

Media Release: Thursday 5 July 2018

New thinking around migration top of the agenda at global event

Metropolis 2018, international migration conference to be held in Sydney

Leading thinkers and agitators in migration, diversity and integration will debate the latest research, challenges and successes from across the globe, when international and national academics, practitioners and community representatives converge in Sydney this October.

Metropolis 2018, hosted by *Telstra Business Woman of the Year*, Violet Roumeliotis, CEO of **Settlement Services International**, the **Australian Multicultural Foundation** and **Multicultural NSW**, have curated an exceptional line-up of world-leading local and international speakers to uncover and inspire debate on global migration practices and policies.

Now in its 23rd year, Metropolis returns to Australia's shores after 11 years, and will attract 1,000 people from over 30 countries to drive new thinking, enterprise, innovation and policy in migration.

Far from a talk-fest, the event will feature speakers who have been invited to 'kick-start new thinking in migration, diversity and integration research, practice and policy'.

Violet Roumeliotis said this year's event is about bringing community members, business people, academics and practitioners, together to enable us all to gain new insights and generate solutions to complex issues.

"We have an exceptional line-up of international speakers from around the world, together with those with lived experience centre-stage at Metropolis 2018. This is key to creating a long-lasting legacy from this event.

"Our Australian experience and knowledge will also be showcased; internationally, our unique multicultural model is lauded, and Metropolis 2018 is our chance to reveal our experiences to the world.

"This is an important key-differentiator as we aim to inspire and agitate debate on what we want for the future of our communities. We need all perspectives impacted by these issues at the table to do this.

"The conversations at Metropolis 2018, will centre on enterprise, employment, mobility, diversity and equality – conversations we need to have," said Ms Roumeliotis.

Oxford University Professor of Globalisation and Development, author of *Is the Planet Full?* and one-time Economic Advisor to President Nelson Mandela, **Professor Ian Goldin** will present a global overview of the economic significance of migrants.

World Economic Forum’s Migration Council member and USA for IOM Board of Directors member, **Ms Tolu Olubunmi**, herself a Dreamer (an undocumented child migrant), will discuss the political voice of migrants in a digital world, and their influence on political, policy and public discourse.

They will be joined by award-winning author and Distinguished Professor of Management and Global Business at Rutgers Business School, USA, **Dr. Nancy DiTomaso**, who will address how business and migration in the 21st Century intersect.

“We need new thinking on migration, and what better way to get fresh ideas to an old challenge, than putting the best minds together under the Australian sky,” continued Ms Roumeliotis.

“We welcome the entire migration community to Sydney in October. We have important work to do.”

The International Metropolis Conference 2018 will be held at the International Convention Centre (ICC) Sydney: 29 October – 2 November 2018

www.metropolis2018.org.au

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Notes to Editors

For more information or to interview those featured in this press release, please contact:

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Images and logos can be downloaded from [here](#)

Limited Media Passes are available for relevant and interested parties and are subject to approval. If you would like to apply for a media pass, please contact Marlise Beasley on marlise@zadroagency.com.au



International
Metropolis Conference
29 October–2 November 2018
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Images

1. **Violet Roumeliotis**, CEO, Settlement Services International and Telstra Business Woman of the Year 2018



2. **Professor Ian Goldin**, Oxford University Professor of Globalisation and Development, author of *Is the Planet Full?* and one-time Economic Advisor to President Nelson Mandela



3. **Ms Tolu Olubunmi**, World Economic Forum's Migration Council member and USA for IOM Board of Directors member



4. **Dr. Nancy DiTomaso**, award-winning author and Distinguished Professor of Management and Global Business at Rutgers Business School, USA



About the Event

The International Metropolis Conference will be held at ICC Sydney | 29 October – 2 November 2018.

Metropolis 2018 is the only platform to bring together international, national and local migration influencers alongside academic, government, practitioner and community perspectives to highlight the latest research, challenges, insights and successes in migration, diversity and integration.

Metropolis 2018 is important as the thought leaders and brightest minds of the migration sector will come together to drive enterprise, innovation and social change. We will see and hear the stories of lived experience center-stage at our event, and we will encourage debate on the hard questions, whilst seeking important new solutions.

Metropolis is committed to sharing the intricacies of 21st Century migration, to shape 21st Century solutions.

The Conference Chairs are:

- Violet Roumeliotis, CEO, Settlement Services International and Telstra Business Woman of the Year 2018
- Dr Bulent (Hass) Dellal AO, CEO, Australian Multicultural Foundation
- Hakan Harman, CEO, Multicultural NSW

The conference theme is *Global Migration in Turbulent Times*. It will focus on the following eight sub-themes:

1. Enterprise, Innovation and Employment – catalysts for social change?
2. Migration and Mobility – the dynamic shifts in the Asia-Pacific region
3. Displacement and asylum – new dimensions driving an old phenomenon
4. Visible and powerful – migrant voices in a connected world



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5. Conflicting agendas? National, local, regional and global responses to the governance of migration
6. Religious diversity – a bridge or a barrier to belonging?
7. Migration and inequality – complex challenges under the microscope
8. Australia a multicultural paradise – myths and realities

For all conference and program information www.metropolis2018.org.au