CONFERECE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND REFUGEES

In the Mediterranean Region

26-27 September 2017
Beirut, Lebanon
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Hamra Main Street

"Higher Education, Investing for the future"
التعليم العالي، استثمار في المستقبل
DAY 1  
Tuesday, 26 September - Morning

08:30-09:00  Registration

OPENING

09:00-09:45  Introductory statements

Moderation and welcoming words
Claire Morel, European Commission - DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture - Head of Unit for International Cooperation

• Marwan HAMADEH, Lebanese Minister of Education and Higher Education
• Christina LASSEN, Head of European Union Delegation to Lebanon
• Sultan ABUORABI AL-ADWAN, President of the Association of Arab Universities

SESSION 1  IDENTIFYING NEEDS

09:45-11:15  «Assessing refugee students’ needs. The student perspective»

Moderation by Christian Hülshörster, DAAD, Director of the Scholarship Programmes Southern Hemisphere

Video - “Moving Forward” Portraits of refugee students from Syria (HOPES)

Presentation of key findings from a joint perception survey conducted with students from the EU “Madad Fund” funded projects
• Job ARTS, Policy Officer in the EU Delegation to Jordan
• Carsten WALBINER, HOPES Project Director

Panel discussion with students
• Ayham ALKAWI, Erasmus Mundus Alumni Association, President of the Middle East Chapter
• Refugee students from different countries studying in Lebanon

Questions and answers with Nadim KARKUTLI, European Commission, Manager EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, the “Madad Fund”

11:15-11:45  Coffee break & group photo
11:45-13:00  Panel discussion: «Assessing refugee students’ and scholars’ needs. The university perspective»

Moderation by Noureddine MANAMANNI - Campus France, Director for External and Institutional Relations

- Asma CHAMLI-HALWANI, Lebanese University, Coordinator at the International Relations Office
- Dhiaa ABOU-TAIR, German-Jordanian University, EU Higher Education Programme Manager
- Ali GUNES, Karabuk University, Vice Rector
- Rund HAMMOUDI ALBAZZAZ, Dohuk University, Head of International Affairs
- Mathieu SCHNEIDER, University of Strasbourg, Vice President for Science and Society

13:00-14:15  Lunch
### DAY 1
Tuesday, 26 September - Afternoon

**SESSION 2**  
**THE ROLE OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES**

**14:15-15:30**  
Panel discussion: Formulation of the problem, approaches, results and further challenges. Governmental perspectives

*Moderation by Nadim KARKUTLI, European Commission, Manager EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, the “Madad Fund”*

- Jordan - Suha ABDELRAHMAN, Cultural Counsellor at the Jordanian Embassy in Lebanon
- Lebanon - Ahmad JAMMAL, Director General for Higher Education
- Turkey - Kagan BILGE OZDEMIR, Director of the International Office, Council of Higher Education (YÖK)
- Egypt - Ashraf HATEM, Counsellor of the American University in Cairo, Former Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Universities
- Iraq - Amanj SAEED, Senior Adviser to the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research

**15:30-16:00**  
Coffee break
DAY 1
Tuesday, 26 September - Afternoon

16:00-17:15

**The response by the international community**

*Moderation by David WHEELER, Fanar Media, Editor*

a) European Union

- Nadim KARKUTLI, European Commission, Manager EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, the “Madad Fund”
- Claire MOREL, European Commission - DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, Head of Unit for International Cooperation

b) UNHCR

- Maren KRÖGER, UNHCR, Tertiary Education Officer, Division of International Protection

c) Private donors

- Farooq BURNEY, Director of the Al Fakhoora campaign, Qatar

17:30-18.30 Networking Exhibit - Poster presentation on projects and initiatives (all participants)

19.00 Networking buffet dinner
SESSION 3 DISCUSSING INSPIRING PRACTICES

1st round of break-out sessions

9:00-10:15 Break out 1: «Easing access to higher education: scholarship schemes and beyond»
Moderated by Abel PIQUERAS, EU Delegation to Lebanon
- Spark scholarship scheme: Yannick DU PONT, Spark Director
- American University of Beirut: Rabih SHIBLI, Director of the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service
- Welcome Students-refugees Programme: Mohammad SALMAN, Director of academic programme, Brussels Free University

9:00-10:15 Break out 2: «Building institutional capacities to welcome and integrate refugee students and scholars»
Moderated by Hana ADDAM EL GHALI, American University of Beirut, Senior Program Coordinator and Lecturer
- RESCUE project: Marcello SCALISI, Director of the Mediterranean Universities Union (Unimed)
- Capacity building strand of the HOPES project - David VAN KAMPEN, Nuffic, Project Manager
- Turkish Council of Higher Education (YÖK): Hasan MANDAL, Deputy President

9:00-10:15 Break out 3: «MOOCs and embedded learning to reach out to refugee students and staff»
Moderated by Harry Haynes, British Council, Online Learning Specialist and HOPES HEEAP Work Package Manager
- Kiron Open Higher Education, Grace ATKINSON, Head of Jordan Operations
- Virtual University of Tunisia, Jilani LAMLOUMI, President

10:15-10:45 Coffee break
DAY 2
Wednesday, 27 September - Morning

2nd round of break-out sessions
Same working group, participants rotating

10:45-12:00
• Break out 1: Easing access to higher education: scholarship schemes and beyond
• Break out 2: Building institutional capacities to welcome and integrate refugee students and scholars
• Break out 3: MOOCs and embedded learning to reach out to refugee students and staff

CLOSING

12:00-12:30
Feedback from the breakout sessions

Moderated by Theo HOOGHIEMSTRA, NUFFIC, Director

• Session 1: Graziella GAGLIONE, Sapienza University, Italy
• Session 2: Yasser ELSHAYEB, Coordinator of the National Erasmus+ Office, Egypt
• Session 3: Bronwyn PARRY, PADILEIA partnership, Head of the School of Global Affairs at King's College London, UK

12:30-13:00
Concluding remarks

Moderated by Claire Morel, European Commission - DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture - Head of Unit for International Cooperation

• Carsten WALBINER, HOPES Project Director
• Nadim KARKUTLI, European Commission, Manager EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, the "Madad Fund"
• Ahmad JAMMAL, Director General for Higher Education in Lebanon

13:00-14:30 Lunch and departure of participants