

## THE VALUE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES IN EUROPE

6 December 2018, Permanent Representation of republic of Slovenia to EU  
Rue du Commerce 44, 1000 Brussels

### PRESENTATION OF THE SPEAKERS



Dr. Borut Telban  
Professor and Research Advisor  
Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences  
and Arts  
Novi trg 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Email: borut@zrc-sazu.si  
Website: <https://iaps.zrc-sazu.si/en/sodelavci/borut-telban-en#v>

#### Short presentation of a speaker

Professor Borut Telban (Ph.D. in anthropology, The Australian National University, 1994) is Research Advisor at the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) and coordinator of anthropology program at the Postgraduate school ZRC SAZU. His anthropological research among the Karawari-speaking people of the East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea, has spanned more than twenty-five years. He was Leach/RAI Fellow at the University of Manchester (1995-96), Fulbright Scholar at the University of California, San Diego (2006-07), The Royal Society of Edinburgh Visiting Research Fellow at the University of St. Andrews (2014-15) and EHESS Visiting Professor at the Aix-Marseille University and CREDO (2014, 2017). He is the author of *Dancing through Time: A Sepik cosmology* (Oxford, 1998).

#### Presentation of the organisation

Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts  
Institute of Anthropological and Spatial Studies



Slovenian Business & Research Association  
Slovensko gospodarsko in raziskovalno združenje



Dr. Jack Spaapen  
independent advisor/researcher  
Warmondstraat 181, 1058 KX, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Email: [jbspaa@xs4all.nl](mailto:jbspaa@xs4all.nl)  
Website

### Short presentation of a speaker

Dr Jack Spaapen is vice chair of the COST action ENRESSH and emeritus senior policy advisor of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. His main expertise is in methods for societal impact evaluation and public engagement, and in research and innovation policy. He has coordinated many Academy projects, and national and international projects, among others for the European Union the FP7 SIAMPI project on productive interactions between science and society and the assessment of societal impact of research (2009-2012), and on Responsible Research and Innovation, RRI (2014); for the OECD he conducted a project on the role of scientific advice in controversial issues in society. He co-designed the national evaluation protocol for publicly funded research (Standard Evaluation Protocol - SEP). He is currently working on the development of an assessment framework for the humanities research in the Netherlands [QRH], and on an European project about inter- and transdisciplinarity, SHAPE-ID.





Slovenian Business & Research Association  
Slovensko gospodarsko in raziskovalno združenje



Dr. Gabi Lombardo  
Director  
European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities  
Rue Trône 61, 1000 Brussels  
Email: [gabi.lombardo@eassh.eu](mailto:gabi.lombardo@eassh.eu)  
Website: [www.eassh.eu](http://www.eassh.eu)

### Short presentation of a speaker

Dr. Gabi Lombardo is the Director of the European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities. She is an expert in both higher education and global research policy, and has extensive high-level experience operating at the interface of strategy, science policy, research support and funding. Gabi holds a senior level experience in strategic and 'foresight' planning in elite higher education institutions, international research funders and associations as she worked with the London School of Economics (LSE) the European Research Council (ERC) and Science Europe (SE).

As Director of EASSH, Gabi advocates for social sciences and humanities research in science policy design and discussions at the national, European and international levels. She advocates also for the need of a strong evidence-based approach to policy-making, and the inclusion of researchers in science policy development for strategic and broad-based research funding. Gabi is regularly invited to participate in science policy fora in Brussels and across Europe and has recently published about ethics in social sciences research. In 2018, Gabi receives the Young Academy of Europe Annual Prize.

### Presentation of the organisation

EASSH is an umbrella organisation gathering together over 50 of the most active European organisations working in the social sciences and humanities, including universities and research institutes.

**Our mission:** to ensure that the social sciences and humanities research community has a role in influencing the design and development of science policy.





Slovenian Business & Research Association  
Slovensko gospodarsko in raziskovalno združenje



Dr. Mimi Urbanc  
Deputy director  
Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts  
Novi trg 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Email: [mimi@zrc-sazu.si](mailto:mimi@zrc-sazu.si)  
Website: [www.zrc-sazu.si/](http://www.zrc-sazu.si/)

### Short presentation of a speaker

Mimi Urbanc is Senior Research Fellow and deputy director responsible for research at the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU). She holds a PhD in human geography. Her research activities have been focused on cultural landscapes, namely on landscape perception, identity, and landscape representations in literature and photography. She has (co)authored several publications including books. She is the chief editor of the book series *Thought, society, culture: Exploring Cultural Spaces of Europe* published by Peter Lang Verlag and board member of ISCAR (International Scientific Committee on Research in the Alps).

Presentation your organisation/department/unit  
Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts





Prof. dr. Aleš Popovič  
Vice Dean  
University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Economics  
Kardeljeva ploščad 17  
1000 Ljubljana  
Email: [ales.popovic@ef.uni-lj.si](mailto:ales.popovic@ef.uni-lj.si)  
Web: <http://www.ef.uni-lj.si/en>

### Short presentation of a speaker

Aleš is an Associate Professor of Information Management and Vice-Dean for Research and Doctoral Studies at Faculty of Economics – University of Ljubljana and a visiting professor at NOVA IMS – Universidade Nova de Lisboa. His research interests include understanding IS value, success, and related business process change, both within and between organizations. He has published his research in a variety of academic journals, such as Journal of the Association for Information Systems, The Journal of Strategic Information Systems, Decision Support Systems, Expert Systems with Applications, Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology, Information Systems Frontiers, Government Information Quarterly, and Journal of Business Research among others. Dr. Popovič is on the Editorial Board of International Journal of Information Management, Industrial Management & Data Systems, Information Systems Management, and International Journal of Business Intelligence Research.

### Presentation of the organisation

Faculty of Economics Ljubljana University (FELU) is a member of the University of Ljubljana and is both a national leader and an internationally recognised academic and research institution in the fields of business and economics. With 4.700 students, out of them 1.900 international students, it has the largest student community in Slovenia. The FELU has two undergraduate Bologna 3+ programmes where students are able to choose from among 12 specialisations in the University Degree Programme in Business and Economics and 10 specialisations in the Professional Degree Programme in Business Administration. On the graduate level, a student can choose from 18 Bologna 2+ programmes, of which 10 programmes are in the English language and 1 programme is conducted abroad. The FELU offers a 3+ Doctoral Programme in Economics and Business in English.



Slovenian Business & Research Association  
Slovensko gospodarsko in raziskovalno združenje



Mag. Maša Repež Gril  
Strategic Innovation Program Expert  
ELES, d.o.o.  
Hajdrihova 2, 1000 Ljubljana  
Email: [masa.repezgril@eles.si](mailto:masa.repezgril@eles.si)  
Website: [www.eles.si](http://www.eles.si)

### Short presentation of a speaker

Maša Repež Gril has vast experience in EU and national funded projects. During her employment at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia she has participated in EU funded projects, gave lectures to members of Slovene companies on EU and national programs such as the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Program, TEN-E, TEN-T etc. She is currently participating in six Horizon 2020 and one Connecting Europe Facility project. She is also actively involved in the preparation of recommendations regarding energy topics to be included in the national EU funded programs and works closely with the Ministry of Infrastructure.

### Presentation of the organisation

ELES is the operator of the electric power transmission network of the Republic of Slovenia. With a professional approach, know-how and advanced technology, ELES has been providing safe, reliable and uninterrupted electric power transmission throughout Slovenia and across the borders for 90 years. Thus, the company connects people and ensures quality of life. ELES endeavors to strategically, responsibly and sustainably plan, construct and maintain Slovenia's high-voltage transmission network in three voltage levels: 400 kV, 220 kV and a part of 110 kV. ELES is an important and solid backbone of the Slovenian electric power industry and a guardian of the Slovenian electric power system. Its key responsibility is the safe and reliable operation of the electric power system.



Dr. Nicole Birkle  
EU Liaison Officer  
Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz  
Research and Technology Transfer, EU-Office  
Forum Universitatis 2  
55128 Mainz  
Germany  
Email: [rose@uni-mainz.de](mailto:rose@uni-mainz.de)  
Web: [http://www.uni-mainz.de/forschung/2609\\_ENG\\_HTML.php](http://www.uni-mainz.de/forschung/2609_ENG_HTML.php)

#### Short presentation of a speaker

Nicole Birkle studied Classical Archaeology, Prehistory and Ancient History in Mainz and Bonn and finished her PhD in 2006 at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany. Already during her doctoral studies, she worked in the management of a non-profit organization, followed by a time as a research assistant and freelance archaeologist. Since 2002, Birkle administered various national and EU-funded research projects, before she became EU Liaison Officer at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz in 2014. In this position, she mainly supports applicants from the Social Sciences and Humanities. In 2017, together with other German EU Liaison officers Nicole Birkle founded the working group *ROSE*: Research on Societies in Europe.

#### Presentation of the organisation

*ROSE* is a working group of EU liaison officers. Our main objectives are to contribute to the creation of the new framework programme for research and innovation Horizon Europe, and to sustainably strengthening of the role of research on societies in the European Research Area. We strongly encourage scientists and colleagues to join and support us.







Krzysztof KANIA  
Policy Officer  
European Commission, DG RTD.B.6.  
200 rue de la loi, B-1049 Brussels  
Email [Krzysztof.Kania@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Krzysztof.Kania@ec.europa.eu)  
Website [www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu)

### Short presentation of a speaker

Krzysztof joined the European Commission and DG Education and Culture (DG EAC) in 2005. His current task as Policy Officer in Directorate General for Research and Innovation, DG RTD unit B6 – Inclusive societies, is to maximise the integration, the monitoring and the impact of social sciences and humanities (SSH) in Horizon 2020 and the future Horizon Europe programme.

### Presentation of the organisation

The Unit steers the embedding of social sciences and humanities (SSH) throughout Horizon 2020 and the future Horizon Europe, to ensure their integration into the R&I activities and as such reinforce the delivery of the Europe 2020 objectives and EU policies. It leads on setting the research policy agenda for societal challenge 'Europe in a changing world - Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies'. It ensures that new SSH knowledge from research activities shapes future EU policies. Through a dedicated sector, the Unit promotes gender equality. It also acts for stimulating multi-actor and public engagement in R&I. It implements the 'Science with and for society' part of Horizon 2020 and design its successor under Horizon Europe.

Long-term Objective: Strengthen the foundations for societies to embrace and drive change, whether economic, social or cultural. Making Gender Equality, multi-actor and public engagement a reality in R&I Communities.





Dr. Lino Paula  
Head of Sector Social Sciences  
European Research Council Executive Agency  
ERCEA.B.5 - Social Sciences and Humanities  
Email: [lino.paula@ec.europa.eu](mailto:lino.paula@ec.europa.eu)  
Website: <https://erc.europa.eu>

### Short presentation of a speaker

Dr. Lino Paula is Head of Sector Social Sciences in the European Research Council Executive Agency. He was previously a policy officer at the Research & Innovation Directorate-General of the European Commission, in which position he was involved in the activities of the Science in Society programme and the Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities programme. He also previously held positions in the Netherlands as researcher at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Animals & Society of Utrecht University, as assistant professor of Biology and Society at the Athena institute of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, as senior lecturer of Biology and Society at the Institute of Biology of Leiden University and as senior project officer Technology Assessment at the Rathenau institute in the Netherlands. In the latter position, he was also seconded to the research bureau of the Dutch Parliament. Dr Paula has worked on several international projects and studies pertaining to the governance and ethics of the life sciences, in particular focusing on the use and impact of national ethics committees and public engagement in public policy.

### Presentation of the organisation

The ERC Executive Agency (ERCEA), implements the ERC strategy as set by the Scientific Council, and is in charge of the day to day grant administration. The activities of the Executive Agency include:

- Executing the annual work programme, as defined by the ERC Scientific Council and adopted by the Commission
- Implementing calls for proposals, in accordance with the work programme
- Providing information and support to applicants
- Organising peer review evaluation
- Establishing and managing grant agreements, in accordance with the EU's financial regulations
- Providing assistance to the ERC Scientific Council
- Communicating about the ERC



Nina Braun  
Scientific Officer, Net4Society Project Coordinator  
DLR Project Management Agency  
Heinrich-Konen-Str. 1  
Email: [nina.braun@dlr.de](mailto:nina.braun@dlr.de)  
Website: [www.net4society.eu](http://www.net4society.eu)

### Short presentation of a speaker

Ms Nina Braun studied at the university of Science and Technologies in Lille where she obtained a Master's degree in Global E-Business, International Management and Economies. She joined the German Aerospace Center Project Management Agency (DLR PT) in 2009. Since 2016, she coordinates the international network of National Contact Points (NCPs) for Societal Challenge 6 (SC6) in Horizon 2020 – Net4Society.

### Presentation of the organisation

Net4Society is the international network of National Contact Points for the Societal Challenge 6 ("Europe in a changing world: inclusive, innovative and reflective societies") in Horizon 2020. National Contact Points (NCPs) are set up to guide researchers in their quest for securing EU funding.





Dr. Bregt Saenen  
Policy and Project Officer  
European University Association  
Avenue de l'Yser 24, 1040 Brussels, Belgium  
Email: [bregt.saenen@eua.eu](mailto:bregt.saenen@eua.eu)  
Website: <https://eua.eu/>

### Short presentation of a speaker

Dr Bregt Saenen joined EUA in August 2016. He is part of the Research and Innovation unit where his main responsibilities are research assessment and open science. Prior to joining EUA, Bregt worked for a number of Brussels-based policy organisations, including DG EMPL of the European Commission and the EU offices of SOLIDAR and the International Labour Organization. Bregt holds a doctoral degree in EU Studies from Ghent University in Belgium.

### Presentation of the organisation

The European University Association (EUA) is the representative organisation of universities and national rectors' conferences in 47 European countries. EUA plays a crucial role in the Bologna Process and in influencing EU policies on higher education, research and innovation. Thanks to its interaction with a range of other European and international organisations, EUA ensures that the independent voice of European universities is heard wherever decisions are being taken that will impact their activities. The Association provides a unique expertise in higher education and research as well as a forum for exchange of ideas and good practice among universities. The results of EUA's work are made available to members and stakeholders through conferences, seminars, websites and publications.





#### MODERATOR:



Dr. Draško Veselinovič  
President of the board  
Slovenian Business and Research Association  
Avenue Lloyd George 7  
1000 Brussels  
Email: [drasko.veselinovic@sbra.be](mailto:drasko.veselinovic@sbra.be)  
Website: <https://www.sbra.be>

#### Short presentation of a speaker

Dr. Draško Veselinovič is an Associate Professor of Financial Economics, and as of January 2015, the President of the Management Board of the Slovenian Business & Research Association (SBRA). Prior to that, for a period of two years, he was a professor and director of Gea College – The Faculty of Entrepreneurship, which is based in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

He has held numerous senior management and top leadership positions in a variety of financial institutions. He held the function of the Director General of the Ljubljana Stock Exchange for 15 years. In 2004 for a period of four years, he led the Deželna banka Slovenije. At the beginning of 2009, he became the CEO of Slovenia's largest bank Nova Ljubljanska Banka (9,000 employees with EUR 20 billion in total assets). Between 2010 and 2012, he led Slovenia's and the region's largest international private retail financial conglomerate KD Group, dealing with all types of insurance, various investment funds, asset management and banking in 12 countries.

#### Presentation of the organisation

The Slovenian Business and Research Association (SBRA) is a Brussels-based representation office of the most successful and highly respected Slovenian organisations from both the public and private sectors. Established in 1999 as an international non-profit association connecting business, research and local communities in Slovenia with the EU institutions and other public and private bodies at EU level. SBRA members represent a wide-spectrum of Slovenian interests, from the fields of business and research.

SBRA has been created with the purpose to: (1) Encourage cooperation between Slovenia, the European Union and its Member States in the domains of business, research and regional policy; (2) Support members in their activities on the EU level and facilitate their successful participation in EU projects, community programmes, initiatives and strategies; (3) Facilitate the communication with European institutions, associations and representation offices in the field of research, business and regional policy.

