

Celebrating Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue through Arts

July 30th to August 2nd 2015 – Milan, Italy

An event organized by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, under the patronage of Expo Milan 2015 and in cooperation with the City of Milan



Milano

With the Patronage of



MILANO 2015

FEEDING THE PLANET
ENERGY FOR LIFE

Provisional agenda

Thursday, July 30

All Day: **Arrivals**

20:30: **Dinner** in the city center

Friday, July 31 – Expo Milano 2015

9.00 – 10.00: **Transportation to the Expo Site**

10.20 – 11.00: **Institutional Opening of the event at the Expo**

11.00 – 11.30: **Coffee break**

11.30 – 13.00: **1st Panel. “Cultural diplomacy. National and international initiatives.”**

- Mohammed Al Bloshi, Chief Operating Officer of Qatar Pavilion at Expo Milano 2015
- Maria Yudina, Communication Officer of Russia Pavilion at Expo Milano 2015
- Representative from the Pavilion of Oman*
- Representative from the Pavilion of Iran*
- Pr. Mark Vlastic, UNAOC Alumni
- Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi, UNAOC Alumni
- Jeremy Blaney, UNAOC Alumni
- Moderator: Paloma Haschke-Joseph, UNAOC Project Management Specialist – Intercultural Engagement

13.00 – 14.00: **Lunch**

14.00 – 16.00: **2nd Panel. “Cultural diplomacy. Empowering civil society and local community. A transnational approach.”**

- Pr. Francesca Corrao, president of the Fondazione Orestiadi¹
- Luigi Galimberti, coordinator at Transnational Dialogues²
- Vasenka Leka, coordinator at the Global City Forum³
- Elisabetta Antognoni*, president of the Cinemovel Foundation⁴
- Saida Ibrahimava, UNAOC Alumni
- Reem Abdel Hadi UNAOC Alumni
- Rowaida Al Khulaidi, UNAOC Alumni
- Moderator: Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi, International Relations Department of the City of Milan

16.00 – 16.30: **Coffee break**

16.30 – 18.30: 3rd Panel. “Cultural Diplomacy and Intercultural Dialogue through Artistic Engagement.”

- Mahmoud Saleh Mohammadi, founder of Spazio Nour⁵
- Seyed Arsham Alaviani, member of Spazio Nour
- Christina Sciabarra, UNAOC Alumni
- Shawn Lent, UNAOC Alumni
- Paolo Petrocelli, UNAOC Alumni
- Moderator: Pr. Francesca Corrao, president of the Fondazione Orestiadi

20.00: Teatro alla Scala – Il Barbiere di Siviglia

Saturday, August 1 – Museum of Cultures

10.00 – 11.00: Visit of the Arts & Foods Pavilion⁶ (Triennale di Milano)

11.30 – 13.00: Workshop. Gastronomy as a generator of intercultural creativity
Organized by Tour de Fork*⁷, Peace Kitchen*⁸, Urban Cooking and Gardening⁹ by Global City Forum

13.00 – 14.30: Lunch

14.30 -16.00: Guided tour of the Museum of Cultures

16.30 -18.00: Workshop. UNAOC Alumni role in fostering intercultural dialogue through Arts

19.00 – 22.00: Dinner and guided tour of Expo Milano 2015, with a focus on the most iconic Expo Pavilions and artworks displayed.

Sunday, August 2

Morning: **Guided tour of Milan**

All day: **Departures**

** To be confirmed*

Notes

1 – **The Orestiadi Foundation** sponsors and produces events in the worlds of theatre, visual arts, music and poetry, and sponsors scientific, publishing and professional training activities with a structure capable of providing a tangible contribution to the greater public appreciation and development of both the territory in which its activity is primarily based and other areas of the South Mediterranean.

<http://www.fondazioneorestiadi.it/>

2 – **Transnational Dialogues** started in 2011 by European Alternatives, Transnational Dialogues is an open and on-going cross-media platform managing and imagining artistic and cultural projects with a focus on the new geographies of globalization and the emergence of a multipolar artistic and intellectual world.

www.transnationaldialogues.eu

3 – **The Global City Forum** includes over 600 citizens' associations, representatives of 184 different ethnic groups (246,000 citizens) in Milan. They organize every month several cultural activities to foster dialogue, friendship and tolerance.

<http://www.mudec.it/eng/museum/#forum>

4 – **The Cinemovel Foundation** is an Italian foundation that aims at stimulating the social and cultural life of so-called marginal areas, while promoting exchange and dialogue opportunities.

<http://cinemovel.tv/eng/>

5 – **Spazio Nour** is a cultural association based in Milan focusing on various languages of contemporary arts to create intercultural activities as tools for dialogue between different communities. The association is the result of the collaboration between artists from Europe and MENA countries.

<http://www.spazionour.com/en/>

6 – **The Arts & Foods Pavilion** is Located in both the indoor and outdoor areas of La Triennale and focus on all the visual, sculptural, object-based and environmental forms that, ever since 1851, the year of the first Expo in London, have revolved around the world of food, nutrition, and dining together.

<http://www.triennale.org/en/exhibitions/present/3798-arts-a-foods-en>

7 – **Tour de Fork** is a creative agency based in Milan and working on food and food culture.

<http://www.tourdefork.net/>

8 – **Peace Kitchen** is an international project promoted by the city of Toyama in order to convey a message of peace through Japanese traditions and gastronomy.

<http://www.peace-kitchen.org/en/>

9 – **Urban Cooking and Gardening** is a project of Global City Forum supported by the Municipality of Milan and co-funded by the European Union. The initiative promoted empowerment and inclusion of migrant communities through activities related to urban gardening and cooking, in order to develop models which can be replicated elsewhere. The project enhanced the value of diversity and intangible heritage in the field of agriculture and gastronomy.

UNAOC Fellowship Alumni



Reem ABDEL-HADI is a youth activist, member of several youth societies and a founding member of Junior Chamber International Jordan, a branch of an international organization that focuses on individual development, community service and international understanding. In this organization, she served as the first elected local president, national president and currently serve as elected councilor for Arab States. She was also a board member of the student union of the University of Jordan, a founding member of Third Eye Team, a regional network for Arab youth. She has a degree in Industrial Engineering and work at the American Embassy's cultural section, where she handles cultural programming. Previously, she did a yearlong voluntary service with AVRIL organization in France, and she still joins AVRIL's annual environmental camp in France as trainer on intercultural understanding. Recently, she received a EU grant and successfully implemented a similar youth exchange in Jordan.



Rwaida AL-KHULAIIDI is a Project Manager at the British Council in Yemen. In addition to this, she manages a women self-development program entitled 'Springboard', designed for women in jail and women with disabilities to help them integrate in society, build their confidence and positive image about themselves. During her five years as an arts manager, she worked with many artists and organized many events, exhibitions, discussions, film screenings and workshops in Yemen, other countries in the region and the UK, in order to initiate a dialogue and bridge the gap between the two cultures. Amongst the projects she developed and led on a project entitled 'Zoom', aiming at showing Yemen beyond the image it is portrayed in international media and at the same time developed to build an interaction between Yemeni and British filmmakers. Films were shown on BBC Arabic and various venues in the UK.



Jeremy BLANEY is an Institute for Business in the Global Context Scholar at The Fletcher School at Tufts University where he is pursuing a master's degree in international business, specializing in global human resources. As a self-described global citizen, Jeremy is deeply passionate about bringing people of different cultures together. Drawing on personal and professional experiences as well as academic research, he recently presented on culture shock as it pertains to cross-cultural misunderstanding at TEDxTufts 2015 and collaborative approaches to public diplomacy at TEDxMacatawa 2015. Before attending Fletcher, Jeremy served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. He completed three deployments in support of Operations ENDURING and IRAQI FREEDOM, earning three Air Medals. He also completed a remote tour at the NATO Allied Air Command Headquarters in Izmir, Turkey. He continues to serve as a Captain in the Massachusetts Air National Guard. During his military career, he conducted research on and experienced firsthand several public diplomacy initiatives sponsored by the Department of Defense.



Saida IBRAHIMAVA has more than ten years of successful experience in the nonprofit sector and more than five years working experience for governmental institutions. She has implemented a number of projects in the sphere of social inclusion, youth development, education, sport and volunteer movements. She has earned a Bachelor's of Arts in International Relations from Belarusian State University and Masters of Arts in International Economy and Politics from Charles University in Prague. She is the one of the co-founders of "Youth to Youth Initiative" an umbrella non-for-profit organization that aims to construct effective frames for youth participation in the decision making process and solving global challenges locally. Currently, she serves as a Director of Projects Development under Y2Y Action Hub (an interactive online incubator for socially beneficial ideas, concepts, startups, projects and initiatives created by youth and for youth). She enjoys focusing on the topics of youth leadership, human rights and dignity, peacebuilding, cross-cultural dialogue, social entrepreneurship, and has a strong passion for sustainability education, design, creative photography and art. At the moment she works on an ambitious project called "The Green School" - a start-up project in sustainability education and social entrepreneurship.



Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi is an officer of the Expo Milan 2015 task force of the City of Milan, in charge of relations with MENA countries and foreign media. Lorenzo is also involved in a dual doctorate at EHESS in Paris and LUISS in Rome, where he worked as teaching assistant in Techniques of International Negotiation and in Mediterranean Studies. Lorenzo's thesis, "Scope and challenges of the youth activism conveyed by art and culture", benefits from his experience as founder and chairman of Il Tamarindo, an Italian NGO devoted

to intercultural dialogue, cultural diversity, creative economy and youth empowerment. Lorenzo has been the head of several projects implemented by Il Tamarindo, such as its multilingual cultural magazine, international seminars, concerts and exhibitions, artistic and entrepreneurial competitions. Lorenzo studied International Relations at the University of Bologna, Sciences Po Paris, Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale in Milan, LUISS and London School of Economics. He gained his first professional experiences at the European Commission in Brussels, the UNESCO Culture Sector in Paris, the Italian Embassy in Tehran and Istituto Affari Internazionali in Rome.



Shawn Renee Lent is a social practice dance artist and manager, blogger and presenter/facilitator, who is currently completing her work in Cairo, Egypt and returning to the United States. Shawn has designed and led dance experiences with children in divided communities of Belfast and Northwest Bosnia; as part of the cultural diplomacy efforts of the U.S. Embassy Cairo; with childhood cancer patients in Egypt and the US; Muslims, Orthodox Jews, Mormons, and Sikhs; students in Palestine, Uganda, Detroit and Chicago; preschoolers and senior

citizens; high school physics students, la Quinceaneras; Bat/Bar Mitzvahs; juvenile offenders/young people in East London; homeless lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender teenagers in Chicago; among others. Shawn recently left her post as the EducationUSA Advising Coordinator at AMIDEAST Cairo (through the U.S. Department of State), and instructor for the full-time professional program at Cairo Contemporary Dance Center. Shawn is a U.S. Fulbright Scholar, American Express Leadership Fellow, and UN Alliance of Civilizations International Fellow. In 2014, Shawn was the Commencement Speaker for Millikin University. Shawn holds a Masters degree in Arts Management with a focus in Arts in Youth and Community Development from Columbia College Chicago, as well as her BFA degree in theatre and dance from Millikin University and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Professional Practice with a focus in Youth Arts Development from Goldsmith's College, University of London.



Paolo PETROCELLI is an international relations and cultural affairs expert, senior arts administrator, lecturer, musicologist, violinist, UNESCO Expert in Music, TEDx Speaker. As a music diplomacy ambassador, he serves in institutional roles to forge bonds through music in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the US. Paolo founded EMMA for Peace (Euro-Mediterranean Music Academy for Peace) to drive positive change in the Mediterranean region. EMMA brings together major institutions and world renowned artists under the shared passion

for music and the promotion of peace. His most high-profile appointment thus far is as one of the youngest members ever elected to the Board of Directors of Fondazione Teatro dell'Opera di Roma (Rome Opera House). Top-level roles in the private sector have rounded out his cultural relations and senior arts administrator expertise, allowing collaboration with global leaders in performing arts management. He is Assistant to the Superintendent of the Rome Opera House for International Development and External Relations, Director of International Relations of Kyoto Opera Festival and Sawakami Opera Foundation in Japan. In order to serve as an active citizen and support non-profit activity, he has become a leading member of some of the most prestigious international and cultural organizations.



Christina SCIABARRA is a Political Science PhD candidate in the School of Government and Public Policy. Her research interests include post-conflict reconstruction, conflict resolution, and peace-building strategies. Her case study work includes assessments of post-conflict peace-building strategies in Northern Ireland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, and Lebanon. She has a B.S. in History from the United States Naval Academy, B.A. in Russian from the University of Arizona, and an M.A. in Diplomacy from Norwich University.

Christina is a program director with Civil Vision International, a non-profit organization dedicated to connecting, informing, and inspiring individuals to achieve peace and cultural understanding through collaboration and dialogue. She has facilitated a number of video dialogues between students in the U.S. and Afghanistan as well as hosted a number of educational and artistic events.



Mark V. VLASIC is an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University, a senior fellow at its Institute for Law, Science & Global Security, and a principal at Madison Law & Strategy Group. Formerly the head of operations of the World Bank's Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, he served as a White House Fellow/special assistant to the Secretary of Defense and was awarded the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service by Secretary Robert Gates. He practiced law at Gibson Dunn, and served on the Slobodan Milosevic and

Srebrenica prosecution teams at the UN war crimes tribunal. Mark has taught the Iraqi judges that tried Saddam Hussein, served on the U.S. Delegation to the Pan Am 103 "Lockerbie" terrorist bombing trial in the Netherlands. He provided commentary for multiple global news media, and contributed to several books. He has a BS and JD, cum laude, from Georgetown and was a Fulbright Scholar to Leiden. Mark is Counselor to the Antiquities Coalition, a Fellow of the UN Alliance of Civilizations, and is World Economic Forum Young Global Leader. As a U.S. Army officer, he has been attached to Capitol Hill and the Defense Attaché Office at the U.S. Embassy in The Hague, and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal.

Guest Speakers



Seyed Arsham ALAVIANI is a Kurdish-Iranian member of the cultural association of Spazio Nour. He was born in 1986 in Sanandaj, Iran. After being graduated in Economy and Insurance from the University of Allameh Tabatabai of Tehran he decided to continue his studies abroad and eventually in September 2011 he went to Milan, Italy. From that moment on he started studying Cultural Heritage in the University of Milan (Università degli Studi di Milano). In Iran he had various experiences in artistic environments, and before he goes to Italy he has joined the "House of Art" institution for

almost 10 month, which was an artistic center for contemporary art in Iran. In 2015, he started collaborating with Spazio Nour as the director of international collaborations, which is still going on. Recently his activities are focused on developing the Spazio Nour concept of the Social art and the artistic residency at the international level.



Georg CASTLUNGER, born in 1984 in South Tyrol with Austrian roots, graduated from the University of Innsbruck Law School. He participated in student exchange programs in Padua and Milan and interned at major law firms in Toronto and Milan. After gaining work experience in commercial and legal consultancy and marketing at the Commercial Section of the Austrian Consulate General in Milan, he is currently involved in the management of the Austrian presence at Expo Milano 2015. He volunteers with the FAI Giovani Milano movement to promote the mission and the

initiatives of the youth section of the Delegation of Fondo Ambiente Italiano, the Italian National Trust, of Milan.



Francesca CORRAO, full professor of Arabic Language and Literature at Luiss Guido Carli Rome, Master of Art at the American University in Cairo, Ph.D. at Rome University La Sapienza. She gave lessons, seminars and conferences at the following Universities Cairo, Oxford, Cambridge, Parigi, Beirut, Istanbul, Amman, Damascus and Tunis. She teaches Islamic Politics and Society, Mediterranean Studies. Member of the Union of European Arabist and Islamist (UEAI) and the

European professor of European Researchers of Modern Arabic Literature (EURAMAL), and the Institute of Oriental Philosophy, Soka University Tokyo; President of the Scientific Committee of the Fondazione Orestiadi in Gibellina.



Luigi GALIMBERTI is currently involved in several projects related to artistic research and production across the world, with a particular focus on socially and politically engaged visual arts. In addition to his undergraduate and postgraduate studies in sociology (BSc, LSE, London) and international relations (Master, ISPI, Milan), he has been awarded *cum laude* a master degree in art management (IULM, Rome). Luigi has been collaborating with the transnational NGO European Alternatives since its foundation and is now one of the coordinators of *Transnational Dialogues*, an

exchange programme for young artists, curators, designers and architects across Europe, China and Brazil. He has been presenting papers and moderating discussions at Centre Pompidou (Paris), MAXXI Museum (Rome), Bartlett School of Planning, UCL (London), SESC Pompeia (São Paulo) and Organhaus (Chongqing), among others.



Vasenka LEKA is presently involved in activities related to social care, many of which include cultural, socio-political and ethical research projects aimed at promoting multicultural awareness. She is a co-founder of the Forum of the City Network (Cultural Cooperation of the Municipality of Milan) and also a journalist, communication strategist of the Città Mondo Association and senior consultant for Migration Policies. She has completed her undergraduate and postgraduate studies in Psychology and Education (L. Gurakuqi University, Albania) and holds a Masters II Level Degree

in Migration Law (University of Bergamo) as well a series of other qualifications, such as a Diploma on Migration Policies (Ciessevi, Milan), Diploma on Good Governance and Coordination of the Third Sector (Social Policy Development - Albania), etc. Vasenka has collaborated with several transnational NGO's and is the Director of the Albanian Cultural Center in Milan, since its foundation. She has presented papers and moderated discussions at Metropolis, Sacro Cuore and Bicocca Universities in Milan, and many other occasions.



Mahmoud Saleh MOHAMMADI is an Iranian artist active in Milan. He was born in 1979. His artistic career began when he started studying painting at the University for Fine Art of Karaj (Iran) where he took his first steps toward becoming an artist. After different kinds of collaboration in Iran with art institutions and galleries, he decided to go to Italy to improve his artistic skills and amplifying his knowledge about the Contemporary Art. It was in Milan that Saleh Mohammadi has opened his studio in 2014 that has become the "Cultural association of Spazio Nour" in

2015. Spazio Nour association works with international artists and its activities are focused on the different projects of Social Art and the artistic residency. Saleh Mohammadi has been awarded by M-WAM as a new emerging international artist active in Milan. Recently his works are focused on "Carpet" as an element of his Eastern culture mixed with the Western Language of Contemporary art.



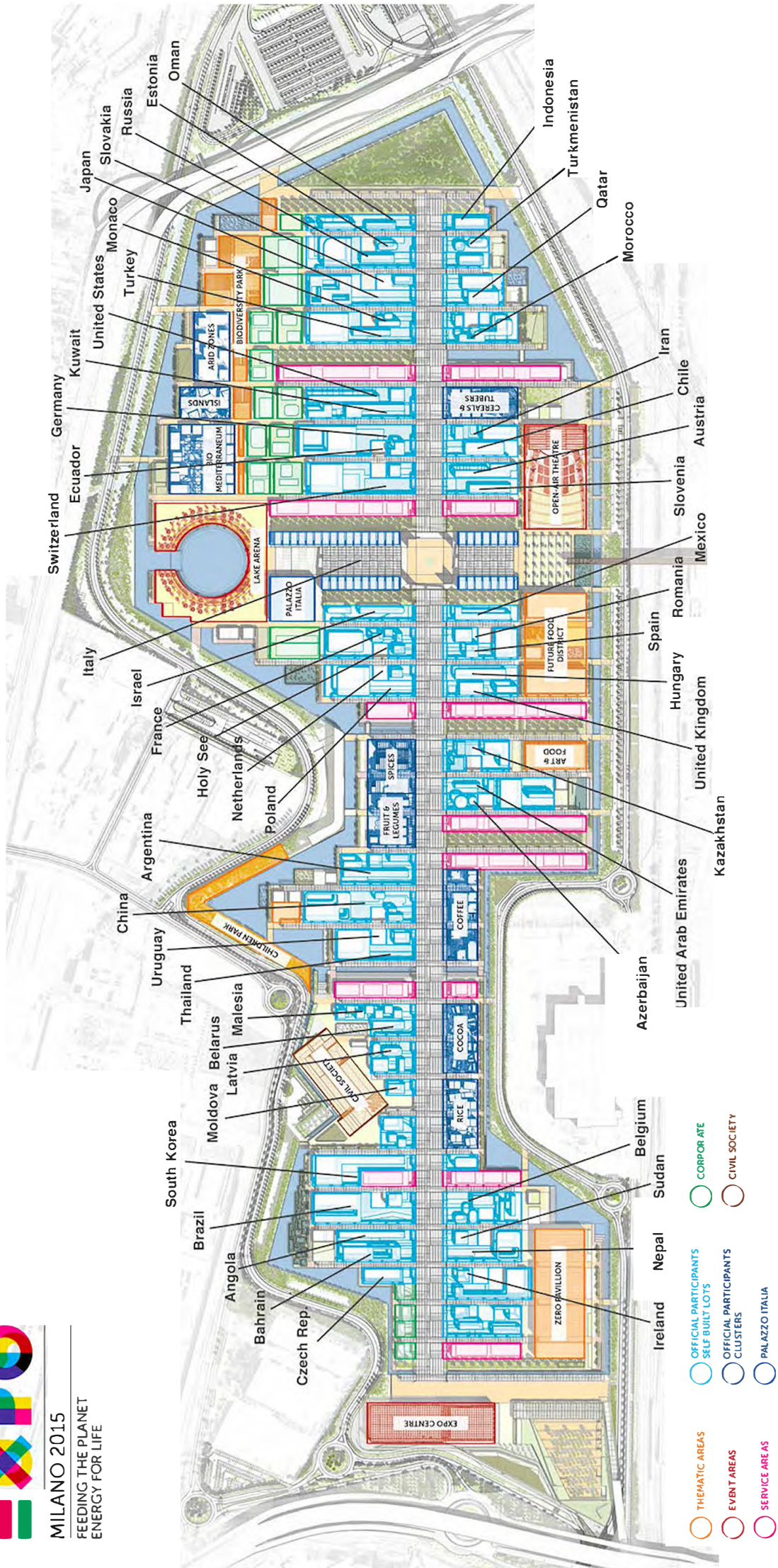
Luca Leone ZAMPA is a gastronome; his background training spans a vast area from Agronomy to Territorial Planning. He is a chef, as well as a sommelier and restaurateur. In 2008 he founded Levàa Food Thinkers, an interdisciplinary agency for the agricultural and food systems with headquarters in Milan, of which he is Manager and Coordinator. Last year, together with friend Sissi Semprini, he founded Originario, an innovative start up for content, communication and e-commerce of food-and-wine producers of rare and original products. Luca Leone strongly believes in

technical and social innovation, sustainability, the quality of life, respect for the environment and its vision of the future, but most of all in the entrepreneurial efficiency that these contemporary values bring to a business.



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- THEMATIC AREAS
- EVENT AREAS
- SERVICE AREAS
- OFFICIAL PARTICIPANTS SELF-BUILT LOTS
- OFFICIAL PARTICIPANTS CLUSTERS
- PALAZZO ITALIA
- CORPORATE
- CIVIL SOCIETY