

**– UNITWIN/ UNESCO Chairs Programme- a quick survey**

UNESCO is carrying out a survey of existing UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks to exchange understanding of their current situation. The findings of the survey will inform the roadmap being prepared by the Organization to improve the quality of the Programme, in particular by taking steps to ensure the strict application of criteria for approving the creation of the Chairs and Networks: better monitoring and evaluation of their performance; strengthened synergies and cooperation among Chairs/ Networks and UNESCO; and closer monitoring of the use of UNESCO's name and logo. A new list of Chairs and Networks will then be published by UNESCO.

Input is solicited from existing UNESCO Chairs/ UNITWIN Networks and from National Commissions for UNESCO.

**THE SURVEY**

Title of Chair/ Network	UNESCO Chair in Philosophy and Human Rights
Date of establishment	May 13, 2009
Host institution + full contact details	: Maltepe University; Centre for Research Application of Human Rights Street: Marmara Eğitim Köyü, Maltepe Postal Code: 34857 City: Istanbul Country: Turkey Phone: +90 216 626 11 32 Fax: +90 216 626 11 25 E-mail: ioannakucuradi@maltepe.edu.tr ioanna@fisp.org.tr Website: <a href="http://insanhaklari.maltepe.edu.tr/en/">http://insanhaklari.maltepe.edu.tr/en/</a>
Partner institutions	Chaire UNESCO de Philosophie, Université de Québec à Montréal; Chaire UNESCO de Philosophie, Université de Paris VIII and Chaire UNESCO de Philosophie, Université de Tunis 1
Name of Chairholder	İoanna Kuçuradi
Main contact(s) at UNESCO (names+ departments)	I was in contact with all the Assistant Directors General for Social and Human Sciences, all the directors, chiefs and staff of the Divisions of Philosophy and of Human Rights since 1980. Dr. Sinaceur was the Director of the Division of Philosophy at that time. Director of the Human Rights Division was Mr Symonides. In the Education Sector we were in contact with Ms Sonia Bahri and the members of its section after 1997.

Date of latest Progress report submitted to UNESCO	17 August 2010

## 1. Objectives, activities, results and impact of the Chair/ Network

- **What are the principal objectives, activities(including publications), expected results and impact of the Chair?**
- The principal objectives of the Chair, as well as of the Centre for Research and Application of Human Rights which is hosting the Chair, are to conduct research on human rights concepts and problems; to carry out studies contributing to the protection of human rights and to prepare the conditions of implementing the results of these studies, as well as to promote interdisciplinary education in human rights with special focus on philosophy and ethics.

For the activities(including publication), expected results and impact of the Chair, please, see our Progress report January 1, 2009- April 30, 2010 and Progress report April 30, 2010- May 30, 2011.

- **What are the obstacles and challenges to the work of the Chair?**
- Four UNESCO Chairs ( ours and AL... ) started conducting an “ambitious” project on “Rethinking Education”, but we were unable to secure the necessary financial support in order to conduct the study, which constitutes the first part of the project, in approximately 50 countries.
- **What is the added value of the Chair according to the University?**
- The chairholder started working with UNESCO in the year 1980. The Director General of that time, Mr M’Bow, honoured the inauguration of the Conference on “Philosophical Foundation of Human Rights”. She is one of the 60 Women who contributed to the 60 years of UNESCO (pp. 129-132). The UNESCO Chairs are a way of more systematic cooperation among universities in the humanist spirit that characterizes UNESCO.
- **Has there been any evolution reorientation of the Chair’s content since its establishment? If yes, please explain.**
- This chair was founded in 2009.

## 2. Alignment with UNESCO priorities

- **Are you aware of UNESCO’s current biennium priorities?**
- Yes, I am –especially of those of the Section of Education, Social and Human Sciences and Culture.

- **Are the objectives and activities of the Chair adequately aligned with UNESCO's priorities?**
- They are, with most of them. For example: our Project on "Rethinking Education" is closely related to Education 1, Social and Human Sciences 2, Culture 2.  
Also our M.A. Programme in Human Rights, as well as the human rights courses we organize for public officials are aligned with UNESCO's ideals and programmes.

- **To what extent can the Chair adjust to align with UNESCO priorities if when these change?**
- To answer this question, it is necessary to know concretely the changes. (See also my suggestions in *60 Women Contributing to the 60 Years of UNESCO* and those in an interview published in the journal of the Sector of Social and Human Sciences.

### 3. Communication

- **What are the most commonly used communication methods and/ or channels between UNESCO and the Chair?**
- Correspondence and mutual visits –our visits to UNESCO, in order to participate in UNESCO activities, and visits from members of UNESCO, who participated in our activities and assisted us in spreading the humanistic-universalistic spirit we share with UNESCO.
- **How effective have those mechanisms been?**
- They worked quite satisfactory, with very few exceptions.
- **How could they be improved in the future?**
- Those who work in UNESCO, should consider their job as a vocation of promoting the ideals of UNESCO. –its strategies for example. This point should be taken into consideration when appointing the staff.

### 4. Use of UNESCO's name and logo

- **Why is the use of UNESCO's name and logo suitable for the Chair?**
- Because we share UNESCO ideals and work for them. The logo makes visible our cooperation.
- **Are you aware of existing rules and regulations regarding the use of UNESCO's name and logo by UNESCO Chairs Networks?**

- Yes. They were communicate to us when UNESCO prepared the logo of our chair.

## **5. Improvement**

- **What kind of support could UNESCO offer to the Chair /Network to help improve its impact?**
- Our chair wishes –as well as the Chaire UNESCO de Philosophie, Université de Québec à Montréal; Chaire UNESCO de Philosophie, Université de Paris VIII and Chaire UNESCO de Philosophie, Université de Tunis 1 wish– the support of UNESCO to the Project that we already submitted to UNESCO, on “Rethinking Education”, so that we can involve as many countries as possible –support for carrying out the Project and for diffusing its results.
  
- **What inputs could the Chair/Network offer to UNESCO to help the Organization improve its impact?**
- The Project mentioned above has to do with some of the priorities of the Sections of Education, Social and Human Sciences and Culture. Through this Project and through the educational programmes that it conducts our Chair helps to the increase of UNESCO’s visibility in Turkey.

## **5. Any other suggestion**

- UNESCO has to find the ways to become the conscience of the United Nations.