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National Human Rights Action Plans (NHRAPs) are a crucial means of implementing human rights in practice, marked as a “key element” of every national human rights system by the UN General Assembly. Over the last thirty years, at least 155 NHRAPs have been adopted in more than 80 countries from across every region of the world. To enhance the effectiveness of these plans, we have created a network of different stakeholders (governmental and non-governmental organisations, National Human Rights Institutions, academics, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNDP, Council of Europe, and some other regional and international human rights bodies) as a lasting platform to share good practices, challenges and possible response strategies. This international gathering of experts in human rights is so far the largest workshop on human rights action planning, and is hoped to mark the beginning of a lasting global network.

SCHOOL OF LAW AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

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Global Network on National Human Rights Action Planning

Workshop on

Uncovering 30 Years of NHRAPing
Lessons from the Five Continents

4– 6 June 2025

School of Law and Social Justice
University of Liverpool

Time	Workshop Agenda
Day One 4 June 2025 Wednesday	
9.30 am - 10.00 am	Registration University of Liverpool School of Law and Social Justice Ground Floor, Events Space
10.00 am - 10.30 am	Opening Session Welcome Address by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Professor Tim Jones, Vice Chancellor of the University of Liverpool ◇ Professor Valsamis Mitsilegas, Dean of School of Law and Social Justice ◇ Dr Azadeh Chalabi, Founder of the Network and Workshop Organiser
10.30 am – 12.00 pm	Panel 1 – <i>Origins, Developments and Evaluation of NHRAPing: 30 Years On</i> Chair Mr Sergey Dikman Adviser on Strategic Co-operation Development, Directorate of Human Rights, Council of Europe <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) NHRAPs: An Underused Tool for Human Rights Protection Professor Michael O’Flaherty Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe 2) The Origins of National Action Plans Mr Bill Barker Author of the UNOHCHR Handbook on NHRAP 3) 30 Years of NHRAPing in Practice: Successes and Challenges Mr David Johnson Former UNOHCHR Regional Representative and NHRAP Focal Point 4) The Human Rights Action Planning Work of the Danish Institute for Human Rights: International work supporting NHRI and governmental actors’ action planning Dr Stéphanie Lagoutte Senior Researcher Danish Institute for Human Rights 5) A Longitudinal Study of 30 Years of NHRAPing Dr Azadeh Chalabi Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Liverpool, Founder of the Global Network on National Human Rights Action Planning
12.00 pm – 13.00 pm	Lunch Break - SLSJ Lobby

13.00 pm – 14.30 pm	Panel 2 – <i>European Experience in NHRAPing I</i> Chair Professor Padraig McAuliffe Professor in Law, University of Liverpool <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Spain’s National Human Rights Plan Professor José García-Añón Director of the University Institute of Human Rights, University of Valencia 2) The National Human Rights Action Planning in Greece: Best Practices and Challenges Professor Maria Gavouneli and Dr Christos Tsevas Greek National Commission for Human Rights 3) Strengthening Coordination and Human Rights Perspectives: Insights from Finland’s NHRAPs Ms Anna Saarela and Ms Nanni Olsson Ministry of Justice, Finland 4) A Compass Without a Needle: Lithuania’s Human Rights Landscape Associate Professor Dr Jolita Miliuvienė Parliamentary Ombudsperson of Lithuania 	
14.30 pm – 14.45 pm	Coffee Break	
14.45 pm – 16.30 pm	Panel 3 – <i>NHRAPing in Scotland: From A to Z</i> Chair Dr Amanda Cahill-Ripley Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Liverpool <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Building the Evidence Base: informing and Monitoring Scotland’s National Action Plan for Human Rights Dr Alison Hosie Research Officer at the Scottish Human Rights Commission 2) Measuring Success Through Co-production Professor Jo Edson Ferrie Scotland Professor of Sociology, University of Glasgow 3) Making Rights Real: The Legacy of SNAP1 and How we’re using human rights as a tool for change Ms Clare MacGillivray Director of Making Rights Real (Scotland) 4) 2013 – 2030 Scotland’s National Action Plan for Human Rights: 96 actions. Development, Delivery and Learning Charlie McMillan Co-chair of SNAP 2 Leadership Panel, Scotland 5) Scotland’s NHRAP: Some Reflections Ms Lucy Mulvagh Director of Policy, Research and Impact, Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland 6) Discussant Mr Nick Bland Deputy Director for Equality and Inclusion, Scottish Government 	

16.30 pm – 16.45 pm	Coffee Break
16.45 pm – 18.00 pm	<p>Panel 4 – European Experience in NHRAPing II</p> <p>Chair Mr Vincent Hitabatuma Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (Belgium)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Presentation on the case of NHRAPing in Germany Michael Windfuhr German Institute for Human Rights 2) National Human Rights Action Planning in the Netherlands: Lessons Learned and Current Initiatives Ms Anne Dijkman; and Ms Sanne Staaltjens and Dr Jan-Willem Rossem The Netherlands Institute for Human Rights; Ministry of Interior Affairs and Kingdom Relations Netherlands 3) National Human Rights Planning in Italy: A Patchwork of Practices Dr Pietro de Perini and Professor Paolo De Stefani University Human Rights Centre A. Papisca; University of Padova and University of Padua 4) Armenia’s Human Rights Strategy Action Plan (2023–2025): Milestones and Implementation Insights Ms Mariam Chiflikyan Adviser to the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia 5) Experience from Norway: A paradigm NHRAP, then other ways forward? Ms Kristin Høgdahl Senior Policy Advisor Norwegian Human Rights Institute 6) Strengthening Human Rights Protections - The Journey in Wales Ms Melissa Wood Project Manager and Researcher, Legislative Options Working Group (Wales)

Day Two 5 June 2025 Thursday	
9.00 am - 10.00 am BST	<p>Panel 1 – Asia Pacific Experience of NHRAPing I</p> <p>Chair Mr Ashley Bowe Chief of Party at Pacific Community-SPC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) National Human Rights Action Plan: The Aotearoa New Zealand experience Ms Meg de Ronde Chief Executive New Zealand Human Rights Commission (Te Kāhui Tika Tangata) 2) 20 Years of Making NHRAP in South Korea: Achievements and Challenges Dr Pillkyu Hwang and Ms Yoojin Oh Gonggam Human Rights Law Foundation and National Forensic Hospital, Ministry of Justice of South Korea 3) The Establishment of South Korea’s National Action Plan for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (NAP) and How It Aligns with Local Governments’ Action Plans Dr Myunghee Lee Research Director at Korea Human Rights Policy Institute
10:00 am – 11:30 am	<p>Panel 2 – Digitalisation and NHRAPing</p> <p>Chair Ms Marie-Eve Boyer Human Rights Officer UNOHCHR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) SIMORE Plus: A mechanism to enhance the implementation of the human rights agenda Minister Belén Morra Human Rights Director, Human Rights General Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Paraguay 2) Next-Gen NHRAPs: Smart Planning for Human Rights Dr Domenico Zipoli Geneva Academy, Human Rights Platform 3) Measuring What Matters: How to measure human rights progress Ms Thalia Kehoe Rowden Co-Executive Director of the Human Rights Measurement Initiative, New Zealand 4) Driving human rights action planning and implementation using technology: A Case Study of IMPACT OSS Mr Ashely Bowe Chief of Party at Pacific Community-SPC 5) Discussant Mr Timo Franz Impact Open Source Software Trust
11.30 am – 11.45 am	Coffee Break

11.45 am – 13.00 pm	<p>Panel 3 – NMIRFs and NHRAPs</p> <p>Chair and Discussant Dr Domenico Zipoli Senior Researcher of the Geneva Academy, Human Rights Platform</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up and NHRAPs: Areas of Convergence Ms Marie-Eve Boyer Human Rights Officer UNOHCHR 2) The Role of NMIRFs in Drafting NHRAPs Professor Santiago Fiorio Vaesken Independent Expert at UN Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights; HR & Labour Standards Paraguay 3) UNFPA’s strategic engagement with NMIRFs and their National Human Rights Action Plans to advance the rights of women and girls Mr Alfonso Barragues Deputy Chief, Division for External Relations Geneva Representation Office, UNFPA 4) The Portuguese Experience with NMIRFs: Best Practices and Challenges Ms Sara Ágoas Head of the Human Rights Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portugal 5) Paraguay’s Experience of NMIRFs Ms Ana Rolón C Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations other International Organizations in Geneva
13.00 pm – 14.00 pm	Lunch Break - SLSJ Lobby
14.00 pm – 15.00 pm	<p>Panel 4 – Future of the Global Network on NHRAPing</p> <p>Rendall Building, Lecture Theatre 2</p> <p>◇ Coordination, Partnerships, Future Hosts and the Format</p>
15.00 pm – 15.45 pm	<p>Panel 5 – African Experience of NHRAPing and NMIRFs</p> <p>Chair Mr Martin Browne Legal Consultant with UN OHCHR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) From Planning to Implementation: How NMIRFs Support the National Action Plan for Human Rights – Focus on the Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights Ms Fatima Barkan Secretary General of the Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights, Kingdom of Morocco 2) NHRAPing in Kenya: Past, Present, and Future Dr Francis E A Owakah and Kenyan NCHR Representative Director of the University of Nairobi’s Centre for Human Rights and Peace; KNCHR

15.45 pm – 16.45 pm	<p>Panel 6 – NHRAPing in Europe III</p> <p>Chair Professor Jo Edson Ferrie Scotland Professor of Sociology at the University of Glasgow</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The importance of the adoption of a concrete NHRAP in Albania as an important instrument to guarantee the effectiveness of the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination Mr Robert Gajda, PhD Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination in Albania 2) Good Practices and Challenges Facing NHRAPing in Different Countries and in Ukraine Mr Dmytro Lubinets Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights 3) Austria’s path to a National Action Plan for Human Rights: Obstacles, Pitfalls and Lessons learnt Mag. Johannes Carniel Human Rights Lawyer at the Austrian Ombudsman Board 4) Human Rights in Estonian Strategic Documents Ms Margit Sarv Acting Head of NHRI activities at the Office of the Chancellor of Justice in Estonia
16.45 pm – 17.00 pm	Coffee Break
17.00 pm – 18.00 pm	<p>Panel 7 – South and North American Experience of NHRAPing</p> <p>Chair Professor José García-Añón Director of the University Institute of Human Rights, University of Valencia</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Canadian Human Rights Implementation: A Story of Paradoxes Dr Amanda Dale Research Fellow Human Rights Research and Education Centre at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law 2) Does a plan actually lead to action? Argentina and its NHRP (2017-2020) Dr Victoria Kandel Institute of Justice and Human Rights, National University of Lanús
18.30 pm – 20.30 pm	<p>Reception</p> <p>Hope Street Hotel Rooftop 40 Hope Street, Liverpool L1 9DA</p>

Day Three 6 June 2025 Friday	
9:00 am – 10:30 am	<p>Panel 1 – Asia Pacific Experience of NHRAPing II</p> <p>Chair Dr Azadeh Chalabi, University of Liverpool</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Positioning and Role of Taiwan’s National Human Rights Commission in National Human Rights Action Plan Dr Wen-cheng Lin Commissioner of the National Human Rights, Taiwan (ROC) Bridging Plans and Reality: Taiwan’s Experience in Drafting, Implementing, and Monitoring NHRAPs Ms Tzu-hsien Wu Section Chief at the Department of Human Rights and Transitional Justice, Executive Yuan, Taiwan (ROC) Thailand’s Experience on Developing and Implementing the National Human Rights Plan Ms Nareeluc Pairchaiyapoom Department of Rights and Liberties Protection International Human Rights Division Ministry of Justice, Thailand National Human Rights Action Plan in Federal Nepal: Prospects, Challenges and Experiences Mr Rajendra Thapa Joint Secretary Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, Singh Durbar, Nepal The Contribution of National Human Rights Action Plans (NHRAPs) in Southeast Asia to the Regional Human Rights Governance in ASEAN Ms Yuyun Wahyuningrum Executive Director of ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights Representative of Indonesia to AICHR (2019-2024)
10.30 am – 10.45 am	Coffee Break
10.45 am – 12.15 pm	<p>Panel 2 – Participation, Commitment and Cooperation in NHRAPing</p> <p>Chair Dr Jolita Miliuvienė, Ombudsperson of Lithuania</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reflecting Council of Europe Standards in National Human Rights Action Plans: the Role of Technical Co-operation Mr Sergey Dikman Adviser on Strategic Co-operation Development, Directorate of Human Rights, Council of Europe Georgian NHRI’s Experience and Work on NHRAPs Dr Tamar Gvaramadze First Deputy Public Defender of Georgia Active, Free, and Meaningful Participation - Lessons from the Right to Development Mr Martin Browne Legal Consultant with UN OHCHR

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Human Rights Action Plan as The Political Commitment Professor Muharrem Kiliç Board Member & Chairman the Human Rights and Equality Institution of Türkiye UNDP’s Role in Shaping and Digitalizing NHRAPs: Key Lessons Learned Ms Ainura Bekkoenova Regional Advisor, Rule of Law and Human Rights, UNDP Europe and Central Asia
12.15 pm – 13.15 pm	Lunch Break - SLSJ Lobby
13.15 pm – 14.15 pm	<p>Panel 3 – NHRIs and NHRAPs</p> <p>Chair Dr Stéphanie Lagoutte, Senior Researcher Danish Institute for Human Rights</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Having a National Human Rights Institution: The Malta Experience Judge Emeritus Dr Joseph Zammit McKeon Parliamentary Ombudsman of Malta The (lacking) Establishment of a NHRI in Italy: Problems and Perspectives Professor Giorgio Repetto Professor of Constitutional Law, Department of Law, Università di Perugia, Italy The role of the Ombudsperson Institution in Kosovo in setting priorities for NHRAP and their impact Ms Anita Cavdarbasha Korenica Deputy Ombudsperson of the Republic of Kosovo
14.15 pm – 14.30 pm	Coffee Break
14.30 pm – 15.30 pm	<p>Panel 4 – South American Experience of NHRAPing and Measuring Mechanisms</p> <p>Chair Mr David Johnson, International Expert in NHRAPs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Turning international obligations and recommendations into measuring frameworks: The Mexican Judiciary’s Contribution Mr Arturo Guerrero Zazueta Director General Human Rights, Gender Equality and International Affairs of the Federal Judiciary Council in Mexico National and Regional UPR Coalitions: how civil society can participate in the NMIRFS/SIMORES (National Mechanisms for Human Rights Monitoring) Ms Fernanda Brandão Lapa Executive Director of the Institute for Development of Human Rights (IDDH Brazil) Implementing Human Rights Obligations in Brazil Mr Rogerio Campos Advisory Officer, Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship
15.30 pm – 16.00 pm	<p>Panel 5 – Summary and Conclusion</p> <p>Global Network on NHRAPing: Next Steps</p>

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Professional Biographies

We are pleased to be joined by the following delegates (in alphabetical order) from across the five continents.



Ms Sara Ágoas

Head of the Human Rights Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portugal

Sara Ágoas is the Head of the Human Rights Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since September 2024, where she is responsible amongst other things, for the Executive Secretariat of the Portuguese NMIRF (the National Human Rights Committee). She is a career diplomat since 2007, having worked before in the Permanent Representation of

Portugal to the EU and in the Embassies in Maputo and Tel Aviv. She has a Master's Degree in Human Rights from the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratization.



Ms Rachel Albinson

Principal - Human Rights Monitoring Equality and Human Rights Commission, UK

Rachel is Head of Human Rights Monitoring at the Equality and Human Rights Commission, one of the UK's national human rights institutions. She is responsible for reporting to the United Nations and Council of Europe on government compliance with human rights

treaty obligations and managing the digital tracking tool www.humanrightstracker.com. Rachel has a background in equality and human rights policy development and international relations, and has previously worked in the UK civil service and the European External Action Service.



Professor José García Añón

Professor of Philosophy of Law at the Faculty of Law, and Director of the University Institute of Human Rights, University of Valencia, Spain

Professor José García Añón has extensive teaching experience as a professor of Philosophy of Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Valencia, having taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Theory of Law,

Philosophy of Law, Human Rights, Legal Methodology, Fundamental Legal Skills, Clinical Legal Education, and Legal Ethics. Since 2024, he has acted as Director of the University Institute of Human Rights at the same university (www.uv.es/idh). From 2015 to 2023, he served as the Director General of Democratic Reforms and Access to Justice for the Regional Government of Valencia (Generalitat Valenciana). He also coordinated the International Human Rights Clinic at the Clínica Jurídica per la Justícia Social of the University of Valencia (www.uv.es/clinica).

Professor García Añón has been involved in over 40 research projects funded by various regional, national, European, and private organizations. His research, primarily focused on human rights, has been widely disseminated through seminars, presentations, papers, and over a hundred publications. His studies have particularly addressed the rights of migrants, the foundations of rights, social rights, and access to justice. Additionally, he has written on racial and ethnic discrimination and cultural conflicts. He has been a member of the Steering Committee of the European Network for Clinical Legal Education (ENCLE) (<http://encle.org>) and the Board of Directors of the Global Alliance for Justice Education (GAJE) (<http://www.gaje.org>). He has also been instrumental in establishing the Network of Legal Clinics of Spanish Universities (clinicas-juridicas.blogspot.com) and the Legal Clinic for Social Justice at the University of Valencia.



Ms Fatima Barkan

Secretary General of the Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights, Kingdom of Morocco

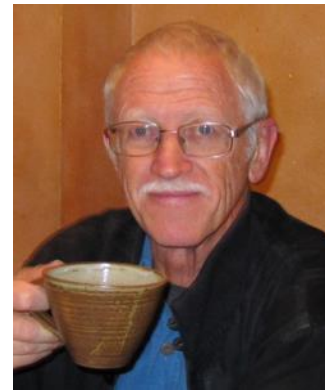
Ms. Fatima Barkan held numerous senior positions within the Directorate of National Territory Planning from 1996 to 2015, and as Head of the Division for Territorial Offer Development. She served as Director of Women's Affairs for seven years in the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality, and

Family. She also held the position of Advisor to the Minister of Justice on matters related to gender equality and parity. Ms. Barkan served as a member of the national body responsible for revising the Family Code. In October 2024, Ms. Barkan was appointed as Secretary General of the Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights

Ms. Barkan has designed, implemented, led, and evaluated several flagship initiatives focused on monitoring territorial dynamics, digital spatial planning, gender equality, and the prevention of violence against women. She has contributed to numerous publications and reports covering topics such as urban planning, spatial development, migration, advanced regionalization, gender, equality, gender-based violence, and women's economic empowerment.

She has coordinated and led various partnerships involving both technical and financial support from international and regional institutions, including the European Union, the Council of Europe, the OECD, UN Women, UNFPA, ESCWA, as well as Belgian and Canadian cooperation agencies.

Ms. Barkan contributed to the work of the Consultative Commission on Advanced Regionalization, through the development of a GIS-based system, which played a central role in shaping Morocco's current regional division. She has organized and spoken at numerous national and international conferences, supervised several research projects, and taught courses on databases and indicators, geographic information systems, satellite remote sensing, spatial planning, gender studies, gender-based violence, and women's economic empowerment at various Moroccan universities and engineering schools.



Mr Bill Barker

Former Diplomat and Author of the OHCHR 2002 NHRAP Handbook

Bill Barker is a former Australian diplomat. From 1988 to 1992 he served as an Australian representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva, as well as participating in meetings of the General Assembly in New York and other international meetings on human rights. He subsequently served in Canberra as Director of the Human Rights and Indigenous Issues section of the

Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In the lead up to the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights, Bill developed the idea that each country should consider developing a national action plan on human rights. This was accepted by the preparatory meetings for the World Conference, and was included as a recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. After his retirement from the Australian Foreign Service, Bill continued to work, as a consultant, on national plans of action, along with other aspects of international human rights advocacy and education. He was asked by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to be the lead author of the OHCHR NHRAP Handbook that was published in 2002. Bill also participated in conferences and training sessions on NHRAPs in a number of countries.

For the last 30 years, Bill has been living in a small village on the south coast of the Australian state of New South Wales, where he keeps himself busy enjoying the surrounding forests and ocean, as well as staying in touch with developments in the fields of human rights and environmental protection.



Mr Alfonso Barragües

Deputy Chief, Division for External Relations, Geneva Representation Office, UNFPA

Mr. Alfonso Barragües is the Deputy Chief of UNFPA's Representation Office in Geneva and the Senior External Relations Advisor. In this capacity, Mr. Barragües is responsible for positioning UNFPA's mandate, including on sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality, in intergovernmental processes in Geneva as well as for supporting the engagement of UNFPA country offices in the work of International Human Rights Mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review.

Prior to that position, Mr. Barragües served as the UNFPA Senior Human Rights Advisor in New York, with a leading role in mainstreaming human rights across the work of the Fund and in coordinating UNFPA efforts to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights worldwide. He has 23 years of experience in the field of human rights at the UN system both with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, Guatemala and Rwanda as well as with the Department of Peace Keeping Operations (DPKO) in Angola and Mozambique.

During all these years, Mr. Barragües has been responsible for managing a range of programmes in the areas of national human rights protection systems, access to justice, human rights awareness and social accountability. Mr. Barragües has led UN inter-agency efforts to apply a human rights-based approach to development in global advocacy, UN common programming processes and national policies and budgets. He has authored manuals, training tools and articles on all these topics. Mr. Barragües is a human rights lawyer by training and holds a degree in Law from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain. He is fluent in Spanish (mother tongue), English, French and Portuguese.

Ms. Ainura Bekkoenova

Regional Advisor, Rule of Law and Human Rights, UNDP Europe and Central Asia

Ainura Bekkoenova has been dedicated to policy research, advocacy, and programming to enhance regional stability, rule of law, and human rights in Europe and Central Asia with the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub for the past nine years (2016-2025). She provides policy advisory services to UNDP offices across 18 countries and

territories, including the Western Balkans, Türkiye, South Caucasus, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia. In her role, Ainura leads several regional initiatives in collaboration with global and regional partners. These initiatives aim to strengthen the capacities of National Human Rights Institutions, advance the implementation of UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, protect human rights in the online space, promote environmental justice, and support civic space. Her work also includes providing policy advice on access to justice and legal protection for forcibly displaced populations, such as refugees, migrants, and IDPs, particularly in the context of the war in Ukraine and other regional conflicts. Previously, Ainura worked with UNDP and UNODC to promote the rule of law, strengthen justice systems, and protect human rights in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Eastern Africa, often in politically complex and fragile settings. Her recent publications include "Regional Study on the Status of UNGPs on Business and Human Rights" and "Impact of Digital Technologies and AI on Human Rights in ECIS."



Mr Nick Bland

Deputy Director for Equality and Inclusion, Scottish Government

Nick Bland is the Deputy Director for Mainstreaming and Inclusion in the Equality, Inclusion and Human Rights Directorate (EIHR), Scottish Government. He holds policy responsibility for the strategic mainstreaming of equality and human rights across government and public sector, tackling hate crime, promoting community cohesion, and faith and belief. He was previously the Deputy Director for Equality. He joined the newly established EIHR directorate in 2020, working initially on refugee integration and then race equality.

Nick joined the Scottish Government in 2001, from the Home Office, leading teams on research & analysis, first about drug misuse treatment and support and then criminal justice and policing. In 2010 he moved to policy, leading a reform programme that established a single police service in Scotland in 2013. From 2014 to 2017, he was co-director of What Works Scotland at the University of Edinburgh, where he was Visiting Professor, focused on public service reform. He was the lead for continuous improvement and evaluation for the Scottish Government's first two applications of national deliberative participation 2019-20: specifically, the Citizens' Assembly of Scotland and then Scotland's Climate Assembly. He was Visiting Professor at the School of Applied Sciences, Edinburgh Napier University 2021-23.

Mr Paul Borg

Director General at the Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman in Malta

Paul Borg, CPA, FIA, is a seasoned financial expert and auditor with extensive leadership experience across public and private sectors. Currently serving as Director General at the Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman in Malta since 2013, he oversees strategic planning, finance, human resources, and special projects, ensuring operational efficiency in delivering the office's mission.

With a distinguished career spanning over three decades, Paul has held key financial leadership roles in multinational corporations and government institutions. Prior to his current role, he was Group Financial Controller for a diversified franchise group and previously managed financial operations on construction projects and in the oil and gas industry in North Africa.

Paul also served as Assistant Auditor General at Malta's National Audit Office, leading financial compliance and investigative audits for central government and his tenure includes experiences at Deloitte and Horwath International.

A Certified Public Accountant and Fellow of the Institute of Accountants (Malta), Paul has contributed to European audit initiatives, including membership and Chairmanship of the Audit Board of EuroControl. Fluent in English, Maltese, and Italian he brings a global perspective to financial governance and strategic planning.



Mr Ashley Bowe

Chief of Party – Pacific Community-SPC/IMPACT OSS

Ashley Bowe has over 15 years' experience across Europe, Asia, and the Pacific, having worked with organisations such as the United Nations, National Human Rights Institutions, and regional development agencies. In this time Ashley has worked with governments, NHRIs and civil society on the protection and promotion of human rights.

This has included bringing the Treaty Bodies out of Geneva to hold regional sessions for the first time in the history of the UN and building digital platforms such as IMPACT OSS and SADATA to enhance national level capacity to plan, monitor and implement human rights commitments.



Ms Marie-Eve Boyer-Friedrich

Human Rights Officer, OHCHR Treaty Body Capacity Building Programme

Marie-Eve Boyer has been working for the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) since 2009. She is currently based in Geneva where she works in the Treaty Body capacity building programme. The programme oversees strengthening the capacity of States to engage with UN Human Rights Mechanisms, and more specifically Treaty Bodies. In

particular, she coordinates the implementation of Human Rights Council resolutions pertaining to National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up (NMIRFs). Prior to her posting in Geneva, Ms. Boyer-Friedrich worked for four years in OHCHR Regional Office for West Africa based in Dakar where she organized capacity building activities and advised States as well as National Human Rights Institutions, Civil Society Organisations and UN Country Teams on that same matter. Since she joined OHCHR, Ms Boyer-Friedrich also dealt with individual complaints brought to the attention of UN Treaty bodies for violation of individuals' rights. She also assisted the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of Internally Displaced Persons and carried out monitoring missions in South Sudan and Brazil. Before joining OHCHR, Marie-Eve Boyer-Friedrich worked for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Ethiopia and in the State of Palestine. She also worked there for UNRWA.

Marie-Eve Boyer-Friedrich is a Swiss national. She holds post-graduate diploma in International Public Law. She is fluent in English, French and Portuguese, and speaks a little bit of Arabic and Spanish.



Mr Martin Browne

Legal Consultant with UN OHCHR

Martin Browne is a Legal Consultant with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. Working with the Right to Development Section, he focuses on incorporating human rights into trade and investment agreements and monitoring implementation of such agreements, including through human rights impact assessments. He obtained his PhD in human rights law from the

University of Manchester, and has acted as legal consultant for various NGOs in the UK, Switzerland, Iraq and Syria.



Dr Amanda Cahill-Ripley
Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Liverpool

Dr Cahill-Ripley is a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Liverpool, School of Law and Social Justice, UK and a Visiting Scholar at Lancaster University Law School. She is an expert in international human rights law and a specialist in economic, social and cultural rights. Her current research explores the intersections between socio-economic rights, conflict and peace (including transitional and transformative justice and sustainable development). Dr Cahill-

Ripley is author of numerous publications, including two monographs, the most recent Socio-Economic Rights in Times of Normality and Crisis: Article 4 Limitations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2025) published by Bristol University Press. She regularly provides expert opinions and advice to governments, international organisations and NGOs, and is currently working with the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on a new General Comment on the application of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in armed conflict. Her third monograph entitled 'Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Transformative Peacebuilding' is due to be published in 2025 by CUP.

Mr. Rogério Campos

Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship, Brazil



Mr. Rogério Campos is an anthropologist with a bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree, specializing in the analysis of multidimensional poverty indices. He has provided consultancy services on human rights for international organizations, including contributing to the drafting of Brazil's Third National Human Rights Program (PNDH-3). Since joining the Brazilian civil service in 2014, he has worked extensively on social and human rights policies. Initially focused on the monitoring and evaluation of multidimensional poverty, he currently serves as the General Coordinator at the Special Advisory

for International Affairs within the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship. In this

capacity, he leads Brazil's engagement with international human rights reporting cycles and mechanisms, and coordinates the implementation of the Brazilian NMIRF (National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up), known as SIMORE Brasil.



Ms Ana Edelmira Rolón Candia

Diplomat and Counsellor - Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations

Since July 2022, Ms Rolón Candia has been serving at the Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, Switzerland. Her current portfolio items include human rights, international humanitarian law, telecommunications, and international labour affairs. Since joining the diplomatic service in 2007 through the First National Examination based on Merit and Opposition, she has held various political positions, particularly in multilateral affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay (MFA). In 2012, she was appointed to serve at the Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations in New York, where she was primarily responsible for the First and Sixth Committees of the General Assembly, elections within the UN system, and, among other duties, matters related to the Security Council and the General Assembly. In 2019, she was appointed Director of the Directorate of International Organizations in the MFA. Before joining the public sector, she held various administrative positions in the private sector.

She holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the National University of Asunción. She earned a Master's degree in Government and Public Management from the American University of Asunción. She is also a Specialist in Scientific Research Methodology from the National University of Asunción. She is currently in the twelfth semester of the Law program at the American University of Asunción. She speaks Spanish, Guaraní, English, and Portuguese.

Magister Johannes Carniel

Human Rights Lawyer at the Austrian Ombudsman Board

Johannes Carniel is a human rights lawyer working for the Austrian Ombudsman Board (AOB). His present work has a focus on the rights of persons with disabilities, economic, social and cultural rights, torture-prevention and international human rights law. Mr. Carniel represents the AOB as human rights expert in several international projects and networks. During the drafting process for the Austrian National Action Plan for Human Rights Mr. Carniel was a member of AOB's coordination team.

Previous to his work at the Austrian Ombudsman Board Mr. Carniel, inter alia, worked for a humanitarian organisation as a head of mission in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, carrying out projects in the fields of medical care, education, poverty reduction and disaster relief.

Mr Carniel holds an LL.B and LL.M from the University of Vienna, an LL.M in European Law from the University College London and a MA in Human Rights from the University of Essex.



Dr Azadeh Chalabi

Senior Lecturer in Law University of Liverpool

Founder of the Global Network on National Human Rights Action Planning

Dr Azadeh Chalabi is a senior lecturer in law at the School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool. Her research focuses on the gap between human rights theory and human rights practice. Azadeh, who is the founder of the first Global Network on National Human Rights Action Planning, has been working on these

plans for more than 14 years from theoretical, doctrinal, empirical and practical perspectives and has written extensively in this area. Her second book, entitled “National Human Rights Action Planning”, published by Oxford University Press, is the first ever volume dedicated to this area. Recently, Azadeh conducted a comprehensive longitudinal study of all the national human rights action plans developed between 1994-2024 and available in English to take stock of three decades of advancing and implementing these plans. The results of this project have come out in the form of a series of articles. Azadeh is also working on the scope, nature and content of the human right to environment as well as corporate climate change

litigation. She is a member of the committee on Business and Human Rights, International Law Association.

Ms Mariam Chiflikyan

Adviser to the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia

Mariam Chiflikyan holds a Master's degree in Law and serves as an Adviser to the Ministry of Justice of Armenia. In this capacity, she is responsible for implementing, coordinating, and monitoring the Human Rights Protection National Strategy and Action Plan (2023–2025).

A major component of her work involves ensuring legislative reforms, including through the implementation of judgments by the European Court of Human Rights— notably in cases such as Oganezova v. Armenia, Nikolyan v. Armenia and Botoyan v. Armenia. She also works to align national legislation with recommendations from international bodies such as CERD and ECRI, and drafts reports for international monitoring bodies, such as Universal Periodic Review. Mariam actively contributes to combating discrimination and hate speech through the development of legal frameworks and soft mechanisms, including targeted awareness-raising campaigns.

She represents Armenia in the Council of Europe's Lanzarote Committee and serves as a member of the Juvenile Justice Council of the Ministry of Justice, contributing to the protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse. Additionally, she coordinates Armenia's international cooperation with the UN, EU, and Council of Europe, and is responsible for overseeing and reporting on Armenia's commitments under the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA).



Dr Amanda Dale

Research Fellow at the Human Rights Research and Education Centre at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, Canada

A Research Fellow at the Human Rights Research and Education Centre at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, Amanda Dale is an international human rights scholar and activist specializing in gender-based violence, access to justice, and women's international human rights.

Amanda has over 40 years of experience in municipal, provincial, national, international, multicultural, urban, and remote contexts. Her work includes being an

expert consultant to the Mass Casualty Commission; a member of the Expert Advisory Panel for the Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability; Project Lead, Coordinating Committee Member, and principal author of A Report to Guide the Implementation of a National Action Plan on Violence Against Women and Gender-Based Violence, and What it Takes: Establishing a Gender-Based Violence Accountability Mechanism in Canada; and an Expert Group Member for the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women concerning rape as a grave and systematic human rights violation. She holds a Joint Specialist degree in Women's Studies and Political Science from the University of Toronto, a Master's in Social and Political Thought from the University of Sussex, a Master's in International Human Rights Law from the University of Oxford, and a PhD from Osgoode Hall Law School. Amanda is the Chair of the Board at Inter Pares and on the Women's Human Rights Institute faculty. Amanda was the 2013 recipient of the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award for Social Justice and is a published author of peer-reviewed and popular publications.



Anne Dijkman

Programme Manager for Livelihood Security and Human Rights at the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights

Anne Dijkman is Programme Manager for Livelihood Security and Human Rights at the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights. In this role, she and her team work to strengthen a human rights-based approach within government policy, with a particular focus on the right to housing and the right to protection against poverty.

Her work aims to reduce livelihood insecurity in both the European and Caribbean parts of the Netherlands. By raising awareness among government actors about their human rights obligations and engaging in dialogue about structural improvements, Anne contributes to a society in which everyone has access to a life of dignity.



Mr Sergey Dikman

Adviser on Strategic Co-operation Development, Directorate of Human Rights, Council of Europe

Sergey Dikman is a Senior Advisor on strategic cooperation development within the Directorate for Human Rights at the Council of Europe (Strasbourg, France). Since 2011, he has been in charge of the Organization's programmes supporting its Member States with national implementation of European human rights standards, in particular, in South-East Europe and Türkiye. His work focuses on the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, alongside justice sector reforms. In 2020-2023 he served as a focal point on the abolition of the death penalty.



Professor Jo Edson Ferrie

Professor of Sociology at the University of Glasgow, Scotland

Jo is Professor of Sociology at the University of Glasgow and has dedicated her time to teaching research methods to a broad range of social scientists to fuel progressive work to achieve social justice. She has written on human rights and care, human rights and improving the experience of diagnosis for life-changing conditions, and measuring human rights. Jo has invested her time in non-academic publications too, co-delivering the evidence base behind [Tick Tock](#) focusing on deinstitutionalisation of adults with learning disabilities. Jo evaluated [Scotland's National Action Plan](#) in 2019.

Ms Emilie Filmer-Wilson

Human Rights Advisor, Division for External Relations Geneva Representation Office

Emilie Filmer-Wilson is the Senior Human Rights Adviser at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). She provides leadership and advisory support for UNFPA's human rights works and efforts to "leave no one behind", as well as advances research on the nexus between women's rights and sexual and reproductive health. She has over 19 years of experience working with development organisations on mainstreaming human rights; this includes as human rights policy specialist with the UN Development Coordination Office NY; managing the UN systems human

rights based approach training at the UN System Staff College in Turin, Italy; and knowledge management specialist on human rights for the UN Development Programme (UNDP Oslo Governance Centre). Prior to joining the UN, she worked as a consultant with DFID and OECD-DAC, as well as with a national human rights NGO in Guatemala. Emilie holds a Masters in Political Science from Edinburgh University and post graduate degree in Human Rights from Geneva University.



Professor Santiago Fiorio
UN CESCR Member / Business and Human Rights and Labour Standards in Paraguay

Professor Santiago Fiorio is a Member of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for the 2023–2026 term. As part of his mandate, he contributes to delivering recommendations to States on matters related to economic, social and cultural rights, to comply with international human rights obligations and standards.

Prof. Fiorio also serves as the Program Coordinator for the UN Global Compact - Paraguay Network, and provides guidance and assessments in the field of business and human rights and labour standards.

He is a specialist in human rights, international humanitarian law, and international cooperation, with experience in international relations, and humanitarian assistance. He holds an MSc in Human Rights from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and degrees in Law and International Relations. He is a former Chevening Scholar. He has training and 15 years of experience in the analysis of armed conflicts, terrorism, rule of law, international human rights standards, corporate international standards, and corporate social responsibility.

He is a university lecturer in International Relations, International Cooperation and Human Rights, with over 15 years of professional experience in these areas.



Mr Timo Franz
Impact Open Source Software Trust

Timo Franz is the lead developer and a founding trustee of the Impact Open Source Software Trust, a charitable organisation dedicated to developing and promoting open-source technologies for advancing human rights and support the realisation of the SDGs. He is also the technical director at Dumpark Information Design, an

agency specialising in data visualisation and information design. In addition to being

responsible for the technical design and implementation of IMPACT OSS, he also contributed to the development of HRMI's Rights Tracker and URG's website State of the World - Human Rights and Democracy. He is a member of the advisory group for the Geneva Academy's initiative Digital Human Rights Tracking Tools and Databases.



Mr Robert Gajda, PhD
Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination in Albania

By Decision no. 60, 05 April 2018 of the Assembly of the Republic of Albania "On the appointment of the Commissioner for protection from discrimination", Mr. Robert Gajda was elected as Commissioner with a 5-year mandate that may be renewed once.

Previously, He was a lecturer of Constitutional Law and Administrative Law at the University of Elbasan and has received his PhD for Constitutional Justice and Fundamental Rights at the University of Pisa, Italy, in 2015.

He has a conspicuous academic activity in writing articles in law reviews and conferences proceedings, in organizing scientific conferences and in 2017 He has published a monograph titled "Individual constitutional complaints in the Albanian legal order. Comparative aspects", Bonomo Editore, Bologna.

He has collaborated with various civil society organizations, especially in relation to the recognition and promotion of human rights as a lecturer, trainer, organizer of legal clinics and collaborator in concrete studies.

He has been engaged as an activist together with intellectuals, students, citizens, NGOs in support of civic initiatives but also as project winners. Areas of interest are constitutional aspects, human rights, effective implementation of the law, local government, administrative law, legal advice etc. From November 2021 he has been elected member of the Executive Board in EQUINET for a two years mandate.



Professor Maria Gavouneli

**Professor of International Law, Faculty of Law,
National & Kapodistrian University of Athens**

**Greek National Commission for Human
Rights, President**

**Director General, Hellenic Foundation for
European & Foreign Policy – ELIAME**

Director, LLM in International & European Law, Faculty of Law; Deputy Director, Athens Public International Law Center – Athens PIL, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens; Director, Refugee & Migration Studies Hub – RMS Hub, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens

Fulbright Visiting Scholar 2018-2019 at the University of California Berkeley; Visiting professor and lecturer in several universities and research institutions, including The Hague Academy of International Law, Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House), Tulane University (USA), the University of Edinburgh (Brodie's Lecture), the University of Oxford, the University of Glasgow, the University of Manchester, Utrecht University, the University of Ankara, Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, Université Paris 2 Panthéon Assas, the NUS Academy of International Law, Académie de la Mer – Monaco; coordinator and member of major research teams funded by European and Greek resources; recipient of multiple research grants.

Member of several academic organisations, including the British Institute of International & Comparative Law (visiting researcher, 2000); the American Society of International Law (co-chair of the Law of the Sea Interest Group – LOSIG, 2012-2015); the European Society of International Law (co-convenor of the Interest Group on the Law of the Sea – LAWSEA, 2014-2020); the Association internationale du droit de la mer (AssIDMer); the International Law Association (President, Hellenic Branch); the Hellenic Society of International Law & International Relations (Vice-chair); the Hellenic Arbitration Association.



Dr Tamar Gvaramadze

**First Deputy Public Defender of
Georgia**

Dr Tamar Gvaramadze has served as the First Deputy Public Defender of Georgia since January 2018. With over 17 years of experience in human rights advocacy, she is the Head of the Public Defender's Office, encompassing more than 20 thematic

areas and is part of the strategic leadership of the institution. She played a key role in strengthening the institution's influence on civil, political, social and economic rights and served as Acting Public Defender (Ombudsperson) during a transitional period (Dec 2022 – Mar 2023).

Tamar leads the institution's international work representing the organization in international forums and NHRI/Ombudsman networks. Recently, she has been elected as the Governing Board member of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI) and The Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) (2025-2028).

Tamar previously held leadership roles at the Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA), serving as Executive Director and Program Manager. As a human rights lawyer, she directly impacted hundreds of vulnerable individuals and successfully advocated for relevant legislative reforms. She also held key management positions in government, leading human resources at the Ministry of Education of Georgia and as the Head of the Law Academy at the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.

Beyond public service, Tamar is a Doctor of Law and Associate Professor at Tbilisi State University, specializing in administrative, tax and human rights law. She has authored numerous studies for international organizations, including the Council of Europe and GIZ. She is also a fellow of Marshall Memorial Fellowship (MMF) program (2022).

Her professional journey is characterized by strong leadership, effective advocacy and impressive fundraising achievements. Tamar has played a crucial role in enhancing institutional capacities across both public and non-governmental sectors, achieving notable success in the implementation of financial management systems and securing essential funding for legal aid projects. This has enabled her to make substantial contributions to the Georgian legal framework, setting judicial precedents and championing legislative changes that have promoted the protection of human rights in the country.



Mr Vincent Hitabatuma

Policy Officer at the Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights, Belgium

A political scientist by training, Vincent Hitabatuma has over 10 years of experience in the public sector, particularly in social security, health, and equal opportunities. He is fluent in French, Dutch, and English.

Throughout his career, Vincent has worked in various ministerial offices and parliamentary assemblies. He

played a key role in the development of Belgium's first federal action plan against racism, as well as in establishing the inter-federal mechanism to combat antisemitism.

Currently, Vincent leads advocacy efforts at the Belgian Federal Institute for Human Rights. In this role, he promotes policies that aim to ensure Belgian governments uphold their human rights obligations.



Ms Kristin Høgdahl

Senior Policy Advisor Norwegian Human Rights Institute

Kristin Høgdahl is an experienced leader with extensive expertise in human rights, programme design and implementation, both nationally and internationally. Currently a senior policy advisor at the Norwegian Human Rights Institution (NIM), she has held leadership roles at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights at the University of Oslo, and was pivotal in establishing NIM under the Norwegian Parliament. Kristin holds a

Cand.polit. degree in political science and has pursued further studies in leadership and communication. She has also held governance roles with Amnesty International and with GANHRI, the global network of NHRIs.

Ms Nicola Hood

Co-chair of SNAP 2 Leadership Panel Secretariat Lead, Scottish Government

Nicola Hood currently leads the Secretariat of Scotland's Second National Action Plan on Human Rights (SNAP2) Leadership Panel, having come into post in May 2024. The SNAP2 Leadership Panel is a voluntary partnership including members who are rights holders and people who represent civil society organisations, duty bearers (public bodies), and National Human Rights Institutions. Upon the publication of

SNAP2 on 30 March 2023, the Panel's role became to monitor and oversee its implementation.

Nicola has been a civil servant since 2007. She has held various posts within the Home Office, before moving to the Scottish Government in 2021 to work within the Drugs Policy Division. Whilst working within Drugs Policy Division, Nicola worked in the Cultural and Structural Change team and was part of the policy team supporting the Scottish Drug Deaths Taskforce. The Scottish Drug Deaths Taskforce was established by the Scottish Government in July 2019 to examine the key drivers of drug deaths and explore ways to help save lives and reduce harm. Their report, Changing Lives, was published in July 2022. This report set out a suite of evidence-based recommendations and actions that hope to reduce drug-related deaths and harms and improve and save the lives of people who use drugs.



Dr Alison Hosie

Research Officer at the Scottish Human Rights Commission

Dr. Alison Hosie has been the Research Officer at the Scottish Human Rights Commission since its establishment in 2008. She leads on the Commission's research strategy, managing external research projects and conducting primary and secondary research. Alison chairs the Commission's independent Research Advisory Group and the Human Rights Budget Working Group. Alison played a key role in the development of Scotland's

first National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP), leading on a three-year research project to develop the evidence-base (Getting it Right?) that informed SNAP and its actions. She was responsible for commissioning the external evaluation of SNAP, as well as conducting internal action evaluation and monitoring processes. She developed SNAP's monitoring framework, setting out long-term outcomes for 2030, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Alison was also actively involved in the development process for SNAP2, contributing research expertise to shape its next phase. Her specialist areas include human rights budgeting and budget scrutiny, human rights monitoring, and human rights-based indicators. She has played a key role in developing the Commission's impact measurement framework, aligning it with its Theory of Change, and ensuring its evidence base is systematically updated and utilised governance structures. She is a frequent speaker and writer, contributing to discussions on measuring human rights progress, rights-based approaches to budgeting and taxation, and Scotland's SDG commitments.



Dr Pillkyu Hwang

Executive Director of the Transnational Human Rights Institute at Gonggam Human Rights Law Foundation, South Korea

Dr. Pillkyu Hwang is Executive Director of the Transnational Human Rights Institute at Gonggam Human Rights Law Foundation and a former adjunct professor in charge of the international human rights law clinic at Seoul National University Law School and Ewha Law School.

The main areas of his work include international human rights, migrants and refugees, business and

human rights, disaster and human rights, and access to justice in general both in Korea and around the world. He graduated from Seoul National University with an LL.B. and has earned his PhD in public international law at the same university. He was a visiting academic at the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society of Oxford University, and a visiting fellow at the Human Rights Program of Harvard Law School.

He was a member of the Reform Committee within the National Human Rights Commission in 2017 and a President-nominated commissioner of the Special Commission on Social Disasters in Korea from 2018 to 2022. He is the vice-chair of the LAWASIA Human Rights Committee and the chair of the Committee on Disaster and Human Rights of the Korean Bar Association and has served as an advisory board member of the Fortify Rights since 2015 and an editorial team member of the Business and Human Rights Journal since 2019.



Mr David Johnson

Former UNOHCHR Regional Representative and NHRAP Focal Point

David Johnson is an international expert specializing in developing, monitoring, and reporting on national human rights action plans who has collected and analyzed the more than 100 plans adopted worldwide since 1994. He is also a trainer on SIGMA/OECD monitoring and evaluation methodology used in the European Union and in European Association countries. He retired from the United Nations in

2009 after 18 years of service in the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights where his last posting was as the Regional Representative to Southern Africa of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. He also covered

national human rights action plans while based at OHCHR in Geneva and was responsible for the publication of OHCHR's Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action in 2002. Mr. Johnson has trained hundreds of partners in government, the security forces and civil society in over a dozen countries on human rights-related topics. He currently resides in Durham, North Carolina, USA.



Professor Tim Jones

Vice Chancellor of the University of Liverpool

Professor Tim Jones took up post as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool in January 2023. He moved from the University of Birmingham, where he was Provost and Vice-Principal from 2016. Previously, he held several senior leadership positions at the University of Warwick, including Interim Provost, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Science, Engineering and Medicine, and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research, Knowledge

Transfer and Business Engagement.

Tim is proud to be an alumnus of the University, having gained both his undergraduate degree and PhD at Liverpool. After spending nearly 17 years at Imperial College London, during which he took on several academic leadership roles, he moved to the Chemistry Department at Warwick as part of the University's strategic investment in advanced materials research. Tim's research interests are focused on the surface and thin film properties of a wide variety of advanced electronic materials, with applications in areas such as photovoltaics.

Tim is Chair of the Liverpool Health Partners Board, a member of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Business & Enterprise Board, the N8 Research Partnership, Liverpool Knowledge Quarter Board and Sciointec Board, the Liverpool-Manchester Partnership Board as well being a Director of the Russell Group and member of Universities UK.



Dr Victoria Kandel

Professor and Director of the Higher Education Observatory at the National University of Lanús, Argentina

Victoria Noemí Kandel is a Bachelor in Political Science from the Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina), Master in Social Sciences with a specialization in Education, and Ph.D. in Education. She is currently the Director of the recently established Higher Education Observatory at the National University of Lanús (Argentina), where she also serves as a Professor. Additionally, she teaches University Pedagogy at the Department of Teaching Development, Faculty of Law, University of Buenos Aires. Since December 2023, she has served as the Coordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Network on Human Rights Education. Her work focuses on citizenship education and human rights, with a particular emphasis on the role of higher education institutions.



Professor Muharrem Kiliç

Chairman of the Human Rights and Equality Institution of Türkiye

Professor Dr Muharrem Kiliç was appointed associate professor after completing his LLM and PhD. And then appointed as a Professor in 2011. Kiliç has held multiple academic and administrative positions such as dean of the law school, vice-rector, head of the public law department. Professor Kiliç has scientific publications consisting of many books, articles, as well

as papers presented in national and international congresses about human rights theory. He has multiple academic research from human rights education to the right to reasoned decision; from NHRIs to human rights politics during the pandemic period. He was involved in human rights not only in theory but also in project studies. In this context, he worked as a Project Expert in the 'Project to Support the Implementation and Reporting of the Human Rights Action Plan'. He has been awarded a TUBITAK Postdoctoral Research Fellowship with his project on 'Political Illusionism: An Onto-political Analysis of Modern Human Rights Discourse.'

He was appointed as the Chairman of the HREIT, on 14.07.2021.



Ms Anita Cavdarbasha Korenica

Deputy Ombudsperson of the Republic of Kosovo

Anita Çavdarbasha-Korenica, is the Deputy Ombudsperson of the Republic of Kosovo, elected by the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, on 14th of June 2022. In her role at the Ombudsperson Institution, she focuses on children's rights and legislative changes. She completed her basic studies at the University of Pristina - Faculty of Law, and

master's studies at Europa Kolleg Hamburg in Germany, with focus on EU Law. Professionally, Ms. Çavdarbasha-Korenica began her career in 2013 at the Ministry of Trade and Industry. From 2014 to 2017 she worked as a Senior Legal Officer for EU Legislation at the Ministry of Justice, where she was involved in aligning national legislation with the EU acquis. Between 2017 to 2022, she worked as a Senior Constitutional Legal Advisor at the Constitutional Court handling cases related to human rights violations and also cases referred by state institutions for the abstract review of legal acts. Ms. Çavdarbasha-Korenica has also worked briefly in foreign institutions such as the Federal Ministry of Justice in Germany (2016) and the European Court of Human Rights (2019). In addition to the Albanian language, she speaks English and German, and has basic knowledge of the Serbian language.

Dr Stéphanie Lagoutte

Senior Researcher at the Danish Institute for Human Rights

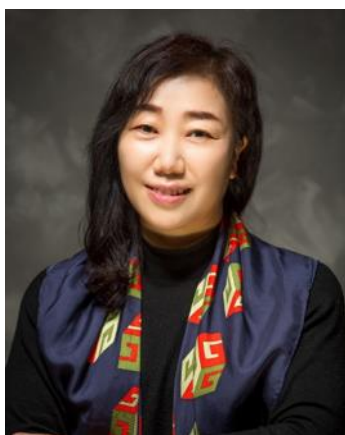
Stéphanie Lagoutte is a Senior Researcher at the Danish Institute for Human Rights. She holds a Doctoral degree in law from the University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne and a Ph.D. in Law from the University of Aarhus. She has worked and published about the European Court of Human Rights, the right to respect for family life, religious freedom, etc. Most of her recent work focuses on the duties and role of the state in human rights protection. She is the co-editor of two special issues on the State Actors of the National Human Rights System (Nordic Journal of Human Rights, 2019) and on Governmental Human Rights Focal Points (Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights, 2021). She teaches at the Global Campus' Arab Master on Democratisation and Human Rights since 2015. Her new research project focuses on human rights in exceptional times and looks into the response of international and domestic human rights mechanisms to public emergency situations. Stéphanie Lagoutte is the coordinator of the DIHR international research and analysis work and advises several programmes and projects of the DIHR for instance in the MENA region and in Eastern Europe.



Ms Fernanda Lapa

Executive Director of the Institute for Development and Human Rights (IDDH/Brazil)

Fernanda is the co-founder of the Institute for Development and Human Rights (@iddheducar), an NGO with ECOSOC consultative status, established in 2004. IDDH's core mission is to promote human rights education across Latin America, with particular emphasis in strengthening civic spaces through capacity-building on UN human rights mechanisms. IDDH coordinates the Brazilian UPR Coalition (Coletivo RPU Brasil) and also the innovative regional UPR Coalition from Latin America and Caribbean (Colectivo EPU América Latina y Caribe). Fernanda has authored some articles on the UPR and human rights education, including the guide "[UPR: A Practical Guide for Civil Society to Build National Coalitions](#)", available in 5 languages. A lawyer by profession, she holds a Master's degree in Law and a PhD in Education. Currently she is member of the Executive Board of the UPR Info from Geneva and holds the UNESCO Chair on Citizenship Education and Human Rights in Brazil. In recent years, she has been developing research and providing consulting services to government bodies and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), offering expert advice on the design and implementation of National Mechanisms for the Monitoring of International Obligations (NMIRFs/SIMOREs), with a specific focus on transparency, access to information, and civil society participation.



Dr Myunghee Lee

Research Director at Korea Human Rights Policy Institute

Dr Myunghee Lee is the Research Director at the Korea Human Right Policy Institute since 2019. In 2017, she earned a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Sciences from Technische Universität Dortmund in Germany.

Dr Lee possesses extensive expertise in human rights policy development and evaluation. Over the years, she has served as lead or joint researcher on numerous national and local projects, including the formulation and assessment of human rights action

plans for the National Assembly, Ministry of Justice (for NAP), multiple metropolitan (Seoul, Busan) and provincial governments (Gyeonggi-do, Chungcheongnam-do). In addition to extensive policy research, Dr Lee actively contributes to national human

rights discourse, serving as a panelist and presenter at forums addressing the development and coordination of action plans for human rights at both central and local levels.



Dr Wen-cheng Lin

Commissioner of the National Human Rights, Taiwan (ROC)

Dr. Wen-cheng Lin is currently a commissioner of National Human Rights Commission and a member (ombudsman) of the Control Yuan. Before he was nominated by President Tsai Ingwen and approved by the Legislative Yuan to serve as a Control Yuan member since August 1, 2000, Dr. Lin was the Distinguished Professor in the Institute of China and Asia-Pacific Studies and Director of the Center for National Policy Studies, National Sun Yat-sen

University (NSYSU), as well as Chairman of the Taiwan Society of Japan Studies. Dr. Lin was Senior Adviser (a government ministerial-level position) to President Chen Shui-bian in the National Security Council in 2003-2004, President of the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy (TFD) in 2006-2010, and President of the Foundation on Asia-Pacific Peace Studies in 2016-2020. He served as Dean of NSYSU's College of Social Sciences in 2006-2007 & 2009-2015. Before joining the National Security Council in 2003, Dr. Lin was Director for both the Institute of Mainland China Studies and Sun Yat-sen America Center, National Sun Yat-sen University. Dr. Lin earned his MALD and Ph.D. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University in the United States.



Mr Dmytro Lubinets

Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

On July 1, 2022, by Resolution No. 2353-IX of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine, he was appointed the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman). In 2019, he was elected to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the IX convocation as a non-party MP for the 60th district (Donetsk region). Dmytro Lubinets was elected Chairman of the Committee on Human Rights, De-occupation and Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied

Territories in Donetsk, Luhansk regions and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the City of Sevastopol, National Minorities and Interethnic Relations.

In 2014, he was elected the Member of Ukrainian Parliament for the 60th district. He took the position of Secretary of the Committee on Regulation and Organization of Work of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. Member of the Permanent Delegation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the Parliamentary Assembly of the EU — Eastern Neighbors (PA EURONEST).

In 2010, he was elected member of the Volnovakha City Council of the 6th convocation for the 9th majority district, held the position of the secretary of the Land Commission. He started working in 1996 as a manager of work with corporate clients of the production and commercial small cooperative enterprise "ATT", where he worked until 1998. From 2005 to 2014, he was a private entrepreneur.



Mr Yuriy Lysenko

Representative of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights in the United Kingdom

Yuriy Lysenko is a distinguished human rights advocate, lawyer, philanthropist, and public figure dedicated to representing and protecting the rights of Ukrainian citizens in the United Kingdom. In his official capacity as the overseas representative of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, he provides free legal consultations, fosters collaboration with British ombudsmen and human rights institutions, and engages in parliamentary, diplomatic, and

community-based initiatives.

A leading voice of the Ukrainian diaspora in the UK, Yuriy is the founder of the London Business Club, which unites and supports Ukrainian entrepreneurs, and the Director of Conservative Friends of Ukraine, an organization strengthening UK–Ukraine relations and enhancing the voice of the Ukrainian community within the UK's Conservative Party.

He is a regular participant in key international forums, including the World Economic Forum in Davos, the Oxford–Ukraine Summits, the Ukraine Recovery Conference, and parliamentary events, contributing to high-level discussions on Ukraine's resilience, recovery, and global partnerships.

Yuriy Lysenko is also a partner and co-founder of Sterling Law, a prominent London-based firm recognized by The Legal 500. He heads the firm's immigration and human rights division, providing strategic legal guidance while championing the rights and welfare of Ukrainians abroad.



Ms Clare MacGillivray

Director of Making Rights Real, Scotland

Clare is a community worker, activist and campaigner for human rights.

She is a founding member and the Director of Making Rights Real - a small and mighty charity in Scotland that supports communities to use human rights as a tool for change. She is a passionate community development practitioner, with over 25 years' experience of working

with communities campaigning for equality and social justice.

Clare is the driving force behind the [Fearless](#) podcasts and an [Atlantic Fellow for Economic and Social Equity](#) with London School of Economics. As member of the International Committee with the International Association for Community Development, in 2019 she chaired the World Community Development Conference and was awarded



Ms Géraldine Mattioli-Zeltner

Adviser in the Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

Géraldine Mattioli-Zeltner works as Adviser in the Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights since 2016. In this capacity, she organised in 2017 a workshop convened by then Commissioner Nils Muižnieks on the implementation and impact of National Human Rights Action Plans. Before joining the

Council of Europe, Géraldine Mattioli-Zeltner was Advocacy Director for the International Justice program of Human Rights Watch (2004-2016) and prior to that she worked for Field Diplomacy Initiative, a Belgian NGO. Géraldine Mattioli-Zeltner is a graduate of the European Masters' programme in Human Rights and Democratisation and of the Institute for Political Studies (Sciences Po) in Aix-en-Provence.



Professor Pádraig McAuliffe

Professor in Law, University of Liverpool

Pádraig McAuliffe is a graduate of University College Cork (BCL and PhD). He joined the School of Law and Social Justice at the University of Liverpool in 2013 and has been a professor since 2018. He is the author of two books, *Transitional Justice and Rule of Law Reconstruction: A Contentious Relationship* (Routledge, 2013) and *Transformative Transitional Justice and the Malleability of Post-Conflict States* (2017). He is an associate editor of the *International Journal of Transitional*

Justice. His interests include transitional justice, the historic institutionalism of socio-economic rights, and justice sector reform.



Judge Emeritus Joseph Zammit McKeon

Parliamentary Ombudsman of Malta

Judge Joseph Zammit McKeon started his distinguished career as a litigation lawyer in 1982. He was subsequently appointed as the first President of the Commission for the Promotion of Occupational Health and Safety following the Occupational Health and Safety (Promotion) Act

1994—a role he held until the introduction of the Occupational Health and Safety Authority Act in 2001. During this period, he also served as a lecturer and examiner in Occupational Health and Safety Legislation at the University of Malta until 2009.

In 2001, he was appointed the first Chairman of the Malta Transport Authority, and in 2006, he became the inaugural Chairman of the Board of Appeal from Awards on Tenders by Local Councils. His judicial career began on 28 January 2009 when he was appointed Judge of the Superior Courts, serving in the First Hall Civil Court (including as a Court of Constitutional Jurisdiction), the Constitutional Court, and the Court of Appeal and Criminal Appeal in their Superior Jurisdictions. From 9 April 2018 until his retirement on 19 March 2021, he served as President of the Civil Court (Commercial Section).

Following his retirement from the bench, he held key roles, including Chairman of the Malta Maritime Forum and serving on various boards, such as the Malta Business Registry Advisory Board.

On 8 March 2023, he was unanimously elected as the fourth Parliamentary Ombudsman. As Parliamentary Ombudsman of Malta, he serves as Secretary General and Treasurer of the Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen. He has also been elected as Director of the International Ombudsman Institute's European Regional Board and its global Board of Directors.



Charlie McMillan

Co-chair of SNAP 2 Leadership Panel, Scotland

Charlie McMillan (MSc (Social Work), MA (Psychology), CQSW, PGCSSM) is the Interim Director of the Human Rights Consortium Scotland, which is Scotland's civil society network organisation and a human rights defender which influence on the promotion of human rights compliance and incorporation.

As part of his role at the Consortium he is one of three co-chairs of the SNAP 2 Leadership Panel. He joined the Leadership Panel in 2022 as part of the refresh of the Panel to facilitate the development of SNAP 2 (2023 – 2030). His key focus is on human rights realisation for individuals and communities.

Charlie joined the Human Rights Consortium after 5 years as Chief Executive at the Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities. During his time there he founded and was Chair of Restraint Reduction Scotland, and founded and was Co-Chair of the Scottish Gender-Based Violence and Learning Disability Steering Group.



Ms Brunilda Menalla

Adviser at the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination CPD Albania

Brunilda Menalla is an Adviser and practitioner of the law, with experience in public administration and human rights institutions. She has an academic university background mainly focused on Politics, Gender and Human Rights.

Ms Menalla works for the independent public institution in Albania, specifically responsible for guaranteeing and ensuring effective implementation of the principle of equality and non-discrimination in Albania. Ms Menalla monitors instances of discrimination, and assessing the admissibility of new cases to the court regarding complaints. She is involved in human rights advocacy for addressing gender and anti-discrimination issues, handling cases of workplace harassment, raising awareness about the importance of gender equality in Albania, emphasizing the need for society changes, and better enforcement of legal frameworks to ensure equal rights and protections for all citizens. Additionally, Ms Menalla has contributed to initiatives combating cyber bullying and discrimination in employment, advocating for institutional reforms to enhance social equality. She has conducted various reports and studies for international organizations to that effect.



Dr Jolita Miliuvienė

Parliamentary Ombudsperson of Lithuania

Dr. Jolita Miliuvienė is a researcher and an associate professor of constitutional law and comparative constitutional law at the Institute of Public Law in Mykolas Romeris university Law School in Vilnius, Lithuania. She is also a Parliamentary Ombudsperson of Lithuania for Human Rights. Previously, she worked at the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania, for more than fifteen years, lastly as the legal adviser to the President of the Constitutional Court. She also was a liaison officer for the Venice Commission. She was a national expert in research concerning Covid-19 legal regulation. Her research interests are: constitutional justice, constitutional adjudication, human rights, comparative constitutional law, soft law.



Professor Valsamis Mitsilegas
Professor of European and Global Law
and Dean of the School of Law and Social
Justice, University of Liverpool

Valsamis Mitsilegas is Professor of European and Global Law and Dean of the School of Law and Social Justice at the University of Liverpool. He is also Co-Director of the Liverpool EU Law Research Centre (EU Law at Liverpool). His research explores the development of and intersection between European and Global Law, including migration, criminal and security law, and their impact on human rights, justice and the rule

of law. He is Co-Coordinator of the [European Criminal Law Academic Network \(ECLAN\)](#) and a member of the Management Board of the International Research Network on Migration and Crime (CINETs). He is currently serving for a fifth term as a member of the European Commission's Expert Group on Criminal Policy and has been appointed in 2025 as member of the High Level Forum on the Future of EU Criminal Justice. He is the author of 11 books and over 150 articles and chapters and the curator of over 20 edited volumes. Recent books include Lawless Borders. The Rule of Law Deficit in European Immigration Control (with Guild and Vavoula, Bristol UP, 2025) the second edition of EU Criminal Law (Hart, 2022: [EU Criminal Law, 2nd edition](#)), and Policing Humanitarianism (with Carrera, Allsopp and Vosyliute., Hart, 2019).



Ms Belén Morra A.

Human Rights Director, Human Rights
General Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Paraguay

Belén Morra Alvarenga is a Paraguayan professional with extensive experience in law, diplomacy, and human rights. She holds a Law Degree (2005) and a Public Notary Degree (2007) from the National University of Asunción, as well as a Master's in

Government and Public Management from American University of Paraguay (2020), graduating SUMMA CUM LAUDE. Belén is fluent in English, German, and Spanish, and has a background in diplomacy, having entered the Diplomatic and Consular Career through the first Paraguay's national competitive exam and merit-based selection in 2007.

Belén's career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay spans various key roles. Since 2024, she has served as the Director of Human Rights in the General Unit of

Human Rights. Prior positions include coordination of general affairs and external relations at the Diplomatic and Consular Academy "Carlos Antonio López," as well as leadership roles in departments focused on international human rights and monitoring decisions from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Additionally, she has served as Consul of First Class at the Paraguayan Consulate General in Málaga, Spain. She has contributed significantly to human rights initiatives, including her work on the First National Human Rights Plan for Paraguay and her leadership in developing the "System of Monitoring International Human Rights Recommendations" (SIMORE), collaborating with countries such as Uruguay, Honduras, and Brazil. She has also been involved in the development of Paraguay's National Plan for Indigenous Peoples and continues to represent the country in various human rights networks and commissions, such as the National Refugee Commission (CONARE), among others.



Ms Lucy Mulvagh

Director of Policy, Research and Impact,
Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland
(the ALLIANCE)

Lucy Mulvagh is the Director of Policy, Research and Impact at the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE), Scotland's national third sector intermediary for health and social care, with a membership of over 3,600 people and organisations. Lucy has been at the ALLIANCE since 2016, overseeing a broad

portfolio that includes policy and public affairs, research, the Scottish Sensory Hub, the Health and Social Care Academy, special projects, impact and evaluation, and human rights. Prior to this, Lucy worked for international NGOs that work for and with minorities and indigenous peoples. Lucy sat on the Leadership Panel and co-chaired the Health and Social Care Action Group of SNAP 1, Scotland first NHRAP. In 2021-23, she was seconded as the inaugural Secretariat Lead for SNAP 2, Scotland's second NHRAP. During this time she helped establish the Secretariat, recruit and induct members of the independent SNAP Leadership Panel, and supported the Panel to review, revise, finalise and publish SNAP 2. Lucy has an MA in Human Rights from Essex University, is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, and a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations. She is also the Convenor of Engender, Scotland's feminist membership organisation, and Vice Chair of the Human Rights Consortium Scotland, the civil society network to defend and promote human rights in Scotland.



Dr Michael O' Flaherty

Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe

Dr Michael O' Flaherty is Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe since April 2024. An Irish human rights lawyer, he has been Director of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (2015-2023), a member of the UN Human Rights Committee (2004-2012), Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human

Rights Commission (2011-2013), Professor of Human Rights Law at the universities of Nottingham and Galway and held various field and HQ posts with the UN.

Ms Yoojin Oh

Director, National Forensic Hospital, Ministry of Justice, South Korea

Yoojin Oh is the Director of General Affairs at the National Forensic Hospital under the Ministry of Justice, Republic of Korea. Previously, she served as the Director of the Human Rights Policy Division, where she led the drafting of the third National Action Plan for Human Rights, oversaw the preparation of the Human Rights Policy Framework Act, and worked on advancing the Anti-Discrimination Act. She also played a central role in drafting and coordinating Korea's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) reports for three cycles and represented the government in various international human rights mechanisms. Prior to that, she was a Human Rights Officer at the National Human Rights Commission of Korea (2003–2009), contributing to legislative reforms and policy recommendations in alignment with international human rights standards. She also worked as a Project Manager at the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions. Yoojin holds a Master's in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School, Tufts University, and a Bachelor's in Communications from Yonsei University.



Ms Nanni Olsson

Senior Specialist on Fundamental and Human Rights in the Public Law Unit of the Ministry of Justice of Finland

Nanni Olsson works as a Senior Specialist on fundamental and human rights in the Public Law Unit of the Ministry of Justice of Finland. She is part of the team responsible for the preparation and implementation of Finland's national action plans on fundamental and human rights. She has also played a key role in preparing and implementing fundamental and human rights indicators. She represents Finland

at the EU Council's Working Party on Fundamental Rights, Citizens' Rights and Free Movement of Persons and engages in human rights work within the Council of Europe.

In addition to fundamental and human rights, Nanni's tasks include other expert and legislative drafting tasks in the field of public law, including a legislative drafting project regarding the constitutional guarantees for the independence of the judiciary. She also supports the legislative and program projects of other ministries, especially from the perspective of fundamental rights.

Nanni has a Master of Laws degree from the University of Helsinki.



Dr Nadire Özdemir

Ankara University Faculty of Law, Türkiye

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nadire Özdemir is a graduate of the Faculty of Law at Ankara University. She completed both her Master's and Doctorate degrees in Public Law at the Institute of Social Sciences, Ankara University. Dr. Özdemir has also undertaken research as a visiting academic at the Faculty of Law, University of Oxford, and at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz. Her scholarly work encompasses a range of topics, including the philosophy and sociology of law, gender and law, law and culture,

human rights and access to justice of vulnerable groups. Additionally, she has made significant contributions to various projects addressing these critical issues.



Ms Nareeluc Pairchaiyapoom

Director of the Department of Rights and Liberties Protection International Human Rights Division Ministry of Justice, Thailand

Nareeluc Pairchaiyapoom is the Director of the International Human Rights Division of the Rights and Liberties Protection Department, Ministry of Justice Thailand. As a seasoned civil servant of the Ministry of Justice, a lead government agency responsible for drafting and pushing forward implementation of National Human Rights Plan, Nareeluc has extensive

experience in working with representatives from governments, civil societies and domestic and international organizations on a wide range of human rights issues. She is also widely acclaimed for her expertise in policies relating to legal aid, gender diversity, anti-torture and enforced disappearances, and business and human rights issues.

Nareeluc was awarded the “Thailand’s Best Government Officer Award” in 2013 and the “Rising Star of the Year Award 2017” as presented by the prestigious Associations of Thai Government Scholarship Students. She holds an LLB in Law and LLM in Private and Business Law from Chulalongkorn University, a Master’s degree in Theory and Practice of Human Rights from Essex University, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Human Rights Law from Nottingham University.



Dr Pietro de Perini

University Human Rights Centre A. Papisca, University of Padova, Italy

Pietro de Perini is a researcher and assistant professor of International Relations at the University of Padova. He is the coordinator of the human rights curriculum of the international Ph.D programme in Human Rights, Society and Multi-level Governance and the managing editor of the open access journal *Peace Human Rights Governance* (<https://phrg.padovauniversitypress.it/>)



Ms Ana Peti

Director at the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination, Albania

Ana Peti is a finance professional with over 13 years of experience in both the private and public sectors, specializing in financial management, strategic planning, and resource optimization. She holds a Master of Science in Banking and Finance and has built a stable career in leading financial operations and supporting institutional development.

In recent years, Ana has transitioned to the public sector, where she currently works at a national human rights institution, Commissioner for Protection Against Discrimination. Her role focuses on strengthening financial governance, transparency, and accountability – aligning financial practices with the principles of human rights and democratic integrity. Ana has also gained academic experience as a lecturer at the University, where she has taught finance-related courses, further enriching her professional portfolio with academic contributions to the next generation of finance professionals. She has participated in numerous national and international training sessions and conferences in the fields of finance and human resources, and is certified as a Trainer of Trainers (ToT). Additionally, she is certified as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), which further strengthens her professional expertise in the financial field. Her ability to bridge the technical and human aspects of institutional development makes her a valuable contributor to initiatives promoting sustainable and inclusive approaches. With her interdisciplinary expertise and active involvement in both the private sector and civil society, Ana brings a unique perspective to discussions on finance, institutional reform, and social impact.



Dr Danielle Reeder

University Teacher in Law, University of Liverpool/Manchester

Geopolitical Affairs and International Security Researcher

Research Assistant for Network on NHRAPs Project

Danielle Reeder is a security and defence scholar specialising in UK/European strategy, regionalism, and military alliances. She recently completed her doctoral thesis on collective security, alliance security, and Brexit at the University of Liverpool.

She completed her Master's in Security and International Law with distinction at the University of Manchester, and completed a Bachelor's in Chinese and World Politics at Hamilton College in New York, USA.

She has worked part-time in military think tanks in Washington and London, and contributed as a MENA Regional Coordinator for the Journal on the Use of Force and International Law (JUFIL) Digest of State practice. She is an active member of the European Society of International Law, and has participated in EU/NATO legal training forums in Vilnius and Ljubljana. She teaches several law subjects, including human rights, at both Liverpool and Manchester. She is part of Liverpool's International Law and Human Rights Unit. Danielle is a D.C./South Carolinian native, and spent many formative years living in Beijing and Hangzhou. She speaks English and Mandarin, and is working on the Greek and French.

Ms Elinor Puzey

Senior Associate - Human Rights (Wales)
Equality and Human Rights Commission, UK

Elinor leads on human rights for the Wales team at the EHRC. Prior to joining the Commission, she worked in the third sector, primarily for violence against women and girls organisations. She has worked at Welsh Women's Aid and the NSPCC in Wales on policy and public affairs. During her time at Standing Together Against Domestic Violence in West London, she worked on the housing sector response to domestic abuse. Her first role in the women's sector was supporting women and children in a refuge in South London.



Professor Giorgio Repetto

Professor of Constitutional Law,
Department of Law, Università di
Perugia, Italy

Giorgio Repetto (1978) is Professor of Constitutional Law at the Law Department of Università di Perugia (Italy), where he teaches Italian and European Constitutional Law. He is currently responsible of a research grant funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Research on "Framing National Human Rights Institutions: European and Comparative Interplays (FRAME)".

He authored books in Italian on fundamental rights' protection before European courts (Argomenti comparativi e diritti fondamentali in Europa, 2011), on the transformations of judicial review in Italy (Il canone dell'incidentalità costituzionale, 2017) and on a comparison between the Italian and the German models of judicial review (Studi sulla giustizia costituzionale in Germania, 2024).

An editor, among others, of The Constitutional Relevance of the ECHR in Domestic and European Law (Intersentia, 2013), his contributions in English have been published in German Law Journal, European Constitutional Law Review and in European Journal of Social Security. From 2020 to 2025 he has been law clerk at the Italian Constitutional Court.



Ms Meg de Ronde

Tatau-Uruora | Kāwanatanga Chief
Executive at the New Zealand Human
Rights Commission (Te Kāhui Tika
Tangata)

Meg de Ronde is the Tatau-Uruora | Kāwanatanga Chief Executive at the New Zealand Human Rights Commission (Te Kāhui Tika Tangata). She is in a shared leadership structure at the Commission alongside a Māori leader who works in partnership with Meg's role. Meg's previous work includes Amnesty International Regional Director for East Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific (with

responsibility for human rights work in 19 countries) as well as a number of years as the Executive Director for Amnesty International New Zealand. Meg's background is in investigations, research, advocacy, campaigning, and academia. Currently Meg is the Asia Pacific voting member on the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institution's Sub-Committee on Accreditation. Over the last two years Meg has had the privilege of assessing the compliance with the Paris Principles of over 40 national human rights institutions (NHRIs) from around the world. The first National Plan of Action for Human Rights in New Zealand is now over 20 years old and Meg is part of the team that is developing the next iteration of the plan for the New Zealand NHRI.



Dr Jan Willem Rossem
Coordinator of Fundamental Rights
Department, The Netherlands

Jan Willem van Rossem is a senior legal advisor on fundamental rights, working in the legal department of the Dutch Ministry of Interior Affairs and Kingdom Relations. He holds a PhD in constitutional law (University of Groningen 2014) and graduated in Dutch law in 2006 at the same university. As a legal advisor on fundamental rights at the Dutch Ministry of Interior

Affairs and Kingdom Relations, Jan Willem focuses on a wide variety of topics and coordinates several legislative, policy and advisory processes related to fundamental rights.



Ms Thalia Kehoe Rowden
Co-Executive Director Human Rights
Measurement Initiative (HRMI), New Zealand

Thalia Kehoe Rowden is a human rights leader based in Aotearoa New Zealand. She has worked as a Baptist minister in New Plymouth, New Zealand; with Partners Relief & Development in South East Asia; and as a plain-English legal resource writer for the Wellington Community Law Centre; before joining HRMI in 2018. She is a disabled Pākehā New Zealander with English, Scottish, and Irish ancestry, and has two children.



Ms Anna Saarela
Ministerial Adviser in the Public Law Unit of
the Ministry of Justice of Finland

Anna Saarela works as a ministerial adviser in the Public Law Unit of the Finnish Ministry of Justice, where she coordinates national fundamental and human rights policy. Her responsibilities include preparing and implementing national human rights action plans, and she has played a key role in developing national human rights indicators as part of the third national human rights action plan. In addition

to human rights policy, Anna's duties encompass constitutional law expertise and supporting legislative projects, particularly from a human rights perspective.

Anna graduated with a Master of Laws from the University of Helsinki in 2012 and has been with the Ministry of Justice since 2016. Her previous roles have included working on democracy and electoral issues, as well as linguistic rights.

In her free time, Anna enjoys spending time with her two young children and loves to dive into new DIY projects.

Ms Margit Sarv

Acting Head of NHRI activities at the Office of the Chancellor of Justice
in Estonia

Ms Margit Sarv is the Acting Head of NHRI activities at the Office of the Chancellor of Justice in Estonia. She has worked a long time on protection and promotion of rights of the child and gender equality. She has studied Political Science at the Central European University and University of Tartu.



Ms Sanne Staaltjens
Legal Advisor for the Ministry of the Interior
and Kingdom Relations, The Netherlands

Sanne Staaltjens is a lawyer specializing in fundamental rights. She works at the Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, within the department responsible for constitutional affairs. As a part of the team dedicated to fundamental rights, her work primarily involves the international and European dimension of these issues. In this capacity, she is responsible for providing legal and policy

advice on matters with regard to fundamental rights, as well as contributing to legislative processes. More specifically, her work includes participating in EU Council Working Parties, maintaining relations with the EU Agency for Fundamental rights and overseeing reporting obligations under United Nations human rights treaties. While her focus is primarily on the international and European matters, she is also involved in national human rights issues, including work related to the Dutch Human Rights Institute.



Professor Paolo De Stefani
University Human Rights Centre A. Papisca,
University of Padova, Italy

Paolo De Stefani is a researcher and aggregate professor of international law at the University of Padua. He lectures at the University of Padua and at the Catholic University of Lyon and is national director of the European master's degree in Human Rights and Democratization (Venice).



Mr Rajendra Thapa
Joint Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister and
Council of Ministers, Singh Durbar, Kathamandu,
Nepal

Since 1990, Mr Rajendra Thapa has worked as a permanent government employee for Government of Nepal, with various responsibilities. For almost six years, he worked at the Parliament Secretariat of Nepal. Then, he joined the judicial service as a court officer, working in Supreme Court of Nepal, as well as the appellate and

district courts for almost fourteen years.

From here, Mr Thapa began working in the Ministry of Law and Justice as an Under Secretary (Law) and in the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nepal Law Commission and Office of the Company Registrar almost for nine years. Subsequently, he began working in the Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers of Lumbini Province as a Secretary of law for five years.

He obtained a Masters of Laws (LLM) in International Legal Studies with a Specialisation in International Human Rights Law from American University, Washington College of Law, Washington D.C., and completed a Masters of Public Administration (MPA) in e-Government from Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, South Korea.

Since December 2023, Mr Thapa now works in the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers of the Government of Nepal as a Joint Secretary, Head of the Human Rights and International Treaty Division.

Mr Thapa has also enjoyed the opportunity of engaging in the works of Human Rights Council and OHCHR as a fellow for three months in Geneva, participating in various international seminars and workshops.



Dr Christos Tsevas
Human Rights Officer (Legal Advisor) at the
Greek National Commission for Human
Rights

Dr. Christos Tsevas is a Human Rights Officer (Legal Advisor) at the Greek National Commission for Human Rights (2024-present). He is an Adjunct Lecturer in International Human Rights Law and International Refugee Law at Democritus University of Thrace - Law Faculty (2021-present). Formerly,

Christos was a Project Transition Analyst at the International Organization for Migration/UN Migration (2022-2023), a UNHCR Associate Asylum Expert (2017-2021), and a Legal Officer at the Greek Asylum Appeals Committees, designated by the GNCHR (2013-2016). He has served as a Teaching Associate at the Faculty of Law of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in International Human Rights Law and Artificial Intelligence (2024-2025), as a Lecturer in International and European Law at the Hellenic Open University (2024-2025), as a Lecturer at the Greek National School of Public Administration and Local Government (2024), as a Consultant at the International Institute of Humanitarian Law for courses of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law (2022-2023), and as an EPLO Academic Coordinator of the Executive Course on Migration (2021). Christos holds a PhD in Human Rights Law (University of Strasbourg, DUTh). He has also teaching experience in EU Law and Policies, Constitutional Law, Institutions and Policies of Human Rights Protection, Artificial Intelligence, Open Data and Data Protection and he has published in these fields. Christos is an attorney-at-law with expertise in international and European human rights, public, refugee, and migration law.



Ms Mariia Ushchapivska
Deputy Head of the International Cooperation and European Integration Department – Secretariat Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

Ms Ushchapivska was born in the city of Kyiv, Ukraine. She is a trained lawyer, and international expert. Ms Ushchapivska holds a Master of Law from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, and a Pre LLM degree from Chicago Kent College

of Law, USA. She now serves as the Deputy Head of the International Cooperation and European Integration Department, as Head of the Unit for Cooperation with National Human Rights Institutions of the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights



Ms Yuyun Wahyuningrum
PhD Researcher, Erasmus University, The Netherlands

Executive Director of the ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights Representative of Indonesia to AICHR (2019-2024)

Ms. Wahyuningrum is the Executive Director of ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights (APHR) and a PhD researcher at Erasmus University, the Netherlands. She is also an Affiliated Researcher at the Asian Research Centre for Migration (ARCM), Chulalongkorn University.

From 2019 to 2024, she served two consecutive terms as Indonesia's Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and chaired the Commission in 2023. In July 2024, she joined the Asia Justice Coalition as a Board Member for the Women Leaders in International Justice and Accountability project and was appointed to serve as Scientific Committee for the 5th World Congress on Justice with Children (2025).

With over 25 years of experience, she has worked with the Human Rights Working Group (HRWG), Oxfam International, FORUM-ASIA, Child Workers in Asia, Solidarity Center, and Indonesia's National Commission on Child Protection. From 2015 to 2017, she led the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument on Human Rights Facility. In 2013, she founded Weaving Women's Voices in ASEAN (WEAVE), a feminist network advocating for women's and girls' rights in Southeast Asia, where

she continues to serve as an advisor. Her achievements include being named Mahidol Outstanding Alumna 2024, International Democracy Goodwill Ambassador (2021–2022), and one of Indonesia's #100WomenWiki WomenUnlimited Experts (2018).

She regularly contributes to The Jakarta Post, Bangkok Post, The Nation, and Talking ASEAN. Her latest academic publication, "A Decade of Institutionalizing Human Rights in ASEAN: Progress and Challenges," appeared in the Journal of Human Rights (2021).



Mr Michael Windfuhr
Deputy Director of the German Institute for Human Rights & member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Since 2011, Mr Windfuhr has been Deputy Director of the German Institute for Human Rights. He has been a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights since 2016, and a Chair of the Business and Human Rights Working Group of the Multistakeholder Platform of the CSR Forum of the Federal Government for the implementation of the topic of business and human rights in Germany

since 2017. Mr Windfuhr is also a member of the independent complaint's mechanism of the development banks of Germany, France and the Netherlands (DEG, FMO, Proparco). Previously, he worked as head of the human rights team at Brot für die Welt (2006-2010) and held various positions at FIAN International between 1986 and 2006. Michael Windfuhr studied political science, German studies, geography and philosophy in Heidelberg.



Ms Melissa Wood
Project Manager and Researcher, Legislative Options Working Group (Wales)

Melissa project manages and carries out research for Welsh Government's Human Rights Legislative Options Working Group (LOWG). LOWG is a sub-committee of the Welsh Government's Human Rights Advisory Group. Welsh Government has committed to incorporating the UN Convention of the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of

Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) into devolved Welsh Law during this Government term (2021-2026). LOWG has been charged with researching and advising the Welsh Government on the legislative options to achieve this.

Previously, Melissa spent six years at the Equality and Human Rights Commission as the Human Rights lead for Wales. She was part of the team that developed and launched the EHRC's Human Rights Tracker, an online tool that helps to track how well the UK is putting its human rights duties into practice. Prior to the EHRC, Melissa was the co-Director of the Women's Equality Network (WEN) Wales – a membership body of individuals and organisations working towards a Wales free from gender discrimination. WEN uses CEDAW to advocate for women's rights. Melissa has an MSc (Equality and Diversity) from Cardiff University.



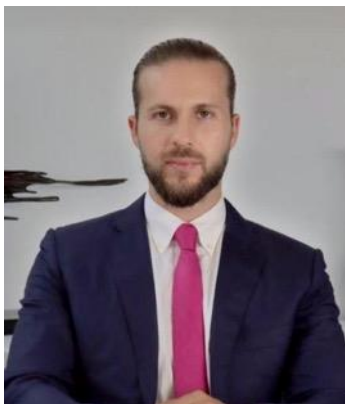
Ms Wu Tzu-hsien

Section Chief at the Department of Human Rights and Transitional Justice, Executive Yuan, Taiwan (ROC)

Wu Tzu-hsien is Section Chief at the Department of Human Rights and Transitional Justice, Executive Yuan, Taiwan. She leads the development and coordination of key national human rights initiatives, including the National Human Rights Action Plan, the implementation of the Business and Human Rights framework, and the design, delivery and evaluation of human rights training for civil servants.

From 2006 to 2020, Wu worked for the Control Yuan, Taiwan's national ombudsman institution, where she focused on promoting good governance and safeguarding individual rights. In 2020, she joined Taiwan's National Human Rights Commission, contributing to the advancement of human rights policies and monitoring mechanisms.

Wu specializes in integrating human rights principles into public administration and is committed to strengthening Taiwan's human rights governance in line with international standards.



Mr Arturo Guerrero Zazueta

Director General of Human Rights, Gender Equality and International Affairs of the Federal Judiciary Council in Mexico

Mr. Arturo Guerrero Zazueta holds a law degree from the Escuela Libre de Derecho and a master's degree in legal argumentation from the University of Alicante. He worked as a lawyer at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and was a consultant to the Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American

Commission on Human Rights. In the past 12 years, he has served in different high-level positions within the Federal Judiciary, such as clerk in Mexico's Supreme Court of Justice and more recently as Executive Secretary of the Plenary of the Federal Judiciary Council, a body in charge of preserving and strengthening the autonomy, independence and impartiality of the jurisdictional bodies and administrative areas of the Judiciary. Currently, he is the General Director of Human Rights, Gender Equality and International Affairs, a position from which he promotes gender equality and human rights' policies to improve the working conditions in the institution and foster an inclusive and respectful work environment within the Judiciary. Under his leadership, programs and strategies are implemented to ensure that the principles of equity and human rights are fundamental to the organizational culture, while also promoting the training and awareness of staff in these crucial areas.



Dr Domenico Zipoli, PhD

Senior Research Fellow and Project Coordinator, Geneva Human Rights Platform of the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

Dr. Domenico Zipoli leads projects at the Geneva Human Rights Platform, focusing on leveraging digital tools to enhance human rights and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) monitoring. He completed his PhD at the University of Oslo, researching the cooperation between United

Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies and National Human Rights Institutions. His professional experience includes roles at the European Union's Fundamental Rights Agency, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, and national human rights institutions in Mongolia and Ecuador. Dr. Zipoli holds an LLM in International Human Rights Law from Lund University and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Exeter. His expertise is further enriched by research stints at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Australian Institute for Human Rights.