

European Humanitarian Roundtables 2016 – North

17 February 2016 - Gustavianum Akademigatan 3, Uppsala

Participants & Speakers Bios

Eija Alajarva

Head of Humanitarian Assistance, Finn Church Aid

Agnes Björn

Head of the Disaster Risk Management Unit, Plan Sweden

Ms Björn works with Plan International Sweden leading the Disaster Risk Management Unit, which also includes emergency deployments as Emergency Response Manager for Plan International. Previously she held numerous positions with Swedish Red Cross, UN OCHA and Save the Children. Her specialties are: Humanitarian Affairs; Disaster Risk Reduction and Civil Protection; Child Centered approaches in emergency response; Transition between Relief and Development; Humanitarian Coordination; Religion and Conflict.

Houria Bounouch

Belgian Red Cross

Peter Brune

Senior Advisor, Individuell Människohjälp

Mr Brune, born 1963 in Sweden, Senior Advisor at the organization IM – Swedish Development Partner, regional representative for the Nordic Countries at IANSA, the International Action Network on Small Arms and special advisor for APPPRO, the Afghan Public Policy Research Organisation. He has also worked as Secretary General for the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan and as Secretary General for the European Network of NGO's in Afghanistan. 2008-2010 he was the Senior Advisor to the UNDP/SICA program CASAC (Central American Small Arms Control) and also one of the founders of the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms. Peter Brune has been working with Swedish and international civil society organizations for many years, mainly in the realm of disarmament and international development cooperation.

Nils Carstensen

Senior Advisor, Local to Global Protection and DanChurch Aid

Mr Carstensen is a writer, documentarist and a senior humanitarian advisor. He has worked with humanitarian crisis response in Sudan, South Sudan, Palestine (oPt), Syria, Myanmar, Haiti, the Balkans, Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, North Korea and other major humanitarian crises since the late 1980's. Mr. Carstensen is a co-founder and manager of the Local to Global Protection (L2GP) initiative and a senior humanitarian advisor to DanChurchAid (DCA) – a member of the ACT Alliance. L2GP focus on documenting and promoting local communities' perceptions of protection and survival as well as analysing the dynamics between affected individuals and communities and the perceptions and actions of external actors such as aid agencies, authorities and armed groups.

Zaida Catalán

Gender Expert at European Union Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS)

Ms Catalán has worked the last 5 years for the EU in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan and Palestine as a gender expert. Focusing on actors within the security and justice sector she has delivered numerous training sessions for key players on the importance of gender on the development agenda. Prior to her field experience Zaida worked for nearly 10 years for the Green Party of Sweden, as their legal adviser in the

parliament of Sweden and in different elected offices. For three years she worked as a volunteer in one of Sweden's women's shelters.

Celia Cranfield

VOICE Advocacy and Communication Officer

Ms Cranfield is responsible for advocacy and communications at VOICE (Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies), a network of 84 European humanitarian NGOs. Based in Brussels, she has worked on EU foreign affairs for close to a decade, both in the government and NGO sectors. With a postgraduate degree in Human Rights Law, she has worked on the EU's development cooperation, in particular on inclusion and rights based approaches and on legal and institutional issues related to EU security and defence cooperation. With VOICE her focus is on EU humanitarian policy, including the preparation of the World Humanitarian Summit, the EU's aid architecture and EU humanitarian funding.

Evita Čikute

First Secretary, Development Cooperation Policy Division of the Latvian Foreign Ministry

Tania Dræbel

Lecturer, University of Copenhagen

Ms Dræbel has seventeen years of experience in research and teaching in Health for Refugees and Internally Displaced, sociology, qualitative research methodology, medical anthropology, Health Systems Research, International Health and Disaster Response. Design, implementation and management of research projects, qualitative studies, quantitative surveys, assessments and evaluations on access to health and organization of health care for refugees and internally displaced populations, on war-related health systems dynamics and post-conflict health sector reconstruction in Europe and countries of Sub-Saharan and West Africa.

Caroline Edelstam

President, Harald Edelstam Foundation

Ms Edelstam is a non-profit executive, currently a board member of the Harald Edelstam Foundation and Chair of the Prize Jury for the Edelstam Prize, both of which she co-founded. She also founded the Edelstam Institute of Education for Human Rights and International Affairs of which she is the Executive Director. From 2009 to 2011, Edelstam was the Secretary General for the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) in Sweden. Before that she worked as a consultant for Burson-Marsteller. She has also worked for a number of non-profit organizations, including the Salvation Army, the Swedish Microcredit Foundation and Min Stora Dag, and from 2008 to 2010 was a member of the editorial board for the magazine of the Swedish Fundraising Council.

Olivia Forsberg

Disaster Risk Management Advisor, Plan Sweden

Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert

Senior Researcher, Peace Research Institute Oslo

Ms Gabrielsen Jumbert (PhD SciencesPo Paris 2010) is Senior Researcher at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO). She researches the use of new media and communication, information and surveillance technologies in the security and humanitarian spheres, notably for border surveillance and migration management. She has published articles notably in Third World Quarterly, The Journal of Modern African Studies and The International Review of the Red Cross. She coordinates the research group on Humanitarianism at PRIO and leads two research projects funded by the Norwegian Research Council, DIGICOM (on the digitalization of risk communication) and BraGS (on Brazil's rise to the global stage through its investments in humanitarian assistance and peacekeeping).

Robert Ghosn

Humanitarian professional

Mr Ghosn is a humanitarian aid worker with an extensive experience in the field. He has worked in DRC, Chad, Iraq, Guantanamo, Liberia, Yemen, Jordan and other countries where he has designed and implemented Protection and Assistance programmes, in fragile or emergency settings. Holder of an LLM in Law, he has served in different capacities with the ICRC, UNICEF and Penal Reform International. He tweets at @BobGhosn.

Joost Herman (speaker)

NOHA President, NOHA Groningen Director

Mr Herman is professor of Globalisation studies and humanitarian action. He studied History and International Law in Leiden and conducted PhD research at the Institute for Human Rights at the University of Utrecht into the protection of minority groups in Central and Eastern Europe. He joined the University of Groningen in 1995, became University Reader in International Relations and International Organization in 2003, and professor in 2012. He is one of the founders of the international Master's degree programme Network On Humanitarian Action (NOHA) and financial director of the NOHA Network. Herman is Director of the Institute for Globalisation Studies Groningen (GSG).

Charles-Antoine Hofmann

Senior Thematic Advisor, WHS Secretariat

Mr Hofmann is currently Senior Thematic Adviser with the World Humanitarian Summit Secretariat, based in UNOCHA Geneva. Previously, he was the Executive Coordinator of the Disaster Response Dialogue, an initiative sponsored by the IFRC, ICVA, OCHA and the Swiss Government to improve trust and collaboration between national and international humanitarian actors. He was between 2009 and 2012 the Executive Secretary of SCHR, an alliance of nine of the world's leading humanitarian organisations. He worked over the last 20 years in the humanitarian sector, most recently with the British Red Cross, as Humanitarian Policy Adviser and also with Oxfam GB, the Humanitarian Policy Group at ODI, the World Health Organisation and Médecins Sans Frontières, where his last assignment was Head of Mission for South Sudan. He has field experiences in Tanzania, Rwanda, Niger, China, and conducted and managed a number of evaluations in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Some of his research and publications cover needs assessment, impact assessment, cash transfer programming and civil military relations. Mr Hofmann holds a M.A. in International Relations from the University of Kent, and a B.A. in Political Sciences from the University of Lausanne. He is married with three children.

Said A. Hussein

General Secretary, Somali Diaspora Organisation

Eva Iveroth

Policy Analyst, Migrationsverket

Artur Malantowicz (speaker)

NOHA Operations Manager

Mr. Malantowicz is a geographer and political scientist, with his interests focused on the Middle East and its socio-political crises. He has worked in academic, governmental and NGO settings and since 2012 is professionally involved in humanitarian sector, primarily involved in projects aiming at its professionalization (e.g. EUPRHA – European Universities on Professionalization on Humanitarian Action, EUHAP – European Humanitarian Action Partnership). Currently works as Operations Manager of the Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA) and serves as Middle East Expert at the Warsaw-based think tank Centre for International Initiatives.

Keith Mattingly

Humanitarian Programme Officer, Church of Sweden

Mr Mattingly is originally from Berkeley, California and a NOHA alum, having studied at Uppsala University and Universidad de Deusto, with third-semester research in Indonesia on psychosocial coping mechanisms for disaster survivors. In his thesis, he compared this with the situation for refugees in Sweden and their own recovery factors. He did my internship with the ECHO communications unit in Brussels and worked for MSF Sweden's evaluation unit for several months. He is now a Humanitarian Programme Officer for Europe and Francophone Africa with the Church of Sweden, and continues to be especially interested in the psychosocial well-being of displaced people. He just completed his professional first trip to the field, getting to see some of the situation and response for refugees moving through Greece and Slovenia.

Stephan Maurer

Geneva Representative, Danish Refugee Council

Joakim Medin

Freelance journalist

Mr Medin was originally a secondary school teacher, but after living in Central America 2009 where he experienced that year's political turmoil in the region, documented the coup d'état in Honduras and photographed for a Guatemalan newspaper, his deep interest in investigative journalism was born. Topics of his work range between democracy development, human rights, politics and society, humanitarian questions, international aid, refugee crisis, armed conflicts and the oppression humans inflict upon each other. He has a special interest in the Middle East and Syria. He has been covering the political development in Central America, Hungary and Turkey, the current refugee crisis and socio-political response in Lebanon, and the advancement of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

Arne Næss-Holm

Humanitarian Advocacy Advisor, Norwegian Church Aid

Mr Næss-Holm has been with Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) since 2008, serving mainly in its International Department, as well as in its Department for Development Policy. Before assuming his current position of humanitarian advocacy advisor, he was NCA's Regional Representative for the Middle East from 2013-2015, covering Palestine and Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. Previous to that, he has held different NCA Head Office positions, including programme coordinator for both Iraq and Palestine and Israel, respectively, and with NCA's youth movement, Changemaker. Mr. Næss-Holm has a background in development studies, and holds a B.A. in Economics and an M.Phil. in Peace and Conflict Studies.

Nour Said

Journalist, Syrian Diaspora in Sweden

Jwa Said

Syrian Diaspora in Sweden

Ms Said is doing her master degree in marketing and customer behaviour at Stockholm University. She used to be an activist in Red Cross, Imagine and JCI organisations. She is interested in human rights, in particular women rights, and wants to be active in this field and reflect her own experiences as an immigrant and a researcher.

Kristin Bergtora Sandvik

Senior Researcher, PRIO; Director, Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies

Ms Sandvik is senior researcher at PRIO. Sandvik holds a Candidata Juris from the University of Oslo. She did her graduate work at Harvard Law School. Her doctoral dissertation was entitled "On the Everyday Life of International Law: Humanitarianism and Refugee-Resettlement in Kampala". She has also been a visiting researcher at the Oxford University Refugee Study Centre and at the Refugee Law Project, Makerere University,

Uganda. Sandvik has a background as a children's rights activist with Save the Children PRESS and ECPAT. She is currently a board member of the International Humanitarian Studies Association (IHSA) and on the editorial board of Security Dialogue.

Mona Strindberg

President, United Nations Association

Ms Strindberg is the President of Uppsala United Nations Association since 2013 managing a wide range of human rights and integration-related projects with a focus on local civil society strengthening. She has an educational background in Law from Uppsala University and specialises in the European Union Law. Ms. Strindberg has also worked with a number of governmental and non-governmental organisations, of which the Save the Children and the Harald Edelstam Foundation. During the years working with the Save the Children, Ms. Strindberg managed honour violence-related projects together with Uppsala Police Department, Uppsala Social Services and Youth Health Centres.

Cees Wittebrood (speaker)

Head of Unit Asia, Latin America, Pacific and Caribbean, DG ECHO

Cees Wittebrood (1952 Velsen, The Netherlands) is currently Head of the DG ECHO Department for Asia, Latin America, Caribbean and Pacific at the European Commission in Brussels. Previous positions include Head of ECHO for Africa, Head of ECHO for Eastern Europe, NIS, Mediterranean and Middle East and Head of External Relations with the Caucasus and Central Asia. He has been a member of Cabinet of two European Commissioners, responsible for external relations, political cooperation, trade and enlargement. He started his career at the Amsterdam Free University in lecturing political science and international relations and took a policy making position at the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs in The Hague. He moved to Brussels to accept a position in the European Commission Department of Internal Market and Industrial Affairs. He holds a masters degree in political science and economics and a bachelor degree in political and social psychology. He has been Visiting Professor and Lecturer at Academic Institutions in the Netherlands, Belgium, France, UK and US, i.a. at Harvard Law School and Oklahoma State University. He has published frequently on European Integration issues.

Andreas Zetterlund

Head of Marketing and Fundraising Department, International Aid Services (IAS)

Karolis Žibas

Founder and Director, Diversity Development Group

Dr Žibas, founder and director of NGO 'Diversity Development Group', is sociologist, researcher and NGO activist in areas of asylum and migration, human rights and equal opportunities. As a project partner, leader and independent expert, Karolis Žibas is involved in different projects and researches on national and international levels. Karolis is working as a researcher in the Institute for Ethnic Studies at the Lithuanian Social research Centre and Centre for Demographic Research at Vytautas Magnus University. Karolis holds PhD in Social Sciences (Sociology).