

# The migratory experience: adopting a three-generational perspective

## A high-level conference sponsored by the I-ON project

Europe is built on a diverse and vibrant mosaic of cultures, languages, and traditions. The motto of the European Union "United in Diversity" encapsulates its commitment to celebrating this diversity, while fostering a sense of shared identity and common purpose.

Yet, we live in a time where political forces combine pro-EU policies with critical stances towards immigration and social integration. A growing number of European governments point to multiculturalism as a negative phenomenon that leads to economic inequality, social fragmentation, and a loss of cultural identity.

Identity on the Line (I-ON) is a large-scale cooperation project, co-funded by the European Union, conducted by six cultural history museums and one university from seven European countries between 2019 and 2023. It aimed to explore the long-term consequences of traumatic experiences that follow war, forced migration, and the search for a new life and identity in a foreign land. And it studied how these experiences also shape the lives of the second and third generation of migrants.

The project findings are summarized in publications, a joint travel exhibition that has toured Europe, and now also as a series of recommendations for policymakers.

These recommendations aim to contribute to long-term solutions for an issue that is often seen as a short-term urgency. I-ON provides ideas for initiatives that are designed to foster societal cohesion and to avoid critical pitfalls on the way to more sustainable societies. In this regard, museums and academia can make a real difference in the communities they operate in – by providing a safe space where unheard voices can be heard, by facilitating a unique access to information on sensitive experiences, and by creating an arena for participation and intercultural dialogue. These are crucial components in the healing of collective trauma.

We invite you to attend a high-level conference where relevant policymakers and stakeholders will discuss our project findings and recommendations. You will also have the opportunity to hear directly from the leaders of the seven research projects conducted across Europe, and attend a screening of a short documentary on the experience of Crimean Tatars in Ukraine.



9.30 – 18.30  
Wednesday, 26 April 2023



Norway House and  
European Parliament, Brussels

### Invited speakers include:

**Valter Flego (intervention)**  
**Irena Joveva (video intervention)**  
**Pär Holmgren (tbc)**  
**Alice Kuhnke (tbc)**  
**Magdalena Adamowicz (tbc)**  
*Member of the European Parliament*

**Walter Zampieri**  
*Head of Unit (Culture)*  
*European Education and Culture Executive Agency*

**Dr. Wiebke Sievers**  
*Senior Researcher*  
*Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna*

**Eamon Gilmore (tbc)**  
*EU Special Representative for Human Rights*

**Hanne Beirens (tbc)**  
*Director*  
*Migration Policy Institute Europe*

The discussion will be moderated by:

**Dr. Kathrin Pabst**  
I-ON Project Leader

# I-@N



Co-funded by  
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[i-on.museum](https://i-on.museum)



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## Agenda

### Norway House Rue Archimède 17, 1000 Brussels

09.00	Registration and coffee
09.30	Welcome and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Dr. Kathrin Pabst</b>, Project Leader of Identity on the Line (I-ON)</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Alejandro Ramillo</b>, Project Adviser – European Networks strand and Western Balkans call Coordinator, Creative Europe</li> </ul>
10.00 – 11.30	Presentation of all seven subprojects, 7 min each, part I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10.00 – 10.10: Slovenia - Up - YU Go! Stories about Identities on the Line</li> <li>- 10.10 – 10.20: Croatia - "Connections - Istrians after World War II"</li> <li>- 10.20 – 10.30: Q &amp; A</li> <li>- 10.30 – 10.40: Norway - "Keep it quiet! Family Secrets in the aftermath of WW2"</li> <li>- 10.40 – 10.50: Lithuania - «Healing Wounds of Soul»</li> <li>- 11.00 – 11.10: Poland - "We met in Slupsk. Settlers' stories"</li> <li>- 11.20 – 11.30: Q &amp; A</li> </ul>
11.30 – 12.00	<i>Break with snacks</i>
12.00 – 12.30	Presentation partners, part II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 12.00 – 12.10: Sweden - "The broken heart"</li> <li>- 12.10 – 12.30: Q &amp; A</li> </ul>
12.30 – 13.15	Documentary about Crimean Tatars
13.15 – 14.00	Keynote "Trauma and silence in migration: lessons for politics, the media, and the general public"- <b>Dr. Wiebke Sievers</b> , Senior Researcher, Austrian Academy of Science in Vienna

### European Parliament Rue Wiertz 60, 1047 Brussels (Room ASP 5G1)

16.30 – 18.15	Round table – participation and intervention of special guests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Valter Flego</b>, Member of the European Parliament (intervention)</li> <li>- <b>Irena Joveva</b>, Member of the European Parliament (video intervention)</li> <li>- <b>Magdalena Adamowicz</b>, Member of the European Parliament (TBC)</li> <li>- <b>Pär Holmgren</b>, Member of the European Parliament (TBC)</li> <li>- <b>Alice Kuhnke</b>, Member of the European Parliament (TBC)</li> <li>- <b>Walter Zampieri</b>, Head of Unit (Culture) of European Education and Culture Executive Agency</li> <li>- <b>Dr. Wiebke Sievers</b>, Senior Researcher, Austrian Academy of Science in Vienna</li> <li>- <b>Eamon Gilmore</b>, EU Special Representative for Human Rights (TBC)</li> <li>- <b>Hanne Beirens</b>, Director, Migration Policy Institute Europe (TBC)</li> </ul> <p><i>*The participation and intervention from the Members of the Parliament might change at the last minute due to other EU commitments.</i></p>
18.15	Closing remarks and handing over the recommendation booklet Questions and answers to media

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