

*The refugee and migration crisis
threatens years of development gains
in Western Balkans
- Border communities and local
governments on migration routes key
to region's resilience*

Ms IRENA VOJÁČKOVÁ-SOLLORANO

Monday 14th December 2015, 4.30 pm



University of Zagreb
Faculty of Political Science
Conference Hall A
Lepušićeva 6

fpzg



PROGRAMME:

4.30 - 4.45 pm **Welcome addresses**

Prof. Damir Boras, Ph.D., Rector of the University of Zagreb
Prof. Lidija Kos-Stanišić, Ph.D., Dean of the Faculty of
Political Science

Ms Andrea Horvat-Kramarić, representative of the European
Commission

Mr Mehmet Erdogan, representative of UNDP

4.45 - 5.30 pm **Kapuscinski Development Lecture**

Ms Irena Vojáčková-Sollorano (UNDP Resident
Representative for the Republic of Serbia)

5.30 - 6.00 pm **Q&A session**

Moderator: Hrvoje Špehar, Ph.D., Faculty of Political Science

Join the debate

Website <http://kapuscinskilectures.eu/>

Twitter #KAPTalks

SPEAKER

Irena Vojáčková-Sollorano, UN Resident Coordinator UNDP Resident Representative for the Republic of Serbia



Ms. Irena Vojáčková-Sollorano a German national, has been appointed as UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative to the Republic of Serbia in October 2013. In this capacity she has strengthened the UN interagency coordination and the cooperation with the Government of Serbia and Civil Society partners. She has lead the UN country team's response to the floods in 2014 together with UNDP and to the refugee/migrant crisis in 2015 together with UNHCR.

Prior to this appointment she has worked in different capacities for 28 years for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Asia, Europe and globally developing expertise in Migration and Development, Labor Migration, Refugee Resettlement, Border Management, Smuggling, Integration, Trafficking and emergency response. Her last appointment was as Director of the Department for Migration Management (2010-2013) in IOM Headquarters in Geneva. Over the years she has served on boards of research institutions and developed strong collaboration with think tanks.

Irena holds a B.A. in History and Political Science from the University of Heidelberg, Germany; a M.A. in History, Geography, and International Law from the University of Vienna, Austria and a Diploma of the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna, Austria.

ABOUT THE LECTURE

A close-up view of the crisis points to its humanitarian character focusing available resources and support to direct aid for refugees and migrants. This includes the provision of food, water, clothing, temporary shelter, medicines and medical services to sustain them on a journey that's particularly challenging for children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups within the broader refugee population. Much of this aid's effective deployment rests upon continuity of local government services, which now have to deliver services not only for its' own residents, but also for increasing numbers of refugees and migrants.

These pressures are mounting against the background of tough austerity measures designed to bring the unsustainable public deficit under control. This includes the mandatory reduction of a buoyant public sector, also of local governments and their communal utility companies. What makes matters worse is that employment alternatives in economically underdeveloped border areas of the Western Balkans are few and have already led to outward migration and even depopulation. Finally, almost by definition, such border communities are of mixed ethnic backgrounds, often home to sizeable minorities, which have so far demonstrated impressive unity in supporting the refugee and migrant populations.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

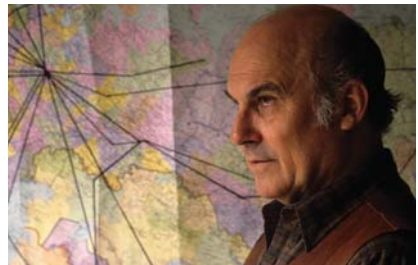
Top global thinkers discuss development in the European Union countries. The series “Kapusinski Development Lectures”, named for Ryszard Kapuscinski, a Polish reporter and writer who covered developing countries, is organized jointly by the European Commission, the United Nations Development Programme and partner universities and development think-tanks. Over 70 lectures gathered since 2009 over 25,000 participants. In October 2014 - December 2015 the lectures organised in all EU member states contribute specifically to development policy debates as part of the European Year for Development 2015.

The lecture series offers students from the European Union member states an unprecedented opportunity to learn and discuss about development issues such as climate change, human rights, aid effectiveness, Europe-Africa relations, Millennium Development Goals among other. The high-level events contribute to the debate and formulation of the European development policy. The lectures are livestreamed at <http://www.kapuscinskilectures.eu> and their content is shared on this website.

The lectures honor the name of Kapuscinski, a Polish journalist and writer, who died in 2007. Kapuscinski, whose books were translated into many languages, was often named the “Third World Chronicler” or the “Voice of the Poor” for his famous reportages and books describing developing countries on all continents. Among other books, he was famous for: “The Emperor” on Ethiopia, “Shah of Shahs” about Iran, “The Shadow of the Sun” about Africa, “Another Day of Life” about Angola, and “Imperium” about the Soviet Union.



For further information about Kapuscinski Development Lectures, livestreaming and lecture content, please visit <http://kapuscinskilectures.eu>



Ryszard Kapuscinski

UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB

The University of Zagreb (founded in 1669) is the oldest and biggest university in South-Eastern Europe. As a comprehensive public Central European university, University of Zagreb offers education and research and in all scientific fields (arts, biomedicine, biotechnology, engineering, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences) and a broad spectrum of courses at all study levels, from undergraduate to postgraduate. With 30 Faculties, 3 Art Academies and the University Centre for Croatian Studies it is the flagship educational institution in the country, a place where more than 7500 teaching and administrative staff and 76000 students develop knowledge and acquire skills.

The University excels not only in teaching, but also in research, contributing with over 50 percent to the annual research output in Croatia and 80 percent of scientific productivity of all Croatian universities. The central strategic issue of the future development of the University of Zagreb is for it to be a research oriented institution with teaching of high quality. Accordingly, the focus will be on master and doctoral programs, encompassing all fields of science and art, boosting transdisciplinarity and interdisciplinarity as well as translational research, nurturing the culture of innovation and transfer of knowledge. This should result in better intersectorial harmonization on local and regional levels.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION



European Commission's Directorate – General for International Cooperation and Development – EuropeAid is responsible for defining the EU development policy and ensuring effective programming and implementation of EU's external aid instruments. EuropeAid coordinates the actions of the EU institutions, the EU Member States and other EU actors around the Union's core values, objectives and common priorities. EuropeAid's work is carried out with the ultimate aim of: reducing poverty in the world; ensuring, sustainable development; promoting democracy, peace and security.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

United Nations Development Programme is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP, on the ground in 177 countries and territories, works closely with national partners – including governments, civil society and the private sector – supporting country needs and priorities related to: poverty reduction; democratic governance; crisis prevention and recovery; environment and energy; HIV, health and development.

The project is a joint initiative of the European Commission, the United Nations Development Programme and the University of Zagreb.

The project is funded by the European Commission.