

Being Black in the EU

Report of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights

European Parliament, Brussels

28 November 2018, 9:00 – 10:30

Altiero Spinelli, Room A3H-1

Hosted by Cécile Kyenge MEP, Malin Björk MEP and the European Parliament's Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI)

Moderated by Alfiaz Vaiya, Coordinator of the European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI)

People of African descent across the EU regularly face racial discrimination, racist crime, racial profiling and social exclusion. The policy implications of these experiences will be discussed at the public launch of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights' report on Being Black in the EU.

8:15 Registration

9:00 – 9:10 Opening remarks

- Cécile Kyenge, MEP, Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and Co-President, Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup
- Malin Björk, MEP, Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and member of Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup

9:10 – 9:25 What it means to be Black in the EU – FRA survey findings

- Michael O'Flaherty, Director, EU Agency for Fundamental Rights

9:25 – 10:25 Ways forward – views from experts and plenary debate

- **Elisabeth Kaneza**, Senior Fellow on Persons of African Descent, UN Human Rights Regional Office for Europe
 - *What can we learn from the survey findings in relation to the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent?*
- **Esther Mamadou**, Executive Director, European Network of People of African Descent
 - *If people of African descent suffer racial discrimination in all areas of life, undocumented migrants are even more vulnerable and do not report discrimination because of fear of repercussions. What are your recommendations to tackle this issue?*

- **Christie Edwards**, Deputy Head, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
 - *How can we improve data collection on hate crime?*
- **Tena Šimonović-Einwalter**, Chair, European Network of Equality Bodies
 - *How can we maximise the contribution of national equality bodies to help address the issues raised by FRA's findings on people of African descent?*
- **Ghyslain Vedeux**, Chair, Conseil Représentatif des Associations Noires, Board Member of the European Network Against Racism
 - *What should EU institutions and Member States do now to combat afrophobia?*
- **Rossalina Latcheva**, Senior Programme Manager, EU Agency for Fundamental Rights
 - *Reflecting on the responses from the other panellists, in relation to what the survey findings show.*

OPEN THE FLOOR FOR QUESTIONS

10:25 – 10:30 Closing remarks

Panellists' bios:

- **Elisabeth Kaneza** is Senior Fellow at the UN Human Right's Fellowship Programme for People of African Descent. She is a human rights expert from Germany and currently works with the UN Human Rights Regional Office for Europe on the promotion of the International Decade for People of African Descent in the EU.
- **Esther Mamadou** is a jurist expert in forced migrations and human rights who has worked in the European and Southamerican contexts . Based in Valencia, she is currently the coordinator of the Refugee Programme at a Spanish non governmental organisation and the Executive Director of the European Network of People of African Descent.
- **Christie Edwards** has worked globally on international human rights, international humanitarian law, international development policy, and gender issues for over 18 years. She has lead and implemented successful human rights, political advocacy, and civil society building programs, as well as strategic planning, fundraising, and grants management in senior leadership roles at the national and international level with prominent human rights organizations and international organizations.
- **Tena Šimonović-Einwalter** is Deputy Ombudswoman at the Croation Office of the Ombudswoman. In October 2017, Tena was elected Chair of the Executive Board of Equinet, the European Network of Equality Bodies. She is currently also a representative of Croatia at the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) of the Council of Europe.
- **Ghyslain Vedeux** is an anti-racism and human rights activist. Ghyslain has been active at the *Conseil Représentatif des Associations Noires* (CRAN) for a number of years. Prior to becoming the Chair, Ghyslain has followed a number

of files at the CRAN, including relations between civil society and law enforcement.

- **Rossalina Latcheva** areas of expertise with respect to work of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights include: migration and integration; discrimination, xenophobia and ethnic exclusion; gender-based violence; and mixed methods research.