

**Ninth Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality
16-19 October 2008**

CIVIC EDUCATION IN DIVIDED SOCIETIES

Workshop jointly organized by the Irmgard Coninx Foundation and the European Association for Education Law and Policy (ELA), in cooperation with the Humboldt University Berlin and the Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB),

Chaired by Prof. Dr. Hans Peter Füssel, Humboldt University Berlin,
16-19 October 2008 at WZB, Berlin.

The workshop will concentrate on different modes of civic education, including peace education and multicultural education, aimed at reducing violent conflicts and fostering understanding and respect among different ethnic and social groups in divided societies. The conflict scenarios dealt with in the workshop shall range from inner-urban tensions in connection with youth violence, socio-economic inequalities and differences, to wider political, ethnic and/or religious cleavages resulting from different collective memories or from past injustices.

Which actors organize civic education activities on what levels and with which objectives? What roles do political parties and civil society organizations such as neighborhood associations, churches or trade unions, ethnic or religious organizations or new social movements relating to environmental or gender issues play in this context? In what ways does civic education contribute to violence reduction, conflict resolution, political participation and recognition politics, as well as to civic engagement in general?

Does civic education make a difference? Which empirical evidence exists that civic education has an effect on the conflicting parties? Does civic education contribute to the process of pacification in divided societies?

Approximately 25 participants will be invited to participate in the workshop. ELA members will be asked to nominate suitable candidates. Some participants will be selected from among previous participants of Berlin Roundtables and some from among the students of the ELA Summer School in Antwerp in July 2008. It is intended to include 2-3 Palestinian and/or Israeli participants. All participants will be asked to present a paper (approx. 2,500 words).

The following two public lectures shall accompany the workshop programme:

Thursday, 16 October 2008, 6 p.m. at WZB
Bishop Desmond Tutu, Johannesburg, South Africa (not confirmed)
“Organizing Reconciliation Processes in Divided Post-Conflict Societies”

Friday, 17 October 2008, 6 p.m. at WZB
Prof. Dr. Gavriel Salomon, University of Haifa, Israel
“Peace Education in Regions of Conflict – What Works and What Does Not?”