



Official Opening of Dialogue Café Belgrade

&

Session on “Interethnic and interreligious trust, dialogue and cooperation

– the importance of respecting human rights”

13 December 2016 – From 15h to 17h (London time)

Organised by Dialogue Café Association and United Nations Association of Serbia

DC Participants: DC Belgrade, DC Cidade de Praia, DC Lisbon, DC Novi Pazar

Venue in Lisbon: The Dialogue Café is hosted by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (DC Room)

Overview

In the framework of a cooperation agreement established between [United Nations Associations of Serbia](#) and the [Dialogue Café Association](#), the opening of two new Dialogue Café in Serbia (Belgrade and Subotica) are planned to be open in Serbia further to the one that is already operational in Novi Pazar. Thanks to this amazing partnership, the Dialogue Café network will be strengthened as a whole and its Serbian leg consolidated. Dialogue Café is based on the radical but simple idea that people have many things in common and given the opportunity, they will explore their common interests, sparking collaborations and stimulating ideas that address the major issues of today. These kinds of conversations and collaborations can lead to new ways of thinking and doing: they can empower individuals and communities, break down prejudice and misconceptions and promote greater understanding and co-operation across cultures. Dialogue Café is a low cost, low carbon solution to the challenge of connecting people who want to share and collaborate for common interests in other parts of the world. It also provides a unique experience. The technology we use at Dialogue Café, TelePresence, links people through life-size high definition video and sound, allowing them to talk and meet in a context that is as ‘real’ as possible despite being located on different sides of the world. As such, Dialogue Café plays a role as a bridge to the rest of the world: it enables local hosts, and local civil society groups, to share their work, knowledge and ideas and learn from others from around the world.

Programme - Official Opening of Dialogue Café Belgrade from 15h to 15h45 London time:

Dialogue Café Lisbon (Portugal): Helena Barroco (*Executive Director a.i. of Dialogue Café Association and Diplomatic Adviser to former President of Portugal, Mr Jorge Sampaio*).

Dialogue Café Belgrade (Serbia): Mr. Milorad Kondic, *President of the UNA Serbia, HE Irena Vojackova Solorano, UN Resident Coordinator in Serbia, HE Dragan Zupanjevac, Ambassador in Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of the UN and Mr. Nikola Rajcic, Deputy Director, Belgrade Youth office, City of Belgrade.*

Participants from ***Dialogue Café Cidade de Praia*** and ***Dialogue Café Novi Pazar*** will also take part in this event.

**Programme – Session on “Interethnic and interreligious trust, dialogue and cooperation – the importance of respecting human rights” –
From 15h45 to 17h00 London time**

Valuing diversity and building open, inclusive and tolerant societies are major challenges of our times. How can we communicate across differences and manage “cultural distances”? How can we develop further “cultural literacy” as well as increase the capacity to negotiate and mediate differences? What are the skills needed to manage well differences and conflict and to generate cross-cultural creativity? Join this global conversation and enrich it with your own experience and ideas.

Dialogue Café Lisbon (Portugal):

- Nelson Lage, Fondation for the Alliance of Civilisations
- Rocio Cervera, North-South Centre of the Council of Europe.
- Representative of the High Commission for Migrations (tbc);

Dialogue Café Belgrade (Serbia):

- Mr. Aleksandar Bojić, UNA Serbia DC Team
- PhD Milos Hrnjaz, professor at the Faculty of Political Science in Belgrade
- Mr. Balsa Stevanovic, Faculty of Law, Belgrade

Participants from *Dialogue Café Cidade de Praia* and *Dialogue Café Novi Pazar* will also take part in this event.

Join this global conversation and enrich it with your own experience and views!

What does the Dialogue Café stand for?

Dialogue Café (DC) is the first public high quality video collaboration network specifically designed for civil society – open to individuals and organizations with a social, educational or cultural mission - including foundations, civil society organizations, grassroots community groups, universities, schools, social enterprises, social entrepreneurs and innovators, artists and cultural organisations, public sector bodies and agencies and so on. We also seek to ensure diversity amongst our participants, paying particular attention to gender, age, and ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. Together with Cisco Systems and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, the Dialogue Café Association has set up since 2010 a global network of physical spaces - Dialogue Cafés. It enables city-to-city and multi-city conversations and activities. So far there are 12 Dialogue café connecting Cleveland, Lisbon, Paris, Wroclaw, Rio de Janeiro, Florence, Cape Vert, Novi Pazar, Ramallah and Beirut.



Dialogue Café Session: social scientists, designers, architects, policy makers and civil servants discussing ageing with London, Lisbon, Amsterdam and New York.

For further detailed information:

[Dialogue Café Association](#)

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