



Innovative Strategies to Eradicate Poverty for Migrant and Refugee Children: Early Childhood Development

February 6th, 2018

1:15-2:30

UN Headquarters, Conference Room D

This event will feature discussions on:

Eradicating Poverty and Building Peace: The Promise of Early Childhood Development

Rima Salah, Chair of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) and Adjunct Faculty Member at the Child Study Center, Yale University

Using Cognitive Neuroscience Principles to Meet the SDG Literacy Goal

Radhika Iyengar, Ph.D. in Economics of Education, Director, Education Sector, The Earth Institute, Columbia University, New York

Is Harry Potter Poor? Why We Need a Multidimensional Approach to Child Poverty

Lucia Ferrone, Ph.D. in Development Economics, researcher at UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti in Florence, Italy

Expanding Effective ECEC Services for Young Refugee Children

Mark Kamperhoff, Head of EU division, EU coordination, International Affairs, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Berlin, Germany

Poverty Is Not an Accident: The Global Compact on Migration, and the Role of MS in Reducing Childhood Poverty: Some Considerations

Dizery Salim, Adviser to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Delegation to the United Nations in New York

Moderator: Judith Wagner, professor of Child Development and Education at Whittier College in Whittier, California; UN representative, World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEPE)



Speaker Bios

Judith T. Wagner, Ph.D. is a developmental psychologist. She is professor of Child Development and Education at Whittier College in Whittier, California, where she serves as principal of the campus laboratory/demonstration school, The Broadoaks Children's School. Judith teaches classes on Global Children's Issues and Child Advocacy at her home institution and abroad, focusing on refugee children and families and on child-related migration policies and practices in Europe. Among her research interests are social acceptance and status of children from ethnic minority backgrounds. Judith was Deputy President of OMEP, the World Organization for Early Childhood Education, from 2012 – 2017 and serves as one of its representatives to the United Nations. Since 2011 she coordinated OMEP's *WASH from the Start* project at UNICEF, with the goal of bringing water, sanitation and hygiene education to young children in homes, communities and preschools.

Rima Salah, a national of Jordan, is Assistant Clinical Professor on the Voluntary Faculty at the Child Study Center. She holds a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology (SUNY-Binghamton). She recently served as a Member of the United Nations High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations. A former Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, U.N. Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT), Dr. Salah has had a distinguished career with UNICEF. As a highly effective advocate for the rights of children and women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, she contributed to Security Council (SC) Resolution 1612 on child rights violations and Security Council (SC) resolution 1325 Women, Peace, and Security. Dr. Salah has received many awards of distinction from several non-governmental organizations and U.N. Member States, including the French Legion of Honor. Dr. Salah is Chair of the newly formed Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) of which Yale is a founding member.. The ECPC values the well-being of children and families who can be sustainable agents of change for peace building.

Radhika Iyengar is the Director of Education, Nigeria Scale-up Initiative at the Earth Institute, Columbia University. She received a distinction from Teachers College, Columbia University on her doctoral dissertation "Social capital as a determinant of schooling in rural India: A mixed methods study". She has a Masters degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics, India. Her professional experience also includes working in an India based non-profit organization, Pratham, for multiple years. Her research interests include evaluation of educational programs and international educational development.

Lucia Ferrone joined the UNICEF Office of Research in November 2014, to work on Multidimensional Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) and child poverty, both in low and middle-income countries. She holds a Ph.D. in Development Economics, and her research interests lie in family and population economics, child well-being, and migration; she is also particularly interested in longitudinal analysis. She is a geek and a feminist, not necessarily in this order.

Dizery Salim specializes in processes that enable legislators, mayors, women's groups, youth, scientists, academia, grassroots activists, media and big business to make shared decisions on issues of common concern. As an international civil servant at the United Nations for one decade, her work centered on how international agreements are being enforced, how governments solve problems when agreements fail, and assisted governments to develop the first post-2015 global cooperative framework -- the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction. Ms. Salim is currently Adviser to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Delegation to the United Nations in New York where her work is focused on the upcoming intergovernmental negotiations on migration.

Mark Kamperhoff is Head of Unit for European Union Coordination, International Affairs, and EU delegate at the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in Berlin, Germany. From 2006-2007, he was Policy Officer for the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union. From 2005-2006 he worked at the Berlin School of Economics and Law as Assistant to the Dean and delegate for international affairs. As part of his legal training, he served at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations. Mr. Kamperhoff has a Master's degrees in law and political science.