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Background Information

The recognition of diversity among cultures, as an integral part of their identity and the very element that promotes intercultural communication and cooperation, is a phenomenon of our time. Globalization processes, marked especially by the market expansion, new and more dynamic ways of mobility of people and goods, as well as ICT innovations, introduced new possibilities for the inclusion of individuals, institutions, communities and regions in intercultural and international communication. The new possibilities opened up by ICT – global connectivity and the rise of networks - challenge our traditional ways of understanding culture extending it to digital culture as well. Digital culture is a new complex notion: digital trends are increasingly interloping with the world of culture and arts, involving different aspects of convergence of cultures, media and information technologies, and influencing new forms of communication and dialogue.

Different existing definitions of the term intercultural dialogue indicate the complexity of this concept. Experts contributing to Unesco's World Report on Cultural Diversity (in the chapter Understanding Cultural Diversity, 2008, Draft) interpret this term as *'recognition, celebration and acceptance of differences of opinion, viewpoints and values within each individual culture but also between different cultures lie at the heart of cultural diversity. Hence the importance of intercultural dialogue, which seeks to approach these multiple viewpoints, understand them and learn from them.'*

In the White paper on Intercultural Dialogue of the Council of Europe (CoE, 2008: 17) *'intercultural dialogue is understood as a process that comprises an open and respectful exchange of views between individuals and groups with different ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic backgrounds and heritage, on the basis of mutual understanding and respect. ... Intercultural dialogue contributes to political, social, cultural and economic integration and the cohesion of culturally diverse societies. ... It aims to develop a deeper understanding of diverse world views and practices, to increase co-operation and participation (or the freedom to make choices), to allow personal growth and transformation, and to promote tolerance and respect for the other.'*

The first definition puts emphasis on values, the second one on tradition, both of which form basic elements of intercultural dialogue.

Today such densely interconnected society, marked by globalisation processes and widely available communication systems such as the Internet, have created situations where space and time have been compressed, where so many sources of information and services have become instantly available (here and now). People can get in contact not only with people in their immediate communities, but throughout the globe. They are becoming more aware of existing differences, thus putting into focus questions of pluralism and tolerance as a shared concern on an international level.

Intercultural dialogue happens in shared spaces – physical, situational and communicational. We need opportunities to engage in dialogue. We need spaces that expose us to new understanding about 'us' and 'others'. Cultural activities can play a key role in transforming a territory into a shared public space. The media, and new media in particular, play a major role in the development of our vision of the world. The way different cultural backgrounds may be presented and explained in the media environment greatly influences individual representations, thus either confirming or deconstructing stereotypes. Cultural and heritage sectors should make use of the opportunities digital culture is presenting them with to engage in dialogue with users and ensure that they are creating this shared space for intercultural dialogue. They should make every effort to present multiple views of cultural phenomena they are creating/preserving/researching/communicating and to engage people in participatory dialogue and make sure that various views are represented to create a balanced perspective. Is this happening at the present?

The round table entitled **Intercultural Dialogue and Digital Culture** aims to discuss and share knowledge about the possibilities that digital culture provides for intercultural dialogue and to identify examples of existing good practices that allow for participation of users in virtual cultural projects, thus enabling democratic participation of citizens in the building of virtual/digital culture. Today, the main focus of Internet users is on the communication and participation possibilities that the Internet creates. Web 2.0 or participatory Internet forms a prominent part of Internet-based communication. Content created by users and the communicational potential of the Internet open possibilities for (inter)cultural communication and active participation of citizens, but it also changes

the role of cultural institutions, which are no longer in a position of exclusive control over their virtual resources.

Today the virtual sphere also reflects the cultural development tendencies of different communities/societies, as it is a place/space in which we can foster projects that promote cultural democracy, diversity and intercultural communication. But it is evident that the development in this direction requires the support of cultural policies and that digital culture strategies are an important element that promotes the development in this direction.

The discussions at this round table will aim to answer the question whether digital culture offers a new perspective of cultural development and how much the interdependence of cultural diversity, intercultural communication and digital culture contributes to the new concepts of progressive cultural policies and strategies.

Representatives from cultural networks from the EU, the Mediterranean and South East Europe will exchange their experiences in promoting intercultural dialogue in the virtual sphere and their views on areas and methods of intercultural dialogue. Some good practices of virtual projects in promoting participatory digital cultural content will be presented.

Focus

- Intercultural dialogue – concept and its realisation (clarifying issues)
- Digital culture - how it relates to intercultural dialogue
- Digital culture participatory practices - building shared spaces?
- Digital culture new trends – portals, blogs, participatory internet: does the cultural sector recognize the current trends as a tool for enabling intercultural dialogue?

Organisers and Supporters

Organisers

Culturelink Network

Culturelink, the Network of Networks for Research and Cooperation in Cultural Development, aims to strengthen the communication between networks, institutions and professionals in the field of culture, encouraging the exchange of cultural information, ideas and knowledge, and furthering the development of research cooperation. The Network serves as a collaboration platform for cultural researchers, policy makers and practitioners and through its Internet portal it collects, processes and disseminates information on new concepts, research challenges, trends, experiences and practice in the fields of cultural life and policies and intercultural communication.

The main focus of its research is on the new context of culture in networked society, including issues of cultural identity, cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and digital culture, creative and knowledge industries, as well as cultural and media transitions in the context of democratic changes and globalisation processes.

Culturelink was established by UNESCO and the Council of Europe in 1989, in Paris, at the Consultation of Representatives of Regional and Sub-regional Networks for Cultural Development Research and Cooperation. The Institute for International Relations (IMO) has been the focal point of the Network since its inception.

<http://www.culturelink.org>

IMO – Institute for International Relations, Department for Culture and Communication

The IMO's Department for Culture and Communication is engaged in cultural research and analysis, especially in the field of cultural identities, cultural policies and cultural cooperation, with a particular focus on the Croatian integration process into the EU. Primary research areas include cultural development, cultural identity, cultural space, cultural diversity, cultural policies, intercultural communication, digital culture, cultural industries and cultural tourism in their interdisciplinary environment. The Department investigates changes of the Croatian cultural identities taking place in the global and the European context, under the influences that characterize the global contemporary cultural development: globalization of cultural trends and creation of local responses, acceptance of cultural diversity as a functional development concept, intercultural communication, development of digital culture, spread of cultural industries, and cultural integrations and disintegrations.

<http://www.imo.hr/culture/index.html>

Supported By

- UNESCO-BRESCE (<http://www.unesco.org/venice>)
- Croatian Ministry of Culture (<http://www.min-kulture.hr>)
- City of Zagreb, Department for Culture (<http://www.zagreb.hr>)

Organising Committee

Biserka Cvjetičanin is Senior Researcher (Scientific Advisor) at the Department for Culture and Communication, Institute for International Relations (IMO), Zagreb, Croatia, and former Deputy Minister of Culture (2000-2004). She is Director of the Network of Networks for Research and Cooperation in Cultural Development - Culturelink, established in 1990 by UNESCO and the Council of Europe. Her research areas include cultural development, cultural policies, cultural diversity and intercultural communication. She is the author and editor of numerous books, studies and articles. Biserka Cvjetičanin delivers lectures at postgraduate courses of universities and

institutes abroad. She is the 1989 winner of the University of Zagreb award for scientific research, and was awarded the French Legion d'Honneur in 2003.

<http://www.imo.hr/imo/staff/cvjeticanin.html>

Aleksandra Uzelac is Research Fellow at the Institute for International Relations (IMO), Zagreb, Croatia, and Head of the Department for Culture and Communication at IMO. She holds a Ph.D (2003) in Information Science from the University of Zagreb. Based on an investigation of concrete cultural practices, her interests developed towards the impact of ICTs on cultural issues, virtual networks and portals, digitization of culture, and the changing context that virtual culture has brought to cultural policies. Her present interest centres around the impacts of the globalization and commercialization of society and the virtual sphere on cultural diversity. Results of her research have been published in books and journals in Croatia and abroad. Aleksandra Uzelac combined her research activities with practical initiatives aimed at developing the e-culture infrastructure in Croatia, initiating the Culturenet.hr project in 2000, a Croatian national cultural portal. She is member of the Culturelink Network (www.culturelink.org) team and its editorial board since 1993. Since 2006 she is a member of the International Steering Committee of the Culturemondo Network (www.culturemondo.org).

<http://www.imo.hr/imo/staff/uzelac.html>

Intercultural Dialogue and Digital Culture

International Round Table

Zagreb, 20-21 November 2008

Venue: Hotel Palace, Zagreb

Organised by: IMO / Culturelink

Agenda

Thursday 20 November

9:30 – 10:00 Registration

10:00 – 10:30 Opening of the Round Table

Ms. Aleksandra Uzelac, IMO / Culturelink

Ms. Marie-Paule Roudil, Unesco - BRESCE

Ms. Nina Obuljen, Ministry of Culture

Mr. Duško Ljuština, City of Zagreb

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 13:00 First Session: Intercultural Dialogue – Path Towards a Dynamic and Open Society

11:00 Nada Švob Đokić, Intercultural Dialogue: An Introductory Remark

11:20 Mirza Mešić, The Perception of Islam and Muslims in the Media and the Responsibility of European Muslims Towards the Media

11:40 Vesna Čopič, Intercultural Dialogue: The Gaps Between Policy Papers and Policy Reality

12:00 – 13:00 Discussion

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch Break

14:30 – 17:30 Second Session: Understanding Intercultural Dialogue in the Digital Age

14:30 Myriam Diocaretz, The Dialogical Being in the 21st Century

14:50 Rob van Kranenburg, From Intercultural to Interpersonal Dialogue

15:10 Colin Mercer, Things in Our Ears: From the Babel Fish to the iPhone and Beyond: Portable Cultures and Transnational Creativity

15:30 Kelvin Smith, From Boombox to i-Pod – How Intercultural Communication Has Turned From a Shout to a Whisper in the Digital World

15:50 – 16:10 Coffee Break

16:10 – 17:30 Discussion

Friday, 21. November**10:00 – 13:00 Third Session: Digital Culture – Shared Space and Promoter for Intercultural Dialogue?**

- 10:00 Aleksandra Uzelac and Biserka Cvjetičanin, Digital Culture: Shared Space for Users-Citizens-Consumers?
- 10:20 Katherine Watson, Harnessing Digital Participation
- 10:40 Don Foresta, MARCEL – A Shared Space for Art
- 11:00 Filip Stojanovski, Intercultural Dialogue, Civic Participation and Human Rights in the Digital Sphere
- 11:20 Gabriella Kardos, Institutes of Contemporary Art Beyond the White Cube - Building Shared Spaces for Art in Romania

11:40 – 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:00 Discussion

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch Break**14:30 – 17:00 Fourth Session: Digital Culture Participatory Practices - Does the Cultural Sector Recognize the Current Trends as a Tool for Enabling Intercultural Dialogue?**

- 14:30 Vuk Ćosić, Culture, Vitality and Web Strategy
- 14:50 Nenad Prelog, Collaborative Media and "Cultural Sector" – Friends or Strangers
- 15:10 Tom Medak, In the Cloud of Semantic Interactivity: How the Semantic Web Transforms the Intersubjective Production of Meaning and What Can the Social Web Do to Prevent It
- 15:30 Kristian Lukić, Factories, Resources and Love - Virtual Worlds and Social Networking

15:50 – 16:10 Coffee Break

16:10 – 17:00 Discussion

17:00 Closing of the Roundtable

Speakers' Contributions

Vesna Čopič

Intercultural Dialogue: The Gaps Between Policy Papers and Policy Reality

The intercultural dialogue paradigm is a political concept. In the last few years a serious body of knowledge has been created under the auspices of UNESCO, European union and Council of Europe starting in 2003 with the Opatija Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue and Conflict-prevention and related publications, the materials around the famous UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, EU study Sharing Diversity: National Approaches to Intercultural Dialogue in Europe by EricArts, Council of Europe White Paper on intercultural dialogue, the study The status of artists in the non-European Mediterranean, EFAH Rainbow paper on ICD representing the outcome of one year's networking and exchanging of a broad range of civil society organisations with stakes in Intercultural Dialogue etc. This proliferation of international policy papers has been followed by an explosion of national policy papers and strategies motivated by 2008 as the Year of Intercultural Dialogue. Therefore the main questions could be: Can this body of knowledge contribute to changes? Do these knowledge instruments work on the ground at all since for outsiders all these can be rather confusing? I would like to bring into attention some examples of the gaps in the implementation of this concept in practice taking as an example the country I know the best and like the most, i.e. Slovenia.

CV

Vesna Čopič holds a Ph.D. in the field of social sciences from the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Between 1991 and 1997 she was involved in the evaluation of Slovenian cultural policy and authored and co-authored numerous publications from this field (Elements for the Shaping of the National Cultural Policy, Cultural Policy in Slovenia etc.). Throughout the 1990s she prepared the legislation in the sphere of culture for the Slovenian Ministry of Culture. She participated as an expert in various programmes of the Council of Europe, in EU research projects and ECF activities. Her principal interests are legislation, public governance and cultural policy. She lectures on cultural policy and cultural management at the Faculty for Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, and publishes in scientific journals at home and abroad.

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Vuk Ćosić

Culture, Vitality and Web Strategy

Drawing from intense experiences in online business, politics and arts, we will see how exactly the motivation level in these three areas differs and what is the usual way out. (hint: do things that coincide with you audience's interests)

CV

Internet veteran and internationally acclaimed classic of internet arts. Co-founder of the Ljubljana Digital Medialab and of the consultancy Case Sensitive.

Web Expert

In the role of creative director of Literal and later as department director for User experience at Renderspace he lead project teams for key projects in Slovenian Internet. Some of his most important projects are: Matkurja, Najdi.si, Pinkponk, SiOL, Mladina, Kolosej, Iskratel, Lek, Adria, Court of Audit, Coolinarika & Podravka...

As a User experience expert and Online community designer he frequently lectures (Faculty of Social Sciences, conferences, internal education) publishes articles (columnist of Delo, Finance, Dnevnik, Manager Plus...) has co-authored a book on writing for the web, organizes conferences (Net conference, Interactive Festival), leads award juries (Izidor, Netko, Magdalena, Zlaga ptica) and is member of the executive committee of the Web association of the Chamber of Commerce.

Internet Artist

One of the pioneers of internet art, frequently exhibits (Venice Bienial; ICA, London; Beaubourg, Paris; ICC, Tokio; Kunsthalle, Vienna; Digital Artlab, Tel Aviv; ZKM, Karlsruhe; Ars Electronica, Linz; Walker, Minneapolis; Postmasters, NYC; Friedricanum, Kassel; Neue Galerie, Graz; IAS, Seoul; Baltic, Newcastle; Moca, Oslo...) and lectures (Museum: Beaubourg, Paris; Guggenheim, Venice; CCA, Glasgow; Thing, NYC; LAMoCA, LA; Festivals – Hong Kong, London, Liverpool, Dessau, Montreal, Banff, Madrid, Gorizia, Copenhagen...; Art schools and Universities- Stockholm, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, Troy, Dundee, Liverpool, Venice, Linz, Barcelona,...).

Subject of numerous BA, MA and PHD works (universities of Rome, Sao Paolo, Leeds, Manchester, Bruxelles, Trieste...), media coverage (NY Times, Liberation, La Repubblica, Guardian, Financial Times, Cahiers du Cinema, Artforum, Newsweek, Wired, Haaretz, ORF, CNN, BBC...) as well as key publications on new media (MIT press, Thames & Hudson, Tate, Taschen, Baltic...).

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Myriam Diocaretz **The Dialogical Being in the 21st Century**

From the focus proposed, I would like to bridge: the subject, intercultural dialogue, and digital culture. I. I would like to work on the Intercultural dialogue conceptual framework taking off from the notion of the new area networks of the individual in relation to ICT and new technology; new ways of being and existing which also have an effect on one's "culture" and how we relate to the other and to one another, and to other so-called cultures.

In short, we need to renew our understanding of intercultural dialogue in the digital age and policy-making needs to address this change (they have done so in the area of the sciences: think of the billions of Euros funding for nanotechnology). Latour's "sociology of associations" - the Actor-Network theory is useful to show the transformative effect of the digital in citizens' practices (also children using ICT from an early age) and to see how "culture" develops also from the human being (citizen, user, consumer, etc); to understand better how "culture" affects and is affected by the digital through us, humans.

II. This will be the rationale to refer to creativity, and current EU policy where the FP7 funding shows a gap in that it has not addressed the new relationships described. This would allow me to link also the 2009 Year of Creativity and Innovation.

Rather than ending with best practices (due to the lack of attention from the EU funding in this part) I would like to conclude with a recommendation for future funding in this area: ICT, creativity, intercultural dialogue in the digital age.

These are the general thoughts I have gathered which would give me a focus. I would leave the purely philosophical as well as the more technical aspects aside, to concentrate on the cultural policy part.

CV

Since April 2006 Myriam Diocaretz is the Secretary-General of the European Writers' Council, the Brussels-based federation of 60 writers' and literary translators' associations in 32 countries in Europe. Since 2007 she holds the Socrates Foundation Special Chair in Humanism and Digital Society at the Maastricht ICT Competence Centre – MICC, Universiteit Maastricht. Her current research relates philosophy and Knowledge Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Multi-Agent Technology, Future and Emerging Technology in the 21st century.

She is the author, editor, and co-editor of over 18 books and fifty scholarly essays in English, French and Spanish on poetics, translation studies, gender, dialogical criticism. In the last five years she has published research and reports on ICT innovation, e-publishing, e-content, mobile Internet services, rich media authoring tools and LivingLabs innovation. She has established five scholarly book series in French, English and Spanish respectively, including Critical Studies (Rodopi, Amsterdam/New York), which she directs since 1989. She is the Chief

*Executive of MDD-Consultancy—Information Society Services. Since 2004 she has been selected as Independent Expert for the European Commission DG INFSO & Media for project reviews and evaluations on digital culture and cultural heritage, access to and preservation of cultural and scientific resources; also for the eTEN programme, and recently for DG Research, Social Sciences and Humanities (Seventh Framework Programme). She was a member of the i2010 digital libraries High Level Expert Group—Copyright Subgroup (INFSO & Media, 2006-2008) and has been a member of the Steering “Group of the Civil Society Platform for Intercultural Dialogue” since 2006. She received her M.A. in English at Stanford University, and Ph.D. in Comparative Studies at the State University of New York at Stony Brook (1982). Her recent publications include: *The Matrix in Theory* (Editions Rodopi, 2006) edited with S. Herbrechter; the essay “Interactivity and the New Technological Imaginary” (*Acta Poetica* 27 2006); *Joyful Babel: Translating Hélène Cixous*, edited with Marta Segarra, Editions Rodopi: New York/Amsterdam, 2004. Previous work includes: *Translating Poetic Discourse*, Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 1985 and *Reading and Writing in the Act of Translation*, Ph.D. Thesis Ann Arbor: UMI, 1983. Her work experience includes being Senior Researcher and Head of the eCulture Unit at the European Centre for Digital Communication/Infonomics (2001-2006) in Maastricht; Worldwide Training Manager at WorldCom, Amsterdam and Training Co-ordinator at Stream International, Amsterdam, specialised in Telecommunications and ICT trainings.*

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Web: <http://www.european-writers-congress.org/>
http://www.stichtingsocrates.nl/leerstoelen/profiel_maastricht.html
<http://www.kecsum.nl/>
<http://www.mdd-consultancy.com/>
<http://www.rodopi.nl/senj.asp?SerieId=CRIT>
<http://www.myriamdiocaretz.net/>

Related Writings

"Interactivity and the Information Society Technological Imaginery"
<http://132.248.101.214/html-docs/acta-poetica/27-1/115-139.pdf>

Don Foresta

MARCEL - A Shared Space for Art

I will speak about MARCEL. "Building shared spaces" is the most obvious point of departure. I will talk about the practical side of building those spaces, the successes and problems we have found in doing it, what I think the future is. This would bear on both existing technology and technological development as well as practice.

CV

Don Foresta is a research artist and theoretician in art using new technologies as creative tools. He is a specialist in art and science whose principal work in the field, "Mondes Multiples" was published in French in 1991. A second edition in English is currently being prepared. He is now a Visiting Research Associate at the London School of Economics and professor at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts - Paris/Cergy.

He has been working for over 25 years developing the network as an artistic tool and is presently coordinating a permanent high band-width network, MARCEL, for artistic, educational and cultural experimentation. He began the network while invited artist/professor at the National Studio of Contemporary Art, Le Fresnoy, Lille, France and completed it under a UK Arts & Humanities Research Council fellowship at the Wimbledon School of Art in London. MARCEL now has 120 confirmed members in 22 countries, 30 of whom are connected permanently over a multicasting platform.

His first on-line exchange in 1981 was between the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at MIT where he was a fellow and the American Center in Paris where he was director of the Media Art program. He was a commissioner to the 42nd Venice Biennial in 1986 where he built one of the first computer networks between artists, an effort he has expanded as the technology has grown.

Foresta is a graduate of the University of Buffalo, the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and holds a doctorate degree from the Sorbonne in Information Science. He has both US and French nationalities and was named "Chevalier" of the Order of Arts and Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture.

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Related Writings

"An Introduction to MARCEL"

<http://www.culturelink.org/conf/dialogue/marcel-intro.pdf>

"Art & the Network. Why MARCEL?"

<http://www.culturelink.org/conf/dialogue/marcel-why.pdf>

Gabriella Kardos

Institutes of Contemporary Art Beyond the White Cube - Building Shared Spaces for Art in Romania

This presentation is about the proposed creation of three institutes of contemporary art to be built in Romania over the next few years under the umbrella of one organization and how it is envisioned they will turn their geographical positioning into a strategic advantage for sharing experiences. A communication infrastructure is being designed to make virtual environments a fundamental part of the day-to-day business, exhibitions and performances. These flexible environments are physical and virtual hybrid spaces connecting the three regions of Romania via a triangle represented by each institute of contemporary art. The idea is to transcend distance and their immediate borders and create a network among themselves while entering into other networks and creating strong regional bases for communication and cultural exchange with the neighbouring countries. The ethos of communication and shared experiences will constitute a driving force in the programming of events, hoping to create projects that go beyond physical frontiers and into the realm of the imagined.

CV

Gabriella Kardos is an artist who also works in the area of art theory research. Presently she is the Director of ICA consultancy for RED Capital Management for the creation of three institutes of contemporary art in Romania in Iasi, Baia Mare and Constanta. Previously she worked as research and curatorial consultant for Science Museum Arts Programme in London, project coordinator for ALTERNE (Alternative Realities in Networked Environments - www.alterne.info/cons_wimbledon.html) and MARCEL (Multimedia Art Research Centres and Electronic Laboratories - www.mmmarcel.org/old/english/second.html) and taught art theory in the department of painting and drawing at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada.

Gabriella holds an MA degree in Fine Arts, from Central St Martins College of Art and Design, University of the Arts, London, UK and a Diploma in Digital Media Production, University of the Arts, London College of Printing (presently London College of Communication), London, UK. Her artistic track includes numerous solo and group exhibitions and a number of digital art works.

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Rob van Kranenburg

From Intercultural to Interpersonal Dialogue

I would like to talk about the relationship of humans to things and the importance of this relation for any attempt to create spaces for dialogue:

If intercultural dialogue is to become real interpersonal dialogue, stories, narrativity, sense and suspense should be integral part of the discourse of policy and calls for intercultural dialogue. Sentiment, emotions, every day ethics and intuition should become an integral part of this dialogue

that must not remain cerebral or discursive if it wants to succeed fully. A heuristic use of the term 'thing' has also been adopted by Bruno Latour, who, after Heidegger, has worked to transform the semantic emphasis of 'things' from 'matters of concern'. Drawing on older etymologies in which 'thing' denoted a gathering place, a space for discussion and negotiation; Latour has rehabilitated this sense of the term as a way out of the twin cul-de-sac of constructivism and objectivity". The story is no longer metaphor, no longer as if or 'as' something else, no, the story is the thing now, it is the protocol.

CV

Rob van Kranenburg works as Head of Programme at Waag Society in Amsterdam. He is mainly involved with negotiability strategies of new technologies, predominantly Ubicomp and RFID (radio frequency identification), the relationship between the formal and informal in cultural and economic policy, and the requirements for a sustainable cultural economy.

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Related Writings

*"The Internet of Things: A critique of ambient technology and the all-seeing network of RFID"
http://www.networkcultures.org/uploads/notebook2_theinternetofthings.pdf*

Kristian Lukić

Factories, resources and love - Virtual worlds and social networking

How do social networking and virtual worlds combine all aspects of human life: work, love, public and private? Introducing free labour, entertainment and boredom.

CV

Kristian Lukić is curator for digital art & culture in Museum of Contemporary Art Vojvodina in Novi Sad. He is co-founder of Institute for Flexible Cultures and technologies – Napon. From 2001 till 2006 he has worked as program manager in New Media Center_kuda.org in Novi Sad. In 2002 he co-founded Eastwood - Real Time Strategy Group.

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Tom Medak

In the Cloud of Semantic Interactivity: How the Semantic Web Transforms the Intersubjective Production of Meaning and What Can the Social Web Do to Prevent It

Recent technological developments with a boom of social web applications and an increasing number of mainstay computer applications moving from desktop onto the web - the proverbial Web 2.0 - have spawned new tools that use the collective input of a large number of users in not only interlinking documents, but foremost semantic descriptions and relations of content on the web. The semantic web - both those using natural language and non-expert descriptions to create folksonomies and those using scientific languages to create disciplinary ontologies - allows us to foster and peer into the production of meanings and contextualization of those meanings.

The aggregate benefit of these developments to create new heuristic and epistemological openings depends on interoperability, standards and portability of data between applications. However, commercial services - particularly social networking applications - benefit from keeping the data and users enclosed within their services.

My presentation will look at the technological architecture and further epistemological and societal implications of those developments.

CV

Tomislav Medak is a member of Multimedia Institute/MAMA (Zagreb, Croatia). His theoretical interests are constellations of contemporary political philosophy, media theory and aesthetics.

He's a free software and free culture advocate. He's member of urban activist initiative "Right to the City". He's working with a Zagreb-based theatre group BADco.

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Related Writings

"A continuum of Knowledge – A contribution to the Political Economy of Copyleft"
<http://www.makeworlds.org/node/96>

Colin Mercer

Things in Our Ears: From the Babel Fish to the iPhone and Beyond: Portable Cultures and Transnational Creativity

Since the invention and marketing of the Sony Walkman in 1978 and Douglas Adams' Babel Fish in the same year, culture has become portable, transnational, and private at the same time. While this has become an 'issue' for policy, perhaps we should respond to it.

CV

Colin Mercer was the UK's first Professor of Cultural Policy and Director of the Cultural Policy and Planning Research Unit at The Nottingham Trent University (1999-2003). He now specialises in freelance strategic research and development for the cultural sector including creative industries, cultural mapping, cultural planning, cultural indicators and building the knowledge base for cultural policy.

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Mirza Mešić

The perception of Islam and Muslims in the Media and the responsibility of European Muslims towards the media

„Intercultural dialogue“, the first part of this syntagm, is one of the most misused concepts today. Cultures, too often bigoted and rigid in insisting on the absoluteness of their “truth”, often do not have enough culture to be able of interference with others. If we keep forgetting that the right on difference is a right given to us by God, we will hardly earn his delight.

I know, however, that our mission here is to say something about the ideal picture of cooperation between cultures. My personal opinion on this issue coincides with a beautiful Islamic tradition expressed in the works and doings of Muslim encyclopaedists from Basra who believed that cultures are not separate and closed circles existing in conflict and tension. On the contrary, they taught that a culture couldn't subsist without mirroring itself in the other and mirroring the other in itself.

The fact that many consider intercultural dialogue merely as a fairy tale doesn't have to mean that it is impossible.

Today, the world of Islam is greatly anathematized and confronted with a global mistrust. In the more brutal phase of the US presidential campaign, Senator John McCain attacked his opponent for having a Muslim friend. Barack Obama had to defend himself by saying: “That doesn't make me a terrorist!” This represents, in my view, the most precise picture of the current clash of different fundamentalisms.

When digital culture is concerned, I believe that it has the potential of promoting and enhancing intercultural dialogue but it also carries the risk of fuelling a fire that already broke out. The positive aspect implies fast, undisturbed and all embracing informing, for example, of the majority on the minority culture. Yet, the negative side can inflict great damage, for instance, by allowing chauvinistic and hateful texts inspired by prejudice and authored by people who hide their identity to appear on the internet. The problem is that anonymity, unfortunately, doesn't compel to responsibility.

CV

Mirza Mešić is Imam at the Zagreb Mosque and professor of Islamic history at the Zagreb Madrasah. He is member of the committee of the Association for religious freedoms and of the committee of the Cultural society of Bosniaks in Croatia. He has participated in several conferences and roundtables on intercultural and interreligious dialogue throughout Europe and the world.

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Nenad Prelog**Collaborative Media and "Cultural Sector" – Friends or Strangers**

- The usage of collaborative media in promotion of culture is lagging behind possibilities it offers
- Interaction in the field of culture is – as a rule – quite low comparing to politics or business
- Social networks are an area where intercultural dialogue could flourish
- Croatia – how we stand in the field of Web 2.0 and culture

CV

Born in Zagreb, B.S at University of Zagreb, Faculty of Arts and Letters; M.S. at University of Michigan; Ph.D. at University of Zagreb.

N. Prelog worked as journalist (editor and editor-in-chief of "Omladinski tjednik" and "Byte magazine"). He founded Information and documentation Center for Environmental Protection at the University of Zagreb. At Referral centre of the University of Zagreb worked as head of division and as acting director. He was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of California Los Angeles. At "Miroslav Krleža" lexicographic Institute he was assistant director and chairman of the Scientific Council. For 8 years he was a head of Postgraduate program in information sciences. N. Prelog taught at Faculty of Organizational Studies and Information Technology, and Faculty of Political Sciences, Department for Journalism.

During last 10 years he initiated and headed several complex projects, including "Central European Virtual Library" (where he produced the first multimedia book in Croatia), and program of introduction of ICT into schools in Croatia.

He has written 6 books and textbooks, and more than 50 scientific and professional articles, mostly on usage of computers and new media.

For the last eight years he was working in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has travelled to more than 40 countries, and chaired about 20 international gatherings and conferences.

He was appointed as Assistant Minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2000. In January 2003 he was appointed as first resident Croatian Ambassador to Ireland (where he served until the end of 2006).

He is founder and long time president of Croatian–American Society, Croatian Society for Promotion of ICT in Education. For 14 years he is director of Information Technology and Journalism conference in Dubrovnik, and conference ICT in Education.

Nenad Prelog was elected to the Strategic Council of UN-GAID in April 2008. He is also member of ICWFD Council of Experts, and he is Chairman of the Institute for New Media and e-democracy.

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Kelvin Smith**From Boombox to i-Pod - How Intercultural Communication has Turned From a Shout to a Whisper in the Digital World**

What I would look at is the idea that the digital production and distribution has not just made culture more transient - much culture is site specific these days (physical, social or psychological site or virtual web site) - but also less communicative (referential to anything but the person or immediate group). Digital culture seems to exist in ghettos (poor) or gated communities (rich), and is increasingly not geared to communication at all - just tribe reinforcement. So the Boombox culture - "this is who I am and what I do and like - LISTEN" has turned into the i-Pod. "It's my business what I do and like - it's my secret - I might let my close friend use one of my earphones but the rest of you can KEEP OUT". Isn't this what Facebook really does - exclude rather than include? I want to see how this relates to writing and publishing - and the fact that the long tail may make stuff available but doesn't encourage discovery or serendipitous encounters. To my mind intercultural encounters are more valuable when they are unplanned - then they have the power to surprise, to enchant and to invigorate. And the title... well when I heard music from a Boombox in New York in the 1970s I had to "face the music" and its vitality, was given the opportunity to experience something new, whereas I had no idea whatsoever what was going through the mind of the person with the personal stereo who just bumped into me (or a lamppost) because they were lost in their own world.

CV

Kelvin Smith recently left Oxford Brookes University, where he developed an integrated portfolio of innovative postgraduate publishing programmes. He remains an Associate Consultant at Oxford Publishing and Digital Media at the University. He now works as an independent consultant on publishing education, including course and materials development, advice on funding applications, and related monitoring and evaluation activities. He writes on publishing and cultural policy, provides online information services, and advises NGOs and industry organisations. At policy level, he works on the interconnection between the state and independent publishing, particularly in Europe, and has an ongoing involvement with the development of publishing in Africa. He has extensive knowledge of the role played by governmental and non-governmental bodies in the development of sustainable independent publishing and translation support schemes. He promotes advocacy for the book as an essential element for economic, cultural and social development and cohesion. Through other projects Kelvin is also concerned with the development of the North Sea region as a common cultural space, covering a wide spectrum of human activity from literature to food, from fine art to maritime history.

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Filip Stojanovski**Intercultural Dialogue, Civic Participation and Human Rights in the Digital Sphere**

Using the experiences of the multicultural Macedonian society the presentation will point out to the relation between the (lack of) digital content and the capacity to involve the citizens in the intercultural dialogue in a post-conflict setting, enabling civic participation in the context of decentralization of state power, and sharing information about and inciting activities for protection and upholding of human rights.

CV

Filip Stojanovski: Programme Coordinator of Metamorphosis Foundation. Since 1995 he has been active in the Macedonian civil society through volunteer projects in the area of consumer protection and e-publishing, and through professional involvement as an IT expert. His professional interests include web usability, search engine optimization and effects of internet technologies on society. He is also regular contributor on ICT topics to Macedonian media, and founder of the review column "Website of the day".

Within Metamorphosis Foundation, Mr. Stojanovski is responsible for project coordination, research and PR. In 2005, he served as a member of the Task Force for National Strategy for Information Society Development.

Filip Stojanovski holds a Degree in Computer Science from Graceland University (USA) and currently attends an international programme of postgraduate studies in e-Business Management within the EU TEMPUS framework, based at the Faculty of Economics in Skopje.

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Nada Švob Đokić

Intercultural Dialogue: An Introductory Remark

The meaning of intercultural dialogue depends on understanding of cultures and of wider social contexts in which they exist and develop. As cultures themselves, the intercultural dialogues have always existed, but in the second half of the 20th century they have acquired new social meanings and interpretations particularly grounded in globalization processes, expansion of migrations, development and wide spread of new information and communication technologies and intensive redefining of cultural identities.

Developments linked to the establishment of intercultural dialogues are essentially connected to the post-colonial studies, post-modernity and the awareness of different types of modernity. They have sprung out of the modern anthropology studies and the anthropologically based cultural identities and cultural differences. The necessity to 'translate cultures' in order to understand them was followed by a multicultural awareness, open and intensive intercultural communication, definition and preservation of particular cultural identities, tolerant approaches to others and respect of human rights. The social effort invested in understanding, regulation and management of all these processes is expressed in a set of specialized policies: minority and immigration policies, cultural, education, media and other social policies, etc.

In reality, intercultural dialogue is about individuals who communicate in different ways and different areas. As individual cultural choices and individual cultural identities change rapidly, the future of intercultural dialogue depends on the overall ever more globalized social settings and on cultural developments that indicate the fading away of anthropological interpretations of cultures and their new, technologically and individually based diversification.

CV

Nada Švob-Đokić is a senior researcher/Scientific Adviser at the Institute for International Relations, Zagreb. She graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb and earned her M.A. degree (1970) and her Ph.D. (1979) in African studies at the same University. The main areas of her interest have been cultural change and development, multicultural / intercultural relationships (including management of cultural differences and intercultural communication), public policies and processes of global and national development and transformation, particularly related to scientific and technological development, cultural and creative industries, cultural identities and overall cultural change.

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Related Writings

*Švob-Đokić, Nada: "New Borders and the Borderless Cultures", in: Cvjetičanin, Biserka (Editor): Dynamics of Communication: New Ways and New Actors, 2006
http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/clinkconf/Cvjeticanin_Dynamics_Communication.pdf*

*Švob-Đokić, Nada: "Open Cultural Spaces in Search of New Frontiers", Revista CIDOB d'Afers Internacionals, 82-83, 2008
http://www.cidob.org/en/content/download/7669/78657/file/svob_82-83_eng.pdf*

Aleksandra Uzelac

Digital Culture: Shared Space for Users-Citizens-Consumers?

This presentation aims to give an understanding of digital culture concept, viewing it from the perspective of a common resource for knowledge society and as a new social ecology that

conditions experiences and opportunities of citizens today, where the digital network environment has brought on new practices, possibilities and threats.

CV

Aleksandra Uzelac is Research Fellow at the Institute for International Relations (IMO), Zagreb, Croatia, and Head of the Department for Culture and Communication at IMO. She holds a Ph.D (2003) in Information Science from the University of Zagreb. Based on an investigation of concrete cultural practices, her interests developed towards the impact of ICTs on cultural issues, virtual networks and portals, digitization of culture, and the changing context that virtual culture has brought to cultural policies. Her present interest centres around the impacts of the globalization and commercialization of society and the virtual sphere on cultural diversity. Results of her research have been published in books and journals in Croatia and abroad.

Aleksandra Uzelac combined her research activities with practical initiatives aimed at developing the e-culture infrastructure in Croatia, initiating the Culturenet.hr project in 2000, a Croatian national cultural portal. She is member of the Culturelink Network (www.culturelink.org) team and its editorial board since 1993. Since 2006 she is a member of the International Steering Committee of the Culturemondo Network (www.culturemondo.org).

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Related Writings

Uzelac, Aleksandra: "eCulture: Cultural Goods Between Public Domain and Private Property", in: Dragojević, Sanjin; Dodd, Diane; Cvjetičanin, Biserka; Smithuijsen, Cas (Editors): eCulture: The European Perspective - Cultural Policy, Creative Industries, Information Lag, 2005 <http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/eculture01/eCultureProceedings.pdf>

Uzelac, Aleksandra: "Cultural Networks in Virtual Sphere - Between Infrastructure and Communities", in: Cvjetičanin, Biserka (Editor): Dynamics of Communication: New Ways and New Actors, 2006 http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/clinkconf/Cvjeticanin_Dynamics_Communication.pdf

Uzelac, Aleksandra: "How to Understand Digital Culture: Digital Culture - A Resource for a Knowledge Society?", in: Uzelac, Aleksandra; Cvjetičanin, Biserka (Editors): Digital Culture: The Changing Dynamics, 2008 <http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/digicult/digicultcont.html>

Katherine Watson Harnessing Digital Participation

LabforCulture is an autonomous project initiated by the European Cultural Foundation, based in Amsterdam. A unique private/public partnership, LabforCulture is the trans-national hub for information and knowledge to ensure cultural cooperation across Europe (and increasingly between Europe and the world). LabforCulture is a key tool to facilitate wide and open access, participation and sharing of cultures.

LabforCulture's mission is two-fold: 1) to ensure that all those working on cultural collaboration have access to up-to-the-minute information and 2) to encourage the cultural sector to become more experimental with online technologies.

Technology has fundamentally changed the way we create, distribute, access and participate in culture and the way we build and share knowledge. Access to culture, cultural participation and cultural cooperation is heightened and facilitated through digital technologies. The ideology of thinking globally and acting locally has never before been more possible or more urgent. A primary tool for people who are making change is technology. People are at the core, but their change-making efforts are multipliable, magnifiable and transferable at a tremendous rate. Technological tools connect people and their ideas to other people and to decision-makers.

LabforCulture seeks to realise the potential offered by digital participation to build a practice-based space that contributes to policy development and brings the voice of the cultural sector into the cultural policy arena. The experimental "laboratory" character of LabforCulture combined with the current digital potential and a visibly increased interest in participation via technology allow

LabforCulture to develop a “shared cultural space” within which to collectively envision and build the future.

For the Zagreb roundtable, Katherine Watson proposes to reflect on two quite different online consultation processes that set out to engage a wide constituency in knowledge-sharing and participatory processes to contribute to the intercultural dialogue discourse. People and their actions “define” intercultural dialogue and people will carry forward the initiatives to ensure a diverse future.

1. Online consultation for the Rainbow Paper

<http://rainbowplatform.labforculture.org>

LabforCulture worked with the Platform for Intercultural Europe (the “Rainbow Platform”) to realise the online consultation and collective development of the Rainbow Paper. The open process invited contributions from as wide a constituency as possible and was visible – allowing interested policy makers to follow the process. Currently organisations and individuals can endorse the final Rainbow Paper on LabforCulture.

2. Open Lines to Intercultural Dialogue

<http://openlines.labforculture.org>

Throughout the duration of the European Year Intercultural Dialogue, LabforCulture has presented an online participatory project which invites people from around the world to share their personal interpretations of intercultural dialogue: Open Lines to Intercultural Dialogue.

The project set out to visualise language and explore the variations and similarities of people’s interpretations of intercultural dialogue. Everyone is invited to contribute in their original language and in English and even to add an audio interpretation. The site is designed to intuitively navigate through the submissions by following recurring words that appear in the individual submissions. For example, a Dutch student, living in Utrecht says, “according to me, intercultural dialogue is about being open to and having genuine respect for and interest in an unknown culture.” This submission links to all others that use the words: genuine, respect, culture or unknown.

The “lines” themselves are of interest – how do people personally define the concept of intercultural dialogue? How do opinions differ? Where do they intersect?

CV

Katherine Watson is the director of LabforCulture. Katherine is a true connector: connecting ideas and people, bringing dreams and schemes into reality. More often than not this means working across the boundaries between sectors and disciplines, forging unexpected partnerships and rising to the challenge to look at the world differently. Her experience combines interdisciplinary production with advocacy, research, policy and program development for non-profit arts organizations and government. She designed and managed the Artist-in-Residence for Research program (AIRes), a collaboration between the Canada Council for the Arts and the National Research Council of Canada that supported collaborative research between established artists and leading scientists. Her years as Associate Director of Le Groupe Dance Lab in Ottawa (1989-98) fed an inquisitive exploration of the convergence between art and technology. From 2002-05, she was Executive Producer of www.terminus1525.ca, an online and offline celebration of emerging artists and new art forms. She is deeply interested in the innovative use of technology to facilitate public engagement, in working with those on the fringe of the mainstream and in shaping a creative future.

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Related Writings

“European Perspectives on Culture and Digital Technologies”

http://www.acs-aec.ca/images/pdfs/3332_aec_citc_mag techno_v5.pdf

“New Normal: Version 2.07. Final Report: Culture and Technology Round Table”

http://www.culturescope.ca/ev_en.php?ID=13716_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

Annotated Bibliography and Relevant Links

by Janko Bekić

The European Parliament and the member states of the EU have proclaimed 2008 European Year of Intercultural Dialogue provoking a wide array of research which will undoubtedly surpass the officially designated time span. The expectation is often expressed that innovations in the information and communication technology (ICT) will introduce new possibilities for the inclusion of individuals, groups, and governmental as well as non-governmental organizations from all over the world into a truly global intercultural dialogue, better said polylogue. Claims that digital culture enables intercultural dialogue should be discussed in more detail and the Zagreb roundtable will embark on a closer examination of this double-topic.

The task of this literature review is to compile in chronological order the related literature that has appeared so far on these two topics (2000-2008). The annotated bibliography (with links to relevant web pages) and a set of articles by speakers at this round table and other authors are intended to give you a closer look at researchers and titles that dealt with the above mentioned issues so far.

Books

Uzelac, Aleksandra; Cvjetičanin, Biserka: *Digital Culture: The Changing Dynamics*. Zagreb, Institute for International Relations, 2008

<http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/digicult/index.html>

The book entitled *Digital Culture: The Changing Dynamics*, is the result of discussions among experts, members of the Culturelink Network and IMO's researchers, in the course of the past few years on the impact of information and communication technologies on culture and the changes that in the context of the information era affect established cultural practices and concepts. The inspiration for producing this book rose from the meeting of experts at the Culturemondo conference, held in Dubrovnik, Croatia in 2006, hosted by Culturelink. Informal debates led to the proposal to unite different approaches, opinions and reflections about the phenomena transforming the world today into one book focusing on digital culture.

The papers in this book examine possible shifts in the integration of new technologies and digital culture in the processes of affirming cultural diversity and intercultural communication by presenting different case studies and trend analyses – examining the changes brought about by the new context of the interactive and participatory Internet and the responses of the cultural sector to them, and analysing how cultural policies deal with digital culture. By providing insights into these interrelated aspects, the book is trying to answer the question – how can we talk about cultural diversity in the digital domain and what are the current trends? To understand the interrelation of the local and the global, the articles in this book analyse existing practices in the digital realm. The SEE context is analysed in one part of this book, thus providing evidence-based research of digital diversity trends and informing cultural policies in the SEE region.

Titely, Gavan; Lentin, Alana: *The Politics of Diversity in Europe*. Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 2008

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/Resources%5CPublications%5CPresentations%5C075_Politics_Diversity_Europe_en.asp

"Diversity" has become a key term in contemporary social politics, and is often used as both a description of complex social realities and a normative prescription for how those realities should be valued, influenced by the politics of multiculturalism and by social movements asserting "the right to be different" diversity has emerged as an open, fluid discourse that challenges reductive visions of legitimate identities and human possibilities.

It is this apparent acceptance of diversity as a fact and value that this book sets out to examine, in a range of ways, it offers a countervailing assessment of 'diversity'; seeing it less as a unifying social imaginary and more as a cost-free form of politics attuned to the needs of late capitalist, consumer societies. The introduction distinguishes between 'diversity politics' - emerging from a range of critiques of social power - and the "politics of diversity", a depoliticised celebration of difference that replicates the problems of multiculturalism without the benefits of the overt ideological engagement that multiculturalism has provoked.

The essays collected here are developed from a research seminar entitled "Diversity, Human Rights and Participation" organised by the Partnership on Youth between the Council of Europe and the European Commission. The studies gathered here are embedded in 10 different national contexts. They track dimensions of 'diversity' in education, social services, jurisprudence, parliamentary proceedings and employment initiatives, and assess their significances for the social actors who must negotiate these frameworks in their daily experience.

Volpi, Silvia: *Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Youth Work. Report on the Symposium held from 27 to 31 March 2007 in Istanbul, 2008*

http://www.youth-partnership.net/youth-partnership/news/news_13.html

Intercultural dialogue is one of the key missions of the Council of Europe, along with fostering democracy, human rights and the rule of law. Young people are crucial actors in that process as the main stakeholders of societies who are freer from the prejudice, discrimination and segregation that have characterized most of Europe for the past decades. The Symposium "Intercultural and interreligious dialogue in youth work practice" was held in Istanbul from 27 to 31 March 2007. It focused on the problems young people across Europe face in relation to cultural and religious diversity. The participants exchanged good practice in youth work and agreed on a Declaration that sets out the main purpose and objectives in intercultural interreligious from a youth perspective. The event was part of the 'All Different - All Equal' European youth campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation, run by the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe in 2006 and 2007. The campaign aimed to encourage and enable young people to participate in building peaceful societies, based on diversity, human rights and inclusion, in a spirit of respect, tolerance and mutual understanding. The Symposium was organised with the support of the European Commission and in cooperation with the Office of the Prime Minister of the Turkish Republic - Directorate General of Youth and Sports. The Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation and the Turkish National Campaign Committee were also co-partners. In addition to the Istanbul Youth Declaration and the conclusions of the rapporteur, this report also gives an account of the issues raised by speakers and the various working groups of the Symposium.

Skard, H.: *Gods In The City: Intercultural and Inter-religious Dialogue at Local Level. Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 2008*

http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2289

Clearly, "God is changing in Europe": religious faiths and beliefs are increasingly making their presence felt in the public arena, at all levels. Because religions are more and more often behind the forging and assertion of multiple identities, the authorities have a duty to take the utmost account of them when establishing democratic rules and arrangements for "living together". Local authorities are ideally placed to lead this work, which requires creativity, imagination, a willingness to engage in dialogue and the opening of meeting places.

Laguerre, Michel S.: *Global Neighbourhoods: Jewish Quarters in Paris, London, and Berlin. Albany, State University of New York Press, 2008*

<http://www.amazon.com/Global-Neighborhoods-Jewish-Quarters-London/dp/0791475514>

Global Neighbourhoods analyzes the organization of everyday life and the social integration of contemporary Jewish neighbourhoods in Paris, London, and Berlin. Concentrating on the post-Holocaust era, Michel S. Laguerre explains how each urban diasporic site has followed a different path of development influenced by the local milieu in which it is incorporated. He also considers

how technology has enabled extraterritorial relations with Israel and other diasporic enclaves inside and outside the hostland.

Shifting the frame of reference from assimilation theory to globalization theory and the information technology revolution, Laguerre argues that Jewish neighbourhoods are not simply transnational social formations, but are fundamentally transglobal entities. Connected to multiple overseas diasporic sites, their interactions reach beyond their homelands, and they develop the logic of their social interactions inside this larger network of relationships. As with all transglobal communities, there is constant movement of people, goods, communications, ideas, images, and capital that sustains and adds vibrancy to everyday life. Since all are connected through the network, Laguerre contends that the variable shape of the local is affected by and affects the global.

Rajagopalan, Kavitha: *Muslims of Metropolis: The Stories of Three Immigrant Families in the West*. Piscataway, Rutgers University Press, 2008

http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/acatalog/Muslims_of_Metropolis.html

The Muslim population globally is comprised of hundreds of ethnic, linguistic, and religious sub-communities. Yet, more often than not, the public conflates these diverse and unrelated communities, branding Muslim immigrants as a single, suspicious, and culturally antagonistic group of people. Generalizations like these have compromised many Muslim immigrants' sense of belonging and acceptance in places where they have lived, in some cases, for three or four generations.

In *Muslims of Metropolis*, Kavitha Rajagopalan takes a much needed step in personalizing and humanizing our understanding of the Muslim diaspora. Tracing the stories of three very different families - a Palestinian family moving to London, a Kurdish family moving to Berlin, and a Bangladeshi family moving to New York - she reveals a level of complexity and nuance that is seldom considered. Through their voices and in their words, Rajagopalan describes what prompted these families to leave home, what challenges they faced in adjusting to their new lives, and how they came to view their place in society. Interviews with community leaders, social justice organizations, and with academics and political experts in each of the countries add additional layers of insight to how broad political issues, like nationalist conflict, immigration reform, and antiterrorism strategies affect the lives of Muslims who have migrated in search of economic stability and personal happiness.

Although recent thinking about immigration policy in the United States and Europe emphasizes the importance of long-term integration, a global attitude that continues to sensationalize divisions between Muslim and other communities thwarts this possibility. Integration cannot occur with policy solutions alone - people must feel that they belong to a larger society. Whether read as simple stories or broader narratives, the voices in this revealing book are among the many speaking against generalization, prejudice, and fear that has so far surrounded Muslims living in the West.

Mandel, Ruth: *Cosmopolitan Anxieties: Turkish Challenges to Citizenship and Belonging in Germany*. Durham, Duke University Press, 2008

http://books.google.com/books?id=I9M3Y_W7jR0C

In *Cosmopolitan Anxieties*, Ruth Mandel explores Germany's relation to the more than two million Turkish immigrants and their descendants living within its borders. Based on her two decades of ethnographic research in Berlin, she argues that Germany's reactions to the postwar Turkish diaspora have been charged, inconsistent, and resonant of past problematic encounters with a Jewish "other." Mandel examines the tensions in Germany between race-based ideologies of blood and belonging on the one hand and ambitions of multicultural tolerance and cosmopolitanism on the other. She does so by juxtaposing the experiences of Turkish immigrants, Jews, and "ethnic Germans" in relation to issues including Islam, Germany's Nazi past, and its radically altered position as a unified country in the post-Cold War era.

Mandel explains that within Germany the popular understanding of what it means to be German is often conflated with citizenship, so that a German citizen of Turkish background can never be a "real German." This conflation of blood and citizenship was dramatically illustrated when, during the 1990s, nearly two million "ethnic Germans" from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union

arrived in Germany with a legal and social status far superior to that of "Turks" who had lived in the country for decades. Mandel analyzes how representations of Turkish difference are appropriated or rejected by Turks living in Germany; how subsequent generations of Turkish immigrants are exploring new configurations of identity and citizenship through literature, film, hip-hop, and fashion; and how migrants returning to Turkey find themselves fundamentally changed by their experiences in Germany. She maintains that until difference is accepted as unproblematic, there will continue to be serious tension regarding resident foreigners, despite recurrent attempts to realize a more inclusive and "demotic" cosmopolitan vision of Germany.

Hanley, Lisa M.; Ruble, Blair A.; Garland, Allison M.: *Immigration and Integration in Urban Communities: Renegotiating the City*. Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008

http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?book_id=403540&fuseaction=wwcp.title

In nations across the globe, immigration policies have abandoned strategies of multiculturalism in favour of a "play the game by our rules or leave" mentality. *Immigration and Integration in Urban Communities* shows how immigrants negotiate with longtime residents over economic, political, cultural, and linguistic boundaries. Host communities are neither as static, nor migrants as passive, as assimilationist policies would suggest.

Drawing on anthropology, political science, sociology, and geography, and focusing on such diverse cities as Washington, D.C., Rome, Los Angeles, Johannesburg, Munich, and Dallas, the contributors to this volume challenge both policy makers and academic analysts to reframe their discussions of urban migration, and to recognize the contemporary immigrant city as the dynamic, constantly shifting form of social organization it has become.

Tyler, Aaron: *Islam, the West, and Tolerance: Conceiving Coexistence*. New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2008

<http://us.macmillan.com/islamthewestandtolerance>

This book provides an honest assessment of the contemporary relationship between Western and Islamic cultures and puts forth the cross-cultural idea of tolerance as one invaluable approach for affecting peaceful coexistence. For a sustainable coexistence to occur between Western and Muslim worlds, a disposition of tolerance toward otherness must be developed that permeates all levels of society, from local to global engagements. This timely comparative study presents a succinct analysis of select writings and practices of tolerance in Western and Islamic histories to show how a mutually esteemed conception of tolerance is discernable and absolutely essential in a world of lasting difference.

Kraus, Peter A.: *A Union of Diversity: Language, Identity and Polity-Building in Europe*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2008

<http://www.cambridge.org/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9780521859394>

The European Union's motto 'United in Diversity' contrasts with the cultural standardization entailed in the formation of nation-states and the forging of political identities in Europe. So what does being 'united in diversity' mean? Focusing on language politics and policies, this book offers a thorough assessment of the implications of cultural and linguistic diversity for the process of constructing a European polity. It sheds light on some of the most pressing problems associated with contemporary identity politics. It is often claimed that the recurrent celebration of diversity in Europe's programmatic declarations has an effective political impact. Kraus offers a critical analysis of how the EU has responded to the normative challenge of creating an institutional frame for integration which allows cultural differences to be transcended without ignoring them.

Klausen, Jytte: *The Islamic Challenge: Politics and Religion in Western Europe*. New York, Oxford University Press – USA, 2008

<http://www.us.oup.com/us/catalog/general/subject/Politics/ComparativePolitics/WesternEurope/?view=usa&ci=9780199289929>

The voices in this book belong to parliamentarians, city councillors, doctors and engineers, a few professors, lawyers and social workers, owners of small businesses, translators, and community activists. They are also all Muslims, who have decided to become engaged in political and civic organizations. And for that reason, they constantly have to explain themselves, mostly in order to say who they are not. They are not fundamentalists, not terrorists, and most do not support the introduction of Islamic religious law in Europe - especially not its application to Christians. This book is about who these people are, and what they want.

This book is based on three hundred interviews with European Muslim leaders from six European countries: Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Great Britain, France, and Germany. The question of Islam in Europe is not a matter of global war and peace but raises difficult questions about the positions of Christianity and Islam in public life, and about European identities. Europe's Muslim political leaders are not aiming to overthrow liberal democracy and to replace secular law with Islamic religious law. Those are the positions of a minority. There is not one Muslim position on how Islam should develop in Europe but many views, and most Muslims are rather looking for ways to build institutions that will allow European Muslims to practice their religion in a way that is compatible with social integration.

Švob-Đokić, Nada: *The Creative City: Crossing Visions and New Realities in the Region*. Zagreb, Institute for International Relations, 2007

http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/cultid08/Svob-Djokic_Creative_City.pdf

The Creative City: Crossing Visions and New Realities in the Region is a collection of papers from the postgraduate course on Cultural Transitions in Southeastern Europe. The Creative City: Crossing Visions and New Realities in the Region, that was held on 8-13 May 2006 at the Inter-University Centre (IUC), Dubrovnik, Croatia. The book gathers contributions by 17 authors, who analyze the position of cities and their cultural role in the countries of Southeastern and Central Europe. This analysis is presented through two major chapters. The first deals with conceptual frameworks of the creative city debate, while the second offers case studies from the region: Ljubljana, Budapest, Zagreb, Split, Dubrovnik, Tirana, Belgrade, Pančevo and Skopje. The volume also contains four appendices that include a detailed report on the postgraduate course, short biographies of the authors, the programme of the course and the list of participants.

The cities of Southeastern Europe have hardly been equipped by either cultural or city development policies. Their restructuring and development is at the moment rather chaotic, submitted to specific short-term projects that depend on voluntary decisions usually not based on serious professional considerations or promoted by the majority of citizens, who might be able to influence democratic procedures in the decision-making processes. Moreover, the relationships between political power and professionalism are not the only ones that have been at stake. There have been and still are many problems and aspects of city development at the mercy of certain dominating interests: trade centres invading the old city cores; traffic systems killing communication between different parts of cities and opening them up to rapid extra-urban content and functions; tourists invading the inherited, long preserved parts of old cities, etc. All this points to the need to invest efforts in conceptualization of city development and city functioning and to particularly stress the creative and cultural aspect of this problem in the Southeast European region. The texts collected here might serve as a stimulus.

Danet, Brenda; Herring, Susan C.: *The Multilingual Internet: Language, Culture, and Communication Online*. New York, Oxford University Press – USA, 2007

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Multilingual-Internet-Language-Culture-Communication/dp/0195304802>

Two thirds of global internet users are non-English speakers. Despite this, most scholarly literature on the internet and computer-mediated-communication (CMC) focuses exclusively on English. This is the first book devoted to analyzing internet related CMC in languages other than English. The volume collects 18 new articles on facets of language and internet use, all of which revolve around several central topics: writing systems, the structure and features of local languages and how they affect internet use, code switching between multiple languages, gender issues, public policy issues, and so on.

Wiedmaier, Verena, Söder, Britt: *Intercultural Issues in Online Communication*. Saarbrücken, VDM Verlag, 2007

<http://www.alibris.co.uk/search/books/isbn/9783836412360>

In these times of rapid increase of internet usage, the question arises for multinational companies (MNCs) whether to standardise or adapt their internet presence to different cultural groupings or even subcultures. The authors attempted to address this problem with an approach relatively new up to now. Global players have already realised their opportunities to add value to their company by setting up a high quality internet performance and a properly designed website. This raises the question whether these companies could use their basic home country website for all cultures or if any adaptation should be conducted. If so, it has to be determined on the one hand to what degree an adaptation still aligns with the corporate identity or on the other hand if the companies should rather respect the culture of the respective market they are operating in. The overall target of this research is therefore to assist MNCs by producing recommendations concerning the promotion of products and services for a particular transnational consumer group. Therefore, country-specific websites of companies rooted in different cultural origins are selected for this research, namely EgyptAir, Mercedes-Benz and SonyEricsson. This publication targets at companies seeking to develop a foreign market in particular the Arab cultural area. Moreover, it is aimed to create an awareness for differences in consumer behaviour and in the resulting opportunities global companies are faced with.

St. Amant, Kirk: *Linguistic and Cultural Online Communication Issues in the Global Age*. Hershey, IGI Global, 2007

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=U&start=2&q=http://www.amazon.com/Linguistic-Cultural-Online-Communication-Issues/dp/1599042134&usq=AFQjCNFyHIFF78AIK4mP0qX2Bqm614dydQ>

International online access has grown rapidly in recent years with the number of global Internet users skyrocketing. The most astounding growth, however, is taking place in developing nations. *Linguistic and Cultural Online Communication Issues in the Global Age* provides readers with in-depth information on the various linguistic, cultural, technological, legal, and other factors that affect interactions in online exchanges within the global age. *Linguistic and Cultural Online Communication Issues in the Global Age* proposes information that implements effective decisions related to the uses and designs of online media when interacting with individuals from other cultures. This comprehensive and informative title is completed by foundational knowledge needed to communicate effectively with individuals from other countries and cultures via online media.

Landry, Charles; Wood, Phil: *The Intercultural City: Planning for Diversity Advantage*. London, Earthscan Publishing, 2007

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Intercultural-City-Planning-Diversity-Advantage/dp/1844074366>

In a world where individuals are increasingly mobile, how people originating from different cultures live together is one of the key issues of the 21st century. There is a growing need for new thinking on how diverse communities can live together in productive harmony and not in parallel and separate lives. Policy is often dominated by mitigating the perceived negative effects of diversity (complexity, loss of cohesion, exploitation and racism) but little thought has been given to how a diversity dividend or increased innovative capacity might be achieved.

The *Intercultural City* analyzes the relationship of urban policy to policies on cultural diversity, principally in the UK but also drawing upon original research in North America, Europe and Australasia. It includes a review of the literature in the field, and a critique of past and current policy, before introducing new theoretical concepts. It provides significant and practical advice for the reader, with new insights and tools for practitioners including the “intercultural lens”, “indicators of openness” and “urban cultural literacy”.

Ishida, Toru; Fussell, Susan R.; Vossen, Piek T. J. M.: *Intercultural Collaboration: First International Workshop, IWIC 2007 Kyoto, Japan, January 25-26, 2007 Invited and Selected Papers.* Berlin, Springer, 2007

<http://www.springer.com/computer/user+interfaces/book/978-3-540-73999-9>

This book presents 29 revised invited and selected lectures given by top-researchers at the First International Workshop on Intercultural Collaboration, IWIC 2007, held in Kyoto, Japan in January 2007.

Intercultural collaboration, from both technical and socio-cultural perspectives was the main theme of the workshop. This state-of-the-art survey increases mutual understanding in our multicultural world by featuring collaboration support (such as natural language processing, Web, and Internet technologies), social psychological analyses of intercultural interaction, and case studies from field workers.

Kotthoff, Helga; Spencer-Oatey, Helen: *Handbook of Intercultural Communication.* Berlin, New York, Mouton de Gruyter, 2007

<http://www.degruyter.com/cont/fb/sp/detailEn.cfm?id=IS-9783110184716-1>

In today's globalized world of international contact and multicultural interaction, effective intercultural communication is increasingly seen as a pre-requisite for social harmony and organisational success. This handbook takes a 'problem-solving' approach to the various issues that arise in real-life intercultural interaction. The editors have brought together experts from a range of disciplines, including linguistics, psychology and anthropology, to provide a multidisciplinary perspective on the field, whilst simultaneously anchoring it in Applied Linguistics.

Lull, James: *Culture-on-Demand: Communication in a Crisis World.* Malden, Oxford, Carlton, Blackwell Publishing, 2007

http://www.accessmylibrary.com/coms2/summary_0286-34821222_ITM

In this impressively wide-ranging study, Lull makes an impassioned plea for the new media technologies to be brought to the forefront of the struggle against cultural prejudice. Calling for cooperation rather than conflict, open-minded communication rather than fundamentalist pronouncements, Lull persuasively argues the case for greater diversity and tolerance across global society.

Robins, Kevin: *The Challenge of Transcultural Diversities. Cultural Policy and Cultural Diversity.* Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 2006

http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2069

The economic dynamics of globalisation have intensified not only the transnational flows of cultural goods, media products and information, but also human transnational migration. New forms of mobility have created new kinds of cultural juxtapositions, encounters and exchanges which have resulted in greater and more complex patterns of diversity within the European cultural space. Because these new forms of diversity and complexity are transnational and transcultural in their nature - functioning across national frontiers - they present a challenge for national policy frameworks. The established national mechanisms through which European states have hitherto managed cultural policy diversity and citizenship must now be supported by international or transnational strategies. The Council of Europe, which has for so long championed cultural co-operation as a mechanism for sustaining democracy and equity in cultural exchanges, has a new role to play in the transnational policy landscape. The challenge, at the beginning of the 21st century, must be to develop a democratic transnational and transcultural approach to cultural diversity policy in Europe. The Council of Europe has both the mandate and the experience to broker this.

Ellmeier, Andrea; Rásky, Béla: *Differing diversities - Eastern European Perspectives*. Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 2006

http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2117

Cultural diversity, in all its forms, is posing a profound challenge to traditional formulations of cultural policy and to our understanding of the public interests served by this policy. In most countries the artistic and cultural landscape has not evolved to reflect the realities of a changed social landscape. This rift threatens to undermine the legitimacy of cultural institutions and the public policy that supports them. The shift from homogeneity to diversity as the new social norm requires a rethinking of the processes, mechanisms and relationships necessary for democratic policy development in diverse societies.

Cvjetičanin, Biserka: *Dynamics of Communication: New Ways and New Actors*. Zagreb, Institute for International Relations, 2006

<http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/clinkconf/index.html>

The book *Dynamics of Communication: New Ways and New Actors*, identifies new tasks and changing roles of cultural policies related to cultural diversity and the newly emerging digital culture. It calls attention to the phenomenon of new ways and new actors in communication - all of which announces a restructuring of the global cultural space. The interconnection of cultural diversity, intercultural communication and digital culture expresses new approaches to and prospects for cultural development and international cultural cooperation. The book represents important contribution to the international debate analysing the consequences of globalization processes in the local contexts and the redefined roles of different actors involved in the cultural field.

LeBaron, Michelle; Pillay, Venashri: *Conflict Across Cultures: A Unique Experience of Bridging Differences*. Boston, Intercultural Press, 2006

<http://books.google.com/books?id=XZJFJQ7IOhwC>

Cultural differences among members of a group, be it a multinational business team or a multinational family, are frequently the source of misunderstanding and conflict. Using stories from a variety of cultures to illustrate techniques for resolving or at least reducing culture-inspired conflicts, LeBaron, Pillay and contributors from around the globe demystify the intricate and important relationships between conflict and culture. The authors describe processes and identify the tools and skills that make for successful conflict resolution. The stories, which are at the heart of the book, are from a variety of cultures and geographic locations and have application for groups in all kinds of settings: business, law, social services, government, non-governmental agencies, academia, even families.

Alred, Geof; Byram, Michael; Fleming, Michael: *Education for Intercultural Citizenship: Concepts And Comparisons*. Clevedon, Multilingual Matters, 2006

http://books.google.com/books?id=Zu3le0_oSdIC

This book examines citizenship education from the perspective of interculturality in order to extend its meaning and significance within and beyond the nation state, and in education in the nation state. There are chapters which deal with theory and concepts and others which present country and international case studies.

Adler, Emanuel; Crawford, Beverly; Bicchi, Federica: *The Convergence of Civilizations: Constructing a Mediterranean Region*. Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 2006

<http://www.utppublishing.com/pubstore/merchant.ihtml?pid=8735&step=4>

Recent efforts by the United States and its allies to promote democracy, security, and stability in the Middle East owe much to the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP) – also known as the Barcelona Process – an important region-building plan in the Mediterranean region since 1995.

The Convergence of Civilizations represents the output of an innovative and much needed collaborative project focused on the EMP. Editors Emanuel Adler, Beverly Crawford, Federica Bicchi, and Raffaella A. Del Sarto have set out to show that regional security and stability may be achieved through a cultural approach based on the concept of regional identity construction, and aim to take stock of the EMP in relation to this goal.

The contributors to this collection focus on the obstacles Mediterranean region construction faces due to post 9/11 regional and global events, the difficulties of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, tensions between the EU and the US over Iraq, and the expected consequences of EU enlargement. They also seek to bring the EMP and region-making practices to the attention of American scholars in order to promote a more fertile academic exchange.

Ultimately, the contributors demonstrate that the EMP and related region-making practices, while failing so far to promote the development of a Mediterranean regional identity and to achieve regional stability, suggest nonetheless a viable model for regional partnership and cooperation, and thus, for preventing a 'clash of civilizations' in the long haul. The Convergence of Civilizations will be an important tool for meeting the current global challenges being faced by nation-states as well as those in the future.

Karatzogianni, Athina: The Politics of Cyberconflict: Security, Ethnoreligious and Sociopolitical conflicts. Abingdon, New York, Routledge, 2006

<http://www.amazon.com/Politics-Cyberconflict-Ethnoreligious-Sociopolitical-Information/dp/0415396840>

The Politics of Cyberconflict focuses on the phenomenon of "cyberconflict" (conflict in computer mediated environments and the internet) and looks at the way it has impacted on politics, society and culture.

Athina Karatzogianni provides a framework for analyzing this new phenomenon, by adopting elements of social movement, conflict and media theory. This new volume theoretically and empirically locates and introduces the key issues confronting global politics today, as a consequence of the impact of new communication technologies.

Jandt, Fred E.: An Introduction to Intercultural Communication: Identities in a Global Community. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications, 2006

<http://www.sagepub.com/booksProdDesc.nav?contribId=527912&prodId=Book227488>

You may be able to succeed – in business, or even in life – without ever really trying, but you certainly cannot successfully navigate our increasingly global community without being able to communicate with those from other cultural or ethnic backgrounds.

Author Fred E. Jandt once again sparks student interest in this ever-changing field with an easy-to-read, highly accessible and exciting introduction to the art of effectively communicating across group barriers. An Introduction to Intercultural Communication: Identities in a Global Community explores the key concepts of communication and culture, addressing: group barriers that make such communication challenging; dimensions of culture; multiculturalism; women, family, and children; and more - while retaining its unique, non-biased appreciation for all cultures and ethnic groups. Students acquire valuable verbal and nonverbal communication skills, learn to communicate in unfamiliar settings, and recognize culture's influence on self-perception.

Dyson, Laurel Evelyn; Hendriks, Max; Grant, Stephen: Information Technology and Indigenous People. Hershey, IGI Global, 2006

<http://books.google.com/books?id=7jFK60pZ7C4C>

Indigenous people around the world are becoming more interested in information technology because they see it as a way to preserve their traditional cultures for future generations as well as a way to provide their communities with economic and social renewal. However, the cost of the new technologies, geographic isolation, and a lack of computer literacy have made it difficult for indigenous people to adopt IT. Information Technology and Indigenous People provides theoretical

and empirical information related to the planning and execution of IT projects aimed at serving indigenous people. It explores many cultural concerns with IT implementation, including language issues and questions of cultural appropriateness, and brings together cutting-edge research from both indigenous and non-indigenous scholars.

Newsom, Doug: Bridging the Gaps in Global Communication. Malden, Oxford, Carlton, Blackwell Publishing, 2006

<http://books.google.com/books?id=ztHRnGMfhikC>

This major textbook for a growing area of study provides the reader with the framework necessary for understanding the implications of communication in the global media marketplace. Using practical examples, Newsom offers students and media professionals an indispensable guide to mastering the art of international and intercultural communication. Newsom addresses an important subject that few other books do: how to communicate in the global media marketplace at both the interpersonal and public level. Bridging the Gaps in Global Communication explores mass modes of communication including advertising, public relations, the Internet, news, and magazines. Rich with real life examples, chosen to appeal to students, it draws on the author's experiences teaching media and public relations across Asia, Africa, and Europe as it examines the factors that are influencing cross-cultural communication, bringing together practical, philosophical, and theoretical approaches to various types of interaction.

Binnie, Jon.: Cosmopolitan Urbanism. Abingdon, New York, Routledge, 2006

<http://books.google.com/books?id=M9uVNi3fz9AC>

Cities are increasingly competing with one another to re-brand themselves as cosmopolitan in order to attract investment and tourism. Urban spaces associated with cultural difference such as Chinatowns and gay villages have become core to many cities' attempts to market themselves as global cities. Central to this process is how traditionally marginalized groups in the city have become re-valued and reconstructed as a resource in the eyes of planners and politicians.

Cosmopolitan Urbanism examines the politics of these transformations by understanding the everyday practices of cosmopolitanism by drawing together the works of leading urban scholars. Which forms of cultural difference are valued and which are excluded from this re-visioning of the contemporary city?

This accessible book is groundbreaking in examining the complex politics of cosmopolitanism in accessible, empirical case studies. These range from Montreal to Singapore, London to Texas, Auckland to Amsterdam. The grounded nature of the discussion of cosmopolitanism makes Cosmopolitan Urbanism an accessible student guide to debates on the subject.

Gentz, Natascha; Kramer, Stefan: Globalization, Cultural Identities, And Media Representations. Albany, State University of New York Press, 2006

<http://books.google.com/books?id=GWyF18r-tR4C>

Globalization, Cultural Identities, and Media Representations provides a multidirectional approach for understanding the role of media in constructing cultural identities in a newly globalized media environment. The contributors cover a wide range of topics from different geopolitical areas, historical periods, and media genres. Case studies examined include the shift from print to Internet, local representations of modern world cinema and glo/cal television, narrative strategies in transnational literature, and cultural economics of the mediation of world music in India, China, Algeria, Israel, Europe, and the United States. This case study approach allows for deeper insights into the complexity of each cultural subsystem as part of the whole media culture system. This book exemplifies a transcultural and transdisciplinary dialogue that maps out new—relocalized—territories and borders for mediated cultural identities and also reveals the complexity and connectedness of all of these discourses.

Dragojević, Sanjin; Dodd, Diane; Cvjetičanin, Biserka; Smithuijsen, Cas: eCulture: The European Perspective. Cultural Policy, Creative Industries, Information Lag. Zagreb, Institute for International Relations, 2005

<http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/eculture01/index.html#content>

eCulture: The European Perspective was the title of a round table meeting jointly organised by Culturelink Network and Circle Network which was held in Zagreb, Croatia, on 24-27 April 2003. The book resulting from this round table discussions comprises 14 papers, reflecting the richness of ideas and thoughts about our world in a time of change and a search for new solutions. This book has brought into focus topics that are vital for ensuring the future of our freedom of choice, our creative freedoms and our insight into existing knowledge recorded through the cultural heritage. New forms of cultural expression, new contexts and new contents call for rethinking (national) cultural policy and international communication.

Švob-Đokić, Nada: The Emerging Creative Industries in Southeastern Europe. Zagreb, Institute for International Relations, 2005

http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/cultid07/Svob-Djokic_Creative_Industries.pdf

The book *The Emerging Creative Industries in Southeastern Europe* is a collection of papers that resulted from the postgraduate course *Managing Cultural Transitions: Southeastern Europe - The Impact of Creative Industries*, organized by the Department for Culture and Communication of the Institute for International Relations, Zagreb, and held at the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik, 8-15 May 2005. The book gathers contributions by 11 authors who analyze creative industries and cultural cooperation in South East Europe, through three chapters: *Creative Industries in Southeastern Europe*; *Cultural Exchange and Cooperation in Southeastern Europe* and *Cultural Cooperation Contexts*.

The creative industries or, rather, culture industries as they appeared in the Southeastern European countries, stem from the tradition of industrial and market-oriented cultural production taken to be low culture or even kitsch cultural production, undermined during the times of socialism. In the transition period these industries became more associated with the ideas of modernization and technological progress, and strongly prompted by imports of cultural consumerism based on pop cultural products. It became clearly visible that small-scale cultural industries and productions might be both economically and culturally reasonable if supported by regionalist ideas and intra-regional cultural cooperation, which might, perhaps, establish links among small and very diverse Southeastern European cultures. However, the influence of large transnational corporations, which are turning the region into a part of the global cultural market, has not yet been undermined.

In *The Emerging Creative Industries in Southeastern Europe* authors from the region add a new dimension to this discussion and show how the Southeast European transitional societies, at best "mixed societies" undergoing different types of the modernization process, may react to challenges relating to the development of creative industries and creative economies. The authors clearly stress that in spite of numerous commonalities, the differences between countries in the region, and also within them, may still produce very different reactions to the challenge of creative industries and the markets they may be cultivating.

Neuliep, Jim: Intercultural Communication: A Contextual Approach. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications, 2005

<http://www.amazon.com/Intercultural-Communication-Contextual-Jim-Neuliep/dp/1412967708>

Intercultural Communication: A Contextual Approach is a state-of-the-art introduction to the processes that are critical for successful and competent intercultural communication. Author James W. Neuliep advances his contextual model of intercultural communication to examine communication within cultural, micro-cultural, environmental, socio-relational, and perceptual contexts.

Bar-Yoseph, Talia Levine: The Bridge: Dialogues across Cultures. Metairie, Gestalt Institute Press, 2005

<http://www.amazon.com/Bridge-Dialogues-across-Cultures/dp/188996848X>

Many would agree that today we live in a turbulent world where dialogue across the globe is essential, where cross-communication is an ever increasing and fundamental need on our planet now more than ever before. By adopting a Gestalt multi-cultural focus, a group of 23 eminent Gestaltists have investigated some of the human troubles that are of concern to many of us. They have stepped forward to write about their own experiences working in foreign lands and their attempts to help heal the ills that exist between societies and to offer readers ways of doing the same.

Keith, Michael: After the Cosmopolitan? Multicultural Cities and the Future of Racism. Abingdon, New York, Routledge, 2005

<http://books.google.com/books?id=CraqrOX3mXYC>

In *After the Cosmopolitan* Michael Keith argues that both racial divisions and intercultural dialogue can only be understood in the context of the urban cities that gave them birth. The author addresses debates in cultural theory and urban studies about the growth of cultural industries and the marketing of cities, the debates around social exclusion and violence, the big debate in the US around the nature of the ghetto, the cross disciplinary conceptualization of cultural hybridity, and the politics of third way social policy.

Kraidy, Marwan M.: Hybridity, Or The Cultural Logic Of Globalization. Philadelphia, Temple University Press, 2005

http://www.temple.edu/tempresstitles/1770_reg.html

The intermingling of people and media from different cultures is a communication-based phenomenon known as hybridity. Drawing on original research from Lebanon to Mexico and analyzing the use of the term in cultural and postcolonial studies (as well as the popular and business media), Marwan Kraidy offers readers a history of the idea and a set of prescriptions for its future use.

Kraidy analyzes the use of the concept of cultural mixture from the first century A.D. to its present application in the academy and the commercial press. The book's case studies build an argument for understanding the importance of the dynamics of communication, uneven power relationships, and political economy as well as culture, in situations of hybridity. Kraidy suggests a new framework he developed to study cultural mixture - called critical transculturalism - which uses hybridity as its core concept, but in addition, provides a practical method for examining how media and communication work in international contexts.

Van den Besselaar, Peter; De Michelis, Giorgio; Preece, Jenny; Simone, Carla: Communities and Technologies 2005. Dordrecht, Springer, 2005

<http://www.textbooksrus.com/search/BookDetail/?isbn=9781402035906>

This book includes 23 papers dealing with the impact of modern information and communication technologies that support a wide variety of communities: local communities, virtual communities, and communities of practice, such as knowledge communities and scientific communities. The volume is the result of the second multidisciplinary "Communities and Technologies Conference", a major event in this emerging research field. The various chapters discuss how communities are affected by technologies, and how understanding of the way that communities function can be used in improving information systems design. This state of the art overview will be of interest to computer and information scientists, social scientists and practitioners alike.

Steunebrink, Gerrit; Van der Zweerde, Evert: Civil Society, Religion, and the Nation: Modernization in Intercultural Context: Russia, Japan, Turkey. Amsterdam, Rodopi, 2005

<http://www.amazon.com/Civil-Society-Religion-Nation-Interkulturellen/dp/9042016655>

Japan, Russia, and Turkey are major examples of countries with different ethnic, religious, and cultural background that embarked on the path of modernization without having been colonized by a Western country. In all three cases, national consciousness has played a significant role in this context. The project of Modernity is obviously of European origin, but is it essentially European? Does modernization imply loss of a country's cultural or national identity? If so, what is the "fate" of the modernization process in these cases? The presence of the idea and reality of civil society can be considered a real marker of Modernity in this respect, because it presupposes the development of liberalism, individualism and human rights. But are these compatible with nationalism and with the idea of a national religion?

These questions are the more pressing, as Japan is considered part of the Western world in many respects, and Russia and Turkey are defining their relation to the European Union in different ways. An investigation of these three countries, set off against more general reflections, sheds light on the possibilities or limitations of modernization in a non-European context.

Švob-Đokić, Nada: Cultural Transitions in Souteastern Europe. Zagreb, Institute for International Relations, 2004

http://www.culturelink.org/publics/joint/cultid06/Svob-Djokic_Cultural_Transitions.pdf

The book Cultural Transitions in Souteastern Europe is a collection of papers that resulted from the postgraduate course Managing Cultural Transitions: Southeastern Europe, organized by the Department for Culture and Communication of the Institute for International Relations, Zagreb, and held at the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik, 9-16 May 2004. The book gathers contributions by 8 authors who analyze context and concepts of cultural transitions, map cultural production trends and link them with frameworks of cultural policies.

Cultural transitions integrate all types of cultural changes. They provide the context in which cultures appear to be both actors and mediators of social change. In this collection of texts the issues discussing cultural contexts, the new public culture, governance of cultural institutions, cultural industries and cultural policies (including those related to digitalization) represent an effort to trace cultural transition in the region and point out some particular problems it raises. The new public culture seems to be gaining ground in this region. As "ordered individuals, communities and cultures" are presented in a "swarm" structure (Katunarić), one is reminded of overall cultural restructuring in the region. Cultural, media and other public policies, although yet new and, perhaps, politically feeble, converge in an effort to structure the (chaotic) changes. This effort makes visible the lack of knowledge on present cultural developments and transition, and the scarcity of research in the field. A clear picture of the socio-economic and cultural environment is required (Mucica), as well as the need to acquire new technological abilities in order to be able to go for a number of practical policy solutions, e.g., digitalization (Kolar-Panov). Governance of cultural institutions (Čopić) reflects a situation that needs to be compared with the EU positions and frameworks (Obuljen). The core elements in this process of transition are cultural production (Primorac) and the perception of art production (Stamenković). The key question for all the authors of the present texts and all the researchers looking into problems of cultural transitions in Southeastern Europe remains the one on how to make a difference and be recognized in cultural creativity, industry and successful cultural policy making. This consideration unites the regional efforts and represents a basic standpoint to support regional cultural cooperation.

Holt, Richard: Dialogue on the Internet: Language, Civic Identity, and Computer-Mediated Communication. Westport, Praeger Publishers, 2004

<http://www.amazon.com/Dialogue-Internet-Language-Computer-Mediated-Communication/dp/B000QCS8C4>

Richard Holt draws on his extensive experience in discourse analysis and Web design to present a picture of the Internet as a potentially powerful tool of civic discourse in the third millennium. Beginning with background on two of the Internet's most prevalent communication forms, email

discussion messages and Web pages/sites, the book introduces the concepts of monologism and dialogism. Holt advocates a method of discursive analysis called dual reading, in which Internet utterance is analyzed first monologically and then, dialogically. This method is demonstrated by analyzing email discussions that deal with such varied topics as media, espionage, sexual identity, presidential politics, hate speech, and hate crimes. This volume contains a multidisciplinary approach, involving a wide range of specializations, from computer science to philosophy. It will appeal to students, teachers, practitioners, and lay readers who are interested in Internet communication, politics, and popular culture. In contrast to many of the "doom and gloom" accounts of the deficiencies of the Internet, it offers a hopeful vision of the Internet as a means of civic discourse.

Skutnabb-Kangas, Tove; Maffi, Luisa; Harmon, David: Sharing a World of Difference. The Earth's Linguistic, Cultural and Biological Diversity. Paris, UNESCO, 2003

<http://www.terralingua.org/publications/intro.html>

We live in a world threatened by the loss of one of humanity's greatest treasures - its linguistic heritage. But few realize that bound up with the loss of language is loss of knowledge about our environment. This book documents the complex interrelationships between the Earth's linguistic, cultural and biological diversity - what is known as its biocultural diversity. It offers a general introduction to a complex field and outlines some of the key challenges facing sustainable development from cultural and educational perspectives.

Bourquin, Jean-Fred : Violence, Conflict and Intercultural Dialogue. Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 2003

http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=1693

This publication is part of a series linked to the Council of Europe's project "Responses to violence in everyday life in democratic society" which considers various aspects of policy making and law enforcement to combat crime and violence in society. This book examines how intercultural dialogue can channel conflict to bring about positive changes, since discussing cultural differences can lead to mutual understanding and help reduce the potential of conflict to degenerate into violence.

Martin, Judith; Nakayama, Thomas: Intercultural Communication in Contexts. New York, McGraw Hill, 2003

<http://www.alibris.com/search/books/isbn/0767430131>

This work addresses the core issues and concerns of intercultural communication by integrating three different perspectives: the social psychological, the interpretive, and the critical. The dialectical framework, integrated throughout the book, is used as a lens to examine the relationship of these research traditions.

LeBaron, Michelle: Bridging Cultural Conflicts: A New Approach for a Changing World. San Francisco, Jossey-Bass, 2003

<http://www.josseybass.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-078796431X.html>

In our global society, challenging conflicts abound in personal, business, government, and international settings. Many of these conflicts are complicated by layers of miscommunication, cultural misunderstandings, and completely different ways of looking at the world. These conflicts cannot be solved by goodwill or sincere intentions alone. In our multicultural world, we need new tools to address gaps in communication and understanding and the conflicts that flow from them.

Bridging Cultural Conflicts answers this need in groundbreaking ways that cut through complexity, replacing confusion with clarity. It introduces mindful awareness, cultural fluency, and conflict fluency as tools for decoding and moving through intercultural conflicts, and for deepening and integrating change. The book shows how fluency with culture and conflict can be learned through

attention and practice, just as we would internalize a new language. As fluency is acquired, a process called dynamic engagement is presented to help prevent intercultural conflict, limit its escalation, and transform it into a learning experience.

Michelle LeBaron's approach in *Bridging Cultural Conflicts* is human, practical, and adaptable to a wide range of interpersonal, community, organizational, and political conflicts. Drawing from her work as an attorney, mediator, scholar, and internationally acclaimed consultant, Michelle combines the dynamism of Western approaches to conflict resolution with the insight and balance of Eastern approaches. In the process, she offers a wide array of creative strategies and usable tools. As we urgently seek better ways to work and live together and to address the issues that divide us, this timely book inspires flexibility, creativity, and hope.

Dallmayr, Fred: *Dialogue Among Civilizations: Some Exemplary Voices*. New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2003

<http://www.amazon.com/Dialogue-Among-Civilizations-Exemplary-Voices/dp/1403960593>

Dialogue Among Civilizations explores the social, cultural, and philosophical underpinnings of "civilizational dialogue" by asking questions such as: What is the meaning of such dialogue? What are its preconditions? Are there different trajectories for different civilizations? Is there also a dialogue between past and future involving remembrance? Exemplary voices range from Ibn Rushd, Goethe and Hafiz to Soroush, Gadamer, and the Mahatma Gandhi.

Collier, Mary Jane: *Intercultural Alliances: Critical Transformation*. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications, 2002

<http://www.sagepub.com/booksProdDesc.nav?prodId=Book225681>

Intercultural Alliances reflects the struggle to comprehend our international communities and improve the ways in which we communicate and negotiate across cultures. Carefully organized and edited by Mary Jane Collier, this accessible volume defines intercultural alliances and demonstrates their potential through examples of effective and ineffective alliances. A group of diverse and distinguished contributors presents an array of approaches to intercultural alliances, analyzing relationships between groups and individuals; institutionally based relationships that are constrained and enabled by structures, ideologies, and histories; and relationships as situated discourse.

Collier, Mary Jane: *Transforming Communication About Culture*. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications, 2001

http://chaos.com/product/transforming_communication_about_culture_963680_309996.html

Transforming Communication About Culture includes thought-provoking contributions about the ways in which people's lives and experiences across the globe are being transformed by technological changes, media institutions, political ideologies, and social forces.

Ess, Charles; Sudweeks, Fay: *Culture, Technology, Communication: Towards an Intercultural Global Village*. Albany, State University of New York Press, 2001

<http://www.amazon.com/Culture-Technology-Communication-Intercultural-Computer-Mediated/dp/0791450155>

Stability and success in our electronic global village increasingly depends on the complex interactions of culture, communication, and technology. This book offers both theoretical approaches and case studies of these interactions from diverse cultural domains, including Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the United States. This global perspective helps to counteract the Anglo-American presumptions that have dominated discussion and literature on computer-mediated communication (CMC) technologies. The contributors uncover and challenge the culture-bound values and communicative preferences inherent in CMC technologies-including values and preferences related to gender-and also document non-Western examples of implementing these

technologies in ways that catalyze global communication while preserving and enhancing local cultures. Taken together, these essays articulate the interdisciplinary foundations and practical models necessary to design and use CMC technologies in ways that help us to avoid the choice between a global but culturally homogenous "McWorld" and fragmented local cultures whose identities are preserved only in their opposition to globalization.

Kim, Young Y.: *Becoming Intercultural: An Integrative Theory of Communication and Cross-Cultural Adaptation*. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications, 2000

<http://www.sagepub.co.uk/textbooksProdDesc.nav?prodId=Book5756>

This book looks at the movements of immigrants and refugees and the challenges they face as they cross cultural boundaries and strive to build a new life in an unfamiliar place. It focuses on the psychological dynamic underpinning of their adaptation process, how their internal conditions change over time, the role of their ethnic and personal backgrounds, and of the conditions of the host environment affecting the process. Addressing these and related issues, the author presents a comprehensive theory, or a "big picture," of the cross-cultural adaptation phenomenon.

Jandt, Fred E.: *Intercultural Communication: An Introduction*. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications, 2000

<http://www.amazon.com/Intercultural-Communication-Introduction-Fred-Jandt/dp/0761922024>

Once again Fred Jandt provides students with an engaging introduction to Intercultural Communication, complete in its presentation of intercultural communication in both the U.S. and international contexts. Using a reader-centred approach, Jandt covers a wide range of material, including the barriers in intercultural communication, dimensions of culture, multiculturalism, women, family and children in cultural context, and cultures' influence on perception. He also presents a historical framework to view the development of current topics and an integration of media as a variable in the advancement of issues and ideas. A number of illustrative materials, vignettes, quotes, cases, and stories are used to keep the student's attention and provoke thought while challenging existing viewpoints.

Touraine, Alain: *Can We Live Together?: Equality and Difference*. Stanford, Stanford University Press, 2000

<http://www.sup.org/book.cgi?id=1278>

In this book, a leading French social thinker grapples with the gap between the tendency toward globalization of economic relations and mass culture and the increasingly sectarian nature of our social identities as members of ethnic, religious, or national groups. Though at first glance, it might seem as if the answer to the question "Can we live together?" is that we already do live together—watching the same television programs, buying the same clothes, and even using the same language to communicate from one country to another—the author argues that in important ways, we are farther than ever from belonging to the same society or the same culture.

Our small societies are not gradually merging into one vast global society; instead, the simultaneously political, territorial, and cultural entities that we once called societies or countries are breaking up before our eyes in the wake of ethnic, political, and religious conflict. The result is that we live together only to the extent that we make the same gestures and use the same objects—we do not communicate with one another in a meaningful way or govern ourselves together.

What power can now reconcile a transnational economy with the disturbing reality of introverted communities? The author argues against the idea that all we can do is agree on some social rules of mutual tolerance and respect for personal freedom, and forgo the attempt to forge deeper bonds. He argues instead that we can use a focus on the personal life-project—the construction of an active self or "subject"—ultimately to form meaningful social and political institutions.

The book concludes by exploring how social institutions might be retooled to safeguard the development of the personal subject and communication between subjects, and by sketching out

what these new social institutions might look like in terms of social relations, politics, and education.

Segesvary, Victor: Dialogue of Civilizations. An Introduction to Civilizational Analysis. Lanham, University Press of America, 2000

<http://www.alibris.com/search/books/qwork/8378480/used/Dialogue%20of%20Civilization:%20An%20Introduction%20to%20Civilizational%20Analysis>

The necessity of a dialogue among the various rich and powerful civilizations that co-exist on our planet will be a looming international problem in the coming 21st century. A civilizational dialogue necessitates familiarity with major aspects of other civilizations such as religion, symbolism, myth in the spiritual domain, social structure and development, or political organization in the social and institutional spheres. Familiarity between civilizations would enable them, in the course of the dialogue, to identify shared beliefs and values which are the common aspects of humanity that unite us all. "Dialogue of Civilization" guides the reader through a deep analysis of different civilizational worlds. An indispensable book for students and professors of anthropology, political science, and foreign relations.

Lengel, Laura B.: Culture and Technology in the New Europe: Civic Discourse in Transformation in Post-communist Nations. Westport, Greenwood Publishing Group, 2000

http://books.google.com/books?id=G0CXTqS_rE8C

Culture and Technology in the New Europe presents the insights of an international group of academic researchers and media practitioners who examine the impact of technology on East Central Europe, South-Eastern Europe, the Newly Independent States and the Russian Federation. Drawing from the expertise of authors from and working in the region, the book addresses concerns that the New Europe faces at the eve of the Third Millennium and a decade after the fall of communist rule. Such concerns include access to information and communication technology and the culturally-specific discourses articulated through media and technology. While the book focuses on information and communication reforms, and the development of a participatory democracy are examined. The book is distinguished by diverse studies ranging from the problems of "Cyber Hate" from and about the New Europe, to online activism in war-torn Kosovo, Bosnia, Croatia and Yugoslavia, to how digital media art articulates new cultural and creative freedoms once silenced by the Soviet regime. Finally, the book looks to the future of media, technology and communication in the New Europe, particularly the gaps between post-socialist nations and those more technologically advantaged, and how these gaps can be narrowed or eradicated in the Third Millennium.

Documents and Articles

Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe: White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue. Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 2008

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/intercultural/Source/White%20Paper_final_revised_EN.pdf

At their 118th Ministerial Session (Strasbourg, 6-7 May 2008), the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe launched the "White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue", which one week earlier had been approved by their Deputies.

The White Paper provides various orientations for the promotion of intercultural dialogue, mutual respect and understanding, based on the core values of the Organisation. The Ministers welcomed it as a "significant pan-European contribution to an international discussion steadily gaining momentum" as well as to the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue. The Ministers emphasised the importance of ensuring appropriate visibility of the White Paper, and called on the Council of Europe and its member states, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to give suitable follow-up to the White Paper's recommendations.

Platform for Intercultural Europe: The Rainbow Paper. Intercultural Dialogue: From Practice to Policy and Back. Bruxelles, Culture Action Europe, 2008

<http://rainbowpaper.labforculture.org/signup/public/read>

The Rainbow Paper is the result of several consultation exercises in the course of 2007 and 2008. It is a collection of and compromise between hundreds of view points. The paper sets out five steps to making interculturalism our new human norm and proposes five sets of recommendations: Educating, building capacity by organisations, monitoring for sustained policies, mobilising across boundaries and resourcing of Intercultural Dialogue. The recommendations are addressed to civil society organisations and public authorities at all levels in Europe, using the European Union as the point of access.

The endorsed document will be presented to the public and to the EU Council at the closing event of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue on 17-19th November in Paris. The Rainbow Platform is a formally recognised partner for the European Union institutions under the process known as "Structured Dialogue". It will deliver its recommendations in this capacity.

European Institute for Comparative Cultural Research: Sharing Diversity. National Approaches to Intercultural Dialogue in Europe. Study for the European Commission. Bonn, ERICarts Institute, 2008

http://www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu/fileadmin/downloads/resources/sharing_diversity_final_report_en.pdf

From January to December 2007, the European Institute for Comparative Cultural Research worked together with a group of 12 key experts / special advisors and 37 national correspondents to investigate concepts of intercultural dialogue, their challenges to different sectors such as culture, education, sports or youth, and main actors involved in their promotion. The Study includes 50 recommendations to European and national actors and it was presented during the official launch of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue, on January 7th in Ljubljana.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization: Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Paris, UNESCO, 2005

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001429/142919e.pdf>

The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions is a UNESCO convention and treaty adopted by the UNESCO General Conference on 20 October 2005. The treaty was jointly negotiated by the European Commission, on behalf of the European Community, and by the European Council, on behalf of the member states.

The Convention's main objective is to take into account cultural diversity when developing other policies. The preamble emphasizes "the need to incorporate culture as a strategic element in national and international development policies, as well as in international development cooperation, taking into account also the United Nations Millennium Declaration (2000) with its special emphasis on poverty eradication."

European ministers responsible for Cultural Affairs: Opatija Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue and Conflict Prevention. Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 2003

<http://www.coe.int/T/E/Com/Files/Ministerial-Conferences/2003-Culture/declaration.asp>

The Council of Europe has published the Opatija Declaration on Intercultural Dialogue and Conflict-prevention adopted at the Conference of the European Ministers of Culture, held in Opatija, Croatia, on 20-22 October 2003.

The Opatija Declaration details the Ministers' intentions and indicates ways of realising them. Among other things, it proposes the holding of annual 'intercultural forums' to assess 'good practices' in intercultural co-operation and to develop new initiatives in that area. The Conference also decided that cities and towns involved in intercultural cooperation should be brought together within a 'European network of divided towns'.

In addition to its preventive function in areas of tension, the Ministers pointed out that intercultural dialogue helps to encourage understanding and 'discovery of the Other' – learning diversity opens people's eyes to the world outside, and implies new ways of seeing. Acquiring a 'culture of culture' also helps European countries to affirm their own rich and multi-faceted identities in the world at large.

Apart from its content, the Declaration, unanimously adopted at the end of the Opatija Conference, reflects the determination of all the Culture Ministers to discharge their new responsibilities in this area fully. Governments everywhere must become aware of the important part which cultural policy can play in preventing conflicts. This was the point made by the Ministers, who see the Council of Europe as the ideal forum for that purpose, emphasizing that the Council is the only international structure with the capacity to coordinate these efforts today, and hoping that it will develop its partnership with all those active in culture even further.

Torch, Chris: "Culture & Society. From Migration to Fusion: The Challenge of Multiple Identities", SICAmag, 37, 2008

[http://www.sica.nl/cgi-bin/mk5/mk5_sica.pl?xpath=document\('sicamag/artikel559.xml'\)//sicamagartikel&xslsheet=artikel.xsl&mkp_jaar=2008](http://www.sica.nl/cgi-bin/mk5/mk5_sica.pl?xpath=document('sicamag/artikel559.xml')//sicamagartikel&xslsheet=artikel.xsl&mkp_jaar=2008) (Dutch)

<http://www.culturelink.org/conf/dialogue/torch.pdf> (English)

In his article *Culture & Society. From Migration to Fusion* Chris Torch calls for the clarification of the term "intercultural dialogue", suggesting three separate but inter-related areas of endeavor: inter-continental dialogue (as a response to globalization and the need for urgent cultural bridging), trans-national dialogue (as a response to a wider Europe and as an integrated part of policy towards neighboring countries) and, thirdly, inter-ethnic dialogue (as a response to increased diversity in our urban environments due to migration and mobility). Torch suggests that distinguishing between these parallel areas will facilitate the development of concrete programs and objectives.

McGonagle, Tarlach: "The Promotion of Cultural Diversity via New Media Technologies: An Introduction to the Challenges of Operationalisation", IRIS plus, 6, 2008

http://www.obs.coe.int/oea_publ/iris/iris_plus/jplus6_2008.pdf.en

Culture has been described as "an overworked concept with little semantic precision", and cultural rights as "the Cinderella of the human rights family". To continue in the same metaphorical vein, the objective of promoting cultural diversity could be considered a jaded ideal, worn-out by unfulfilled ambition and underappreciation. Preambular provisions of treaties and non-binding standard-setting texts routinely refer to the objective of promoting cultural diversity, but only intermittently attempt to prize open the notion or provide for its concrete application. In recent years, however, the substantive sections of a variety of normative texts at European and international levels have begun to explore the content and scope of cultural diversity, as well as its relationship with new media technologies. The purpose of this article is to examine what cultural diversity actually entails; explain why it ought to be promoted, and assess the important role of new media technologies in advancing that aim. As such, it seeks to engage with the challenges of operationalizing cultural diversity.

Tsutsumibayashi, Ken: "Fusion of Horizons or Confusion of Horizons? Intercultural Dialogue and Its Risks", Global Governance, January-March 2005

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_7055/is_1_11/ai_n28263245/print?tag=artBody;col1

In 1998, the UN General Assembly designated the year 2001 as the UN Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations. It was an attempt to avert the purported "clash of civilizations," and to foster trust and cooperation among various nations to tackle some of the impending global and regional crises. To contribute to this UN-led movement, the author presented his ideas concerning how such a dialogue could or should take place on two occasions: at the UNU International Conference on Global Ethos and at the UNESCO International Conference on Dialogue Among Civilizations: Democracy and East Asian Traditions. In this article, he exposes the double-edged nature of global

dialogue as well as the risks and dangers that must be avoided for a dialogue to become meaningful. Keywords: dialogue of civilizations, global ethic, politics of recognition, human rights, nationalism.

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