



**The European Coalition of Migrants and Refugees (EU-COMAR)  
The European Chapter of the Global Refugee-Led Network (GRN)  
Launch of a Reflection Paper**

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***Beyond Consultation: Unpacking the Most Essential Components of Meaningful Participation by Refugee Leaders***

**Venue:** Virtual (please see below)

**Date:** 12 April 2022

**Time:** 15:30 – 17:00 CET

**Context**

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The 2018 Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) sets out a blueprint for better, timelier, and more comprehensive refugee response. It recognizes refugees and host community members as key to ensuring that refugee responses are **meaningful, appropriate, accessible, and inclusive**. In the spirit of the GCR, the GRN is continuously striving to ensure refugee self-representation and participation. In June 2019, for instance, it initiated the first pledge on meaningful participation, also kick-starting the pledge development process. Refugees and refugee-led organizations (RLOs) are proactively reaching out to governments, the private sector, and other stakeholders in order to ensure improved practice in broadening the space for “meaningful participation of refugees” in decision making processes that affect their lives.

As part of this engagement, the European Chapter of the GRN (the European Coalition of Migrants and Refugees - EU-COMAR), in collaboration with New Women Connectors and Oxfam International, is launching a reflection paper themed “**Beyond Consultation: Unpacking the Most Essential Components of Meaningful Participation by Refugee Leaders.**” The publication emphasises on the need to go beyond mere “tokenistic” instances of participation and/or consultation. The publication will be officially launched in a panel discussion that will feature the lead co-authors of the study and invited discussants, with an opportunity for Q & A.

**Draft Agenda**

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- *Welcome and introduction: Charlotte Stemmer (Oxfam): 15:30-15:35*
- *Opening remarks: By a Signatory of the Refugee Participation Pledge: 15:35-15:45*
- *Major findings of the publication: Anila Noor & Shaza Alrihawi lead co-authors: 15:45-16:15*
- *Remarks by discussants: 16:15-16:30*  
*James Milner: Project Director of LERRN / Associate Professor of Political Science at Carleton University*  
*Haqqi Bahram: PhD Candidate at Linköping University*
- *Q & A: 16:30-16:55*
- *Closing remarks by moderator: 16:55-17:00*

To join the event, please click [here](#) or use Zoom Meeting ID: 837 2919 0093 and Passcode: 277809

**Contact details:**

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