

MITIGATING THE POLITICS OF EXCLUSION:  
DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION  
**Brussels policy forum**

**Martin's Central Park Hotel**  
**10am-4pm, 14 March 2014**

PROGRAMME (draft)

10.00- 10.15	Coffee/Registration
10.15- 10.45	Welcome by <b>Feargal Cochrane</b> , Director, Conflict Analysis Research Centre (CARC), University of Kent  Opening address: <b>Dan Smith</b> , Secretary General, International Alert
<i>THEME 1: Designing the policies: EU engagement with diaspora communities</i>	
10.45- 11.45	Views from the policy-makers: This session will look at issues from the policy angle, reflecting on the process of policy engagement with diaspora communities, the opportunities and challenges of doing so, and the institutional dynamics within which engagement and policy is constructed.  <b>Élise Feron</b> , Chairperson <b>Jeremy Lester</b> , (Until recently, Conflict Prevention Adviser in the Africa Department of the External Action Service of the European Union, and formerly Head of Division for the Horn of Africa and for East Africa) <b>Angela Liberatore</b> , Deputy Head of Unit, European Neighbourhood, Africa and the Gulf, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission <b>Suniya Qureshi</b> , Senior Strategy Advisor, International Unit G20 of the Department for Work and Pensions, UK
<i>THEME 2: Experiencing the policies: Diaspora voices</i>	
11.45- 12.45	Diaspora voices: Perspectives on recent policies towards diaspora communities from EU member states (representatives from various groups) including experiences from sense of belonging and security/(in)security.  <b>Feargal Cochrane</b> , Chairperson <b>Fatumo Farah</b> , Himilo Relief and Development Association (HIRDA) (NL) <b>Sarah Schlaeger</b> , International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) <b>Sinthujan Varetharajah - University College London (UCL)</b> <b>Paul Asquith</b> , AFFORD/Africa - EU Platform
12.45- 13.30	Lunch
<i>THEME 3: Working with the policies: Civil society perspectives on diaspora engagement</i>	
13.30- 13.40	Presentation- <b>Anwar Akhtar</b> (RSA) Pakistan Calling Film & Culture project - Diaspora Engagement

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13.40 - 14.30	<p><b>NGOs working with diaspora groups:</b> This session will address NGO understandings of how and why policy towards diasporas is formulated and how diaspora groups engage with policy-makers. It will also address how such engagement can enhance security and (in)security across different diasporas communities.</p> <p><b>Toni Haastrup</b>, Chairperson  <b>Ljubisa Vrancev</b>, Director -Symbiosis, Thessaloniki,  <b>Rabia Nusrat</b>, Senior Program Officer, Pakistan programme, International Alert  <b>Barry Navarro</b>, Senior Programme Officer, UK programme, International Alert  <b>Pragna Patel</b>, <b>Southall Black sisters</b>  <b>Champa Patel</b>, Head of Campaigns, Amnesty International UK</p>
14.30- 14.45	Coffee break
<i>THEME 4: Learning from the policies? Lessons for future diaspora engagement</i>	
14.45- 15.50	<p><b>Roundtable/Panel:</b> Highlighting key issues raised and inviting comments from all participants on the importance of diasporas in the policy process, the experience to date, and key issues for the future. This will include discussion of how more strategic understandings of security policy might be conceived and developed.</p> <p><b>Dan Smith</b>, Chairperson  <b>Feargal Cochrane</b>, CARC  <b>Élise Feron</b>, CARC  <b>Juraj Brychta</b>, International Organization for Migration  <b>Suniya Qureshi</b> DWP  <b>Paul Asquith</b>, AFFORD/Africa - EU Platform  <b>Champa Patel</b>, Amnesty International UK  <b>Ljubisa Vrancev</b>, Symbiosis</p> <p>The discussion will attempt to identify what lessons can be learned and what key themes require further research and development.</p>
15.50- 16.00	Closing remarks by Barry Navarro, International Alert

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