Clowning for Dummies” have challenged students all over the world.
Mr Andrea CARTA
Senior Legal Strategist
Greenpeace European Unit

Mr Andrea CARTA is the Senior Legal Strategist for the European Unit of Greenpeace where he advises on a broad range of EU environmental law issues. Prior to his current role, Mr CARTA worked as a consultant in EU Law and Policy. Mr CARTA received his LLM in European Legal Studies from the College of Europe and has also studied Italian, EU and International Law at the University of Genova in Italy.

Prof Lilamani DE SOYSA
Director of International Relations
Tsukuba International Academy for Sport Studies TIAS
Japan

Prof Lilamani DE SOYSA is a dual national, Sri Lankan and Swiss. She grew up in Sri Lanka and obtained her Master’s degree in Arts and Literature from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. As a schoolgirl, sport was an important part of her life. She did athletics and played netball for her school and played table tennis for her country. She has been involved in international sport for over 20 years, first at the International Table Tennis Federation based in Lausanne, Switzerland, then the European Table Tennis Union and currently as the Director of International Relations at the Tsukuba International Academy for Sport Studies in Tsukuba, Japan, a legacy programme of the Japanese government for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. She is also a member of the International Working Group for Women in Sport.

Mr Ignacio DORESTE
Advisor
European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)

Mr Ignacio DORESTE is an ETUC advisor working on the dossiers of youth employment, self-employment and atypical work. He graduated in Psychology from the Autonomous University of Madrid and holds a Master’s degree in Human Resources Management from the Open University of Catalunya as well as a degree in International Aid and Cooperation for Development from the Complutense University of Madrid and Clinical Psychology from the Spanish Association of Behavioural and Cognitive Psychology. He works for the European Trade Union Confederation since 2013. Before, he was engaged in the Spanish trade union movement since 2009.

Prof Ulf-Daniel EHLERS
Vice-President for Quality & Academic Affairs
Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University

Prof Ulf-Daniel EHLERS is a learning innovation expert and has been appointed Professor for Educational Management and Lifelong Learning at the Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University in Karlsruhe in 2011. From 2011-2016 he held the position of Vice-president at the same university and has been responsible for Quality and Academic Affairs. He held positions as Associate Professor of University Duisburg-Essen (Germany), Professor for Technology Enhanced Learning of University Augsburg (Germany) and Associate Professor of the Graduate School for Management and Technology of the University of Maryland University College (USA). Prof EHLERS holds degrees in English Language, Social Sciences and Educational Sciences from the University of Bielefeld, where he finished his Ph.D. with honors in the field of Technology Enhanced Learning in 2003. He was awarded a Habilitation in 2008 from the University of Duisburg-Essen. Prof EHLERS is founding member and past
President of the European Foundation for Quality in E-Learning (2011-2014) and has also been the President of the Society for Media in Science, in addition to serving on advisory boards for several professional associations in the field.

An alumnus of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Prof Amareswar GALLA is interested in cultural democracy, cultural rights, gender mainstreaming, inclusive and deep ecology demonstration projects, arts policy development, Intangible Heritage, World Heritage, indigenous peoples, intercultural dialogue and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He was the producer and editor of the flagship project and publication to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the UNESCO 1972 World Heritage Convention. Prof GALLA provided strategic cultural leadership in Australia and the Asia Pacific Region as the first Professor of Museum Studies in Australia, the University of Queensland, Brisbane and Professor and Director of Sustainable Heritage Development Programs, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University in Canberra. He has been honoured internationally on several occasions including the Outstanding Conservationist of the Year Award (Vietnamese Government, 2002) and the European Best in Heritage Award (2008).

Fr Nektarios GEORGIOS is currently serving as Chief Secretary and Special Advisor at the Office of the Representation of the Church of Cyprus to European Institutions in Brussels. After completing his military duty, Fr GEORGIOS reassumed his university education at the faculty of Social Theology of the National and Capodistrian University of Athens until he graduated, following which he enrolled for a Master’s in Society, Law and Religion of the Faculty of Canon Law at the Catholic University of Leuven. In 2017 he was ordained to the priesthood and in January 2018 he was elevated to the rank of Archimandrite. He has been a regular member of the Working Group of Human Rights of the Conference of European Churches (CEC) 2011-2015, a member of the Governing Board of the Churches’ Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME) 2014-2017.

Mr Philippe HENSMANS is the Director of Amnesty International Belgium since 1996. Prior to which, he served as the Press Officer & Editor in Chief for Amnesty International Belgium. Mr HENSMANS studied Sociology at the Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium.
Ms Leonie NAGARAJAN has been heading the Education Department of the Asia-Europe Foundation since February 2014. Together with her team members, she develops and drives ASEF’s education project portfolio with a focus on student mobility, youth employment, university-business partnerships, and lifelong learning. Prior to this, she advised and supported as Chief of Staff 3 ASEF Executive Directors from France and China in the planning and implementation of the Foundation’s long-range strategy, programmes and operations (from 2008 to 2015). Ms NAGARAJAN previously worked in Public Affairs and the media, including the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin, the Berliner Zeitung, Pretoria News and the Icelandic national broadcaster Ríkinsutvarpið (RUV). Having studied in Reykjavik, Iceland and Berlin, Germany, she received her Master’s degree in Communication Sciences with minors in cultural and political sciences from the Free University and Humboldt University of Berlin.

Ms Anupama SEKHAR joined ASEF in January 2009. She is currently the Director of the Culture Department and is actively engaged in facilitating multilateral cultural co-operation among 51 countries across Asia and Europe. Anupama is in charge of the department’s day-to-day operations as well as its overall programme portfolio, which comprises of policy dialogue, information platforms, and support to artists. In particular, she designs and manages the Department’s work in the field of cultural policy with the aim of stimulating analysis and engagement reflective of current debates in the arts in Asia and Europe, as well as channelling policy ideas to the Culture Ministers’ Meeting of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). Currently, Ms SEKHAR is part of UNESCO’s Expert Facility to support capacity development initiatives for the implementation of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. She holds degrees in English Literature and International Studies and is a trained dancer in the Indian classical style of Bharatnatyam. Prior to joining ASEF, Ms SEKHAR worked with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and with independent arts spaces in India.

Rev Dr Sorin SELARU is the Director of the Permanent Office of the Romanian Orthodox Church to the European Institutions and a member of the Committee of Representatives of the Orthodox Churches to the European Union (CROCEU). He is a professor of systematic theology at the Faculty of Orthodox Theology in Bucharest, Romania and at the Orthodox “St. Paul” Institute in Brussels, Belgium. He also serves as a priest in the “St. Nicholas” Orthodox Parish in Brussels. He is a graduate of the Faculty of Theology in Iasi, Romania and holds a PhD from the “Marc Bloch” University in Strasbourg, France. His favourite fields of theological research are ecclesiology, ecumenism and anthropology.
Dr Anna SMAJDOR is an Associate Professor of Practical Philosophy at the University of Oslo. Her research interests relate to the interface between ethics and science, medicine and technology. She has published widely on aspects of reproductive ethics. Dr SMAJDOR was a collaborator on a recently-completed project funded by the Swedish Research Council ‘Close Personal Relationships, Children and the Family’ led by Daniela Cutas, at Umeå University. She is currently one of five principal investigators working on a multidisciplinary project: Epigenetics and bioethics of human embryonic development funded by University of Oslo Life Sciences. Her work encompasses questions about relationships between scientists and the objects of their research. Dr SMAJDOR has been involved for many years with research and clinical ethics committees in the UK and is interested in the nature of moral expertise and ethical deliberation.

Fr Aimilianos TRIANTAFYLLOS BOGIANNOU started the Associate’s degree Programme of International Business in Hesser College, Manchester New Hampshire, USA in 2001, where he joined the Phi Theta Kappa Honour Society. In 2002 he continued his education at Hellenic College, Brookline, Massachusetts, where he obtained his Bachelor’s in Religious Studies, following which he started his studies in Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, where he graduated from with his Master of Divinity in 2006. In the summer of 2004 he was ordained a Deacon and was sent to work for the Liaison Office of the Orthodox Church to the European Union, in Brussels, Belgium. In November 2009 he was ordained a Priest and was made an Archimandrite. He was the Assistant to the Director of the Liaison Office, His Eminence, Metropolitan Emmanuel of France until 2015 when he was promoted to Director of the aforementioned Office. Fr TRIANTAFYLLOS BOGIANNOU represented the European Commission in the Youth Interfaith Forum in Australia in 2007. He is currently a member of the Working Group on Human Rights of the Conference of European Churches. He is the Moderator of the Committee of the Representatives of the Orthodox Churches to the European Union (CROCEU). He lives in Brussels, Belgium, where he also teaches Orthodox Religion in European Schools.

Ambassador Karsten WARNECKE is the 7th Executive Director of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in charge of the management and administration of the organisation, the implementation of its programmes and policies, and representing the organisation. He joined ASEF as the 6th Deputy Executive Director in August 2012. Before joining ASEF, Ambassador WARNECKE dealt mainly with Germany’s and the EU’s involvement in ASEAN and in the ASEM Process as part of his portfolio as Counselor at the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin, where he served as Deputy Head of Division for Regional Organizations and Cooperation in Asia-Pacific. A seasoned career diplomat with over 25 years of experience, including almost 20 years with Asia, Ambassador WARNECKE is adept at working in cross-cultural settings and in bringing people together from diverse backgrounds. Previous postings have seen him serve in the German Consulates-General in New York, USA, and Chennai, India, as well as the German Embassy in Singapore. Ambassador WARNECKE holds an M.A. in
International Relations from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of the Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C., after studying Political Science at the Free University in Berlin.

Mr Nick WATERS is a full-time staff member at Bellingcat, an award-winning open-source investigatory website. His work has focused on the conflict in Syria, for which he was nominated for the European Press Prize for Innovation, and the use of drones by sub-state actors. Prior to Bellingcat, Mr WATERS spent several years in the British Army as an infantry officer, including a deployment to Afghanistan, before completing an Master’s in Conflict Security and Development at King's College London in 2016.

HOSTING PARTNERS & WORKSHOP FACILITATORS
By alphabetical order

Legally trained, Dr Razwana BEGUM BT ABDUL RAHIM wanted to work with offenders, identify their potentials and guide them towards leading a socially responsible lifestyle. Dr RAHIM started her career as a Social Worker before joining the Ministry of Social and Family Development as a Probation Officer. To improve her skills, Dr RAHIM studied social work, criminology and counselling. She completed the doctorate programme in ethics and restorative justice with Monash University. After close to 19 years of service with the Public Sector, she joined the Singapore University of Social Sciences. She works closely with different Ministries in the development of courses focusing on criminology, rehabilitation, public safety and security. Her research interests include crime, restorative justice, children, families and ethics. She has presented papers and conducted training sessions at various international platforms.

As Lecturer and European projects coordinator within the journalism school IHECS, Ms Esther DURIN is involved in several collaborative projects on media pluralism and on social and citizen-oriented journalism. She also coordinates training programmes in European non-profit communication and advocacy for the IHECS further education centre (IHECS Academy). Ms DURIN is also strongly involved in Citizenforeurope.eu, a community of European civil society organisations supporting each other for a diverse, participatory and democratic Europe.
Since 2014, Ms Agata DZIARNOWSKA works as a Policy Officer in the European Commission. Her main tasks are education and training in sport, sport diplomacy as well as relations with Council and Presidencies. Prior to which, Ms DZIARNOWSKA worked in the Ministry of Sport and Tourism in Poland and as an expert in EU affairs. Ms DZIARNOWSKA graduated at Warsaw University obtaining a degree in law. She continued her education path in the College of Europe with a Masters in European Interdisciplinary Studies.

Mr Bertrand FORT is the Cultural and Cooperation Counsellor at the French Embassy in Belgium. Prior he worked as the Delegate for External Relations of Local Governments and General Secretary of the National Commission for decentralized Cooperation within the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris. From 2011 to 2014 Mr FORT served as the Cultural and Scientific Councillor and Director of the Institut Français du Japon at the French Embassy in Japan and as Senior advisor to the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr FORT served as Deputy Executive Director at ASEF from 2002 to 2008. He also worked as a Lobbyist, Free-lance Journalist and Lecturer and as the Communications Manager in the French Parliament. Mr FORT attained two Bachelor’s degrees in economics from Paris I Sorbonne Univ. and in Communications and Information (Paris II Assas). He received his postgraduate diploma in Sociology of organisations at Sciences-Po Paris.

Mr Anthony GARTNER is a Social Worker engaging in a commitment to improve education and employment outcomes for students who are otherwise excluded or marginalised from education. Mr GARTNER is President of the Australian Tertiary Education Network on Disability (ATEND) and works to foster collaboration and enhanced practice at a local and national level.

Mr Parkash GURNANI is the President of the Indian Cultural Centre/ Brussels Mandir based in Brussels since 2012. He has a Bachelor’s degree in Law, Economics, Accounts, and is currently also working as a Business Development Manager in International Trade.
Mr Łukasz KRÓL
Digital Projects Coordinator College of Europe, Natolin Campus

Mr Łukasz KRÓL is a researcher, speaker, and facilitator fascinated by the relationship between digital tools, democracy, and human rights. Currently employed at the College of Europe Natolin campus, he has given talks in Beirut, Warsaw, and Vinnytsia. He also serves as the coordinator and lead facilitator at WEASA, a now-annual summer school that looks at the relationship between technology and politics. This has given him the chance to facilitate technology-related brainstorming and discussion sessions among groups of journalists, NGO workers, and civil servants. Mr KRÓL has worked in and with the public, NGO, private, and academic sectors, which has given him a chance to learn how different groups approach the issue of human rights in a digital era. A graduate of the Universities of St Andrews and Cambridge, he has also authored several pieces on digital policy and European affairs.

Ms Susanna MÄKELÄ
Senior Director EU Affairs Microsoft

Since 2018, Ms Susanna MÄKELÄ is the Senior Director of EU Affairs at Microsoft, where she is leading the Cybersecurity EU policy team. Prior to this, Ms MÄKELÄ has worked as the Assistant General Counsel for Microsoft in Tokyo, Japan leading the multidiscipline corporate external affairs team that supports Microsoft sales and marketing. Prior to Microsoft Ms MÄKELÄ worked at Nokia as the Legal Director in the Global Sales Marketing department. Ms MÄKELÄ has a law degree from the University of Turku.

Ms Claire MOREL
Head of Unit European Commission, Directorate General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC)

Ms Claire MOREL is the Head of Unit for International Cooperation at DG Education, Culture, Youth and Sport of the European Commission, with particular focus on the international dimension of the Erasmus+ programme and international policy dialogues in higher education and youth issues with various partners of the EU in the world. She has worked several years with the countries neighbouring the EU. Before that, she worked for the Tempus programme (for higher education modernisation), cooperating with Central Asian countries, and for the European Training Foundation, an agency of the EU based in Turin, on the reform of vocational education and training systems in the Eastern neighbouring countries and Central Asia.

Mr Arnout PAUWELS
Deputy Director and Coordinator of South-Asia and Afghanistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Belgium

Mr Arnout PAUWELS is the Deputy Director and Coordinator of South-Asia and Afghanistan, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, DG Bilateral Affairs, Asia-Pacific Department in Belgium. He has worked 7 years as a lawyer in the beginning of his career. Mr PAUWELS joined the Belgian Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 1998. He has been posted in San José, Vienna (OSCE), Kabul and Kigali. In the Ministry he worked on the Middle-East and North-Africa, with an emphasis on the Arab-Israeli conflict. The different assignments brought experience in politico-military matters, East-West affairs, conflict areas, development and women’s rights. Mr PAUWELS received his Master’s at Law from Ghent University.
Dr Marie-Anne PERSOONS is the Advisor for International Policy at the Department of Education and Training of the Flemish Community of Belgium. She is a representative to the Council of Europe’s Steering Committee of Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE), as well as in several OECD, COE, UNESCO and BENELUX working parties, including the SDG Education 2030 Steering Committee. Prior she served as the Vice-Chair of the OECD’s Education Policy Committee and GNE on School Resources. Dr PERSOONS graduated in Oriental Languages and History from the Catholic University of Leuven in 1984. She continued studying Chinese language at the National Taiwan Normal University. Further studies include a Master’s degree in Philosophy and a PhD in Oriental Studies. She has also obtained a Master’s degree in Public Management from the University of Antwerp.

Ms Tijana STOJANOVIC serves as the Vice-President of the Erasmus Students Network. Prior to which, she was the National Representative of Erasmus Student Network Serbia and the Promotions Coordinator at ESN International Committee for Education. Ms STOJANOVIC studied Applied Linguistics at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain and the English language at Alpen Adria University in Austria and at the University of Novi Sad in Serbia.

Mr Willy DANENBERG is the Head of Global Systematic, Smart, Digital, Supply Chain & Financial Change at AltoChange Consulting. He is a Global Change Specialist and consults governments, municipalities, banks, credit unions and Fortune 100 companies. Mr DANENBERG is also the International Business Development Manager at PayService Inc. Mr DANENBERG is a full member of the Club of Rome, an informal association of independent leading personalities from politics, business and science. He received his Master’s in Systematic Innovation from Twente University in the Netherlands.

Mr Louis DE JAEGGER is pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Agro and Biotechnology at KU Leuven after several years of traveling and discovering permaculture and durable farming principles, and is determined to find and implement solutions to draught, erosion and overuse of pesticides and fertilizers in agriculture. Louis has also started his own outdoor design company, Commensalist. In addition to this, he writes articles and gives keynotes about durable farming, living and society.
Ms Anne LEEMANS

Design Secretary General
Yellow Design Foundation

Since 2004, Ms Anne LEEMANS has been the Secretary General of Yellow Design Foundation – an independent, multidisciplinary, European and interregional platform for research and information on community-oriented design. She is also the owner and Managing Director of Fontana Identity & Design. The Brussels-based design and communication consultancy creates and delivers concepts and company identity programs. Ms LEEMANS team has been adopted in the Sustainable Urban Development experts’ network of UN Habitat. Ms LEEMANS obtained a Master’s degree in Applied Linguistics from Ghent University in 1981.

Mr Jonas MALLISSE

Founder and Director “Too Good to Go Belgium”

Mr Jonas MALLISSE is a Social Entrepreneur, Founder and National Director of “Too Good To Go Belgium” – an app for smartphones that fights against food waste alongside local enterprises and consumers. The initiative has so far saved six million meals in Europe. Mr MALLISSE also runs the social start-up Fair and Square that works on women’s empowerment and social development. With a textile workshop in Pondicherry, India, they produce 100% ethical and ecologically responsible tote-bags and thong bags.

Ambassador Karsten WARNECKE

Executive Director Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Ambassador Karsten WARNECKE is the 7th Executive Director of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in charge of the management and administration of the organisation, the implementation of its programmes and policies, and representing the organisation. He joined ASEF as the 6th Deputy Executive Director in August 2012. Before joining ASEF, Ambassador WARNECKE dealt mainly with Germany’s and the EU’s involvement in ASEAN and in the ASEM Process as part of his portfolio as Counselor at the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin, where he served as Deputy Head of Division for Regional Organizations and Cooperation in Asia-Pacific. A seasoned career diplomat with over 25 years of experience, including almost 20 years with Asia, Ambassador WARNECKE is adept at working in cross-cultural settings and in bringing people together from diverse backgrounds. Previous postings have seen him serve in the German Consulates-General in New York, USA, and Chennai, India, as well as the German Embassy in Singapore. Ambassador WARNECKE holds an M.A. in International Relations from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of the Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C., after studying Political Science at the Free University in Berlin.
Ms Leonie NAGARAJAN has been heading the Education Department of the Asia-Europe Foundation since February 2014. Together with her team members, she develops and drives ASEF’s education project portfolio with a focus on student mobility, youth employment, university-business partnerships, and lifelong learning. Prior to this, she advised and supported as Chief of Staff 3 ASEF Executive Directors from France and China in the planning and implementation of the Foundation’s long-range strategy, programmes and operations (from 2008 to 2015). Ms NAGARAJAN previously worked in Public Affairs and the media, including the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin, the Berliner Zeitung, Pretoria News and the Icelandic national broadcaster Ríkisútvarp í RUV. Having studied in Reykjavik, Iceland and Berlin, Germany, she received her Master’s degree in Communication Sciences with minors in cultural and political sciences from the Free University and Humboldt University of Berlin.

Ms Nathalie SAJDA, a Swedish national, joined ASEF’s Education Department in June 2014 to coordinate the ASEF Young Leaders Programme with its various projects, including the ASEF University (ASEFAU), Model ASEM or the ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS). Prior to joining ASEF, she worked in the field of social enterprises and social entrepreneurship in Asia and Europe, including intercultural programmes for young social entrepreneurs to marketing of educational tools for impaired children. She also worked for a technology social enterprise in Thailand, where her role as international project manager included the development of gamification, hack-a-thon’s and marketing on issues related to flood preparedness, innovative public health and big data. Ms SAJDA obtained her first Bachelor’s degree at Södertörn University in International Development and Co-operation, followed by a second Bachelor’s degree in International Relations from Stockholm University. She received a full scholarship to pursue her Master’s degree in New Politics and Future Governance at Kyung Hee University in South Korea, where her dissertation investigated social accountability and social impact assessments among Thai social enterprises.

Mr Kristian AGUSTIN completed his Master’s degree in Visual Culture (University of Westminster). Prior to joining ASEF’s Education Department in April 2018, he had been working on his research on the ASEAN integration discourse in visual culture. His experience in academia and higher education includes presenting in and publishing his own research work for various international conferences, writing contributions for journals and textbooks, and editing manuscripts for publications. He has also taught advertising, art history, communication, and research methods courses to undergraduate students in Manila and Hong Kong. Professionally, Kristian brings into the organisation his years of experience working for government agencies and non-profit organisations - the Supreme Court of the Philippines (under the Office of the Chief Justice, Program Management Office, and Public Information Office, respectively); the Foundation for Liberty and Prosperity, Philippines (as Executive Secretary and Communications Specialist); the Vargas Museum, Philippines
Kristian is also an ASEF alumnus; he was a student-participant in the 18th ASEF University (AU18) which was held in Tartu, Estonia during the summer of 2012.

Mr Ross CHEUNG joined the Education Department in January 2018. Prior to joining ASEF, Ross participated in the Model ASEM in 2012 and ASEFYLS in 2015. He first started his career in corporate financing and then research in social entrepreneurship. He completed research projects on the topics of service leadership, voiceless groups, and university graduate entrepreneurship in Hong Kong. Besides, he volunteered at the Beijing Olympic Games, provided tour in Shanghai World Expo, and served at the International House of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Ross obtained his Bachelor's degree at Hong Kong Baptist University in Sociology and China Studies. He is currently a Master’s student of the Erasmus Mundus Program in Global Studies, first in University of Vienna (Austria), then in Macquarie University (Australia), and he looks forward to completing his master thesis in Leipzig University (Germany).

Mr Akhil Jacob THOMAS joined ASEF’s Education Department in January 2017. Prior to joining ASEF, he completed a half-year internship with the United Nations Academic Impact, based at the UN Headquarters in New York City, where he worked on projects such as the Habitat III Conference in Quito, Ecuador and the 71st session of the UN General Assembly. During his university days, Mr THOMAS completed a chain of internships at organisations such as KPMG, Teach for India, and a Bangalore-based think tank called Synergia Foundation, where he completed research projects on India-U.S Relations and the Deep Web. Mr THOMAS also worked part-time with the international student organisation AIESEC, where he headed the business development portfolio for the local committee in Chennai. He completed a Bachelor's in Economics from Loyola College, Chennai, and supplemented his academic experience at college with a summer programme on Consumer Behaviour at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Mr THOMAS is also a Shaper with the Singapore Hub of the Global Shapers Community.

Ms Freya CHOW-PAUL interned in the Education Department in July and August 2018 and continued assisting the Project Executives with their preparations of ASEFYLS3 afterwards. She is currently working towards a Bachelor’s degree in International Relations and Development at the University of Sussex, England. As an undergraduate, Ms CHOW-PAUL has undertaken two study abroad exchanges, a summer school in Taiwan at the National Taiwan University, and in Sweden for her third year at Malmö University under the Erasmus programme. At the University of Sussex, Ms CHOW-PAUL has been a Student Representative, working with the International Relations Department and the School of Global Studies on various areas of university life.
Ms Patricia SENGE
Project Assistant
Education Department
Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Ms Patricia SENGE recently graduated from Maastricht University with a Bachelor in European Studies. She joined the Education Department in September 2018, assisting with administrative and organisational tasks within the context of upcoming projects. Previously she has interned with the German political foundation Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung in Ecuador where she helped coordinating and planning events to educate on social democracy, youth engagement, feminism and human rights in South America. She also volunteered with TECHO Ecuador in the field of humanitarian aid and development.

Mr Heiko SEIBEL
Heiko Seibel
Photography

Heiko SEIBEL has been working as a freelance photographer since 2002. He has studied Journalism and Communication Science at the University of Muenster, Germany and Integrated Design at the University of Fine Arts Bremen.

Heiko creates visual, video and photography concepts for businesses and magazines and develops his own artistic projects. Photography shall serve more than a decorative element to a text: it follows its own narrative and message. For his illustration and interpretation of movements in Olympic sport disciplines, he received the Art Directors Club Award in 2009. The series was published in the ZEIT Magazine.

NAVIGATION TOOLS

Leadership entails determining a position, charting a course, and heading towards a destination. It means navigating around various obstacles - concrete ones like road blocks or soft ones like different views - and sailing through weather conditions as harsh as moral dilemmas. But are the manners of and tools for leading equally important as the end goal? And what are the elements – facts, beliefs, values, practical issues – that influence decisions in navigating towards a certain direction?

The classic and modern tools such as the compass and the mobile phone in the ASEFYLS3 design show that every leadership must come with its own acceptable and effective measures. However, one has to be constantly alert and sensitive towards possible internal and external forces that might meddle, manipulate, and mislead one’s decision making process. Only then is the leader a true navigator, able to develop a sense of direction informed by self-awareness and societal needs, and thereby standing up for her/his chosen course.
The Asia-Europe Foundation (Asef) promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. Asef enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, education, governance, sustainable development, economy and public health. Asef is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem). Asef runs more than 25 projects a year, consisting of around 100 activities, mainly conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, publications, and online platforms, together with about 125 partner organisations. Each year over 3,000 Asians and Europeans participate in Asef’s activities, and much wider audiences are reached through its various events, networks, and web-portals.

For more information, please visit www.asef.org

The Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem) is an intergovernmental process established in 1996 to foster dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe. Presently it comprises 53 partners: 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat. ASEM addresses political, economic, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership.

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