



GMPA

Global Migration Policy Associates
*An International research, policy development,
advisory services and advocacy group*

ACTIVITY SUMMARY REPORT 2016

About GMPA

Global Migration Policy Associates support, encourage and generate knowledge and analysis for a broad-based international defence of the rights-based approach. It challenges and articulates an alternative to the instrumental cost-benefit logic of social analysis, of "human resource management" and of 'migration management' that have predominant, including among those who consider themselves humanitarian in their worldview.

GMPA comprises a unique cooperative network among preeminent migration experts across all regions of the world. Members reflect diverse academic and practical disciplines addressing the multiple aspects and impacts of migration. Its members possess knowledge, experience and commitment to human rights necessary to challenge the rationale that exclusion is the collateral cost for national and international development.

In order to 'make a difference' in this context, GMPA is focused on articulating an analysis and knowledge base independent of the dominant framework while supporting partner mobilization around common, strategic activities and actions.

GMPA's comparative advantage

We represent and give life to a rights-based agenda rooted in advocacy, practice and the experience of migration worldwide. We give emphasis to migrants as human beings first and foremost, addressing discrimination and equality of treatment for all migrants and immigrants. We offer alternatives to emphasis on migrants as "agents of development" who are praised for their utilitarian value but encouraged to trade away universal rights in exchange for presumed development gains. We uphold human rights, democratic approaches and social justice as defining principles for migration whether circular or permanent, and promote leadership and action by government, civil society and migrant communities.

GMPA: TEN ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FIRST FIVE YEARS 2011 to 2016

1. Attracted 45 of the 'best and the brightest' migration professionals, practitioners and academics worldwide into a membership network, with regional, ethnic, gender, topical and disciplinary diversity.
2. Conducted substantial and significant activity
 - knowledge building: conducting, producing and/or collecting research studies, published articles, policy briefs, conference papers, policy analyses, etc. (lists in annual reports)
 - public events: seminars, conferences, side events to major international conferences, etc.
 - 1 seminar type side event to the Human Rights Council per annum, two of which drew 70-80 participants (large numbers by usual side event attendance)
 - 1 to 2 substantial seminars or sessions of major conferences (one characterized as the largest event ever at UN Geneva on migrant women and human rights)
 - 1 event per year organizing presentations of numerous academic papers.
 - Elaborated GMPA policy documents for partners and civil society forums, such as PGA, GCM
 - Engaged in several significant international research or technical cooperation projects
 - Provided training sessions and co-organizing training course for and in ACP countries
3. Established and updated a highly appreciated and widely-accessed website information platform
 1. Over 200 substantial documents, reports, papers, briefs posted
 2. Average monthly hits up to 10,000, average daily 50 document downloads
 3. Numerous positive comments by reviewers on presentation as well as content
 4. Evidently used by other actors as a model.
4. Established and maintained an operational secretariat, with usually three full time staff since 2013
5. Effectively institutionalized the Association
 1. Formal constitution
 2. Legal registration and recognition
 3. Developed operating procedures
6. Obtained UN ECOSOC NGO accreditation «in record time».
7. Built up and operationalized a global contact and communications data base comprising over 5,000 entries including professional identity info and complete address profiles, most tagged into several of 110 geographic, organizational, professional, and topical discipline category lists.
(GMPA is able to send mass info mailings with document links to some 4,000 up-to-date contacts.)

In consequence:

8. GMPA associated activity has concretely influenced and/or affected law, policy and practice in several states (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Nigeria, Sri Lanka); at the regional level in Africa and Asia, in a major Regional Organization –the African Union, has contributed to discussion in the OSCE, and played an influential role in several international conferences on migration issues.
9. GMPA is perceived and acknowledged as a serious and relevant actor among civil society organizations, some academic institutions, the UN environment in Geneva, and by certain international agencies – IOM, ICMPD, OSCE, ILO – and several government missions in Geneva.
(It may also be perceived as a challenge for certain civil society, institutional, and government actors.)
10. The GMPA effort contributed to resetting a *rights-based* pole in the international migration arena.

Main GMPA research, activities, and contributions to international migration discussion in 2016

1. Presentation by **Piyasiri Wickramasekara** “Fair Recruitment for Low Skilled Migrant Workers: Mission impossible?” at the 6th **ADBI-OECD-ILO Roundtable on Labour Migration in Asia: Safeguarding Labor Migrants from Home to Workplace**, Tokyo, 3-5 February.
2. Presentation by **Piyasiri Wickramasekara** “Diaspora engagement: Any lessons from China and India?” at the **International Conference on the Pakistani Diaspora**, Organized by the Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD), Lahore School of Economics, Lahore, Pakistan, 16-17 February.
3. Participation in the 14th **Coordination Meeting on Migration**, organised by **UN DESA**, by Associates **Lisa Simeone**, **Patrick Taran** and **Evalyn Tennant**, New York, 25-26 February. Preparation and submission of the initial «Migration and SDGs Matrix»: *The Sustainable Development Goals and Migrants/Migration: Relevant SDGs, Implementation Actions, Realization Measurement Indicators and Rationales for Inclusion*. (GMPA, February 2016). http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/events/coordination/14/documents/bac_kgrounddocs/GMPA_14CM.pdf
4. GMPA expert presentation by GMPA President **Patrick Taran** in the OSCE-Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Economic and Environmental Committee **Consultation on labour migration**, Vienna, 16 March.
5. 'Made in GMPA' book ***Migrants and Refugees Have Rights! Impact of EU policies on accessing protection***, published by **Caritas Europa**, launched at the European Parliament in Brussels on 17 March. (See details below)
6. **Piyasiri Wickramasekara** was lead resource person and trainer at **Capacity building workshop on effective bilateral agreements and memoranda of understanding on labour migration**, jointly organised by the ILO-DFID Work in Freedom (WiF) Project: Making Migrant Work Safer for Women from South Asia; ILO-EU Promoting the Effective Governance of Labour Migration from South Asia (SALM) project and the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MOLE), Government of Nepal, 23-24 March, Hotel Himalaya, Kathmandu.
7. Presentation on *International labor migration: trends and governance challenges* by **Olga Kadysheva** at International Scientific Conference **Lomonosov-2016** held at Economic Faculty of **Lomonosov Moscow State University**, Moscow, April 18-20. Paper (in Russian) online at <https://www.econ.msu.ru/sys/raw.php?o=34869&p=attachment> (pp.1116-1122)
8. Presentation: *Migration, Displacement and the SDGs: A Civil Society Perspective* by GMPA Secretary **Lisa Simeone** at the **GMG Multi-stakeholder Meeting**, at the United Nations, New York, 25 April.
9. Speaking by **Patrick Taran** at the Ramphal Institute symposium on “**Education and Sustainable Development Goals in the Commonwealth and Beyond: Shifting the Discourse**”, 26 – 27th April, at Hamilton House - Headquarters of the National Union of Teachers, London, United Kingdom. Co-organised by Associate **Sadhana Manik** was a co-organizer of the event, Associate **Don Flynn** and Affiliate **Katherine Youtz** attended.
10. Participation and presentation at **UNESCO launch conference** for the UNESCO-ECCAR-Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation **Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants initiative**, Paris, 9 May, by Associates **Olga Kadysheva** and **Patrick Taran**. News stories on UNESCO website at: <https://en.unesco.org/events/roundtable-welcoming-cities-refugees-promoting-inclusion-and-protecting-rights> http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/refugees_and_migrants_assets_for_social_cultural_and_econo/
An article prepared by **Patrick Taran** for the conference was posted on the UNESCO website: *Migration: Patrick Taran advocates for a welcoming culture*. <https://en.unesco.org/news/migration-patrick-taran-advocates-welcoming-culture>
11. Associate **Evalyn Tennant** served as GCM Research Consultant from May 2016 and Project Development Coordinator from November 2016 till July 2017 for the Global Coalition on Migration and produced the Coalition's position statements and other publications.
12. Participation by **Evalyn Tennant** in the **OHCHR Expert Meeting on Guidelines on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations**, Geneva, 1 June; participation in the process of developing these principles and guidelines through their completion in late 2017 as Global Migration Group *Principles and Guidelines*.

13. GMPA President **Patrick Taran** and GMPA Associates **Jana Costachi**, **Irina Ivakhnyuk**, and **Yelena Sadovskaya** participated in and presented papers and/or oral interventions in the **Expert meeting on enhancing the OSCE's long-term approach to migration governance** held 16-17 June 2016 in Vienna, organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA). Patrick Taran moderated the Session "Towards a global framework on migration governance: the contribution of the OSCE second dimension" and provided concluding remarks. He also contributed to the conference background paper. See: <http://www.osce.org/secretariat/244136>



Photo: (L to R) : Irina Ivakhnyuk (GMPA), Nahida Sobhan (Minister Plenipotentiary, Bangladesh), Patrick Taran (GMPA), Yelena Sadovskaya (GMPA), Ronald Skeldon (Maastricht University), Jana Costachi (GMPA) at OSCE Expert Meeting on migration, Vienna, 16-17 June 2016

14. Participation by Associates **Olga Kadysheva** and **Patrick Taran** and Research Associate Gabriela Neves de Lima at the **UNESCO** conference **Migration for Sustainable Development: Social Transformations, Media Narratives and Education** in Paris, 6 July; a paper **Improving Public Perceptions of Refugees: Media Narratives and Education** submitted for publication.
15. Participation and presentation of a paper by Associates **Olga Kadysheva**, **Patrick Taran** and Research Associate **Gabriela Neves de Lima** at the **Cities of Welcome, Cities of Transit** conference, organized by the United Nations University Institute for Globalization, Culture and Mobility (**UNU-GCM**) in partnership with **openDemocracy** and the School of Law, **Queen Mary University of London**, in Barcelona, 14-15 July. A summary of the conference available at: <https://www.opendemocracy.net/mediterranean-journeys-in-hope/janina-pescinski-cameron-thibos-en-khong-alex-sakalis-rosemary-bechler/introducing-this-weeks> An interview with Patrick Taran **The myths of migration** is published on the *Open Democracy* website at: <https://www.opendemocracy.net/mediterranean-journeys-in-hope/cameron-thibos-patrick-taran/myths-of-migration>
16. Patrick Taran, GMPA President, spoke at the Side Event "**Promoting and Protecting Women Migrant Workers' Labour and Human Rights through CEDAW and CMW**" to the 64th **CEDAW** session, 21 July, Palais Des Nations. The side-event was opened by Ms. Hiba Qasas, UN Women, and moderated by Mr. Simon Walker, OHCHR. Other speakers were Ms. Pramila Patten, member (Mauritius), CEDAW Committee; Ms. Jasminka Dzumhur, member (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Committee on Migrant Workers; Ms. Maria Elena Valenzuela, ILO; Ms. Katrine Thomasen, Center for Reproductive Rights.



Photo: Partial view of panel (L to R): Hiba Qasas (UN Women), Maria Elena Valenzuela (ILO), Patrick Taran (GMPA), Katrine Thomasen (Center for Reproductive Rights)

Photo by Olga Kadysheva/GMPA

17. Interactive presentation at Round-table "**Migrants: charge ou chance pour la France?**" by GMPA President Patrick Taran at **MEDEF** «Mouvement des entreprises de France» National Employers' Federation regional **Université d'été** (summer university) for the North-East region of France, held

at EM Strasbourg Business School on 1st September. Information at: <https://www.em-strasbourg.eu/l-em-strasbourg-accueille-la-4eme-universite-d-ete-du-medef-alsace-le-1er-septembre-2016>



Photo: MEDEF Summer University interactive round-table with Patrick Taran of GMPA
Photo by Patrick Boehler /Strasbourg Photo

18. Plenary presentation “**Review of OSCE Commitments on Migration, Progress in fulfillment and Challenges for OSCE-OCEEA**» by Patrick Taran at the **24th OSCE** (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) **Economic and Environmental Forum**, Prague, 14-16 September.
19. Presentations of papers/participation at the Conference “**Migration Crisis: International Cooperation and National Strategies**” co-organized by **RIAC** (Russian International Affairs Council) and **RANEP** (Russian Presidential Academy on the Economy and Public Service) in Moscow, 22-23 September, by GMPA Associates and Friends: Olga Gulina, Irina Ivakhnyuk, Olga Kadyshcheva, Yelena Sadovskaya and Patrick Taran.
20. Conducted **two-day staff training** for **FIDH** - Fédération internationale des droits de l'homme, on *migration in Central Asia, migrants rights and ILO instruments*, Paris, 12-13 October.
21. *Presentation* by Piyasiri Wickramasekara “**National Migration Policies in Destination Countries: Republic of Korea and Singapore**” for Masters’ Students, Course Module on “Migration and Co-existence 2” at **Sophia University, Tokyo**, 26 October; research Report submitted for publication.
22. GMPA President Patrick Taran was moderator at Opening Panel Debate on ‘*Refugees, migrants and their hosts – what next?*’ at the **Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law** on 26 October during 135th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly, Geneva, 23-27 October 2016. Panelists were: P. Locatelli, Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Italy; Y. Jaber, Member of the National Assembly, Lebanon; E. Hansen, Senior Policy Adviser to the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR; M. Klein Solomon, Senior Policy Adviser to the Director General, IOM; and D. Hellé, Diplomatic advisor, Multilateral Organizations Unit, ICRC.



Photo: Briefing panel (L to R): E.Hansen (UNHCR), Y.Jaber, (National Assembly, Lebanon), K.Jabre (Committee Secretary), P.Taran (GMPA), M.Klein Solomon (IOM), P. Locatelli (Chamber of Deputies, Italy), D.Hellé (ICRC).
Photo by Pierre Albouy/ IPU

23. Participation by Piyasiri Wickramasekara in the **2nd Meeting of the ILO Working Group on the Labour Migration Statistics**, jointly organised by the ILO Department of Statistics and the Labour Migration Branch in cooperation with ILO International Training Centre Turin, Turin, Italy 15-17 November.
24. Participation by Olga Kadyshcheva at **International Kondratyev Conference** “Contemporary Socioeconomic Issues: in Search of Interdisciplinary Solutions”, organised by Institute of Economics of the **Russian Academy of Sciences** and N.D. Kondratyev Foundation, Moscow, 16-17 November. Presentation on *Socioeconomic aspects of migration: the imperative of interdisciplinary analysis*. Abstract (in Russian) online at http://www.inecon.org/docs/2016/IKF_Abstract_2016.pdf (pp.84-85)

25. Research and preparation by Gabriela Neves de Lima and Patrick Taran with Olga Kadysheva of the book ***Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants: Enhancing effective urban governance in an age of migration***, published by UNESCO in cooperation with the European Coalition of Cities Against Racism (ECCAR), the Marianna Vardoniannis Foundation and launched at ***Athens High Level Meeting on Refugees and Migrants*** on 22 November.
26. Participation in the ***Athens High Level Meeting on Refugees and Migrants*** on 22 November and ***Expert Workshop on Cities Welcoming Migrants*** on 23 November, co-organised by UNESCO-ECCAR-Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation, by GMPA President **Patrick Taran** and Research Associate **Gabriela Neves de Lima**. Patrick Taran was a panel speaker at the High Level Meeting and co-organizer-speaker at the Expert Workshop. (See details below)
27. Research and drafting of Issues Papers for the ILO South Asia Migration Governance Project (New Delhi) by **Piyasiri Wickramasekara** on ***Return and Reintegration of Migrant Workers***, and on ***Processes and practices in fair recruitment***.

Publications, Papers and Journal Articles

prepared by Associates in their GMPA capacity

Books and publications by GMPA teams:

1. ***Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants: Enhancing effective urban governance in an age of migration***/ Patrick Taran, Gabriela Neves de Lima and Olga Kadyshcheva. Under the direction of Golda El-Khoury. Paris: UNESCO, 2016. – 75 pages. ISBN: 978-92-3-100186-4. <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002465/246558e.pdf>
2. ***Migration and SDGs Matrix: The Sustainable Development Goals and Migrants/Migration: Relevant SDGs, Implementation Actions, Realization Measurement Indicators and Rationales for Inclusion***. Global Migration Policy Associates, February 2016. Available at: http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/events/coordination/14/documents/ba_ckgrounddocs/GMPA_14CM.pdf
3. ***Migrants and Refugees Have Rights! Impact of EU policies on accessing protection***. Caritas Europa, Brussels, 2016. The report was researched and written by GMPA team: Patrick Taran with Evalyn Tennant, Arnaud Bertin, Beier Lin, Lily Erikson and Fangzhou Liang. www.caritas.eu/sites/default/files/160317_migration_report_migrants_have_rights.pdf

Scientific Papers, Articles and Reports by Associates in GMPA capacity:

1. Olga Kadyshcheva. ***International labor migration: trends and governance challenges*** - in book of scientific papers presented at International scientific conference **Lomonosov-2016** held at Economic Faculty of **Lomonosov Moscow State University**, Moscow, 18-20 April. Paper (in Russian) online at <https://www.econ.msu.ru/sys/raw.php?o=34869&p=attachment> (pp.1116-1122)
2. Olga Kadyshcheva. ***Socioeconomic aspects of migration: the imperative of interdisciplinary analysis*** - in book of scientific papers presented at **International Kondratyev Conference** "Contemporary Socioeconomic Issues: in Search of Interdisciplinary Solutions", organised by Institute of Economics of the **Russian Academy of Sciences** and N.D. Kondratyev Foundation, Moscow, 16-17 November 2016. Abstract (in Russian) online at http://www.inecon.org/docs/2016/IKF_Abstract_2016.pdf (pp.84-85), full paper (in Russian) at <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=28957135> (pp.151-157)
3. Olga Kadyshcheva. ***Trends and features of international labor migration governance: lessons for Russia*** –in book of scientific papers "*Russia: trends and perspectives of development*", issued by Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, 2016. (in Russian)
4. Patrick Taran. ***Migration: Patrick Taran advocates for a welcoming culture***. Paper prepared for UNESCO launch conference for the UNESCO-ECCAR-Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation *Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants* initiative, held in Paris, 9 May. <https://en.unesco.org/news/migration-patrick-taran-advocates-welcoming-culture>
5. Piyasiri Wickramasekara. ***International Instruments and Good Practices on Labour Migration in Asia***, Technical Report prepared for the ILO Country Office, Jakarta, Indonesia (unpublished).
6. Piyasiri Wickramasekara. ***Migration Policy in the Republic of Korea and Singapore***, Research Report prepared for the Masters' Course on "Migration and Co-existence 2", Sophia University, Tokyo, October 2016.
7. Piyasiri Wickramasekara. ***Review of the government-to-government (G-to-G) mechanism for the employment of Bangladeshi workers in the Malaysian plantation sector***: a report prepared for the International Labour Organization (ILO). ILO Dhaka and Bangkok, 2016. http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms_459065.pdf
8. Piyasiri Wickramasekara. ***South Asian migration to the Gulf: a safety valve or a development strategy?*** *Migration and Development*: Volume 5, 2016, Issue 1, pp. 99-129. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/21632324.2015.1039770>

2016 GMPA EVENTS: Featured examples

BOOK LAUNCH

***Migrants and Refugees Have Rights! Impact of EU policies on accessing protection* (A Caritas Europa report “made in GMPA”) at the EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT Brussels, 22 March 2016**



Photo: Launch event speakers (L to R): Shannon Pfohman (Caritas Europa), Cecilia Wikström (MEP), Patrick Taran (GMPA), Marta Cygan (EC), Oliviero Forti (Caritas Italiana), Jean Lambert (MEP). Photo : GMPA

The launch event was organized by Caritas Europa and hosted by Cecilia Wikström, Sweden, Member of European Parliament (MEP), ALDE group, and included remarks by Shannon Pfohman, Advocacy Officer, Caritas Europa and Marta Cygan, Director of Strategy and General Affairs Directorate, DG Home, European Commission; Jean Lambert, MEP, UK, Greens group; Roberta Metsola, MEP, Malta, EPP group; Oliviero Forti, Caritas Italiana. Patrick Taran, lead author of the book, presented the publication.

As stated in the foreword to the report by *Jorge Nuño Mayer, Secretary General of Caritas Europa*:

«This report is Caritas Europa’s studied response to the tragedy hundreds of thousands of women, men and children face when seeking refuge in Europe. People escaping war, repression and violation of human rights turn to Europe in the hope of finding a safe haven, but instead meet with denial of protection and rejection of solidarity. With this report, Caritas Europa wants to contribute to this political debate and propose solutions to the ongoing tragedy of migration. It is based on the experiences of Caritas organisations across Europe working to secure protection and human rights of migrants and refugees. The stories and testimonies of those who make it to Europe demonstrate the urgency of the situation.»



The report was researched and written by Patrick Taran with Evalyn Tennant, Arnaud Bertin and Beier Lin. Research assistance by Lily Erikson and Fangzhou Liang.

Prepared under contract for Caritas Europa by GMPA

Available at: www.caritas.eu/sites/default/files/160317_migration_report_migrants_have_rights.pdf

**THE EXPERT MEETING
CITIES WELCOMING MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
ATHENS, 23 NOVEMBER 2016**

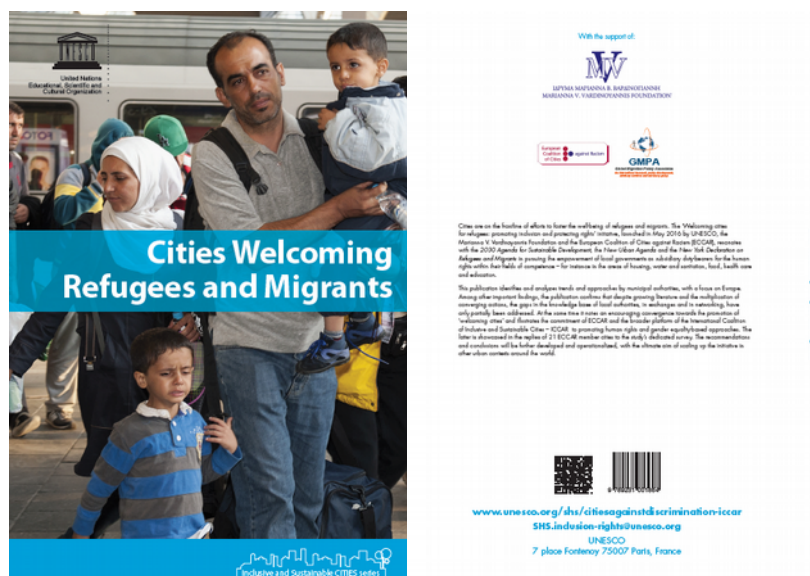
GMPA assisted in organizing and preparing the Expert Meeting *Cities Welcoming Migrants and Refugees* held 23 November 2016 in Athens, Greece following the Athens High Level Meeting on 22 November. The Expert Meeting was co-convened by UNESCO, the Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation and the European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR) in support of local governments on the *front lines* in the reception of refugees and migrants, in context that some 80 percent of all refugees and migrants live in cities and urban settlements. (Nearly half of the total population of 244 million international migrants worldwide in 2015 resides in ten highly urbanized, high-income countries, of which five are in Europe.)

Some 40 experts participated, including municipal mayors, city government officials, civil society practitioners, academics including UNESCO chairs, and international organization officials (OHCHR, IOM, UNHCR) from around Europe and from Canada and the USA. The meeting was opened by a panel session with seven mayors from cities around Greece.

The Expert Meeting advanced preparation of a practical Handbook and a local governance framework to better equip municipal authorities and key stakeholders with knowledge and capacity for reception, inclusion and integration of refugees and migrants. **Gabriela Neves de Lima** and **Patrick Taran** of GMPA participated.

News reports at <https://www.mvvfoundation.gr/en/athens-meeting-welcoming-cities-for-refugees/> and <https://en.unesco.org/events/high-level-conference-promoting-inclusive-urban-agenda-refugees-and-migrants>

**LAUNCH OF FLAGSHIP BOOK:
CITIES WELCOMING REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
AT THE ATHENS HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON REFUGEES AND MIGRATION
22 NOVEMBER 2016**



An integral part of the Athens High Level Meeting on Refugees and Migration 22 November 2016 was the launch of the publication “*Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants: Enhancing effective urban governance in an age of migration*”. Some 50 journalists and observers attended the press conference launch, including local, national and international radio, television and print media reporters.

UNESCO Director General **Irina Bokova** offered opening remarks highlighting the commitment of UNESCO to upholding the protection of human rights and social inclusion of all persons everywhere, especially in cities and urban settlements where most refugees and migrants reside. **Marianna Vardinoyannis**, President of the M.V. Vardinoyannis Foundation, underscored the urgency of protecting refugees and ensuring dignity and decent treatment for newcomers to our cities. Lead co-author of the book, **Patrick Taran**, provided an overview of the context for the book and outlined its main features.

Researched and co-authored by **Patrick Taran**, **Gabriela Neves de Lima** and **Olga Kadysheva** of GMPA, it contains a thorough mapping and analysis of issues, experiences and responses by cities across Europe to refugee arrivals and immigration. The book identified a common governance policy and practice framework implemented by cities across Europe.

GMPA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY 2016

Governance

1. Regular written correspondence and telephone consultations with Coordinating Team
2. Meetings with Coordinating Team members at Geneva in March, May, July
3. Established GMPA activity planning and coordination for 2016 and projections for 2017
4. Prepared financial and activity reports for 2015

Coordinating Team

The elected executive Coordinating Team in 2016 comprised Pablo Ceriani, Tamirace Fakhoury, Lisa Simeone, Patrick Taran, Evalyn Tennant (ex-officio executive), and Piyasiri Wickramasekara.

Secretariat

1. Provided support and assisted in arrangements, materials and logistics for activities.
2. Maintained and further organized documentation center
3. Updated regularly the contact database.
4. Established a Twitter account; regularly fed Facebook page.
5. Maintained office administrative activity.

Staff

All staff activity in 2016 was conducted on a non-remunerated pro-bono basis.

1. **Evalyn Tennant** served as Executive Coordinator over the year.
2. **Patrick Taran** provided executive functions ad interim.
3. Research Associate interns **Marie Ullman** (Masters candidate Manheim University, Germany) and **Gabriela Neves de Lima** from Brasil-Portugal (master's candidate, dual degree program on Urban Policy and Local Economic Development at Sciences Po, Paris and the London School of Economics) participated in research activity, seminars and events, and developing documentation.
4. **Olga Kadysheva** provided staff support in January-February and June to September.
5. **Piyasiri Wickramasekara** offered occasional staffing support.

Communications and advocacy

1. Posted new documentation and activity updates on GMPA **Facebook**
2. Expanded and corrected **contact data base** (over 5,000 entries at end 2016)
3. Solicited **member information and papers** for website posting

Report compiled in 2017

Prepared by Patrick Taran, GMPA President, and Olga Kadysheva with contributions by Associates

Approved by the GMPA executive Coordinating Team as at 23 May 2018