

United Nations

European Youth Leadership Summit

Participant Profiles

List of Delegates:

Austria

Mr. Martin Kasika

Mr. Kasika is employed by the Austrian Sports Federation. He speaks German, English and Spanish.

Ms. Barbara Lang

Bulgaria

Ralica Koleva works for the Youth Academic Initiative (YAI) in Sofia. The YAI represents and protects the interests of Bulgarian academic youth and carries out activities for the benefit of society. She speaks Bulgarian, German and English.

Mr. Ivan Modev

Cyprus

Mr. Christos Senekis

Mr. Yiannis Panayiotou

Czech Republic

Ms. **Jana Mračková**

Ms. Mračková is currently studying journalism at Charles University in Prague. She is also the Media and Information Department Coordinator for People in Need, where she works closely with journalists to prepare for dailies, weeklies and information campaigns. Her professional experience includes being a Broadcast Assistant at the Czech Section of the BBC World Service and Editor of the magazine Project & Property.

Mr. Martin Náprstek

Martin Náprstek holds a Bachelor's degree in Humanities and a Master's degree in Civil Society Studies. As Deputy Head NGO Officer at the

Development Center for the Institute of International Relations, he is responsible for coordination of NGO activities, development education, and public awareness activities. Prior to this, he was an assistant consultant for International Relations & Science, Research. He speaks English, Russian, and German.

Estonia

Mr. Margus Jurkatam

Margus Jurkatam is currently employed at the Estonian Ministry of Culture where has been the project manager for "Sport for All" Programs, among other responsibilities. He worked at the Central Union of Estonian Sport before the Ministry of Culture. He holds a Masters degree in Sports Science for Tallinn University.

Finland

Ms. Eeva-Maija Kanervo

Ms. Eeva-Maija Kanervo specialized in sport, health and special education, as well as art at the University of Jyväskylä. She is currently undertaking her Masters in Education. Her work experience includes working with Sport Development in Aid Tanzania and as a columnist for a magazine called Keskimaalainen. Currently, she is working as a school teacher. She speaks Swedish, English, and Swahili with a basic understanding of German and French.

Mr. Antton Rönholm

Mr. Antton Rönholm is the Vice-President of the Finnish UN Association and is currently studying marketing and management at Åbo Akademi School of Economics. Presently, he is working as the Special Advisor to the Speaker Paavo Lipponen at the Parliament of Finland. He is also affiliated with the Social Democratic Party of Finland and the City of Turku. He was the President of the League for youth cooperation in Nordic countries between 2001-2003. He speaks Finnish, Swedish, and English with a working knowledge of German and French. He also

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holds a Masters degree in Political Science with a minor in International Relations and French.

France

Ms. Sarah Neelsen

Sarah Neelsen is completing a Masters degree in German Literature from The University of Vienna. Prior to this she received a degree in German Languages from the Ecole Normale Supérieure. She has recently completed an internship with the French embassy in Austria where she worked for the embassy's press service.

Mr Jonathan Sapene

Jonathan Sapene is pursuing his third year at the Institute of Political Studies at Sciences-Politiques Paris, and is currently working as an assistant to the military attaché in the French Embassy in Austria. Previously, he interned at the Foundation for Strategic Research in Paris, with research focused on the Multinational Interoperability Council (MIC). He is fluent in French, German and English. During his spare time he enjoys fencing and going to the opera.

Germany

Mr. Benjamin Folkmann

Benjamin Folkmann holds two law degrees: one from the University of Coimbra and the other from the University of Cologne. He planned the sports program for the Ministry of Agriculture at The International Green Week in Berlin. He was also a participant in the "Millennium Development Goals Training/ Workshop" organized by the European Youth Forum in Germany, and a representative of the German Sports Youth and the German Football Association at the European Fair-Play Congress in Lithuania. He speaks English, Spanish and Portuguese.

Ms. Lena Lütjens

Lena Lütjens, currently a member of the young UN-Network and a volunteer member of Amnesty

International, earned her Masters degree in Politics and Spanish from the University of Leipzig, Germany. Her work experience includes working at the German Bundestag with a Member of Parliament, Peter Hettlich (Green Party). She speaks German, English, and Spanish with a basic understanding of French and Arabic.

Greece

Mr. Dimitrios Pazachis

Dimitrios Chazapis works for the Hellenic Youth Council. He speaks Greek, English and French.

Ms. Maria Paschou

Ms. Maria Paschou completed her law degree with top marks and is currently studying International Commercial Law at the University of Kent in Canterbury. At present, she is working at Nikolaidis and Partners Law Office where she engages in commercial, trademark, intellectual as well as industrial property law. In 2004, she was a spokesperson in the panel "How do Young People from the European Union and Turkey look at the integration process?" and, most recently, she was an official delegate of the National Youth Council of Greece in a The European Youth Forum.

Hungary

Mr. László Lasztovicza

Mr. László Lasztovicza holds a degree in electrical engineering from Budapest University of Technology and Economics and is currently completing his PhD. in computer science. His professional experience includes working for the Corporate Research and Development Center for the Toshiba Corporation in Japan. He has also worked with design and database programming and system administration for SenseNet Ltd. He is also very interested in the Theory and applications of neural networks, medical image processing, artificial intelligence: methods and applications, and hybrid intelligent systems.

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Ms. Monika Nemeth

involves the management and coordination of national programs. She is also a qualified swimming coach and fluent in Russian, Lithuanian, and English.

Italy

Mr. Carlo Alberto Giusti

Ms. Noemí Ruzzi

Latvia

Ms. Eva Brasava

Ms. Eva Brasava speaks Latvian, Russian, and English, and specialized in "Education and Sport" at the Latvian Academy of Sport Education (LSPA). She also has a certificate to manage camps and participated in a "Creative Sport" class.

Mr. Janis Nicmanis

Mr. Janis Nicmanis attended the Latvian Academy of Sport Education. He is currently working with the LASE system and is a web administrator. Prior to this, his professional experience included working as a BTA insurance agent. He enjoys fishing and art in his spare time. He also speaks fluent Latvian, Russian, and English.

Lithuania

Mr. **Mindaugas Sinkevičius**

Mr. Mindaugas Sinkevičius is studying Economics at Vilnius University. He is a member of the Lithuanian Young Democrat Organization, International Student Organization, and the State Council of Youth Affairs. He works for the Vilnius municipality council of youth affairs and National Agency coordinating youth programmes. He enjoys basketball and fishing.

Ms. Tatjana Stakun

Ms. Tatjana Stakun attended the Lithuanian Academy of Physical Education and obtained her Bachelor's degree in Sport Pedagogics. She is currently the Senior Officer for Youth Physical Education, which

Netherlands

Mr. Wilco Otte

Mr. Wilco Otte is currently earning his Bachelors degree in Urban Planning with a minor in International Development Studies from the University of Utrecht. He represents the Netherlands as a youth delegate at the General Assmebly of the United Nations and is member of the Dutch National Youth Council. He has also taken courses on building peace skills and will be giving a speech at the Next General Assembly on behalf of the Dutch Youth.

Ms. José Spierts

Ms. José Spierts was president of the student council during high school. A six months stay in India deepened her interest, and led to a stronger involvement in international cooperation and development issues that was decisive in the choice for International Relations as a main subject at university. During university, she was active as a member of several student organizations, editor for a students' magazine (Zjoernal), participant in several Model United Nations and a co-organizer of several cultural events for youth. She is currently a board member for International Affairs and Vice-President of the Dutch National Youth Council in Utrecht.

Poland

Mr. Filip Jerzy Chodkiewicz

Filip Jerzy Chodkiewicz currently works for the Polish Scouts and Guides Association as an instructor in one of the Scout Regions. As a leader of a local scouts community for the past two years, he has been responsible for fundraising for the organization's projects in the region. He has prepared and organized several summer camps in Poland and abroad.

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Ms. Katarzyna Krawczyk

Ms. Katarzyna Krawczyk studied Belarusian and Polish Philology as an undergraduate. She is currently working for the Ministry of National Education, where she is responsible for the issuing of grants for youth programs and communications with non-government organizations. Prior to this job, at the Bureau of National Level Polish Scouts and Guides Association (ZHP), she worked as the Assistant to the President and as a member of the Youth Programme Department to coordinate national events.

Portugal

Ms. Vânia Freitas

Ms. Freitas currently works for the Portuguese Nacional Youth Council. She has participated in the Fourth UNESCO Youth Forum and the EU's last two Youth Events in Cardiff and Vienna. Aside from her native Portuguese, she speaks English, Spanish and French.

Mr. Luis Andre Mendes Alves

Mr. Alves Works for the National Federation of Youth Associations (FNAJ), where he is responsible for several Associative/Youth Exchange Programs with Germany, Spain, France, Mexico, Brazil and many other countries. He is a member of the Portuguese Youth Institute Administrative Council and President of the General assembly of Porto's Federation of Youth Associations. He has done post-graduate work on the topic of "Youth: a Context of Intervention" AT Porto's University.

Romania

Mr. Alexandru Balas

Mr. Balas obtained his PhD in Political Science and wrote his MA Thesis on "The Impact of Political Structures on 3rd Party Intervention in Cultural-Based Conflicts." In terms of professional experience, he was a Project Assistant at The Foundation for Democratic Changes and an Editor of the South East European NGOs Network. Currently, he is Turkey

Project Manager at the EuroIslam Project. He has had publications on "Integration of Theory, Research, and Practice in the field of Conflict Analysis and Resolution," "Darfur: Genocide Strikes Back," and "A Hardware Called 'Islam' and a Software Called 'Democracy.'" Mr. Balas speaks fluent Romanian, English, French, and Italian with proficiency in both German and Spanish.

Ms. Corina Murafa

Ms. Murafa is the project manager of Phenomenon Media (ORICUM magazine) and a volunteer member of Civitas99. She has experience in event-staging, project coordination, and editing and drafting documents. She has extensive training in adult education, project writing and management, and team formation and development. In 2004, she participated in an international debate tournament organized by the American University in Blagoevgrad. Ms. Murafa is currently studying political science at the University of Bucharest and working for the UN Information Center in Romania.

Slovakia

Ms. Jana Cákanyová

Ms. Cakanyova is working as an administrative and financial assistant in the Administrative and Contracting Unit of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Office in Bratislava. Prior to that she worked for the Comenius University MBA Programs and was a volunteer at the Center for Disabled Children in Bratislava. She holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's Degree in Human Resources from the Faculty of Management at Comenius University.

Mr. Jozef Slovík

Mr. Jozef Slovík holds a Bachelors as well as Masters Degree in Civil Engineering. His most recent work includes working as a designer at a Real-Design Engineer's Office and as a project manager of DOMKA. He has also worked for SPEC, a youth center, and IKV Zakovce, a homeless shelter. During his recreational time, he cooks and follows many kinds of sports. He also speak German and English.

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Slovenia

Spain

Ms. Marta Escribano Carrasco

Ms. Marta Escribano Carrasco has two bachelor's degrees in English and in French Philology. She is working part-time as a French secondary school student. She is also board member in the Spanish Youth Council, where she is responsible for the International Affairs Commission. In the European Youth Forum, she is responsible for employment, social inclusion and the Euro-Med sector. She is very active in her background organisation, 'Association towards the Employment of Youth,' which is a local and regional youth NGO. She also has aided and visited Palestinian and Sahara refugee camps in Algiers, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

Mr. Mario Esteban

Mr. Mario Esteban is a student of Commercial Management and Officer of Labor Risk Prevention. At present, he is the President of the Spanish Youth council. Since 2004, he was Federal Manager of the Youth Department in the Public Services Federation and member of the permanent co-ordination group of the Confederate Department of Youth. In 2000, he joined the Spanish Trade Union. He was also part of the Commission of Experts on Youth and Security of the Spanish Ministry on Home Affairs and the Youth Event of the EU Austrian Presidency.

Mr. Daniel Mateos Fuertes

Daniel Mateos works for the High Sports Council, an organization housed under the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science. Previously he worked as a teacher in a secondary school and in the promotion of sport in Castilla y León. He speaks Spanish and English.

Sweden

Ms. Anna Eliasson

Anna Eliasson works at the Swedish Sports Confederation, where she is a member of the Youth Committee and is a voluntary sports leader. She speaks Swedish, English and German.

Mr. Mattias Hjelmberg

Mattias Hjelmberg is employed at the Swedish Sports Confederation, where he is responsible for children and youth sports. He speaks Swedish and English.

UK

Ms. Sara Fazlali

Sara Fazlali is currently studying for her MPhil in Social Anthropology at Oxford University, writing her dissertation on gender construction in sport, which emphasizes her own beliefs in the empowering and influential impact of sport in every day life. She is a member of the British National Karate Team, and her keen interest in sport sees her volunteering for the 2012 Olympics. She is an LTA qualified tennis coach and speaks 4 languages including French and Farsi. She is also involved with the Young Professionals Network branch of the United Nations Association in London

Mr. Richard Bartlett

Richard Bartlett works for Pricewaterhouse Coopers. He has previously been President of UNYSA and is a founding member of the Young Professionals Network. He has a wealth of experience at the UN, including being one of the participants of the 10 year Review of the World Programme of Action for Youth in February 2005.

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UNDP Nominated Youth
Participants:

Bulgaria

Mr. Ivelin Pishev

Mr. Pishev currently attends the Vocational High School for Clothing and Design, where he serves as President of the School Students Council. He also works as a peer educator within the school on issues such as drug use prevention, civil education and sexual and reproductive health. He speaks Bulgarian and English.

Ms. Olga Todorova

Ms. Olga Todorova is completing her Bachelors degree in Social Work at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridsk. She is also working part-time as a Y-PEER Assistant with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) CO Bulgaria. Her job includes coordination, implementation and management of country activities in the Youth Peer Education Network. Presently, she is a member of the board of the National Union of YMCAs in Bulgaria and the Youth Advisory Panel of UNFPA. She speaks Bulgarian, French, and English.

Croatia

Ms. Emina **Bužinkić**

Emina Bužinkić is the Coordinator at CPS for the Youth MIRamiDA and the Asylum programme. She is also Coordinator at CYN for the Education Programme as well as the trainer and consultant on national and local youth policy development. Her educational background includes human rights, peace and development, multiculturalism and gender issues. In 2004, she was elected vice-president of the Croatian Youth Network and made a short documentary on detention centers and asylums in Croatia. And, in 2005 she conducted training courses on Millennium Development Goals in cooperation with UNDP in 9 Croatian provinces.

Mr. Drazen Puljic

Mr. Drazen Puljic studied philosophy and Ancient Greece at the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb and is currently writing his thesis on "The psychology of the masses in the Frankfurt School of Thought." At present, he is a member of the Executive Board of the Croatian Youth Network. His job includes being the Program Coordinator of "Local Youth Policy Development," Project Manager of "Establish Regional Youth Councils," Coordinator of a "Working Group for Youth Participation," and Project Manager of "Inclusion of Youth Organizations in the Millennium Development Goals Process." He also has work experience as Project Assistant of the Democratic Youth Initiative, Project Officer of CARE International, and Co-author of National Human Development Report 2004.

Japan

Mr. Tamao Koyama

Macedonia

Mr. Asaf Ademi

Asaf Ademi holds a Bachelors degree in civil engineer construction and is currently working as the Head of the Department for Local Economic development and project implementation in the municipality of Gostivar. As the Coordinator of MDG related projects aimed to support Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) in poverty reduction, he is supported by UNDP. He speaks Albanian, Macedonian, English, Turkish, and Serbian.

Ms. Gabrijela Loskovska

Morocco

Ms. Loubna el Mallali

Ms. El Mallali holds a bachelor's degree in modern languages and has a diploma in "soft medicine"

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including massage therapy. She has five years of experience practicing medicine in France. Prior to that, she was an intern in the government Ministry responsible for disabled persons. She speaks Arab, French, English and Tifinagh.

Mr. Abdellatif M'Hamdi

Poland

Joanna Kamińska

Ms. Joanna Kamińska has already earned her Master in Political Sciences and European Studies, and now she is completing her Master in International Relations at Warsaw University. Presently, she is Director of the East Programme in Casimir Pułaski Foundation, which is an NGO and think tank that promotes freedom, justice, democracy and support for actions aiming to strengthen civil society. In 2004, she received the Ministry of Education for Academic Achievements. In 2003, she was European Projects Coordinator for the European Students Association AEGEE. Although her mother tongue is Polish, she is fluent in English and French and proficient in Spanish, Italian, and Russian.

Mr. Wojciech Bialozyt

Wojciech Bialozyt is attending the International School of Political Science at Silesian University in Poland. He also holds a law degree from that same university. He currently represents the Polish Forum of Young Diplomats. Prior to that, he was a member of the OSCE observation mission on presidential elections in Ukraine in 2004 and was an intern in the office of Mr. Miquel Mayol I Raynal, a member of the European Parliament. He is the founder of the "Legal Advice Office" and the "Centre for extra-Curricular Studies".

Turkey

Ms. Elif Kalan

Ms. Elif Kalan joined the Youth Association for Habitat in 2004 and continues to be an active member in trying to help disadvantaged youth. She earned a

Certificate Program on the European Union (EU) last year, which helped her gain valuable insight into the inner workings of the EU. She was also one of the youth leaders in the Action 1 Project "European Integration and Cultural Diversity" and youth leader of the Turkish team for the Action 1 Project "Nature without Borders" with the Greek Helleniki Etariki Organization. In terms of activities and interests, she enjoys playing basketball and rock climbing.

Ukraine

Ms. Olga Goncharova

Ms. Goncharova currently works at the Ukrainian Network of International Youth Non-Governmental Organizations. While there, she has mainly been working on a long-term project entitled "Youth for Youth," which seeks to reduce childhood illiteracy in Ukraine. She speaks English, Russian and Dutch.

Mr. Denys Tkachov

Denys Tkachov works for the Kharkiv regional NGO "Youth Initiatives," where he is a social project manager, a moderator and facilitator of work groups and a manager of event organization issues.

UNDP office of Kosovo

Ms. Maria Berishaj

Mr. Viktor Popovic

USA

Fisher Qua

Mr. Fisher Qua is a recent graduate of Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. While there he majored in East Asian History with a minor in religion. His thesis dealt with religion and spirituality in Japan during the Asia-Pacific War. Fisher played water polo and was captain of the swim team his senior season. He also trained and performed as a modern dancer for the Bates College Modern Dance Company. Last summer Fisher participated in the inaugural Renaissance

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Games held at the University of Rhode Island campus
and hosted by the Institute for International Sport.

Ms. Sonija Parson

Ms. Sonija Parson has just graduated from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. She was a senior admissions fellow, a Women's and Gender Studies Major, a Spanish Minor, and a Pre-health student from Washington, DC. She was also active in the Bates College Investment Club, Women of Color and Latinos Unidos among other groups on campus. She was a 4-year member of the varsity women's lacrosse team, and a two year member of the varsity indoor track team. She also spent her junior fall semester abroad in Cuernavaca, Mexico, where she completed an internship in a women's health clinic; she has been an accomplished apprenticing midwife in Mexico since the summer of 2005.

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Resources Persons List:

Mr. Wondy Asnake
UNEP

Mr. Gautam Babbar
UNODC

Gautam Babbar has been working with the UNODC since 2000 on youth and drug abuse prevention issues. He initiated and ran the global youth network project against drug abuse, a part of which was dedicated to exploring the role sport could play in promoting healthy, drug free lifestyles. Before joining the UN, Gautam has at various points been a print and TV journalist and a corporate manager with the Tata group, India's largest Industrial House. He holds degrees in Politics and Philosophy from the Universities of Delhi and Oxford and is passionate about cooking and the theatre.

Ms. Melitta Borovansky Koenig
UNODC

Dr. Hellmuth Broda
Distinguished Director and European Chief
Technology Officer, Corporate Strategic Insight Office,
Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Hellmuth Broda establishes and furthers technology transfer to customer and partner executive management as well as governments and industry organizations emphasizing the business impact and benefits of Sun technologies as facilitators for the transition from the information to the participation age. He has worked with Sun Microsystems since 1995 and prior to that he worked in the Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industry. He holds a long list of professional and honorary memberships.

Mr. Massimo Caneva

Mr. Massimo Caneva is the President of the European Association of International Studies (AESI). He conducts seminars on International Policy and Diplomacy affiliated with the patronage of the European Commission, European Parliament, United Nations, and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He is also the General Directorate of the University Cooperation Coordination for peace and development.

He is also the Secretary General and Professor on Humanitarian Affairs of the Master UNESCO. He holds a Bachelors degree in Medicine and a PhD on "Social Medicine" University of Rome La Sapienza with specialisation on "Social Medicine for Refugees in the Humanitarian Crises" from the University of Rome La Sapienza. His professional experience also includes traveling to place such as Chile, Sarajevo, Armenia, and Sri Lanka to help in humanitarian and peace issues.

Mr. Giuseppe Deodato
Minister and Director-General, Development
Cooperation

Mr. Giuseppe Deodato has a degree in politics. He entered the diplomatic service in 1974. After serving with the Ministry's Historical Archive and Documentation Service, the Directorate General for Political Affairs and the Minister's Secretariat, he was posted to the Embassy in Buenos Aires as Commercial Secretary. In 1982 he was appointed First Secretary to the Italian Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. He moved to the General Secretariat of the Ministry in the grade of Legation Counsellor in 1985 and in 1988 was posted to the Italian Embassy in Madrid, where he was promoted to the grade of Embassy Counsellor in 1990. In 1992 he was posted as First Counsellor to the Italian Permanent Representation to the International Organisations in Vienna and in 1995 was appointed Head of the Public Relations Office at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In November 1998 he was appointed Head of the Crisis Unit at the Ministry, a position in which he was promoted to the grade of Minister Plenipotentiary in June 2000. He has been Director General for Development Cooperation since 15 April 2003.

Dr. Djibril Diallo
United Nations New York Office of
Sport for Development and Peace

Dr. Djibril Diallo (Senegal) is the Director of the United Nations/New York Office of the Special Advisor of the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace established in October 2004. In his capacity as Director of the United Nations/New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace, he conceptualizes and implements initiatives and special events to raise awareness and bring together a wide range of

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partners and stakeholders in the promotion of peace and development through sport. Before taking on his functions as Director of the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace, Djibril Diallo was Director of the Communications Office/Office of the Administrator (COA) In this capacity, he was responsible for sharpening UNDP's corporate identity and image through media and advocacy outreach and worked with UNDP liaison offices in Brussels, Copenhagen, Geneva, Tokyo and Washington DC, and the 133 offices in developing countries around the world, to mobilize political, popular and financial support for UNDP by increasing the understanding of what UNDP stands for and what it does. Before joining UNDP, he worked for nine years as a senior official of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), acting as both Special Adviser to the Executive Director and Deputy Director of Public Affairs. Prior to joining UNICEF, Mr. Diallo was the Spokesman for the United Nations Office for Emergency Operations in Africa (OEOA), where he helped to focus world attention on the 1984-85 famine. Mr. Diallo earned a Ph.D. in Linguistics and Communication from the University of London, United Kingdom. He has taught languages in Nottingham, UK, and in Africa.

Mr. Giovanni di Cola
Senior Official - Department of Development Cooperation, ILO; ILO Focal Person on Sport and Development and ILO/Universitas Program Coordinator.

Mr di Cola has worked with the ILO since 1988 in various capacities across the globe. Mr. di Cola is also the coordinator of the ILO Youth Sport Program and the author of Common Framework (CF) methodology that links in a coherent manner the interests of the world of sport with those of the world of development. Mr. di Cola, holds degrees in Political Sciences from Rome (International Relations) and at IEP- Paris (DEA en Etudes Sovietiques) as well as a Doctorat en Economie Internationale (Université Paris X).

Mr. Roman Gailevich
Regional Advisor for Europe, UNAIDS

Mr. Roman Gailevich completed his graduate and post graduate-studies first in World Political History and

English in Belarus and then in Drugs and Alcohol Prevention Policies in the UK. Roman came to UNAIDS in 1998 from the education sector. He was first an UNAIDS Country Programme Adviser in Belarus and in 2002 joined the Regional Support Team for Europe at the UNAIDS Secretariat in Geneva. Roman has extensive experience working with drug users and other vulnerable populations, in national AIDS planning, and in resource mobilisation. Lately Roman has worked closely with organisations of people living with HIV in Eastern Europe and Central Asia assisting them in community mobilisation, capacity building, and intra- and inter-country networking. His first language is Russian and he also speaks English and some French.

Ms. Stefania Giannini
Rector, Perugia University

Ms. Stefania Giannini holds a Bachelors degree in Human Letters and a PhD in Linguistics. She is a full professor in Glottology and Linguistics. Presently, she is the Rector of the University for Foreigners in Perugia. She is also the National Coordinator of Academic Activities for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a member of the Technical and Scientific Committee for the Selection of "Progetti di Internazionalizzazione." Her publications include: essays, research papers, articles, and national as well as international specialized magazines.

Ms. Jacqueline Groth
Section for Youth (Bureau of Strategic Planning)
UNESCO

Ms. Jacqueline Groth works in the Section for Youth within UNESCO's Bureau of Strategic Planning. The Section develops, mainstreams and coordinates UNESCO's strategies and programmes pertaining to youth, facilitates partnerships with youth NGOs and networks, intergovernmental organizations and other partners and acts as a clearing-house on youth issues related to UNESCO's fields of mandate (Education, Social and Natural Sciences, Culture and Communication). In addition, the Section for Youth provides technical assistance to Member States in the development of national youth policies and programmes and implements a series of pilot projects targeting and involving young people. Jacqueline Groth works on models of youth participation in

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poverty alleviation projects, HIV/AIDS preventive education and youth policy development. She is also involved in the coordination of Regional UNESCO Youth Forums on the themes of Education for Sustainable Development and the Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations.

Mr. Driss Guerraoui
Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Morocco
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Morocco

Ms. Doris Hrinerbrigg
Focal Point, Human Security Coordination, UNIDO

Mr. Francis Maertens
Director, Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs
UNODC

Mr. Francis Maertens has been the Director, Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) since January 2003. In that capacity, he manages the research and policy/strategic activities of the Office, the external relations, co-financing and partnerships at the level of the UN system. Mr. Maertens has over 25 years of UN experience. Prior to assuming his current function, he held the position of Chief, Office of the Executive Director, UNODC. In that capacity, he coordinated the work programmes of the organization, its restructuring and redefining of new operational priorities. Mr. Maertens' other professional experiences include: Officer - in - Charge of the Treaty Affairs Division of the Drug Programme and Chief of Resource Mobilization. After the fall of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, Mr. Maertens directed the development of counter-narcotics and crime prevention strategy and programmes in Kabul, including the re-opening of UNODC's field office. Prior to his experience at the United Nations, Mr. Maertens was an economist at the European Federation on Textile and Clothing, working closely with the EEC on research and economic programmes, including the multi-fibre textile agreements. He holds a Masters degree in the Political economy of developing countries.

Mr. M. L. Mittal
Founder and Chairman of ISPAT

Mr. Mittal is the founder and chairman of the ISPAT group, both, India and international, the latter now known as Mittal steel. Mr. Mittal's family owns and

operates the largest steel manufacturing operation in the world. After his retirement in 1995, Mr. Mittal has been involved with various socio-cultural organizations working for alleviation of poverty, fostering education with values, and bringing potable water to the arid zones, both in India and around the world.

Since the millennium world peace summit held at the United Nations (UN) assembly hall in New York in August 2000, Mr. Mittal has also been working towards the goal of a united world. With a view to create an Indian initiative to promote greater understanding of the universal values of non-violence and human unity that are core Indian values, Mr. Mittal launched the Vishwa Pravasi Bharatiya Leaders Forum (VPBLF) to promote inter-faith dialogue and harmony.

Realising that economic disparity was coming in the way of a united world, the VPBLF along with the Inner Trip Reiyukai International (ITRI) of Japan has forged a deep partnership with the United Nations to organize the global youth leadership summit in New York. This is a historic private- public partnership until the year 2015 which is aimed at alleviation of poverty by empowering the youth to work for the Millennium Development Goals. Mr. Mittal believes that the achievement of the eighth United Nations millennium development goals can happen much faster if we can inspire the youth leaders to take up projects in various countries.

Mr. Guido Schmidt-Traub
Associate Director
UN Millennium Project

Guido Schmidt-Traub is Associate Director at the UN Millennium Project, directed by Prof. Jeffrey Sachs. He manages the day-to-day activities of the Project, including the Project's advisory work in several countries, and supports the implementation of the Millennium Villages. His technical work focuses on economics, infrastructure, and environmental sustainability. Previously, Guido was a Partner at IndexIT Scandinavia, a strategic advisor for technology companies and concurrently managed a private investment fund for European technology companies. Guido Schmidt-Traub holds an M.Phil. in Economics from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar, and a Masters in physical chemistry from the Free University Berlin.

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Ms. Patricia Waring-Ripley
UNMIK Director
Director of Civil Administration, the United Nations
Mission in Kosovo