

Invisible Children: Children's Media, Diversity and Forced Migration

Symposium - 14th September 10.30- 17.15

Venue: Anatomy Museum, King's College London

**Symposium Coordinators: Professor Jeanette Steemers (King's College London) and
Professor Naomi Sakr (University of Westminster)**

The symposium presents findings from three workshops, held in Manchester, Copenhagen and Munich, that focused on issues of diversity, including screen content that has been – or could be – made for and about Arabic-speaking and other children newly arrived in Europe through forced migration. Bringing together players involved in producing, regulating, funding, commissioning and commenting on children's screen media in Europe, the symposium will launch a Stakeholder Resource Book including recommendations arising from these European-Arab exchanges. With five sessions involving practitioners, diversity advocates and academics, the symposium considers the challenges and opportunities for showing diversity in a range of children's content across a variety of platforms.

10:30-11.00: Registration – Coffee/Tea

11:00-11:45: SESSION ONE – Arab-European Dialogue about Children's Screen Content in an Era of Forced Migration: Outcomes and Observations

Chair: Shakuntala Banaji, London School of Economics

- Speakers: Jeanette Steemers, Naomi Sakr and Christine Singer (King's College London) report on the three AHRC-funded project workshops and introduce the Project Report to Stakeholders.

11:45-12:45: SESSION TWO – Diversity in Children's Screen Content: Why it Matters

Chair: Milica Pesic, Media Diversity Institute

Practitioners and diversity advocates assess advances and setbacks in representations of diversity in children's content.

PANELLISTS

- Joy Francis, Executive Director/Founder, Words of Colour, London
- Kez Margrie, Commissioning Editor, 6-16, Independents, BBC Children's, Salford, UK
- Maya Goetz, Head of the International Central Institute for Youth and Educational Television (IZI), Munich, Germany
- Sophie Chalk, Advocacy Consultant, International Broadcasting Trust, London

12:45-13:35: Lunch



13:35-13:45: PRESENTATION – Creativity of Children at Pipka Refugee Camp, Lesvos

Chair: Tarik Sabry, University of Westminster

- Speaker: Marie Gillespie, Open University

13:45-14:45 SESSION THREE – Arab Perspectives on Media, Children, Forced Migration and Diversity

Chair: Roza Tsgarousianou, University of Westminster

Scholars from European universities present insights into media treatments of flight, trauma, asylum and immigrant communities, as well as education initiatives for refugee children.

PANELLISTS

- Asmaa Aziz, Université Lille 3
- Feryal Awan, University of Westminster
- George Alain, Open University
- Imene Guemar, King's College London

14:45-16.00 SESSION FOUR – Producer Perspectives on Media Representation, Children, Migration and Diversity

Chair: Jeanette Steemers, Kings College London

Perspectives on the challenges of commissioning, producing and distributing screen content that adequately reflects demographic changes.

PANELLISTS

- Gregory Boardman, Producer, Three Stones Media, UK
- Jonas Kryger Hansen, Commissioning Editor, DR Ultra children's channel, Denmark
- Margrit Lenssen, Commissioning Editor, Children and Youth, ZDF, Germany
- Camiel Scheer, David Madder, ScheMa producties, Belgium
- Sharif Al-Zoubi, Executive Producer, Roya TV, Jordan

16.00-16.30 Coffee/Tea

16.30-17.15 SESSION FIVE – Next Steps

Chair: Máire Messenger Davies, University of Ulster

How to continue conversations about diversity in children's media after the symposium? People involved in various relevant initiatives consider the options.

PANELLISTS

- Beryl Richards, European Broadcasting Union, Executive Producer Children's Drama
- Marion Creely, World Summit on Media for Children/Dublin Bid
- Nathalie Habib, Partner, Blink Studios, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Los Angeles
- Sally-Ann Wilson, Chief Executive Officer, Public Media Alliance

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