



**5th WORLD FORUM
ON INTERCULTURAL
DIALOGUE
BAKU 2-3 MAY 2019**



Breakout session

Friday/ **03 May 2019**/ 11:30-13:00/ Baku Convention Centre

What we can learn from youth: a discussion of inclusive approaches to promote peace and embrace diversity

In this interactive session, young panelists will lead a discussion on addressing discrimination, countering hate speech, and preventing extreme violence to foster peace. They will also consider the role of youth in standing up against hate speech and discriminatory messages. After sharing their experiences, panelists will engage with participants to explore how digital platforms/spaces can be used to address these issues. The session is aimed at identifying best practices and generating recommendations which can further the role of youth as peacebuilders to build bridges amongst cultures and embrace diversity.

*Moderator: **Deepak Ramola**, Founder and Artistic Director of Project FUEL*

Panelists:

- **Farhad Hajiyev**, Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- **Haneen Thabet**, Project Coordinator (Al Qantara)
- **Hezha Mohammedkhan**, Youth Activist & Co-founder of Shughel Shabab
- **Marva Langevine**, Founder of Guyana Golden Lives Organization
- **Bushra Ebadi**, Executive Committee Member and Youth Advisory Group Chair, Canadian Commission for UNESCO
- **Collins Monday Okello**, Trainer and Facilitator at the Whitaker Peace and Development Initiative

Org: UNESCO



Deepak Ramola, Founder and Artistic Director of Project FUEL

Deepak Ramola, the founder and artistic director of Project FUEL, is a young leader and innovator who transforms life lessons and philosophies into methods of learning. His organization, Project FUEL, serves to empower youth in both rural and urban communities around the world by encouraging people to use their story and personal experiences to harness the collective power of youth in diverse communities. In essence, it encourages youth to engage in conversation and overcome stereotypes in order to share perspectives, life experiences, and to learn from each other. Deepak has worked with special communities like addiction survivors in Punjab, earthquake survivors in Nepal, Syrian Refugees in Europe, Villagers of abandoned Ghost Villages in Garhwal and tribal women of Africa.



Farhad Hajiyev, Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Farhad Hajiyev is the Executive Director of Youth Foundation under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. He was born in 1980 in the city of Sumgait. He graduated from Azerbaijan University and Azerbaijan State University of Economics with distinction. He has a degree of Doctor of Philosophy. He is also a graduate of John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He has started his labor activity as a head of the department of the National Assembly of Youth Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan (NAYORA) since 1998. Farhad was elected the Chairman of the Assembly of NAYORA in 1999, and the Secretary-General in 2000. He served as a Chairman of Programming Committee on Youth of the Council of Europe during 2006-2009 years. In 2007, he was awarded the Medal for Distinguished Public Service on the Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. He has been working as an Executive Director of Youth Foundation under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan since 2011. He was also awarded an honorary diploma of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan for his participation in the organization of the inaugural European Games in 2015..



Haneen Thabet , Project Coordinator (Al Qantara)

Haneen is a Jordanian electrical engineer, who started working in development as a volunteer with different NGOs and local projects. Today, she is the project coordinator at Al Qantara Center for Human Resources Development, which is a CSO supporting the effective participation of young people from the southern region of Jordan, in political, economic and social spheres. Haneen is also radio show host and editor in a local community radio station called, “Sawt Al Janoub,” and actively participates as a mentor and youth partner in UNESCO projects.



Hezha Mohammedkhan, Youth Activist & Co-founder of Shughel Shabab

Hezha is a youth activist from Iraqi Kurdistan, Founder of APC for Youth Empowerment established in 2012, that has served over 500 youth in north Iraq until 2018 and Co-founder of Shughel Shabab a regional youth-led campaign in Arab states on youth peace and security in partnership with UNDP and UNESCO launched in 2017. The initiatives she leads focus on youth leadership and peacebuilding, as she believes it is vital to provide youth with opportunities to exchange views and share their cultural diversity so that conflicts do not continue throughout the generations. Currently studying her masters in the Netherlands, Hezha is as an Award Winning Social Entrepreneur and International NGO Consultant for youth-led organizations. She is an AMENDS fellow and has served as a peer mentor, for the international youth assembly in New York for two years.



Marva Langevine, Founder of Guyana Golden Lives Organization

Marva Langevine, is a modern language teacher in the public school system in Guyana. She is a resident of a historic village in her region named “Den-Amstel” and the founding member of the Den-Amstel Dynamic Network - a youth group committed to restoring the rich cultural practices for which Den-Amstel was once famous. These practices include steel drum groups, drumming, scout groups, and empowerment projects for youth through education and cultural advocacy initiatives. Marva is also a Queen’s Young Leader. Her charity, Guyana Golden Live Organization provides assistance and support for bereaved families through several direct services. Her aim is to have a regional impact as she proliferates her work in the underestimated area of grief and loss, especially in childhood



Bushra Ebadi, Executive Committee Member and Youth Advisory Group Chair, Canadian Commission for UNESCO

Bushra is a Global Security and Politics researcher at the Centre for International Governance Innovation; her main portfolios of work include: the World Refugee Council and Women in Global Governance projects. She serves as a Youth Advisor and Executive Committee member for CCUNESCO. Highlights of her experiences include: representing Canada as a delegate to the 63rd UN Status of Women Commission and the 10th UNESCO Youth Forum; co-creating urban refugee housing and integration strategies for Toronto and Paris; and developing a social enterprise model for newcomer integration during the 2017 Hult Prize competition. She holds a Joint Honours BA in Political Science and Philosophy from McGill University and a Master of Global Affairs from the University of Toronto.



Collins Monday Okello, Trainer and Facilitator at the Whitaker Peace and Development Initiative

Monday Collins was recruited as a child soldier by the Lord's Resistance Army war in northern Uganda when he was a kid. Years later, he was able to return home unhurt and enrolled into Hope North, a school created for former child soldiers in Uganda. Today, he strongly believes that peacebuilding programmes are essential in shaping future generations and is currently working for the Whitaker Peace & Development Initiative (WPDI), as Arts & Crafts Trainer and CRE facilitator for the Refugee program. WPDI is committed to providing educational tools and better living conditions to young women and men living in regions touched by violence, war, and poverty.