



**The World Academy of Sciences**  
*for the advancement of science in developing countries*

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**Scientific Refugees: Transnational Resources**  
ICTP, Adriatico Guesthouse, Kastler Lecture Hall  
13-17 March 2017  
Trieste, Italy

*AGENDA*

**Monday 13 March**

**14:00**      *Registration*  
(AGH, lower level 1)

**16:00**      **Opening and Introductions**  
(AGH, Kastler lecture hall)

**Welcome Remarks**

Peter McGrath – Coordinator, Science Policy/Science Diplomacy Programme, The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS)

Maria Cristina Pedicchio –President, OGS, Italian National Institute for Oceanography and Applied Geophysics

Abdelhamid El-Zoheiry – President, Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI)

Matteo Marsili – The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)

Romain Murenzi – Director, Division of Science Policy and Capacity-Building, UNESCO

Annapaola Porzio – Prefect, Municipality of Trieste

Enrico Padula – Head of Office X, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Government of Italy

**18:30**      *Opening Reception*  
(AGH Cafeteria)

**Tuesday 14 March**

**8:30**      *Registration*  
(Continuation, AGH, lower level 1)

**9:00**

**Setting the Scene**

*(20 min. each)*

*Moderator/Chair: Abdelhamid El-Zoheiry – EMUNI President*

*Video on migratory fluxes*

*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLBx5z8pfmY&feature=youtu.be> (5:08 min.)*

Octavi Quintana-Trias – Chair, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation (RTD), European Commission (EC)

Guido Ferraro Di Silvi e Castiglione – Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

**10:00**

**Refugees – Who They Are And Where They Are**

*(20 min. each, unless a third speaker is added in which case 15 min. each)*

*Moderator/Chair: Peter McGrath*

*Video “The end of the line – the refugee crisis and the fate of the West”*

*<https://globalyoungacademy.net/fresh-eyes-on-the-refugee-crisis/>(8:32 min.)*

Mario Gomes – Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), Spain

Karly Kehoe – Young Academy of Scotland and the Global Young Academy, Germany

**11:00**

*Coffee/tea break*

**11:30**

**Roundtable “Personal Experiences”**

*Moderator/Chair: Edward Lempinen*

Sahil Zabeeh Ullah –Afghan former intern, Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD), Italy

Edgar Kaade – Syrian Biomedical Sciences PhD student in Germany

Shifa Mathbout – Syrian PDoc researcher, Spain

**12.45**

Group photo

*(AGH Terrace)*

**13:00**

*Lunch*

*(AGH Cafeteria)*

**14:30**

**Roundtable “Assisting Organizations”**

*(10 to 15 min. each, 15 slides max.; 30 min. discussion at the end)*

James R. King – The Institute of International Education Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-

SRF), USA

Luciano Saso – President, Networks of Universities from the Capitals of Europe (UNICA), Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

Ulrike Albrecht – Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

**15:45** *Coffee/tea break*

**16:00** **Presentations on preliminary Recommendations document - I**  
*Moderators/Chairs: Peter McGrath and Mounir Ghribi*

*Writing group: Peter McGrath, Mounir Ghribi, Jerneja Penca, Sahil Zabeeh Ullah. Volunteers from other organizations are welcome to join this core group.*

**17:30** End of works

**19:00** *Dinner (AGH Cafeteria)*

### **Wednesday 15 March**

**9:00** **Keynote Lecture – An Untapped Resource? Challenges and Opportunities for Diaspora Scientists and Science Diplomacy**

Daryl Copeland – Director, Canadian Defense and Foreign Affairs Institute

**10:15** *Coffee/tea break*

**10:45** **South-South refugees crises – Success case studies**  
*(10 to 15 min. each, 15 slides max.)*  
*Moderator/Chair: Mounir Ghribi*

M. Murat Erdoğan – Director, Turkish Academy of Sciences

Charles Kleinermann, ICARDA Amman, Jordan

Eqbal Dauqan – Yemeni Visiting Scholar Fellow, University Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)

**13:00** *Lunch*  
*(AGH Cafeteria)*

- 14:00**            **Presentations on preliminary Recommendations document – II**  
*Moderators/Chairs: Peter McGrath and Mounir Ghribi*
- Writing group: Peter McGrath, Mounir Ghribi, Jerneja Penca, Sahil Zabeeh Ullah.  
Volunteers from other organizations are welcome to join this core group.*
- 15:30**            *Coffee/tea break*
- 15:45**            **Discussion Panel: What Is Needed To Help Science Refugees Integrate into the New Home Country**  
*(10 to 15 min. each, 15 slides max.)*
- Kathrin Kohs – Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Germany
- Christian Hülshörster – Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD), Germany
- Mireia Nadal, NGO ReDI, Germany
- Gianfranco Schiavone – ICS (Italian Consortium of Solidarity) Office, Trieste; and SPRAR (System for Asylum Seekers and Refugees) network
- 17:30**            End of works
- 19:00**            *Dinner: ‘free night’  
(downtown or AGH cafeteria)*

### **Thursday 16 March**

- 9:00**            **Support Systems – Role of International Scientific Networks and Hubs**  
*Moderator/Chair: Maria Cristina Pedicchio*
- 1) Trieste Science System:**
- Mounir Ghribi - OGS  
Matteo Marsili – ICTP  
Ilaria Pierdomenico – Welcome Office Trieste  
Stefano Ruffo – SISSA
- 10:30**            *Coffee/tea break*
- 2) University Networks:**

Dr. Jerneja Penca – EMUNI Research Fellow

Clara Borghi – Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna

Khalif Bile Mohamud, MD PhD, Coordinator Somali-Swedish Universities-Diaspora

Maurizio Fermeglia – Rector, University of Trieste

**12:30**      *Lunch* (AGH Cafeteria)

**14:00**      **Local and National Policy Perspectives**

Representative from Slovenia – TBC

Zecharias T. Teclegeorghis – Eritrean PDoc in South Africa – TBC

Pavao Rudan – President, Euro-Mediterranean Academic Network (EMAN) - TBC

**15:30**      *Coffee/tea break*

**15:45**      **Return to Normality/Success Stories**

*(10 to 15 min. each, 15 slides max.)*

Ahmed Abdulrahman Ahmed Al-Tabbakh – Iraqi TWAS Young Affiliate, Al-Nahrain University, Baghdad, Iraq

Naeem Abdurrahman – University of Tripoli, Libya

Edja Florentin Assanvo – TWAS fellowship alumunus in India from Cote d'Ivoire

Alnouri – An-Najah National University, Nablus, Palestine

**17:30**      End of works

**19:00**      Official Dinner

*(Tavernetta Restaurant, Grignano)*

### **Friday 17 March**

**9:00**      **Designing a holistic research agenda on and for refugee scientists**

*Moderators/Chairs: Edward Lempinen, Jerneja Penca*

**10:30**            *Coffee/tea break*

**11:00**            **Wrap-up and Presentation of Recommendations**  
*Moderators/Chairs: Peter McGrath and Mounir Ghribi*

*Writing group: Peter McGrath, Mounir Ghribi, Jerneja Penca, Sahil Zabeeh Ullah.*

**12:30**            **Lunch**  
*(AGH Cafeteria)*

### **End of works**

*The Workshop is sponsored by  
The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)  
And co-organized with the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI), Slovenia  
Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale (OGS), Italy*

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## Content of Sessions

### 14 March:

9:00

#### **Setting the Scene**

*This session aims at framing the current migratory crises affecting Europe in broader terms, providing an idea of: differences between current and past migratory crises; the scale, main routes and preferred destinations of migratory movements from war-torn countries or countries with social/political unrest in the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa region including Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Yemen).*

10:00

#### **Refugees – Who They Are and Where They Are**

*This session focuses on quantifying/mapping migratory movements of refugees; impacts on individual lives and careers of scientists, medical doctors and engineers; how we can begin to identify and track scientists, medical doctors and engineers within the flux of refugees; and the role of the diaspora.*

11:30

#### **Roundtable “Personal Experiences”**

*This session provides an opportunity for scientists and medical personnel from conflict zones who have been directly or indirectly affected by war or civil unrest to present their personal experiences and lessons learned as they have left their home countries and started to integrate into new societies/cultures.*

14:30

#### **Roundtable “Assisting Organizations”**

*This session will showcase good practices of receiving countries, highlight some of the programmes developed by ‘assisting organizations’, discuss the needs that these programmes were established to address and their success in addressing these needs; identify opportunities and pre-conditions for their replication in other receiving countries; and discuss how host countries can make best use of the arriving talent, as well as how to maintain and update the talent of refugee scientists.*

16:00

#### **Presentation on preliminary Recommendations document - I**

*A main goal of this workshop is to develop a document with a series of recommendations targeted at the different stakeholders: scientific migrants, the diaspora, the scientific/medical community (including universities and research institutions), home and host governments, science funding agencies, the media and other identified stakeholders.*

*A preliminary document will be circulated before the meeting. This session provides the first opportunity to provide feedback on the zero draft, propose other items for inclusion, etc.*

### 15 March:

11:00

#### **South-South Refugee Crises – Successful case studies**

*Moderator/Chair: Mounir Ghribi*

*While it is the influx of refugees into Europe that has been most widely reported in the press, most refugees are, in fact, hosted in countries neighbouring war and conflict zones, including Jordan, Turkey, etc. Camps in such countries are often also the first staging posts of refugees aiming to travel further. What is the ongoing situation in such*

*cases, and how can the international community interact with scientists, medics and engineers in such places?*

- 14:00**            **Presentation on preliminary Recommendations document - II**  
*A main goal of this workshop is to develop a document with a series of recommendations targeted at the different stakeholders: scientific migrants, the diaspora, the scientific/medical community (including universities and research institutions), home and host governments, science funding agencies, the media and other identified stakeholders.*  
*Since the previous day's discussion session on the zero draft document, an update based on yesterday's discussions will have been prepared and circulated.*  
*This session provides the second opportunity to provide feedback on the developing draft.*
- 15:45**            **Discussion Panel: What Is Needed To Help Science Refugees Integrate into the New Home Country**  
*Who are all the stakeholders involved (e.g. refugee scientists, policymakers, research centres, educational institutions, resettlement organizations, diaspora, the media etc) [are any missing from this workshop?]; What are the integration policies of hosting countries?; how have they developed over the past 2-3 years?; How could they be developed further?; What greater role can the scientific/medical community play?*

## **16 March:**

- 9:00**            **Support Systems – Role of International Scientific Networks and Hubs**  
**1) Trieste Science System:**  
  
Mounir Ghribi – OGS  
Matteo Marsili – ICTP  
Ilaria Pierdomenico – Welcome Office Trieste  
Stefano Ruffo – SISSA  
*With several UN-linked science organizations based here in the city, along with various national research centres, Trieste identifies itself as an international city of science. In addition, it is located at the cross-roads of key immigration routes from the south of Italy and the Balkans into central and northern Europe. What lessons can be drawn from the response of Trieste and the Trieste-based scientific organizations to the ongoing crisis?*
- 11:00**            **2) University Networks:**  
*This discussion session will build on the earlier Trieste session and aim to review the efforts responses to the ongoing crisis of other institutions, especially those that have members spanning several countries, including countries directly affected by war and civil unrest.*
- 15:45**            **Return to Normality/Success Stories**  
*This session aims to examine countries where conflicts have largely blown over and where efforts are now focused on rebuilding national infrastructures, including universities, research centres, medical facilities, etc. What lessons can be learned from such countries?; Are international and/or bilateral aid efforts effective?; What has been*



*the role of the diaspora, e.g. in assisting in rebuilding the scientific enterprise in home countries;? How easy is it to attract talent back home?; What are the best policies for attracting such returning talent?*

**17 March:**

**9:00**

**Designing a holistic research agenda on and for refugee scientists**

*Without pre-empting the outcomes of the previous discussions, it is likely that a number of knowledge gaps and appropriate societal responses with regard to refugee scientists will be identified. A group of ‘provocateurs’ identified from among workshop participants will be asked to challenge participants on what would be needed if a major project is to be designed, e.g. for implementation by a consortium of organizations represented at the workshop.*

*Questions that could be asked include: How can we more quickly identify refugee scientists?; How can we more quickly accommodate them and their families in suitable institutions?; What parameters can we use to assess the benefits of hosting refugee scientists;? Are these values being measures?; If so, who is measuring them?’ If not, who should measure them and analyse them?*

*Ideally the session will end with an outline research agenda for further elaboration, a group of interested organizations, and ideas of potential sources of funding.*

**11:00**

**Wrap-up and Presentation of Recommendations**

*A main goal of this workshop is to develop a document with a series of recommendations targeted at the different stakeholders: scientific migrants, the diaspora, the scientific/medical community (including universities and research institutions), home and host governments, science funding agencies, the media and other identified stakeholders.*

*Two previous sessions have presented developing draft documents and requested feedback. Here the final document will be presented for approval by workshop participants.*