

# The 2024 G20 Interfaith Forum and PaRD Annual Forum on Religion and Sustainable Development

# List of Participants

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August 19–23, 2024

“Leave No One Behind:  
The Well-Being of the Planet and  
Its People”

The program is organized by the participant’s country.

Please realize that if a picture or bio is missing, we will happily add it to the directory if you send the information to Dallin Jenkins at [dallin\\_jenkins@byu.edu](mailto:dallin_jenkins@byu.edu). This list of participants will be available on the website after the Forum as well.

Special Guest Speaker: Hon. Mary Robinson, Chair of the Elders, former President of Ireland, and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights



Mary Robinson is a global leader on the most critical issues facing the contemporary world, including inter alia women’s equality, peacebuilding, human dignity, and climate justice. A founding member of the Elders, she was appointed Chair in November 2018, working to promote global peace and ethical leadership. She was elected Irish President in 1990 and served for seven years as a principled and transformative leader who fought for equality and women’s rights. She was the first Irish head of state to make official visits to Britain, as well as regularly visiting Northern Ireland. She was the first head of state to visit Somalia following the crisis there in 1992 and brought global media attention to the suffering of Rwandans as the first Head of State to visit the country after the 1994 genocide. As UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (1997-2002), Mary Robinson integrated human rights into the United Nations system and became renowned as an outspoken voice dedicated to investigating and exposing human rights abuses across the world. She founded Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative, which aimed to put human rights standards at the heart of global governance and to ensure that the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable are addressed on the global stage. In 1998 she was elected as Chancellor, Trinity College, University of Dublin. She co-founded the Council of Women World Leaders in 1996, a network that mobilizes women leaders at the highest levels to promote democracy and gender equality. She is a member and former president of the Club of Madrid. Among her many other leadership roles, she is a Board Member of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation. Among many awards, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama in 2009.

# Argentina



## Rev Juan Cruz Cellammare

### **Argentina | Presidente, Alianza Evangelica Latina**

Argentino radicado en Paraguay 🇵🇷. Pdte. de la Asociación Vuelve a Soñar y la Fundación Funda Joven. Presidente de la Red Chaqueña de Comunicaciones (medios de comunicación nacional TV y Radio) Actual presidente de la Alianza Evangélica Latina (conformado por 22 países miembros) Escritor de la prestigiosa casa editorial Unilit. Comunicador, Conferencista Internacional. Pastor y Evangelista.



## Daniela Chavez

### **Argentina | Dirección de Cultos Gobierno de Salta - Argentina**

Daniela Chávez has been working as Director of Worship, a religious affairs office of Salta Government, a north province of Argentina, since 2016. She is responsible for advising on religious affairs to members and policy makers from the local government and to be the link between faith-based organizations and local state. One of the main objectives of the office's work is the design and implementation of public policies aimed at strengthening respect and recognition of religious diversity. Between 2016 and 2021 she coordinated the work with UNCHR, (UN Refugee Agency) in order to guarantee the socio-economic inclusion and protection of refugees and migrants in Salta. Daniela has a degree in international relations from the Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires and a Diploma in Religious Diversity, Public Space and Interculturality from Buenos Aires National University. She is a member of the KAICIID Alumni of the 2019 International Fellows cohort, authoring her book "A Look at Religious Diversity in Salta" as part of her interreligious dialogue initiative as a KAICIID Fellow.



## María del Milagro Dallacaminá

### **Argentina | IRD Representative, Focolare Movement**

2021-2024: Representative for IRD in the Focolare Movement (Cono Sur) 2016. KAICIID International Fellows Programme 2016. Kaiciid Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue. 2015. Diploma in Social Innovation. UPEACE Centre for Executive Education. United Nations mandated University for Peace, San José de Costa Rica (Virtual). 2013. Post-Graduate Certificate in Social Innovation Management. Amani Institute, Nairobi, Kenya. 2012. Post-Graduate in Mediation and Conflict Resolution: Ministry of Justice of the Argentinian Nation. 2005. Degree in International Relations. Catholic University of Salta. Thesis: "The universality of human rights: a view from cultural diversity".



## Dr. Juan Gregorio Navarro Floria

### **Argentina | Vice President, Consejo Argentino para la Libertad Religiosa - CALIR**

Juan G. Navarro Floria is graduated with honors from the Law School of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Argentina, where he teaches Civil law and Ecclesiastical Law; and doctorate cum laude in Law from the Complutense University (Spain). He was Chief of Staff of the Argentine Secretary of Religious Affairs; is currently Vicepresident of the Argentine Council of Religious Freedom; and founder and former president of the Latin American Consortium for Religious Freedom. He is a founder and past member of the Steering Committee of the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies (ICLARS), and a member of the Civil Law Institute of the National Academy of Law and Social Sciences (Buenos Aires). He is on the editorial or academic board of many scientific publications in various countries. He has published 14 books, 30 book chapters and dozens of scientific articles in many countries. His fields of research are Law and Religion, Religious Freedom, Personal Rights and Education.



## Pbro. Raúl Frega

### **Argentina | Párroco, Iglesia Católica - Parroquia Espíritu Santo - ISMI**

Sacerdote (2007). Profesor en Ciencias Sagradas y Filosofía. (2007) Párroco de la Parroquia Espíritu Santo en Río Cuarto. Capellán del Grupo scouts parroquial (2016-actual) Director General del Instituto Superior María Inmaculada de Río Cuarto. (2015-actual) Asesor de la Comisión Diocesana de Ecumenismo y diálogo interreligioso. (2008-actual) Miembro del Equipo Diocesano para la protección de niños, niñas, adolescentes y adultos vulnerables de la Diócesis de Río Cuarto (2022-actual) Ha realizado la Diplomatura en Diplomatura en Diversidad Religiosa, Espacio Público y Interculturalidad en la UBA (2021) Becado internacional del Programa Fellows de KAICIID. Primera Cohorte Latinoamericana 2022. Desarrolló la capacitación "Puentes educativos" para formar docentes en el abordaje de la diversidad religiosa y cultural. (2022) Ha realizado la Diplomatura en Acompañamiento Espiritual Ignaciano en la UCC (2023)



## Melody Amal Khalil Kabalan

### **Argentina | President, Islam for Peace Institute Argentina**

Melody Amal Khalil Kabalan is the president of the Islam for Peace Institute focusing on peace, gender and interreligious dialogue. She is a podcaster, together with Barbara Zeifer, two friends from the muslim and jewish community talk about war, peace, society, travels, policy, love at " En tus Zapatos" podcast. She is involved with Religions For Peace and Women of Faith Networks. In 2015, she founded Afifa.org to change stereotypes about Muslim and Arab women. In her interfaith service she prepared many materials and activities according to: first aid, triage and palliative care support according to the islamic view with the interfaith community, hospitals and first aid organizations. In her private sector she is co-director of The Halal C. Argentina, a halal certification body which she is responsible of international affairs. Among multiple activities she was taking care of programs to prevent islamophobia between 2021-2023 in Argentina.



## Lic. Horacio Mesones

### **Argentina | Executive Director, CREAS / Alianza Interreligiosa para la Agenda 2030**

Born in Uruguay, currently based in Argentina. Member of the Methodist Church in Argentina. I have a degree in Sciences of Education, and postgraduate studies in practical theology, social policies and programs design and management, and education and new technologies. Through my pastoral work with students in educational institutions, I became involved with the Student Christian Movement, first as a regional secretary and later as the Chairperson of the World Student Christian Federation. Since 2005, I have been part of the CREAS team, initially as the coordinator of the training and advisory area, working with churches, ecumenical organizations, and community organizations, and since 2017 as the executive director of the organization.



#### Secretario de Culto, Francisco Sanchez

##### **Argentina | Secretario de Culto de la República Argentina, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto**

Francisco Sánchez es el actual Secretario de Culto de la Nación Argentina. Fue Diputado Nacional en el período 2019-2023; Concejal de la ciudad de Neuquén en el período 2015-2019; presidió el Concejo Deliberante de la Ciudad de Neuquén, fue Subsecretario de Coordinación de la Municipalidad de Neuquén. También tiene una vasta carrera como emprendedor y empresario. Su formación técnica en Recursos Humanos y tiene una Diplomatura en Derechos Humanos por la Universidad Austral. Es miembro del Board de la Red Internacional de Políticos por los Valores y miembro de la Red Incidamos de políticos iberoamericanos.



#### Dr h.c. Humberto Martin Shikiya

##### **Argentina | Vice President, CREAS - ACT Alliance**

Alek Barovic is a Montenegrin political scientist, historian, civil activist, and accomplished columnist. With a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Montenegro, he has pursued further studies as an Erasmus Mundus fellow, currently working towards a second Master's degree in International Humanitarian Action at the University College Dublin and the University of Warsaw. Alek has conducted research as a visiting scholar at the University College London and worked as a research intern at Genocide Watch. Alek shares his insights and knowledge with readers as a columnist for the oldest Montenegrin online media, Portal Analitika, where he offers thought-provoking commentary on political and social issues.



#### Abraham Skorka

##### **Argentina | Senior Research Fellow of Jewish Studies and Jewish-Catholic Relations, Georgetown University**

Abraham (Armando) Skorka, Ph.D. in Chemical Sciences (1979), Universidad de Buenos Aires; Rabbinical Ordination, Seminario Rabínico Latinoamericano (1973). Doctor Honoris Causa from The Jewish Theological Seminary of America (2011); Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina(2012); Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT(2013),Holy Family University, PA (2021), Saint Joseph's University, PA (2022), Trnava University (2023), The John Paul II University of Lublin (2023). Rabbi Emeritus of the Benei Tikva Congregation (1976-2018) and Rector Emeritus of the Seminario Rabínico Latinoamericano (1996-2017), Buenos Aires. Honored with The Eternal Light Award (2016), and the Jan Karski Eagle Award, 2017. University Professor, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia; Distinguished Visitor Professor Gratz College, Melrose Park, PA; Senior Research Fellow for Jewish Studies and Jewish-Catholic Relations, Georgetown University, Washington DC (2022- ). Author of many articles and several books.



#### Elias Szczytnicki

##### **Argentina | Regional Secretary General, Religions for Peace Latin America and the Caribbean**

Elias Szczytnicki has extensive and distinguished experience in inter-religious relations. Since 2004, he has served as Regional Secretary General for Latin America and the Caribbean at Religions for Peace and Secretary General of the Latin American and Caribbean Council of Religious Leaders (LACCRL).As LACCRL Secretary General, Mr. Szczytnicki organizes high level meetings of religious leaders with important international personalities, including Pope Francis, and represents it in various meetings of the United Nations and their agencies, the Organization of American States (OAS), the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) and the World Economic Forum (WEF). Mr. Szczytnicki comes to Religions for Peace after serving as Secretary of the Interfaith Committee of Peru. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP). Mr. Szczytnicki is an Argentine living in Peru since 1991. He is married and has one son.



#### Rabbi Fishel Szlajen

##### **Argentina | Senior Professor, Ordinary Member of Pontifical Academy for Life (Vatican City) / Professor at University of Buenos Aires and Universidad Nacional de la Matanza (Argentina)**

Fishel Szlajen is a rabbi and holds a postdoctoral degree in bioethics, a Ph.D. in philosophy and a MA in Jewish philosophy. He is a Mandel Jerusalem Fellow and Young Scholar Fellow on Religion and the Rule of Law. Szlajen is a professor at the University of Buenos Aires and has published more than 300 works. He has been recognized for his contributions to academia with the Domingo Sarmiento Mention of Honor (2018), Argentina's highest national distinction. In addition, he has been declared Outstanding Personality of the City of Buenos Aires in the field of Culture by the Buenos Aires Legislature (2019). His interfaith work in the field of bioethics has obtained the recognition of the Israeli Ministry of Diaspora Affairs (2020). Szlajen's influence has had an impact on Argentine laws and policies. He is a member of prestigious institutions such as the Vatican's Pontifical Academy for Life, the Argentine Council for Religious Freedom and the Argentinean Council of Ethics in Medicine.



#### Alejandro E. Williams-Becker

##### **Argentina | Undersecretary of Socio-educational Policies, Government of Salta**

Alejandro Williams-Becker, born in Salta, Argentina, in 1988, is currently the Undersecretary of Socio-educational Policies for the Government of Salta. He is a lawyer with a bachelor's degree in political science and extensive experience in interreligious dialogue and sustainable development partnerships. He served as the Executive Director of the Interreligious Dialogue Institute of Argentina from 2016 to 2023. Alejandro has co-organized and participated in interreligious encounters across Argentina, Chile, Italy, Panama, Portugal, Russia, Israel, and Canada. He has also lectured at conferences in Argentina, Chile, the Holy See, Turkey, and the United States. He has been invited to present at the Argentinian National Parliament in several occasions, and has been awarded prizes by the Buenos Aires Provincial Senate and the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina.



Rev. Jorge Daniel Zijlstra

**Argentina | Pastor, Red-CLAI (Consejo Latinoamericano de Iglesias)**

Pastor Presbiteriano de la Iglesia Presbiteriana (USA), argentino, pastor en Puerto Rico hace 25 años. Representante de la Red-CLAI para asuntos Interreligiosos. Miembro del Comité Ejecutivo de Consejo Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Lideres Religiosos de Religiones por la Paz. Ex Presidente en funciones del Consejo Latinoamericano de Iglesia. Ex miembro del Comité Ejecutivo de Misión 21 (Suiza) para América Latina. Ex miembro del Comité Ejecutivo de la Alianza de Iglesias Presbiterianas y Reformadas de América Latina (AIPRAL). Ex miembro de la Junta Directiva de la Agencia Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Comunicación (ALC-Noticias).

## Australia



Rev. Bakary Camara

**Australia | General Overseer, Interreligious Association for Peace and Development Africa**

Born in Mali, I am married and father of 3 children. From 25 May 2022: General Overseer of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) Africa, an NGO with a signed MOU with the AU/CIDO. Founded by Dr Hak Ja Han Moon in 2016, IAPD is a global network of spiritual and religious leaders to promote interreligious dialogue and peace for a unified world in which all religions coexist in harmony, cooperation and co-prosperity as One Family under God. From 14 October 2020: Co-Chairman of the Africa Cheon Eui Won (Council of the Elders) of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Africa, an NGO co-founded by Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr Hak Ja Han Moon. Since 1994, my responsibilities and passion have been to organize workshops to help families, and youths understand their purpose and fulfil their life goals: mature character, healthy relationships and contribution to society - and workshops for religious and spiritual leaders to promote the vision of IAPD.



Ps. Paul Green

**Australia | Chairman, The Slavecheck Foundation**

From 2011-2019 Hon Paul Green MLC worked with the President of the NSW Parliament sharing chairing responsibilities during the Chamber sitting periods as well as Chairing many Committee Inquiries. During his time in Parliament Paul enjoyed the highest of level of respect and integrity entrusted to him by his parliamentary colleagues. Paul is known for his fairness and impartiality amongst his state colleagues. It was in 2018 that Paul authored the NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018.



Peter Prove

**Australia | Director, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, World Council of Churches**

Peter has been the director of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA) at the World Council of Churches (WCC) since 2014 (responsible for WCC programs in the fields of human rights, peacebuilding and disarmament, and for relations with the UN system), and member of PaRD Steering Board (2018 to date). He has more than 25 years experience representing international faith-based organizations in the fields of human rights, peacebuilding, sustainable development and related issues. He was previously Executive Director, Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA), 2010-2014; Assistant General Secretary for International Affairs and Human Rights; Lutheran World Federation (LWF), 1997-2010; and a lawyer in private legal practice in Australia, 1986-1996. He has held numerous leadership roles in UN and civil society contexts, including including as member of the UNAIDS International Advisory Group on Universal Access, 2011, and was member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Councils network from 2012-2014.



Dilmohan Singh

**Australia | Volunteer, Sikhi Council**

Dilmohan Singh has an educational background in Information Technology. He originates from Panjab, and lives in Australia. He is working as a public servant in the field of data security and defence. He voluntarily serves Sikhi, and is part of the SikhiCouncil ([www.sikhi.eu](http://www.sikhi.eu)) team and co-founder of [www.sikhteachings.com](http://www.sikhteachings.com). Both initiatives address young people, and foster unifying human values, well-being and an ethically oriented humble lifestyle based on Gurmat, timeless spiritual wisdom, which is at the heart of Sikhi, and enables to live in harmony with oneself, humanity, the animal world, and nature.



Harpreet Singh Khalsa

**Australia | Volunteer, Sikhi Council**

Harpreet Singh has an educational background in commerce, music, technology, and business. He originates from Panjab, and lives in Australia. He is working as Chief Data Officer at Edith Cowan University in Australia and was selected amongst top 25 analytics leaders in 2022. He voluntarily serves Sikhi, and is part of the SikhiCouncil ([www.sikhi.eu](http://www.sikhi.eu)) team and co-founder of [www.sikhteachings.com](http://www.sikhteachings.com). Both initiatives address young people, and foster unifying human values, well-being and an ethically oriented humble lifestyle based on Gurmat, timeless spiritual wisdom, which is at the heart of Sikhi, and enables to live in harmony with oneself, humanity, the animal world, and nature. Harpreet Singh is also part of the team that developed the documentary film [Jaggdi Neend - Reality Decoded](#) on Artificial Intelligence/virtual reality and spirituality.

## Azerbaijan



Mr. Rashad Aliyarli

**Azerbaijan | Deputy Chairman, Caucasus Muslims Board**



Mr. Gunduz Babayev

**Azerbaijan | Assistant Chairman, Caucasus Muslims Board**



Dr. Ravan Hasanov

**Azerbaijan | Executive director, Baku International Multiculturalism Centre**

Executive Director of the Baku International Multiculturalism Centre. He was born on July 2, 1989 in Aghdam. In 2007-2011 he received a bachelor's degree at the Faculty of Law of Baku State University and graduated with honors. In 2013-2014, he received a master's degree in law from the University of Potsdam, Germany and successfully completed the Department of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure. On February 16, 2018, he was admitted to the defense of a dissertation for PhD at the Institute of Law and Human Rights of ANAS, specializing in "penal enforcement law". From March 2, 2016 to April 11, 2017, he worked as a senior specialist of the State Advisory Service of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on International, Multicultural and Religious Affairs, and from April 11, 2017 to July 8, 2017 as a counselor. Ravan Hasanov was appointed as Executive Director of the Baku International Multiculturalism Centre by the order of President Ilham Aliyev.



Mr. Ramin Mammadov

**Azerbaijan | Chairman, State Committee on Affairs with Religious Associations of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

Ramin Mammadov was born in the city of Aghdara on February 17, 1979. In 1985-1992, he attended Shusha city secondary school No. 2 and after the occupation of the city, he continued his education in Baku. He has a Bachelor's degree in International law and international relations as well as a Master's degree in International Relations from Baku State University. In 2013, he attended Executive Education, Leaders in Development, John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University (USA). He is fluent in Russian and English. In 2001-2002, a specialist at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In 2002-2009, assistant to the chairman, head of the department of the State Committee for Work with Azerbaijanis Living Abroad. In 2009-2016, deputy head of the staff of State Committee for Work with the Diaspora of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Appointed as deputy chairman of the State Committee for Work with Diaspora of the Republic of Azerbaijan under Order No. 2040 signed by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev dated May 12, 2016. At extraordinary elections held on February 9, 2020, Ramin Mammadov was nominated as the single candidate of the New Azerbaijan Party for the parliamentary seat from the 64th Sabirabad constituency. He was elected as a member of Milli Majlis (Parliament) with 12,677 votes or 56.2% of the total.



HV Sheikh-ul-islam Allahshukur Pashazadeh

**Azerbaijan | Chairman, Caucasus Muslims Board**

Date of Birth 26.08.1949 (Azerbaijan). The Spiritual Leader of the Muslims in Azerbaijan and All Caucasus. Chairman of the Caucasian Muslims` Board. Secretary General of Baku International Centre for Interfaith and Inter-Civilizational Cooperation (BCIC). Co-chairman of the CIS Inter-Religious Council. Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Muslim Religious Leaders of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Chairman of the Supreme Religious Council of the Peoples of Caucasia. Member of the Muslim Council of Elders. Member of the Board of Directors of King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for interreligious and intercultural dialog (KAICIID). Member of the Royal Aal Al-Beyt Academy of Islamic Thought, HK of Jordan.

## Bangladesh



Mr. Raihan Mahmood Kadery

**Bangladesh | Head of International Programmes, Global One 2015**

Raihan Mahmood Kadery joined Global One in April 2016. He is an expert in project monitoring & evaluation and development of projects' monitoring & evaluation frameworks and ToRs for evaluations. He is directly engaged with the design and delivery of projects in the areas of Global Health, WASH, Livelihood and Food Security. Previously in Netherlands, Raihan was a member of the team jointly formed by the European Commission and the World Bank Group that developed a performance based funding strategy for the Dutch government. In China, Raihan was responsible for designing research methodology for National Academy of Education Administration China assigned by the Govt. of China. Raihan holds a joint Masters in Research and Innovation in Higher Education from four finest universities in Austria, Finland, China and Germany as a full scholar of the European Commission. Previously, he completed his BSc (Hons) Management and Business Administration from Manchester Metropolitan University, UK.



AHM Bazlur Rahman

**Bangladesh | Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC)**

AHM Bazlur Rahman is the Chief Executive Officer of BNNRC. Within the last two decades Mr. Rahman has been carrying out numerous projects, interventions, and initiatives at national, regional, and international levels about Interfaith, media development, ICT for Development, and digital transformation. He has been taken as a leading player in many international conferences and summits dealing with fostering ICT innovation and development of ICT ecosystem, information & knowledge society, and advancements of digital transformation from the Asia and Pacific since 2000. He has been led engagement of Bangladesh government with the International Telecommunication Union on WSIS process since 2002 and Internet policy issues since 2006, participating in numerous international conferences and associated preparatory work. He has strong skills in policy development and people's diplomacy. He pursued his Master of Social Science (MSS) in Government and Politics at Asian University of Bangladesh.

## Bolivia



Nidia Bustillos Rodriguez

**Bolivia | Consultant, Global Network of Indigenous Peacebuilders Mediators and Negotiators/ASSOMETRANC (Asociacion de Med Tradicional Ancestral Cochabamba)**

Nidia Bustillos Rodríguez, Quechua, born in Cochabamba, Bolivia. For the last 23 years I have worked in the area of Indigenous Peoples, Gender, Interculturality, Communication, but fundamentally, the practice of Traditional Ancestral Medicine as a traditional healer accredited by the Ministry of Health. I have a Master's degree in Development, Interculturality and Globalization. My research: "Information and Communication Technologies for the empowerment of indigenous women"; "Tambos as spaces of communal power, from the Qhapac Ñan, imperial road to the electronic highway", proposals for democratization of information from the perspective of Indigenous Peoples; "Systematization of workshops on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Traditional Medicine". A research book: "Women with Healing Power: The careers of Life" and a documentary with the same title. I supported the creation of the Council of Traditional Medicine in Cochabamba. Currently working in Pawanka Fund. as program officer

# Brazil



José Monteiro

**Brazil | Vice President, Andean Community Hub, International Justice Mission**

"Before joining International Justice Mission (IJM), José Monteiro was a Brazilian federal police officer from 2003 to 2021. He was Brazilian Police Attaché in Buenos Aires, Argentina, between 2014 and 2016. Throughout his career he has been linked to numerous investigations, particularly related to drug trafficking, human trafficking and the child sex trafficking. He was an Interpol analyst between 2016 and 2018.

He was the national security coordinator for the 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup, World Youth Day and Pope Francis' visit to Brazil.

In April 2020, he assumed the position of Country Director of IJM in the Dominican Republic and currently serves as Regional Vice President of the Andean America Hub, made up of the IJM offices in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, where he leads a multinational program on Violence against Women and Children."



Christine Alves Bastos

**Brazil | Assessora da Subsecretaria de Assuntos Constitucionais, da Secretaria Executiva de Relações Parlamentares da Casa Civil do Distrito Federal**



Joana Alves Bastos

**Brazil | Dirigente da Organização Religiosa Abassa Oiá Dagan, Abassá Oiá Dagan**



Cleusa Alves Da Silva

**Brazil | Vice Presidenta da Cáritas Brasileira**



Renata Amado Bahrapour

**Brazil | Coordenadora da área de defesa do Escritório de Assuntos Externos da Comunidade Bahá'í do Brasil**



Juliano Andrade Spyer

**Brazil | Presidente, Observatório Evangélico**



Eugênio Anunciação

**Brazil | Reverend, The Independent Presbyterian Church**

I have been a pastor of the Independent Presbyterian Church of Brazil since 2003, working with denominational communications. I have a master's degree in Applied Behaviour Analysis with an emphasis in Behavior Engineering Systems. I am a Professor of Theology on the subject of Christian Spirituality at Unicesumar.



Prof. Salette Aquino

**Brazil | Member of the Global Council of URI**

Born in Salvador/BA - Brazil - 1956 Bachelor of Arts and Master of Applied Linguistics. Professor at UNICAMP - State University of Campinas from 1988 to 2012 in the areas of German Language and Community Work, having also collaborated on the subject "Art, Science and Society for a Culture of Peace". Associate Director of the Language Teaching Center at UNICAMP from 2008-2010. Member of the United Religions Initiative (URI) since 2000. Member of the URI Global Council since July 2016 until September 2024. Former member of the Municipal Council for the Culture of Peace in Campinas. Co-organizer of the II International Festival "A Song for Peace" at URI in 2017. Member of the District Committee for Religious Diversity (CDDR) - since 2019. Member of the Religious Freedom Commission and the Black Slavery Truth Commission of the OAB/Campinas. Member of REDA - Ecumenical Water Network. Member of Brazil. Articulation of the Economy of Francis, among others.



Kildare Araujo Meira

**Brazil | Subsecretário, Subsecretário de Assuntos Constitucionais da Casa Civil do DF**



Pe. Marcus Barbosa

**Brazil | Assessor da Comissão para Ecumenismo e Diálogo Inter-Religioso - CNBB, Pe. Marcus Barbosa - CNBB**



Quezia Barreto De Brito

**Brazil | Diretora de Comunicação e Divulgação da Associação Nacional de Juristas Islâmicos - ANAJI. , Pe. Marcus Barbosa - CNBB; Vice-Presidente da Comissão de Combate à Intolerância Religiosa da OAB-BA**



Romi Márcia Bencke

**Brazil | Secretária Geral, Conselho Nacional de Igrejas Cristãs do Brasil - CONIC**



Ms. Raquel Bennet

**Brazil | Fellow, A Common Word Among the Youth (ACWAY)**  
Brazilian gender and race specialist with extensive experience in community and project management inside social movements across the globe. ACWAY Fellow and dedicated youth activist with experience in the G20 platform since 2017, advocating for the integration of gender, race, and ethnicity issues within the international interfaith agenda. Over the past 7 years, Raquel has worked with various feminist and youth international organizations, including UN Women, Chicas Poderosas, the World YWCA, Young Feminist Europe, Women in Global Health, and Politics4Her. Her expertise spans advocacy, project management, movement building, monitoring and evaluation, and other areas related to the promotion of women and youth rights. Raquel is committed to driving positive change and promoting equity on a global scale.



Kenarik Boujikian

**Brazil | Secretária Nacional de Diálogos Sociais e Articulação de Políticas Públicas da Secretaria-Geral da Presidência da República**

Kenarik Boujikian é especialista em Direitos Humanos, desembargadora aposentada do TJSP. Foi Procuradora do Estado de São Paulo e Consultora da Comissão de Direitos Humanos da Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil - São Paulo. Tornou-se conhecida por sua militância na defesa dos Direitos Humanos recebendo vários prêmios e homenagens por esta atuação. É co-fundadora da ABJD e co-fundadora e ex-presidente da Associação Juizes para a Democracia e da Federação de Associações Juizes para a Democracia da América Latina e Caribe.



Maria Claudia Bucchianeri Pinheiro

**Brazil | Socia-Adm**



Andréa Letícia Carvalho Guimaraes

**Brazil | Assistente técnica do Programa das Nações Unidas para o Desenvolvimento (Pnud), Centro Brasileiro de Estudos em Direito e Religião - CEDIRE**



Fábio Carvalho Leite

**Brazil | Professor, PUC-Rio**



Paulo Aurélio Carvalho Lopes

**Brazil | Babalorixá e coordenador executivo do FONSANPOTMA DF, Babá Aurélio de Odé - ILÊ ODÉ AXÉ OPÔ INLE e FONSANPOTMA**



Ir. Rosa Elena Ciprés Díaz

**Brazil | Coordenação da Rede Um Grito pela Vida, Talitha Kum**  
Ir. Rosa Elena Ciprés Díaz, Congregação das Escravas da Imaculada Menina, Mexicana, Assessora da Conferencia dos Religiosos do Brasil no setor missão, Licenciada em teologia com especialização em psicopedagogia na formação religiosa e extensão universitária em Diplomado La prevención del abuso em la Iglesia Latinoamericana.



Antonio Cottas

**Brazil | Subsecretário de Finanças Internacionais e Cooperação Econômica - SAIN-Ministério da Fazenda**

Francisco Cruz da Costa

**Brazil | Agente indígena de saúde/ missão evangélica, URUMA KAMBEBA**

Francesly Da Conceicao Leite

**Brazil | Presidente e sacerdotisa do kwe oya Sogy, presidente do conselho de cultura de Samambaia, conselheira do patrimônio cultural afro descendente, Mãe Francys de oya kwe oya Sogy**

Ekeji Virginia

**Brazil | Diretora de Projetos - Coletivo Mulheres de Axé do Distrito Federal e Entorno, ILE AXÉ ORIXÁ D'EWY**



Elianildo Nascimento

**Brazil | CONSELHEIRO GLOBAL - URI**



Dom Raymundo Cardeal Damasceno Assis

**Brazil | Cardeal Arcebispo Emérito de Aparecida, Religiões Pela Paz América Latina**

Nasceu em Capela Nova – MG, em 15/02/1937. Entrou Seminário Menor em Mariana – MG em 1955, foi para Roma cursar Filosofia em 1961. Em 1965 foi para Alemanha – Curso Superior de Catequese da Conferência Episcopal Alemã. Ordenado Presbítero, em Conselheiro Lafaiete – MG, em 19/03/1968. De 1968 a 1970 foi Coordenador Catequese na Arquidiocese de Brasília. De 1968 a 1976 foi Pároco da Igreja Santíssimo Sacramento em Brasília. De 1978 a 1986, foi Professor de Filosofia na Universidade de Brasília-UnB e do Seminário Maior Nossa Senhora de Fátima, da Arquidiocese de Brasília. De 1968 a 1979, foi Chanceler da Arquidiocese de Brasília. Em 1986, foi sagrado Bispo na Catedral de Nossa Senhora Aparecida em Brasília. De 1986 a 2003 foi Bispo Auxiliar e Vigário Geral da Arquidiocese de Brasília e Diretor do Curso Superior de Teologia para leigos na mesma Arquidiocese. De 1991 a 1995, foi Secretário Geral do Conselho Episcopal Latino Americano - CELAM.

Isabela Cristina Dario

**Brazil | Advogada Idafro responsável Minas - Conselheira Seccional OAB/MG E Presidente da Comissão de Direito e Liberdade Religiosa OAB/MG**



Carolina De Almeida Pereira

**Brazil | Assessora internacional e consultora, Geledés- instituto da Mulher Negra**



Fernando de La Rocque Couto

**Brazil | Presidente, ICEFLU - CÉU DO PLANALTO**



Carlos Bezerra Jr

**Brazil | Vereador Cidade de São Paulo**



Gilbraz Aragão

**Brazil | Professor e Pesquisador - Universidade Católica de Pernambuco\ Observatório das Religiões UNICAP**



Dom Zanoni Demettino

**Brazil | Arcebispo, Arquidiocese de Feira de Santana, Ba. CNBB**



Caetano Dias Corrêa

**Brazil | Professor Permanente - Programa de Pós-Graduação em Direito da Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina (PPGD/UFSC)**



Evaldo Filho

**Brazil | Assessor em Diálogo Inter Religioso - Rede Amazonizar**



Damaris DIAS MOURA KUO

**Brazil | PREFEITURA DE SÃO MIGUEL PAULISTA - SP**



Elcimar Dias Pereira

**Brazil | Assessora Internacional, Geledés - Instituto da Mulher Negra**





Prof. Thiago Martins Diogo

**Brazil | Coordenador de Programas de Pós-Graduação e Extensão, Mestre em Governança e Sustentabilidade**

Thiago Martins Diogo, natural de Curitiba, PR, casado com Giselle G. P. Diogo e pai da Sophia, da Valentina e do Samuel. Mestre em Governança e Sustentabilidade pelo Instituto Superior de Administração e Economia - ISAE/FGV (2022). Possui MBA em Gestão Estratégica da Inovação pela Fundação Getúlio Vargas - FGV (2018). Cursando Administração com Ênfase em Novas Tecnologias pela Brigham Young University Idaho - (BYUI) e graduado em Gestão de Pessoas pelo Centro Universitário Opet - UNIOPET (2011). Competências adicionais adquiridas em programas de formação complementar nas instituições Brigham Young University Pathway Worldwide - BYUPW (2015), Massachusetts Institute of Technology - MIT (2018), ISAE Escola de Negócios (ISAE) e Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV). Nos últimos 20 anos, trabalha com foco em Educação Transformadora na formação de Líderes Globalmente Responsáveis e Atualmente coordena Programas de Inovação para o Cooperativismo em todo o Brasil.

Sandra Regina Do Nascimento Warderly

**Brazil | Vice-Presidente da Organização Religiosa Abassá Oiá Dagan**



Flavio Conrado

**Brazil | Diretor Financeiro - Religiões pela Paz Brasil**

ALOISIO CRISTOVAM

**Brazil | JUIZ TITULAR DE VARA DO TRABALHO - ALOISIO CRISTOVAM - TRT DA 5ª REGIÃO**



Carlos Alberto Ivanir dos Santos

**Brazil | Professor e orientador no Programa de Pós graduação em História Comparada da Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro e Conselheiro Estratégico do Centro de Articulação de Populações Marginalizadas-CEAP**

Autor e idealizador da série Resistência Negra, da Globo Play. Pós-doutor em História Comparada pela Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (PPGHC/UFRJ), é Professor e Orientador no Programa de Pós-graduação em História Comparada da Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro. Pesquisador e coordenador de área de pesquisa no Laboratório de História das Experiências Religiosas da Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (LHER/UFRJ). Membro da Associação Brasileira de Pesquisadores Negros (ABPN). Fundador do Centro de Articulação de Populações Marginalizadas (CEAP).



Victoria Lemos

**Brazil | G20 Coordinator for Singapore Embassy**



Elcior Santana

**Brazil | Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University**

Dr. Elcior de Santana, PhD., is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University, where he was bestowed the Award "Georgetown University Faculty Champion" in 2020. He teaches at the School of Foreign Service, Previously Dr. Santana was an Associated Professor at the Catholic University of São Paulo, where he held other roles, including Vice President for Finance and Administration. He has also been a lecturer on economic, social, and economic development, and international finances in the US and internationally. For 20 years, Dr. Santana worked at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) where he served on the Board of Directors at the IDB, the International Investment Corporation, and the Multilateral Investment Fund. Prior to coming to Washington, Dr. Santana held many positions with the Brazilian Federal government (Central Bank), the State of Sao Paulo (international Advisor), the "Fundação São Paulo" and other Institutions.

Hansi Escobar Stemmann

**Brazil | Ministro**



André FAGUNDES

**Brazil | Pesquisador do Centro Brasileiro de Estudos em Direito e Religião (CEDIRE)**



Victória Falqueto Alvim

**Brazil | Brazilian Center of Studies on Law and Religion (CEDIRE) - Federal University of Uberlândia (UFU)**

Law student at the Federal University of Uberlândia (UFU). General Student Coordinator of the Brazilian Center of Studies in Law and Religion (CEDIRE).

Sra. Patricia Faria

**Brazil | Fundação roble del sur**

Patricia Faria, 41 anos, casada e mãe, cristã atuoí omo diretora assistente de comunicação na Igreja de Jesus Cristo dos Santos dos Últimos Dias de Ipatinga Minas gerais , membro da Fundação Roble del Sur. Tenho uma sólida experiência como ex-secretária de Meio Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Rural, liderei diversas iniciativas em prol dos refugiados, segurança alimentar e meio ambiente , e liberdade religiosa.

Maria Consolacion

**Brazil | Presidente do Instituto Oca do Sol**

Juarez Ferreira

**Brazil | Coordenador de Projeto - Secretaria-Geral da Presidência da República**



Sara Cury

**Brazil | Advogada Voluntária, CEDIRE**



Elizabeth Frawley Bagley

**Brazil | Embaixadora dos Estados Unidos**



Natalia Gedanken

**Brazil | Membro Associado da Acib e membro do Coner.**



Paola Spikes

**Brazil | Juíza Federal / Justiça Federal - Seção Judiciária do Rio de Janeiro**

Luiza Cavalcanti

**Brazil | Representante institucional da Comunidade Bahá'í do Brasil**



Jihad Hassan Hammadeh

**Brazil | Conselheiro Religioso ANAJI - Associação Nacional de Juristas Islâmicos - Pres do CALCEE - Centro Árabe Latino de Cultura e estudos Estratégicos**



Vugar Huseynli

**Brazil | Primeiro Secretário da Embaixada da República do Azerbaijão**



Rashad Novruz

**Brazil | Embaixador da República do Azerbaijão**



João Guilherme Martins Silva

**Brazil | Student UFU**  
Law student.



Ekaterina Kazakova

**Brazil | Primeira Secretária, Embaixada da Rússia**



Natalie Koh

**Brazil | Segunda Secretária - Embaixada de Singapura em Brasília em Brasília**

Cibele Kuss

**Brazil | Executive Secretary, Lutheran Foundation of Diakonia - FLD**

Monge Sato

**Brazil | Executive Secretary, Lutheran Foundation of Diakonia - FLD**



Valquiria Lima

**Brazil | Executive director, Caritas Brasileira**

Born in Itabuna, Bahia, she is the current executive director of Caritas Brasileira. She has a degree in Agronomy and 24 years of experience in the institution, having worked in the national collegiate coordination (2020-2023), contributing to the monitoring of the administrative and financial team of the National Secretariat, monitoring the implementation of institutional policies, monitoring programmes and projects; bilateral dialogues between Caritas Brasileira and international cooperation bodies.

She was regional secretary of Cáritas Brasileira Regional Minas Gerais, where she also acted as regional advisor, coordinator of the Programme for Coexistence with the Semi-Arid (1999 to 2019). She is part of the coordination of ASA Minas Gerais and ASA Brazil; she was also president of the 1 Million Cisterns Programme Association



Heitor Silva

**Brazil | Estudante / UFPA**



Girrad MAHMOUD SAMMOUR

**Brazil | Presidente - Associação Nacional de Juristas Islâmicos-Anaji**



Samuel Luz

**Brazil | Presidente - Associação Brasileira de Liberdade Religiosa e Cidadania - ABLIRC**



Yuri Maia

**Brazil | Senior Policy Officer - DFAT, Australian Embassy**



João Pedro Pereira

**Brazil | Student CEDIRE - UFU**

My name is João Pedro, I'm 22 years old and I'm from Sertãozinho/São Paulo. I am participating as a producer/organizer of the event in my role as a member of CEDIRE (the Brazillian Center of Studies on Law and Religion). And I'm currently studying law at the Federal University of Uberlândia.



Kathia Kozlowski

**Brazil | Gerente de Relações Governamentais - CONIB (Confederação Israelita do Brasil)**



Tatiane Mendes

**Brazil | Assessora de comunicação Cedire, CEDIRE**

Graduanda em Direito. Membro do Centro Brasileiro de Estudos em Direito e Religião (CEDIRE).

Coordenadora geral discente do Laboratório de Direitos Humanos (LabDH). Coordenadora discente do projeto "Liberdade de Religião ou Crença na Internet" do CEDIRE. Atuou como investigadora no Grupo de Investigação em Constitucionalismo e Democracia do Núcleo de Estudo Luso-Brasileiro da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de Lisboa. E autora de capítulos de livros.



Claudia Costa Moreira

**Brazil | Global Coordinator for Reconciled Peace-Filled Societies, Tearfund**

Claudia Costa Moreira is the global coordinator for Reconciled Peace-Filled Societies at Tearfund, a Christian humanitarian organization partnering with churches and community-based organizations to reduce poverty and injustice. Claudia joined Tearfund in October 2019 and has also served as Country Director for Brazil and Peacebuilding Adviser for Latin America and the Caribbean. Claudia is Vice President of the Brazilian Evangelical Christian Alliance's governing council. She holds an M.A. in Conflict Transformation from Eastern Mennonite University, a degree in Business Administration and Marketing, and Management for Non-Profit Organizations. Claudia teaches and writes on peacebuilding, conflict transformation, reconciliation, and trauma & resilience. She worked for 12 years at World Vision Brazil as Director of Marketing and Fundraising for Brazil.

Jaime Fernandes

**Brazil | Pesquisador / NEAI-PPgas-UFAM**



Natalia Mozdakova

**Brazil | Conselheira, Embaixada da Rússia**

Bruno Renato

**Brazil | Secretário Nacional de Promoção e Defesa dos Direitos Humanos**



Dr. Nelson Arns Neumann

**Brazil | Board of Directors of Pastoral da Criança International, Pastoral da Criança International**

Currículo Nelson. Graduation at Medicina, master's at Epidemiology from Universidade Federal de Pelotas (1997) and doctorate at Collective Health from Universidade de São Paulo (2000). Has experience in Collective Health, focusing on Epidemiology, acting on the following subjects: child, primary health care and equity. Served as a lay missionary physician in Bacabal, State of Maranhão/Brazil (1988/89). He was a member of the World Day of Prayer and Action for Children International Council (Arigatou Foundation). He served as deputy national coordinator of Pastoral da Criança Brasil for 33 years and is currently director of Pastoral da Criança International (since 2010). He is a member of CONSEA - National Food and Nutritional Security Council/Brazil and Regional Advisory Group of the Faith and Positive Change for Children, Families and Communities (FPCC) initiative in Latin America and the Caribbean of Religions for Peace Latin America and Caribe.

Américo NEVES FILHO

**Brazil | Babalorixá - ILE AXÉ ORIXÁ D'EWY**



Varlindo Nóbrega

**Brazil | Assessor Especial, Governo do Distrito Federal**



Prof. Dr. Monica Paschoal Nogueira

**Brazil | Orthopaedic Surgeon, Hospital do Servidor Público Estadual/Núcleo de Apoio à Pesquisa Ortopédica Avançada**

Possui graduação em Medicina (1995) e Mestrado em Ciências da Saúde pela Faculdade de Medicina da USP (2003) e Doutorado pela Faculdade de Saúde Pública da USP (2011) com o tema “Difusão do Método Ponseti para tratamento do pé torto no Brasil – o caminho para a adoção de uma tecnologia. Especialista em Ortopedia e Traumatologia nas áreas de Ortopedia Pediátrica, Reconstrução e Alongamento Ósseo pela Universidade de Maryland, Baltimore - EUA. Médica Assistente e Preceptora do Hospital do Servidor Público Estadual de São Paulo - HSPE. Tem publicações em reconstrução de membros inferiores. Participou ativamente da introdução da Técnica de Ponseti para tratamento do pé torto congênito no Brasil coordenando o Projeto Ponseti Brasil com 21 simpósios/treinamentos com participações internacionais com 586 ortopedistas treinados em 2007-8. Coordenadora do Programa de Treinamento “Erradicando o Pé Torto no Brasil – Ponseti International Association PIA LAT e Rotary International.

Marcia Leonora Orlandini

**Brazil | Associate University Professor, Universidade Federal de Uberlândia**

Graduated in LAW from the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Specialization in Philosophy from the Federal University of Uberlândia, Master's in Law from the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo, Diploma in Advanced Studies from Spain and PhD in Law International from the University of Valencia (ES). Associate professor of the Law course at the Federal University of Uberlândia since 1995. Coordinator of the Clinic to Combat Slave Labor at UFU. Coordinator of the More Human Multidisciplinary Program at the UFU Extension Pro-rectorate. Acts in advocacy in Labor Law, Collective Labor Law, Human Rights, Migration and public policies. Collaborated as a judge in the moot court at the American University in Washington DC.



Elder Adilson de Paula Parrella

**Brazil | First Counselor, Middle East/Africa North Area Presidency, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**

Elder Adilson de Paula Parrella has been engaged in full-time Church service since 2017 when he was called as a General Authority Seventy. He served in the Brazil Area Presidency for 5 years, with three years as President. He has served from 2023 to the present in the Middle East/Africa North Area Presidency where he oversees Church spiritual and humanitarian activities in 21 nations. Elder Parrella is based in Salt Lake City, Utah, while he resides in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Elder Parrella received a bachelor's degree in communications in 1989 and a master's degree in business administration in 1991, both from Brigham Young University. He worked as a managing director of multinational companies until 2005, was a partner at Korn Ferry International until 2009, and a partner at Caldwell Partners until 2017. Adilson de Paula Parrella was born in Guarujá, São Paulo, Brazil, in 1962. He married Elaine Finholdt in 1988. They are the parents of five children.



Ivo Pereira Da Silva

**Brazil | Professor Adjunto, Universidade Federal do Pará**

LDoutor em Altos Estudos em História pela Universidade de Coimbra (Portugal). Possui Mestrado em História Social da Amazônia. Professor Adjunto da Universidade Federal do Pará. Investigador associado do Centro de História da Sociedade e da Cultura (CHSC) da Faculdade de Letras da Universidade de Coimbra. Assessor técnico da Coodenação Geral de Promoção da Liberdade (CGLIB), do Ministério dos Direitos Humanos e Cidadania (MDHC).

Marcio Henrique Pereira Ponzilacqua

**Brazil | Vice-Diretor da FDRP USP/ presbítero católico, Universidade de São Paulo/ Igreja Católica**



Rev. Pereira Silva

**Brazil | Diretor de Relações Institucionais, World Vision Brasil**

Sou Welinton Pereira, pastor da Igreja Metodista em Sorocaba , São Paulo. Sou responsável pela área de direitos humanos da igreja metodista no Brasil e sou diretor de relações institucionais da organização de ajuda humanitária Visão Mundial. Trabalho a mais de 20 anos no tema da defesa dos direitos da criança e sua relação com a infância. Sou pesquisador da faculdade de educação da Universidade de São Carlos.

Juliane Gabrielle Pimenta de Oliveira

**Brazil | Fundação Roble del Sur**

Sou Juliane, mãe, formada em Pedagogia, Tecnologia em Mediação e graduanda em Direito, tenho pós graduação na área da educação e atuo como doula voluntária. Minha maior vocação é na área de voluntariado, buscando aprender e auxiliar as pessoas a terem uma vida melhor. Como membro da Fundação Roble del Sur, tenho aprendido que posso fazer mais pela comunidade e fazer a diferença mesmo sendo um pouco a cada vez.



Thobias Prado Moura

**Brazil | Director, Internet Society Brazil Chapter**

Ph.D. candidate in Law (The multistakeholder approach of the Internet Governance in Lusophone countries) at Nova School of Law. Legal Manager of the Technological Park of the Federal University of Uberlândia (TecnoUFU). Researcher at WhatNext.Law, at the Research & Development Center on Law and Society (CEDIS). Director for Communications and Events at the Internet Society - Brazil Chapter (ISOC-Brasil), NextGen@ICANN 78 Fellow - Hamburg, and Fellow of the YouthBrasil 2024 Program of the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br).



Odacyr Carlos Prigol

**Brazil | Diretor Área Brasil**



Manoel Moraes

**Brazil | Coordenador da Cátedra Sérgio Vieira de Mello UEPA/ACNUR-ONU/UEPA, Universidade do Estado do Pará**



Carlos Vicente

**Brazil | Facilitador Nacional - Iniciativa Inter-religiosa Pelas Florestas Tropicais**



Roberto ROSA OLIVELLA

**Brazil | Presidente da Confederação Brasileira das Organizações da Sociedade Civil de Interesse Público - OSCIP/BR**

Nabil Sami

**Brazil | Communications Officer, Bahá'í International Community**

As a (photo)journalist, I hope to be able to seek the truth and observe the world, so that, through the lens of my camera, and through the power of words, I can document reality, giving the world a taste of what humanity is working towards, and bringing to the forefront some harsh realities that are taking place in the world. The concept of striving for excellence is something I am ever conscious of. Being born into a multicultural family made me love and become curious about how culture affects one's perspective. My mother was born in Abadan, Iran, and my father in Belo Horizonte, Brazil – two different cities, countries, continents, and realities. Beyond these differences, they were united through their beliefs in the Bahá'í Faith- which was and continues to be the centre of their lives. In fact the Founder of the Bahai Faith, Bahá'u'lláh states: "The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens."



Paulo Sampaio

**Brazil | Articulador Religioso - ISER (BR)**

Joana Santos Neitsch Ioppi

**Brazil | Journalist, Roble del Sur**

I graduated with a degree in journalism, with more than a decade of experience. I have worked in a newspaper company, have experience in an institutional organization and manage my own business in this area. I work with topics related to justice and law and with social impact projects.

Sylvio Santos Sobrinho

**Brazil | Diretor - ABME - Associação Brasileira de Mídia Evangélica E**



Yuri Schmitke

**Brazil | Presidente da ABREN e Vice-Presidente do WfERT**



Welinton Pereira da Silva

**Brazil | Diretor de Relações Institucionais, World Vision Brasil**

I graduated with a degree in journalism, with more than a decade of experience. I have worked in a newspaper company, have experience in an institutional organization and manage my own business in this area. I work with topics related to justice and law and with social impact projects.



BRUNO AUGUSTO

**Brazil | Vice Presidente Comissão Direito e Liberdade Religiosa da OAB/PR**

Taissa Kambeba

**Brazil | Visão Mundial**



Flávia Cristina Silveira Lemos

**Brazil | Professora associada IV-UFGA e Coordenadora de Relações Interinstitucionais PROEX-UFGA**



Karen Silverwood-Cope

**Brazil | Diretora de Clima/ Climate Director - WRI Brasil**



Soares De Oliveira Somes

**Brazil | Secretário de Planejamento e Cooperação/KOINONIA - ACT Alliance**



#### Elder Ulisses Soares

##### **Brazil | Apostle, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**

Ulisses Soares was born in São Paulo, Brazil, on October 2, 1958. He married Rosana Fernandes in October 1982. They are the parents of three children and five grandchildren. Elder Soares received a Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting and economics from the São Paulo Pontifical Catholic University, School of Economic Science in 1985 and later received a Master of Business Administration degree. Elder Soares has served in a number of Church callings, including full-time missionary in the Brazil Rio de Janeiro Mission, elders quorum president, counselor in a bishopric, high councilor, stake executive secretary, regional welfare agent, stake president and president of the Portugal Porto Mission (2000–2003). Prior to his call to the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, Elder Soares had been serving as a General Authority Seventy since April 2, 2005. He was named a member of the Presidency of the Seventy on January 6, 2013. He served previously as a counselor in the Africa Southeast Area, President of the Brazil Area and as a counselor in the Brazil South Area. He was an accountant and auditor for multinational corporations in Brazil and director for temporal affairs in the Church area office in São Paulo, Brazil. At the time of his call as a General Authority, he was serving on a special assignment for the Presiding Bishopric of the Church in Salt Lake City.



#### Sônia Corrêa

##### **Brazil | Coordenadora SNDH, MDHC**



#### Rev. Wertson Brasil Souza

##### **Brazil | Presidente, AIPRAL - Aliança de Igrejas Presbiterianas e Reformadas da América Latina**

I'm a presbyterian pastor that lives in Brazil and actually exercising the presidency of this very important organization, for the presbyterians and reformed people of Latin America and Caribe, called AIPRAL. There are two decades or more, I've worked with ecumenical partners not only in Latin America, but in terms of world, like WCC - World Council of Churches and WCRC - World Council of Reformed Churches, discussing, planning and searching the best ways that can offer to the humanity, in special manner, the most marginalized of the society around the world. I have also worked together with special partners who belong to other systems of faith beyond the Christian boundaries. This experience has made me a better pastor and helped me to comprehend the high purpose of God to the humanity.



#### Alcenir Souza

##### **Brazil | Judicial Clerk, Roraima Supreme Court of Justice**

PhD candidate in Law (UNINOVE, Brazil). Master's degree in Comparative Law from the J. Reuben Clark Law School (BYU, USA). Master's degree in Public Security, Human Rights and Citizenship (UERR, Brazil). Judicial Clerk at the Roraima Supreme Court of Justice.

#### Markus Henrique Tavares Gonsalves Silva

##### **Brazil | PREFEITURA DE TATUI, Secretário Municipal de Governo e Negócios Jurídicos**

#### Taynara Dettmann

##### **Brazil | National Assistant, Cáritas Brasileira**

Taynara is a Brazilian National, She holds a Master's Degree in Human Rights from the University of Vienna, Austria, and She is a Specialist (University of Brasília) and a Bachelor's degree in International Relations (Catholic University of Brasília). Taynara is currently working as a National Advisor at Brazilian Cáritas and is based in Brasília, Brazil. She works with the implementation of the emergency strengthening project, whose objectives are, among other things, to support Caritas Network's action in emergencies and humanitarian actions. Prior to her appointment at Cáritas, Taynara was based in the Federal Public Defenders' Office (DPU) in Brasília where she served as a Collaborator in the International Relations and Cooperation Department.

#### Letícia Mariane Teixeira

##### **Brazil | Student, UFU (Universidade Federal de Uberlândia)**

My name is Letícia, I am student from the Universidade Federal de Uberlândia and I am also a member of CEDIRE.



#### Ana Clara Terra Pelarin

##### **Brazil | Student, Universidade Federal de Uberlândia (UFU)**

Graduanda em Direito pela Universidade Federal de Uberlândia e Coordenadora do Núcleo de Pesquisa e Publicações do Centro Brasileiro de Estudos em Direito e Religião (CEDIRE)





Thiago TOMASIN BIAZIN

**Brazil | Chefe de Operações, Ajuda Barnabas Brasil**



Thiago Vieira

**Brazil | Presidente, Instituto Brasileiro de Direito e Religião-IBDR**



Prof. Dr. Rudolf von Sinner

**Brazil | Professor of Theology, Globethics**

A Swiss naturalized Brazilian, Rudolf has been living and working in Brazil since 2001, first as a consultant in an ecumenical NGO (CESE) in Salvador, then as a Professor of Theology at the Lutheran Seminary in São Leopoldo and now at the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná at Curitiba where he also teaches in the Graduate Programme in Human Rights and Public Policies. He is an extra-ordinary professor at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa. His main work is in public theology, analyzing, discussing and stimulating the presence of religious communities in the public sphere true to their convictions as well as respectful of other beliefs, religious pluralism and the secular state, seeking to contribute rather than impose or remain silent. He also takes interest in ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue in order to foster mutual respect, trust and cooperation for the common good. He is a member of the Board of Foundation of Globethics and presides its Academic Committee.

Alexandre Walmott Borges

**Brazil | Professor, Federal University of Uberlandia**



Jayme Weingartner Neto

**Brazil | Desembargador TJRS, Professor PUCRS/PPGCCrim**



Imam Wasim Ahmad Zafar

**Brazil | President and Missionary In-Charge, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Brazil**

Imam Wasim, born in Pakistan in 1959, completed rigorous seven years theological training at Jamia Ahmadiyya, dedicating his life to serving God. After missions in Pakistan, he arrived in Guatemala in 1991, followed by Brazil in 1993. Currently serving as President and Chief Missionary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Brazil, he initiated the annual gathering "Jalsa Salana" in Brazil in 1994, fostering interfaith dialogue and social peace. He introduced NGO Humanity First in Petrópolis in 2011, officially registering it in 2018 for humanitarian projects. In 2014, he established Baitul Awal Mosque in Petrópolis and launched the bilingual magazine Al-Huda in 2018. Imam Wasim's efforts span Brazil, promoting peace and understanding through Islamic teachings and humanitarian initiatives.



Augusto César Zimbres

**Brazil | Meditation teacher and coordinator of youth programmes in Latin America, Brahma Kumaris**

I'm the son of a Kardecist medium father and a Messianic mother, and I've been searching for spirituality since I was 11 years old. Among the different spiritual congregations I visited during my teenage years, I met the Brahma Kumaris at the age of 19, where I felt I belonged. I have been a volunteer at the institution for 23 years, working as a meditation teacher and coordinator of youth programmes in Latin America. I have represented the Brahma Kumaris in interfaith activities for 22 years, having participated in two URI - United Religions Initiative - Global Assemblies (Rio 2002 and Mayapur 2008), the Parliament of the World's Religions (Barcelona 2004) and the URI Young Leaders Programme (Mayapur 2008). Professionally, I worked for 16 years at Petrobras Distributional, in the marketing and HR areas, and I currently have a YouTube channel called Inspira Saúde Plena (Inspire Full Health). I am 43 years old and live in Rio de Janeiro.



Mr. Ijaz Ahmad Zafar

**Brazil | Secretary of Publications and Youth Education, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Brazil**

I was born in Pakistan. I came to Brazil when I was about 3 years old. I have lived in Brazil since then (1994) and graduated in Civil Engineering, with specialization and structure engineering. I am a Muslim, from the Ahmadiyya Community in Islam. On the Brazilian mission of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, I serve as secretary of publications and president of the Ahmadiyya Youth Association, known as Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya, since 2019.

## Cameroon



Clement Awanfe Ngueto

**Cameroon | President, Global Compassion**

I'm a passionate young peacebuilder and consultant living in Cameroon, and leading a local nonprofit called Global Compassion. Have participated in several interfaith trainings and events with KAICIID, ACWAY, G20 Interfaith Forum, Baku Multiculturalism Center, Mine Vaganti NGO and others (Rabat, Morocco in 2015 / Baku, Azerbaijan in 2019 /Nairobi, Kenya in 2017 / Khartoum, Sudan in 2017 / Bologna, Italy in 2021, etc. ). I have more than 10 years experience working in the field of peacebuilding, interfaith, multiculturalism and dialogue projects within my organisation and internationally with partner organisations such as URI, International Cities of Peace, KAICIID, ACWAY, Mine Vaganti and many others. I believe the membership with PaRD and as a fellow ambassador of ACWAY i can bring interesting contribution to the 2024 G20 Interfaith & PaRD Annual Forum in Brazil by participating in person.

## Canada

Frederick W. Krueger

**Canada | Executive Director, National Religious Coalition on Creation Care and World Stewardship Institute**

Frederick Krueger serves as Executive Coordinator for the (US) National Religious Coalition on Creation Care (NRCCC), and as Executive Director for the Orthodox Fellowship of the Transfiguration. He previously served as director for the Christian Society of the Green Cross and earlier as the founder and director of the North American Conference on Christianity and Ecology. Professionally Krueger has worked as an intelligence analyst for the U.S. government, as a political campaign manager, clergyman, magazine editor, author, film maker and wilderness guide. He operates a tropical reforestation program in Guatemala, conducts policy dialogues with members of the U.S. Congress, organizes the annual National Prayer Breakfast for Creation Care, conducts conferences on the spiritual lessons of wilderness and on a religious ethic of the oceans. He recently released the first film for the Eastern Orthodox Christian Church on climate change.



The Reverend Professor (Emeritus) James Christie

**Canada | Ambassador, Canadian Multifaith Federation; University of Winnipeg  
Dr. James Christie is currently the only Ambassador-at-large for the Canadian Multifaith Federation.**

During his time with the Global College of The University of Winnipeg, he was Professor of Whole World Ecumenism and Dialogue Theology, former Dean of the Faculty of Theology, and Director of The Ridd Institute for Religion and Global Policy.. He has practiced congregational ministry in Montreal, New York State, Toronto, and Ottawa. He served on the Emmanuel College Council in Toronto; developed and taught short courses for Queen’s Theological College and the United Church of Canada in Faith, Culture and Politics. He was Theologian to the Justice Department of Canada Forum on Genetic Futures, and participated in the first Canadian Church Leaders’ Study Mission on HIV/AIDS to East Africa. He was a long-time director of both the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto and the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of the National Capital Region, and represented the Protestant world at the 49th World Eucharistic Congress of the Roman Catholic Church.

He is Past President of the Canadian Council of Churches, and served as Secretary General of the 2010 Religious Leaders’ Summit, coinciding with the G8 political leaders’ summits. He was a member of the steering committee of the Interreligious Roundtable of Tony Blair’s Faith Foundation. A leader in the NGO movement for global democracy, UN reform and human rights, he chaired the Council of the World Federalist Movement/Institute for Global Policy (a 2002 Nobel Peace Prize nominee for leadership in the International Criminal Court Treaty).



Dr Jennifer McCarthy

**Canada | Project Manager, PaRD / GIZ**

Jennifer McCarthy joined the PaRD Secretariat at GIZ in March 2022. She is originally from Canada but has lived, worked and studied abroad since 2003, and has 12 years of development practice experience. She has worked with NGOs in Afghanistan, Indonesia, and Myanmar, as well as in the UK and Canada. Her postgraduate research, including her PhD, took place in northern Afghanistan and aimed to understand how the international assistance flowing into that region for 'participatory development' could be made to be more effective.. Her areas of expertise are gender equality, participation, resilience, and partnership working. Within PaRD, Jennifer facilitates the Workstreams and Taskforces and PaRD member engagement in global and regional events throughout the year.

## Chile



Maria Jose Ananias

**Chile | GNRC Network and Programs Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean, Arigatou International**

María José Ananías, regional coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Global Network of Religions for Children (GNRC), an initiative of Arigatou International. She lives in Santiago de Chile where she coordinated the GNRC Chile committee for 2 years. She is a social communicator, she is finishing a Master's in Interreligious Dialogue from the Higher Institute of Religious Sciences in Barcelona. She is coordinator of the chair of Theology, Interreligious Dialogue and Human Rights at the Evangelical Theological Community of Chile where she is also a teacher of the courses of Interreligious Dialogue and Comparative Religions. She is a member of the Chilean Association of Interreligious Dialogue for Human Development (ADIR Chile) and a KAICIID fellow.



Arturo Coña Pirul - Adir

**Chile | Director, Asociacion Chilena del Dialogo Interreligioso - Adir; Representative Indigenous Spiritualities in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Arturo Coña Pirul, chileno, profesor, director y conductor de programas de radio de caracterintercultural de los pueblos indigenas de Chile, vicepresidente de la Asociacion Chilena del Dialogo Interreligioso - Adir. Miembro alterno de espiritualidades indigenas en America Latina y el Caribe del Consejo Caribeño de Lideres Religiosos-Religiones por la Paz. En ADIR, Asociacion Chilena del Dialogo Interreligioso, represento la espiritualidad del Pueblo Mapuche en contextos de politica publica, programa de salud intercultural y rol de nuestras autoridades espirituales en la interrelacion con la sociedad, en procesos de recuperacion y fortalecimiento de la fe, tolerancia, dialogo, esperanza, solidaridad.

## Colombia



Iván Bonilla

**Colombia | Presidente, Consejo Regional de Libertad Religiosa - Colombia; Dundacion Roble Internacional**

Colombian by birth, political scientist and theologian. Specialization in Political Marketing. NDI. Postgraduate in Social Management, and in human rights. Honoris Causa in Biotechnology and Industrial Processes. Honoris Causa in Business Administration. He has been National Coordinator of the constitutional civic pedagogy project of the Presidential Council for Youth, Women and Family. Served as Executive Director and legal representative of the Pensamiento Joven Foundation. He was advisor in charge of ACCI (Colombian agency for international cooperation) of the presidency of the republic to moderate the social action program for Bogotá. Currently serves voluntarily as president of the Puente Aranda local religious freedom committee in Bogotá and as president of the regional religious freedom council for Colombia.



Jose Oscar Henao Monje

**Colombia | Coordinador de Gestión de Conocimiento y Proyectos, Temporalidades de la Iglesia Catolica Diocesis de Puntarenas**

Economista con amplia experiencia en diseño e implementación de políticas públicas para el desarrollo económico y social en América Latina y el Caribe. Actualmente coordina el área de proyectos y gestión de conocimiento en Cáritas América Latina y el Caribe. Experto en análisis de desigualdad, pobreza y desarrollo sostenible, con sólida formación en estadística y econometría. Ha colaborado con el sector público, privado y organismos multilaterales, así como en investigación y docencia. Apasionado por generar un impacto positivo en la sociedad.

Nixon Icopo

**Colombia | Fundación Roble del Sur**

Mi nombre es Nixon Icopo, soy de Colombia y he sido miembro de la Iglesia de Jesucristo de los Santos de los últimos días toda mi vida. Desde joven he tenido la oportunidad de servir a la comunidad tanto en la iglesia como fuera de ella. He servido como misionero de enseñanza, obispo, líder de jóvenes y adultos, entre otros. Actualmente sirvo como consejero de la misión Colombia Medellín. Soy miembro de la fundación Roble del Sur y el año pasado participé del seminario suramericano "Nuestra mayordomía de las creaciones de Dios". Con base en esta experiencia tomé la iniciativa para plantear un proyecto cuyo objetivo es desarrollar un laboratorio de aprendizaje que busca complementar mis conocimientos en la agricultura sintrópica y aplicarlos a través de la experimentación. A partir de allí capitalizar el conocimiento para continuar aplicándolo a una escala mayor que impacte a mi comunidad cercana.

## Benjamin Icopo

### **Colombia | Student Council President at UPB School, Consejo Regional de Libertad Religiosa Colombia**

Mi nombre es BENJAMIN ICOPO, colombiano de nacimiento, estudiante de secundaria, Líder estudiantil y miembro activo de la Iglesia de Jesucristo de los Santos de los Últimos Días. Sirvo como voluntario en el CONSEJO REGIONAL DE LIBERTAD RELIGIOSA, actualmente lidero la iniciativa juvenil que promueve desde sus regiones y confesiones religiosas el diálogo, la tolerancia, la inclusión y respeto por la vida. La mayoría son abanderados en las redes sociales y en las comunidades en temas como la discriminación, el rescate por los valores y el fortalecimiento de las familias. Además, apoyo el Banco de proyectos interreligiosos, una alternativa para presentar proyectos dirigidos a la prevención del suicidio, brindando ayuda psicosocial a este sector interreligioso y juvenil de la población que necesita ser atendido y que ha sido muy afectado desde la pandemia.

## Andres Martinez

### **Colombia | Technical Adviser, United States Institute of Peace**

Andrés Martínez is a technical adviser for Religion and Inclusive Societies at the U.S. Institute of Peace, where he leads the Religious and Psychosocial Support for Displaced Trauma Survivors project. This project facilitates more effective collaboration between religious actors and mental health professionals who offer support to conflict-affected communities. Before joining USIP he was the Colombia country director at Creative Learning, where he managed local and international peacebuilding programs. Prior to that, Andrés was program director at the International Peace & Security Institute in Washington, D.C., where he was responsible for the planning and implementation of peace ed programs in areas such as mediation, negotiation, and reconciliation. Andrés received his MA in gender and peacebuilding from the UN Mandated University for Peace. He holds a graduate degree in conflict resolution and is a certified psychologist from Javeriana University.



## Rev. Harold Segura

### **Colombia | Director Regional de Fe y Desarrollo, World Vision América Latina y el Caribe**

HAROLD SEGURA: Director del Departamento de Fe y Desarrollo de World Vision para América Latina y El Caribe. Pastor bautista desde 1980, teólogo y administrador de empresas. Ex-rector del Seminario Teológico Bautista Internacional, h Fundación Universitaria Bautista. Profesor universitario y docente teológico. Vinculado al trabajo de Organizaciones No Gubernamentales (ONG) y especialista en áreas de fe y desarrollo. Coaching Ontológico certificado (2020) por Newfield Consulting y miembro de la Federación Internacional de Coaching Ontológico Profesional, FICOP. Colombiano, casado con Marilú Navarro; padre de Laura y Juan Miguel. Administrador de Empresas, de la Universidad Santiago de Cali, Licenciado en Teología, Magister en Teología del Seminario Teológico Bautista Internacional de Cali. Teólogo de la Fundación Universitaria Bautista, de Cali, Colombia. Magíster en Ciencias de la Religión. Egresado del programa doctoral en Teología de la Pontificia Universidad Javeriana,



## Maria Lucia Uribe Torres

### **Colombia | Executive Director, Arigatou International**

Ms. Maria Lucia Uribe has been the Executive Director of Arigatou International's Geneva office since 2013. She oversees the Ethics Education for Children Initiative in over 30 countries, promoting values-based education to prevent violence and foster peace, interfaith, and intercultural learning and collaboration. She also leads Arigatou's child rights initiatives with the UN and Human Rights mechanisms in Geneva. Ms. Uribe convenes the International Consortium on Nurturing Values and Spirituality in Early Childhood for the Prevention of Violence and the Working Group on Children and Violence of Child Rights Connect. She holds a Master's in Peace and Conflict Transformation and a Bachelor's in International Relations and Finances. She is a member of the G20 Interfaith Forum Working Group on Education, and from 2017 to 2021 she served in the Steering Group of PaRD.

# Costa Rica



## Francisco Hernández Rojas

### **Costa Rica, | Director, Consejo Episcopal Latinoamericano y Caribeño; CELAM**

Soy sacerdote católico que tengo formación en sociología y pensamiento social cristiano. He sido profesor universitario, Director General para América Latina y el Caribe de Caritas Internationalis por 16 años, y actualmente me desempeño como Director del Programas y Redes de acción socio-pastoral del Consejo Episcopal Latinoamericano-CELAM, razón por la cual vivo en Bogotá-Colombia, pues en esta ciudad se encuentra la sede del CELAM. Esta es la organización que articula y coordina la Acción de toda la Iglesia Católica en América Latina y el Caribe (ALyC), y establece su servicio para las 22 Conferencias Episcopales que integran la región de ALyC. He estado en la Coordinación Inter-religiosa de Organizaciones Basadas en la Fe, en la articulación para la Agenda 2030 por varios años. He participado en una gran diversidad de encuentros, congresos, seminarios, y foros de las diversas instancias de las Naciones Unidas.



Ligia Elena Matamoros Bonilla

**Costa Rica | Religions for Peace**

Ligia Elena Matamoros Bonilla is from Costa Rica. She is a professional in Business Administration, Accounting, and International Business. She has been trained in Youth Ministry, Catholic Social Doctrine, Pastoral Planning, Abuse Prevention, and Interreligious Dialogue. She is passionate about working with young people; since a very young age, she has been a volunteer in the Youth Ministry processes of the Catholic Church, serving at the parish, diocesan, national, regional, and Latin American levels. She collaborates with Religions for Peace as a moderator of the Latin America and the Caribbean Interreligious Youth Network and as a member of the International Youth Committee. Since 2022, she has been part of the KAICIID Fellows program.

Mishelle Mitchell

**Costa Rica | Regional Director External Engagement & Advocacy, World Vision**

Mishelle Mitchell es periodista y MBA de reconocida trayectoria en cobertura económica y política, tanto en Costa Rica como para medios internacionales. Graduada de la Universidad de Costa Rica y fellow de Rice University. Primera mujer afrodescendiente presentadora y editora del principal noticiario en su país. Fundadora pionera del primer programa televisivo especializado en negocios y finanzas de su país, Lunes Financieros. Ex Directora de Prensa de la Presidencia de la República, durante el segundo mandato del Nobel de la Paz, Oscar Ariasby ex directora de medios. Comunicadora estratégica. Miembro de Comunidad PAS, junto con su esposo dirige el Ministerio para familias combinadas-BLEND-. Esposa y madre de dos hijos.

# Democratic Republic of the Congo

Rigobert Minani Bihuzo, sj. Ph.D

**Democratic Republic of the Congo | Régional Coordinator, Réseau Ecclesial du Bassin du Congo (REBAC)**

Fr. Rigobert Minani Bihuzo S.J. Ph.D, is the central Africa regional coordinator of the Ecclesial network work for the Congo basin forest (REBAC) <https://rebacongobassin.org/> and the current moderator of the Ecclesial Networks alliance for integral ecology (ENA).He leads the research on ecology, peace, human rights, democracy, and good governance practice at the Centre d'Etudes Pour l'Action Sociale (CEPAS) in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). He also served as director of the Jesuit Social Centers network in Africa in Nairobi and has been collaborating with San Egidio in peace talks in DRC.. He has received several honors including a Woodrow Wilson Center fellowship (2019), the "Change Maker Award 2005" (DIAKONIA, Stockholm), and the "Young Leaders Sasakawa Prize 2007" (Tokyo, 2008). Fr. Minani holds several degrees including a Ph.D. in political social and economic sciences at the Catholic Institute of Paris (ICP).

Passy Mubalama

**Democratic Republic of the Congo | Executive Director, AIDPROFEN**

Ms. Passy Mubalama is a Pro-democracy and woman rights defender from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). She is the Founder and Executive Director of Action and Development Initiative for the Protection of Women and Children affected by conflict (AIDPROFEN), a nonprofit Congolese organization that promotes women's rights and Peacebuilding through nonviolent actions. Passy is one on the IDOVERS Interfaith Dialogue on Violent Extremism (iDove) an international grassroots youth-led movement that empowers young people from around the world to play an active role in preventing violent extremism by employing the soft power of religion.

Passy received in 2014 a Mandela Washington Fellowship from the Young African Leaders Initiative, she also received in 2018 the Reagan Fascell Democracy fellowship award in Washington DC and has been awarded in 2020 the women of distinction award by the Commission on the status of women of the United Nation in New York for her work promoting women rig

# Denmark

Katja Gunnertoft Bojsen

**Denmark | General Secretary, Center for Church-Based Development (CKU)**

I am leading the umbrella organization of FBO and churches working with development from Denmark. We have 34 member organizations and serves as the mail pool for NGOs working in the field of religion and development for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Danida. I have a background from working with inclusive education in East Africa, grants administration and public engagement in the Ministry of Science and Education. In CKU our strategic areas within religion and development are: creation care, peace building, freedom of religion and belief and youth/children as main actors.



Esben Lunde Larsen

**Denmark | Senior Specialist, World Bank**

Esben Lunde Larsen is a former Danish Minister for Higher Education and Science and for Environment and Agriculture and Food. He has been a Member of the Danish Parliament and Deputy Mayor. Later he became the founder and director of Faith and Sustainability at the World Resources Institute in Washington DC, and a member of His Holiness the Pope's Vatican Commission. Today, Esben Lunde Larsen serves as a Senior Specialist at the World Bank in Washington DC. Esben Lunde Larsen holds a Ph.d. in Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Religion from the University of Copenhagen.



Filip Pedersen

**Denmark | CKU Center for Church Based Development & NORFORB**

Filip Buff Pedersen, Political Advisor at CKU Center for Church Based Development. Extensive experience from Faith based organizations in international development cooperation. Currently function as: Coordinator for the Danish Network on Religion and Development, NORFORB and responsible for Networking and Advocacy for the Freedom of religion or belief online learning platform. CO-lead PaRD FoRB workstream

## Netherlands



Maurice A. Bloem

**Dutch | President/CEO, JLI**

Maurice A. Bloem is interim President/CEO of the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities (JLI). Maurice concurrently serves as the Chief Sustainability and Impact Officer at Church World Service (CWS). At CWS, he leads the Innovation Hub and the Faith and Partnership Hub, and representing CWS at the UN on global issues like gender, SDGs and climate change. Maurice has a rich background in food and nutrition security, health and AIDS, migration, community-led development, participatory approaches, and disaster response, notably in Indonesia/Timor-Leste post-2004. He holds a Master's degree in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Leiden. He walks 100 miles per week since 2011 to raise awareness about hunger, poverty, and injustice. Maurice also launched his podcast, "Walk Talk Listen," in 2020 and is on the board of Growing Hope Globally. He is a Advisor at Seattle University's Center for Ecumenical and Interreligious Engagement.

## Ecuador

Fabián Campos

**Ecuador | Co Director of Movement Development, Laudato Si' Movement**

Fabián Campos studied at the Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador: a Multilingual Bachelor's Degree in Business and International Relations and a Master's in International Business. He has a Diploma in Integral Ecology from the RUC. Fabián has finished to study a Master in Human Development at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City and he is part of the KAICIID Fellows Program for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue. He participated in the Ignatian Latin American University Leadership Program at AUSJAL in Quito and in the Ibero-American Leadership Program at the Pablo VI Foundation in Madrid. He serves as Co Director of Movement Development for the Laudato Si' Movement and is a Founding Member of the Ibero-American Leadership Network.



Core Pomaquero

**Ecuador | Medical Doctor, Fundación el Cóndor y el Águila**

My name is Core Pomaquero, and I am a native Puruhá person from Ecuador. I graduated from Medical School at the University San Francisco de Quito. Prior to studying medicine I was a youth leader in Quito, where I taught young people about nutrition and healthy living. With the youth I organized charitable events for homeless people in Quito. During medical school, I volunteered at an orphanage in Mexico where I provided medical services for the children. I am passionate about health and the art of nutrition. I have published an article titled "Key points for the development of antioxidant cocktails to prevent cellular stress and damage caused by reactive oxygen species (ROS) during manned space missions." Currently I am researching chronic illnesses in rural zones in Ecuador.

## Egypt



Ahmed Hamdy

**Egypt| International Relations Manager, Muslim Council of Elders**

International Relations manager at Muslim Council of Elders, Abu Dhabi. Worked before as a personal secretary to the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar. Holding a master degree in political science from Cairo University, Egypt.



Youssef Aroog

**Egypt | Founder, Mediterranean Youth Foundation for Development - MYF**

Youssef Aroog. Founder of the Mediterranean Youth Foundation for Development, Youssef Aroog, a King Hamad SDGs and IIA-UNAOC/BMW Awardee, champions change across the EuroMed region. With a master's degree in European Integration and global studies, his research focuses on European youth policies. Aroog's scholarly and activist pursuits have earned him the honour of being a Jean Monnet Scholar." Youssef is interested in European Integration and international relations, youth empowerment, peace and security issues, and Al-Azhar chose him to participate in the Emerging Peacemakers Forum 2018 in London. Recently the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations invited him to participate in the "Young Peacebuilders Program". For the last five years, Youssef has focused on conceptualizing new youth peace projects, coordinating with civil society and religious organizations and international agencies.



Salma El Tanany

**Egypt | Head of Civil Society Division and Acting Director of Citizens and Diaspora (CIDO) Directorate, The African Union**

Salma El Tanany holds more than 17 years of experience in coordinating and managing externally funded development projects since she started her career at the Economic Research Forum (ERF) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Egypt. Right before joining the African Union Commission, Salma was the Senior Advisor for Business Development at Pathfinder International. Prior to Pathfinder, Salma was the Deputy Chief of Party for USAID's- Strengthening Egypt's Family Planning Program (SEPPP) implemented by John Snow Inc. from 2018-2023. Salma worked with different entities, from the government, research tanks, international development organizations, to donor organizations. Her career has focused on making policy research in the MENA region more policy-relevant, timely and feasibly actionable for its intended audience. Salma served the Government of Egypt from 2006 to 2011 and holds both an MBA and an MPA and currently she is a PhD Candidate.



Dr. Ibrahim Attia Gadalla

**Egypt | Ph.D. in Interpreting and Linguistics, Translator and Interpreter at the Secretariate General, Muslim Council of Elders**

As a Ph.D. researcher in linguistics and simultaneous interpreting studies, my dissertation titled "Quality Assessment in Simultaneous Conference Interpreting: A Multi-Modal Approach" delves into the critical examination of interpreting quality and accuracy. Throughout my doctoral journey, my role as a professional interpreter has been instrumental, infusing the exploration with practical insights and making the discoveries deeply fulfilling. As a dedicated professional, I am immersed in a diverse range of interpreting assignments every day, deftly handling simultaneous, consecutive, and whispering interpretations from English into Arabic and vice versa. My skills have led me to accumulate over 141 hours of interpreting for the Council, as recorded.

Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam

**Egypt | Secretary General, Muslim Council of Elders**

Secretary General of Muslim Council of Elders; Secretary General of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity (2019 - 2023); Co-president, Religions for Peace.

# Ethiopia



Rev. Tagay Tadele Asenake

**Ethiopia | Secretary General, Inter Religious council of Ethiopia**

My name is Tagay Tadele. Representing the Ethiopian Orthodox Church currently I am working for the Inter Religious Council of Ethiopia as the Secretary Genral. I am committed and concerned enough in promoting coexistence and social cohesion in Ethiopia.

Mr. Wondmagegn Udessa

**Ethiopia | Director of Children and Youth Ministry Department, Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus**

My name is Wondmagegn Udessa. Currently I am working as the Director of Children and Youth Ministry Department at the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, the largest Lutheran Church in the world with a total members of 12 million. My academic background includes: BA in Economics, a MA in Organizational Leadership , and a Bachelor of Theology and a MA in Theology. Since I came to this position at the head office of the EECMY, I had the privilege of attending different continental and global-level programs and meetings as a Youth delegates and Church representative. Recently, I was elected as the Governing Committee Member of the All Africa Conference of Churches, at the 12th General Assembly in Abuja, Nigeria; for the next five years. In EECMY, we are working strategically to equip our children and youth as stewards of the environment and agents of change. My professional goals are to equip the emerging generations in a holistic way so that they become agents of change.



Amb. Mussie Hailu

**Ethiopia | Regional Director for Africa and Representative to the African Union and UN Office in Africa, United Religions Initiative**

Amb. Mussie Hailu is working at national, regional, and international levels in promoting peace, reconciliation, interfaith harmony, disarmament, preservation of environment and international cooperation for the good of all humanity and life form. He considers himself a Citizen of the World, believing strongly in the inter-dependence of human beings and nature. He initiated the Golden Rule Day which is celebrated now in different part of the world to foster human dignity, interfaith & intercultural harmony, compassion, peaceful coexistence and to counter violent extremism, hate speech and to uphold the universal declaration of human right. He has served at national, regional and international organizations. Mussie also served as Diplomat in the rank of Ambassador-at-Large and Special Envoy. Currently, Amb Mussie Hailu serves as Regional Director of URI for Africa and URI Representative at the African Union and United Nations Office in Africa. He is a founding member of URI.



Mahlet Abreham Tibebe

**Ethiopia | Programme Executive Horn of Africa Peace Program, The All Africa Conferences of Churches**

Mahlet Aberham is the Programme Executive Horn of Africa Peace Project at the All African Conferences of Churches (AACC) Liaison Office to the African Union where she leads peace advocacy missions at the AU and IGAD. Before her work at AACC, she was the program Directress at the Ethiopian Human Rights Defenders Center, a civil society organization, that works on the promotion and protection of Human Rights Defenders in Ethiopia and was an emergency program consultant with Catholic Relief Service (CRS) where she advised on peacebuilding, emergency response, protection and gender-related programs. Mahlet is a proud feminist and has extensive research experience and publications in which she investigates issues of women's rights such as the protection of internally displaced women, women' political participation, and Conflict-related sexual violence. She earned her Master's degree in International Human Rights Law from the University of Sussex, Chevening alumni, YALI and AWLI.

# France

Dr. Alexis Artaud de La Ferriere

**France | Royal Holloway, University of London**

Alexis Artaud de La Ferrière is a Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Sociology at Royal Holloway College University of London and an Associate Researcher at the Groupe Sociétés Religions Laïcités (EPHE/CNRS) in Paris. He is also a member of the Panel of Experts for the International Religious Liberty Association and a member of the Council of Experts for the International Association for the Defense of Religious Freedom. His publications include works on Church-State relations, laïcité, freedom of religion and belief, and secularization theory.

Ines Belliard

**France | Program Manager, Global One 2015**

Inès Belliard is an International Development graduate from King's College London. She is the program manager of Global One 2015, an international NGO which uses faith and culture as tools for increasing knowledge and promoting positive behavioural change in communities. She has been working tirelessly to build the Alliance of NGOs and CSOs for South-South Cooperation and is very proud to have developed the membership to 500 members. She is driven by a passion to build communities in the Global South sustainably and with dignity with a focus on gender and youth.

Her journey reflects a deep-seated passion for sustainable development, cultural understanding, and effective global collaboration

# Germany

Dr. Yasemin El-Menouar

**Germany | Senior Expert, Head of the Religion Monitor, Bertelsmann Stiftung, ST-LW**

Dr. Yasemin El-Menouar is a Senior Expert at the Bertelsmann Stiftung and has led the Religion Monitor project since 2014, focusing on the role of religion and religious diversity in social cohesion. Previously, the Islamic Studies expert and sociologist with a Ph.D. led research projects at the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) on behalf of the German Islam Conference (DIK), conducted research at the Institute of Social Sciences at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (HHU), and served as an Associate Fellow at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP). She is a member of the Independent Expert Group on Anti-Muslim Hatred (UEM) appointed by the Federal Ministry of the Interior, a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Islamkolleg e.V. (IKD) in Osnabrück, and a founding member of the Expert Initiative on Religious Policy (EIR).



Imam Marwan Sarwar Gill

**Germany | President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Argentina**

Marwan Sarwar Gill is the Imam and President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Argentina. He was born and raised in Frankfurt (Germany) and graduated as Islamic Theologian from Jamia Ahmadiyya, England, United Kingdom. He is the coordinator of the Islamic magazine "Review of Religions" in Latin America which is published in several languages worldwide. He is panelist of the weekly program "Shalom Salam: jewish muslim dialogue" on the Jewish channel "Radio JAI", and is the co-founder of the "Jewish Muslim Fellowship". Due to his interfaith achievements in Argentina, he has been invited abroad to share his testimony in events such as the private audience with Caliph Mirza Masroor Ahmad in the UK, with Pope Francis in the Vatican, and with Chief Rabbi Lau in Jerusalem.



Raphael Marcus

**Germany | Chief Programs Officer, HIAS**

Raphael joined HIAS in 2018 and currently serves as the Chief Programs Officer, overseeing the Global Programs, Emergency Programs, Technical Quality and the Humanitarian Partnerships and Policy departments. He plays a pivotal role in advancing HIAS' mission to protect refugees, support host communities, and assist forcibly displaced populations in accessing their rights to rebuild their lives.

Before joining HIAS, Raphael worked for various INGOS's, including as the Director of International Operations and focused on medical rapid-response aid and complex emergencies. He has led humanitarian operations in response to numerous disasters and displacement crises around the world, as well as more recently, HIAS' responses to humanitarian emergencies in Chad, Ukraine and Venezuela.

Raphael was born in Switzerland, where his father served as a rabbi and grew up in Israel. He holds a Master of Public Health and Disaster Management from Tel Aviv University.





Stefan Sengstmann

**Germany | Director Technical Advisory Group World Vision Germany**

Stefan Sengstmann is the director of the technical advisory group in World Vision Germany where he oversees a cross sectoral team of technical experts. He has over 16 years of experience in development work. He was part of the World Visions African HIV and AIDS team working in multiple countries, focusing on projects around HIV and AIDS and reproductive health. He has also been part in developing new project approaches focusing around reproductive health. This includes the Channels of Hope approach that focuses on working with Religious Leaders as well as some behavior change models. In addition to that Stefan sits on the Steeringgroup of the Partnership for Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD) which is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes governmental, multilateral and Faith based organizations working to achieve the Sustainable Development goals. In this capacity he participated in panel discussions at the World Health Assembly as well as the Women Deliver conference.



Khushwant Singh

**Germany | Head of Secretariat of the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD)**

Khushwant Singh studied ethnology, education, and social anthropology, and completed his MA at Heidelberg University and his MRes at Goldsmiths College, University of London, both with distinction. Since 2006, he has been working in the field of international development cooperation, focusing on migration, know-how transfer, trade barriers, digitalization, and religion. Singh is a founding member of the Interfaith Council Frankfurt and served as its president from 2014 to 2017. He is engaged at SikhiCouncil (www.sikhi.eu), produces podcasts for young people, and volunteers in other initiatives on interfaith dialogue and anti-racism work (i.a. Stiftung Weltethos). Singh publishes and gives lectures on topics related to Sikhi/Gurmat, spirituality, ethics, behavior change, sustainability, and global challenges facing humanity. His publications include "Gurmat – The Art of Spiritual Wisdom" (Ginkgo Press, 2018) and "Sikhi's Wisdom, Ethics and (De)Radicalisation" (Globethics, 2023).

# Ghana

Ayishetu Abdul-Kadiri

**Ghana | Educationist/Chairperson, Faith in Ghana Alliance**

My name is Ayishetu Abdul-Kadiri, a female born on 4th June, 1963. I am a retired educationist and a Ghanaian from West Africa. I am currently chairing a multi-faith organization in Ghana called the Faith in Ghana Alliance. I have a second degree, M. Phil in the Study of Religions, from the University of Ghana, Legon. I am a strong gender advocate for women and girls' empowerment and development in relation to health, education, and environmental justice. Ghana is seriously affected by illegal mining, which is destroying water bodies and sources of potable drinking water for many rural communities. Women and girls are disproportionately affected as they have to walk long distances in search of water for the family. Hence, the intensive advocacy and education to protect the environment. Therefore, attending this conference will be an opportunity to share experiences and strengthen the value of sharing experiences to enhance and deepen the commitment to our purposeful action to promote holistic human development.

Dr. Salisu Muhammad Mas-oud

**Ghana | Executive Director and Managing Director**

As an individual working in both industries: corporate for profit and religious for humanity, it always broadens my horizon working with different people from diverse backgrounds and it satisfies me enormously that I serve my family, community and God. I believe we have a duty to protect our environment and make it safer and comfortable for generations to live comfortably as we inherent. I would like to use most of my time hence fighting for the environment and our community, hence my decision to join the religious bodies network for climate change (RELBONET) which was established in Ghana to promote climate change mitigation and adaption mechanisms. I would use my influence politically and religiously and as a corporate executive to champion this course.

I love education and desire to learn and acquire the necessary skills in the 21st century led me to obtain eleven masters and post graduate degrees and diplomas and one doctoral degree in business administration over 9 years period



His Eminence Alhaji Khuzaima Mohammed Osman

**Ghana | Chairman of Finance and Fundraising Committee of Greater Accra Regional Peace Council**

I have been working with religious and civil society organizations for the past 16 years championing human rights particularly women and children, climate change especially among religious groups who do believe in the concept and advent of climate change and its effects on the planet while myself and my wife ran a pre school and lead an organization that focuses on providing educational support for the less privileged in Ghana. I am humbly the Executive Secretary of Tijjaniya Muslims of Ghana, the largest and most dominant Muslim group in Ghana and represent the sect at the National Peace Council of Ghana (NPC) where I serve at the Nation's capital body, the greater Accra council as the chairman of the finance and fundraising committee. I have attended international and represented my country and religious sect at international events that help me acquire and widen my knowledge and experience dealing with global pandemics and issues. I have co-founded an organization specifically for cc



Chief Dr. Doliwura Zakaria

**Ghana | Chairman AU-IFDF**

Chief Dr. Doliwura is a scholar and a traditional leader in Ghana. Besides, he has enormous, empirical, professional and academic records in many fields including leadership, networking, lobbying, resource mobilization, financial management, auditing, monitoring and evaluation. He is a chief in the Kusawgu Traditional Area in the Savannah Region of Ghana. Doliwura holds PhD in Public Policy Administration from Walden University, USA. He also holds Masters Degrees in Economic Policy Management and MBA in Finance, awarded by the University of Ghana. He has served as a lecturer in the following academic and professional institutions: Institute of Local Government Studies, Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana.

He is currently the Chairman of African Union-Interfaith Dialogue Forum; Assistant Controller & Accountant General; and Director at The Ministry of Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, Accra. He has also consulted and organized training programs for over 275 institutions.

## Guatemala



Victoria Peláez

**Guatemala | Coordinator for Guatemalan Interreligious Dialogue for Development / Religions for Peace**

Roman Catholic. KAICIID Fellow (2015). She has coordinated the Guatemalan Interreligious Dialogue for more than 20 years. University professor and social researcher. She has worked in studies, training processes and has published articles on gender relations, migrations and local development.

In the field of Interreligious Dialogue, she has participated in training experiences for young people, advocacy and the opening of spaces for dialogue on development issues. She believes in social participation as an important element in promoting inclusive societies; and dialogue and diplomacy as necessary mechanisms for institutional transformations.



Vilma Rosaura Palax Tuy

**Guatemala | Kaiciid**

Mi nombre es Vilma Rosaura Palax Tuy, Abogada y Notaria; Auxiliar Judicial del Organismo Judicial de Guatemala; formo parte de Fellows Programme de Kaiciid.

My name is Vilma Rosaura Palax Tuy, Lawyer and Notary; Judicial Assistant of the Judicial Agency of Guatemala; I am part of Kaiciid's Fellows Programme.

## Guyana



Neil Bacchus

**Guyana | Secretary/Chief Executive Officer Interreligious Organisations of Guyana/Indigenous Peoples' Commission**

Neil Bacchus's career is a testament to his unwavering dedication to public service, human rights advocacy, and educational excellence. His extensive qualifications, diverse professional experiences, and deep commitment to community service and the religious community make him a distinguished leader and a valuable asset to any organization. Through his leadership at the Indigenous Peoples' Commission, the Inter-Religious Organizations of Guyana and his numerous contributions to various sectors, Neil continues to make a significant impact on the lives of many, advocating for equity, justice, and sustainable development..

Neil believes in having a good ethical character, honesty and self-discipline. His career, marked by strong leadership, strategic planning, and a commitment to social equity, reflects a profound dedication to professional excellence. He enjoys Volunteering.

Neil is a level 2 Human Rights professional and has a Fellowship in Inter-Religious Dialogue and Culture

## India



Mervyn DMello

**India | Divisional Head -Programs & Partnerships IJM**

Worked with anti-human trafficking NGO for a little over 14 years; this was particularly in the field of sex trafficking for over 12 years and in the field of labour trafficking including Bonded labour for over 2 years. Worked with inter faith communities to support government agencies like 1. police to rescue minors (below 18 years) from brothels, bars, spas etc to ensure violence against them is immediately stopped. 2. with courts to ensure prosecution of perpetrators (identifying and listing potential independent witnesses from faith communities to support legal case by their testimonies in court) 3. with government and non-government shelter homes to support survivors in areas like a. counselling b. skill development c. health care etc,

In the field of labour trafficking including Bonded Labour worked with primary stakeholders like the District Administration, Labour Dept,, police and courts to ensure rescue, rehab and prosecution

Faraz Hashmi

**India | Treasurer Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities**

Faraz serves as the Treasurer of the Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities. His experience brings a unique blend of management consulting expertise and a profound commitment to interfaith collaboration.

Faraz seeks opportunities to engage with diverse stakeholders, build partnerships, and amplify the voices of marginalized communities, recognizing the importance of inclusive dialogue in building a more peaceful and harmonious world. He is responsible for overseeing the IAFSC's programs across the world.

Driven by a passion for fostering understanding and cooperation among diverse religious communities and having worked with leading management consulting firms as well as public sector entities for nearly two decades, Faraz leverages his management consulting skills to develop innovative strategies and sustainable solutions that address the complex challenges facing interfaith dialogue and cooperation.

## Vijayendra Kadalabal

### India | Board Member Hindus for Human Rights

Vijayendra is a fellowship director at Bard College, where he drives a joint fellowship program with SOAS University, London, to strengthen Indian diaspora. Vijay is also a board member for Hindus for Human Rights.

Vijay has over nine years of experience in nonprofit leadership, mentoring, and social justice advocacy, working with communities across various states in India.

He is also a Chevening Scholar and holds a MSc in International Development from the University of Manchester, where he focused on poverty, conflict, and reconstruction. He also has a MSW from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, where he specialized in community organisation and development practices and a Masters in Financial Economics from Gokhale Institute of Politics & Economics (GIPE), Pune.



## Binalakshmi Nepram

### India | Senior Adviser on Indigenous Issues, Religion & Inclusive Societies, United States Institute of Peace

Binalakshmi "Bina" Nepram is the senior adviser on Indigenous issues for the religion and inclusive societies team at USIP.

Nepram joined USIP after spending time as a fellow at the Carr Centre for Human Rights, Harvard University's Kennedy School of Governance and at Harvard's Asia Centre, where she worked on documenting Indigenous nations and aspects of gender and peacebuilding with Indigenous women peacebuilders. Prior to joining Harvard University, Nepram also worked at Connecticut College, where she taught a course called "Women, War and Peace." Nepram also was a research assistant in the Indigenous rights summer program organized by Institute of Human Rights at Columbia University.

Nepram founded the award-winning and women-led Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network and served as its director of programs. She also helped found the Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace; the Control Arms Foundation of India; and the Global Alliance of Indigenous Peoples, Gender Justice and

## Dinesh Suna

### India | Programme Executive World Council of Churches

Mr. Dinesh Suna is the Coordinator of the Ecumenical Water Network (EWN) at World Council of Churches (WCC) in Geneva, Switzerland since 2012. WCC is a global fellowship of 350 Protestant and Orthodox churches in 120 countries representing over half a billion Christians.

Started in 2006, the Ecumenical Water Network (EWN) works on increasing access to safe drinking water and a dignified sanitation worldwide. The EWN is primarily engaged on advocacy for water justice within a human rights framework.

He is also the focal point for the WCC's working group on Land, water and food justice.

He has worked with several ecumenical organizations in his home country in India since the 1990s. Currently he is one of the Co-leads of the PaRD (Partnership of Religions and Sustainable Development) workstream on "Environment, Water and Climate Action" (WeCARE) and a founding member of the People's Water Forum.

# Indonesia

## Dr. Hj. Nurjannah Abna, SS., M.Pd

### Indonesia | Universitas Muslim Indonesia

I am Dr. Hj Nurjannah Abna, S.S., M.Pd, born in Watampone March 7, 1971. Watampone is one of the cities in South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia, I completed elementary school in Bone, junior high school, and high school at the IMMIM Minasate'ne Islamic Boarding School in Pangkep for 6 years. I continued my undergraduate studies at the Faculty of Letters UMI and finished in 1993, Master of Aranes Language Education at Makassar State University and finished in 2003 and continued my doctoral program in Aranes Language Education at UIN Alauddin Makassar and finished in 2013. Currently, he is a permanent lecturer at the UMI Waqf Foundation in the Arabic Language Study Program at the Faculty of Letters, Muslim Indonesia University, and also has the mandate as Head of Public Relations, Protocol and Cooperation of UMI. Has conducted research, dedication, and publication of writings and published books. Among them are 2015, Conformity Model and Interfaith Conflict Resolution

## Prof. Dr. Phil. H. Kamaruddin Amin, M.A.

### Indonesia | Director General of Islamic Community Guidance, Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs

Prof. Dr. Phil. H. Kamaruddin Amin, M.A. was born in Borneo, 1969. He is middle child of a well-known Muslim Scholar, he grew up surrounded by Islamic Environment. Finished his Bachelor degree in 1994, continue his Master degree in Leiden University and graduated in 1998, then took his Ph.D and excelled it by graduated with Summa Cum Laude from Bonn University in 2005. He began his career as a lecturer in Islamic State University Alauddin Makassar in South Sulawesi, became the Vice Rector for Cooperation in the same university since 2007 until 2011. Then continue his career in the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs as Secretary of Directorate General of Islamic Studies in 2012 until 2014. Proposed as Director General of Islamic Studies in 2014 until 2020. And then proposed Director General of Islamic Community Guidance since 2020 until present. Aside from being Higher Government Official in MoRA, he recently proposed as the Chairman of Indonesian Waqf Board for 3 upcoming years.



Nuria Isna Asyar

**Indonesia | Special Staff of International Affairs, Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs**

Nuria Isna Asyar. Youngest child out of 3 siblings, born in 1997. Graduated as BA of Economic and has been working in Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs as Special Staff for International Affairs since 2018. Currently pursuing her master degree on Communication Science. She represents the Government of Indonesia in PaRD, became a member of Steering Board and proposed as Co-Chair of Government Entities in PaRD since 2023. Her interest on Global Issues, Community Development, Religion and SDGs got her to speak on some International events such as "Muslim Youth Leadership Summit 2023" in Nigeria and "A Discussion on the Danish Initiative in Indonesia: Promoting Religious Freedom and Tolerance" in Copenhagen.

Prof. Dr. Waryono Abdul Ghofur, M.Ag

**Indonesia | Director of Zakat and Waqf Empowerment**

Prof. Dr. Waryono Abdul Ghofur, born in 1970, is a academics and bureaucrats who have a strong educational background and extensive experience in the fields of education and zakat and waqf management. He finished his Bachelor, Master and Ph.D degree in Islamic State University of Yogyakarta. He began his career as a lecturer in the same university he studied in since 2000 until 2020. Then his position in Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs started in 2020 by becoming Director of Diniyah Education and Pondok Pesantren until 2023, then proposed as Director of Zakat and Waqf Empowerment since 2023 until present. He has conducted various research in the fields of humanity, sociology, religion and interpretation on 18 national and international scales, and there are 76 books and journals that have been published by him throughout his career. He is now part of Representative of Sharia Experts for the Indonesian Public Accountants Association (IAP) and a member of Indonesian Waqf Board.



Prof. Trisakti Handayani

**Indonesia | Dean of Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University of Muhammadiyah Malang**

My name is Prof. Dr. Trisakti Handayani, MM from the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University of Muhammadiyah Malang, Indonesia. My doctor is from Udayana University in the field of Cultural Sciences. I received a postdoc from Erasmus Mundus at the University of Innsbruck, Austria with research in the field of Gender Studies. The focus of my research is on Gender Issues. I have experience attending international conferences, writing journals, proceedings and books in the field of gender issues. One of my research titles is The Implementation of Gender Mainstreaming in Indonesia at the University of Minho, Braga, Portugal. One of the articles published in the Namibian Studies journal is Gender Cultural Study on Elementary Education Policies in Efforts to Minimize Gender Gap in East Java Province. Meanwhile, one of the books that has been published is Gender Research Concepts and Techniques.

Muhibuddin

**Indonesia | Head of Sub-Directorate of Education, Innovation and Collaboration on Zakat and Waqf**

Muhibuddin was born in 1979. He graduated as a bachelor of Islamic Philosophy from Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah in 2002 and graduated his master degree as Master on Sharia Banking in 2021 in the same university as before. He began his career in Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs as an Auditor in Inspectorate General of MoRA since 2013 until 2020. Then continue his career in the field of Islamic Philanthropy as Head of Sub-Directorate of Audit and Accreditation of Zakat Institutions in 2021-2023. Now he is the Head of Sub-Directorate of Education, Innovation and Collaboration on Zakat and Waqf. He was awarded with many titles, such as Qualified Internal Auditor (QIA) from Internal Audit Education Foundation (YPIA) in 2016, SAS-Zakat of the Indonesian Institute of Accountants (IAI) in 2019 and YVI ISO 27001 Certification in 2019. His main focus is now on Economic and Community Empowerment, Productive Waqf Incubation, and Waqf City.

Prof. Dr. Mursalim Laekkeng

**Indonesia | Director of Post Graduate, Universitas Muslim Indonesia**

I am a lecturer of Universitas Muslim Indonesia (UMI). At present my position is Director of Postgraduate UMI. I am the leader of Profesor of Indonesia Region Sulawesi and Kalimantan. Previously I was the Dean of Faculty of Economics and Business UMI.

Prof. Abdul Mukti

**Indonesia | Secretary General, Muhammadiyah**

Secretary General of Muhammadiyah, a modern Muslim organization established in 1912. Professor in Islamic Education Islamic State University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta. Chairman of Indonesian Conference of Religion and Peace. Active in interfaith dialogue and Cooperation. Latest Book: Christian Muhammadiyah: Managing Religious Diversity in School.

Prof. Akh. Muzakki

**Indonesia | Secretary General, Muhammadiyah**

I am Rector of Universitas Islam Negeri (State Islamic University) Sunan Ampel, Surabaya, Indonesia. I finished my PhD studies at the School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics (HPRC), the University of Queensland, Australia, under the International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) and the University of Queensland International Living Allowance (UQILAS), in 2009. I accomplished my undergraduate studies (BA) in Arabic Teaching at the IAIN Sunan Ampel, Indonesia, in 1996, and my first Masters in Islamic Studies (MA) at the same university in 2001. I obtained my Graduate Diploma in Southeast Asia Studies (Grad Dip SEA) from the Australian National University (ANU) in 2003, and Master of Philosophy (MPhil) from the same university in 2005. I have written several articles on Indonesian Islam with a range of focuses from Islamic law, political Islam, to Islam and pop culture for some journals and daily newspapers. I have currently been holding the position as the Secretary



Akmal Salim Ruhana

**Indonesia | Head of Sub-Directorate of Mosque Affairs, Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs**

Akmal Salim Ruhana, M.Pub.Pol. completed his study at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University, Canberra (2019). He currently serves as Head of Sub-Directorate of Mosque Affairs at the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA). His attention to current global issues has encouraged him to develop the concept and practice of eco-friendly mosques. His experience as a MoRA's researcher in interfaith issues (2005-2021) has sparked his curiosity to explore, compare, and formulate the concepts and best practices of implementing eco-friendly houses of worship among religious groups in the world. Through the Small Group Discussion "Eco-friendly House of Worship", he hopes to enrich each other's insight and inspiration in collaborative efforts to strengthen the role of religious groups in dealing with climate change and global warming. He can be reached at [akmalsalimruhana@gmail.com](mailto:akmalsalimruhana@gmail.com)

Prof. Dr. Sufirman Rahman, SH, MH

**Indonesia | Rector, Universitas Muslim Indonesia**

I am a Lecturer Faculty of Law within the position as Rector of Universitas Muslim Indonesia (UMI) in Makassar-South Sulawesi-Indonesia. I was Director Post Graduate of Universitas Muslim Indonesia for three years before accepting Rector position. I was also a Lawyer for several years before accepting the Director of Post Graduate position. As a Rector of UMI I deal within different back ground people, including interfaith organizations, such as UMI has good collaboration with Leimena Institute of Interfaith Literacy Training for teachers and preachers in South Sulawesi, especially in Makassar City.



Mr. Muhsin Syihab

**Indonesia | Senior Advisor to the Foreign Minister on Inter-Institutional Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia**

Current designation: Senior Advisor to the Foreign Minister on Inter-Institutional Relations, Republic of Indonesia.

Previous designation: Deputy Permanent Representative at the Indonesian Permanent Missions to the UN, New York

WIDYA R. UTAMI

**Indonesia | SECOND SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

A young Indonesian Diplomat with a decade experience at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA RI). Proficient in economic diplomacy leading high-performing teams to promote Indonesia. Champion the Ministry's Gender Mainstreaming initiatives. Currently serving as a Head of Section, providing strategic supports to Senior and Special Advisors to the Minister.



Alissa Qotrunnada Munawaroh Wahid

**Indonesia | Founder & Director of Gusdurian Network Indonesia, Gusdurian Network Indonesia**

Alissa Qotrunnada Munawaroh Wahid is a family psychologist and the Founder and National Director of GNI, the Gusdurian Network Indonesia, which collaborates with civil society organizations and Indonesia's state institutions. GNI is named after her late father, the former Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid, and is a network of grass roots actors which promotes democracy, human and minority rights, interfaith dialogue, and advocates for Freedom of Religion and Belief. At Nahdlatul Ulama, Indonesia's biggest faith-based organization with over 50 million Muslim members, she serves as the first female Co-Chair in the Executive Board, overseeing the welfare, culture, and environment programs. Alissa Wahid is also an expert for religious moderation programs of the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA) Indonesia and serves as Indonesia's SDGs Ambassador. At G20, she was a co-sherpa for Values20 in 2022. She monthly writes for Kompas Daily, the largest newspaper in Indonesia. Alissa Wahid has been named as one of Indonesia's 10 Most Powerful Women 2022 by Fortune Magazine and received the Niwano Peace Prize Visionary Award 2022 from Japan.

# Ireland



Carrick Reddin

## **Ireland | Manager, Faith and Sustainability Initiative, World Resources Institute**

Carrick Reddin is Project Manager for the WRI Faith and Sustainability Initiative. He partners with faith-based groups to identify ideas and implement programs that build capacity for community-level solutions to sustainability challenges with the goal of fostering environmentally sustainable, socially just communities.

Prior to joining WRI, Carrick worked as Senior Policy Fellow at Georgetown University's Environmental Justice Program, where he led a study on climate resilient sustainable development policies with the Government of Mongolia. Carrick has also held positions with AREP's global urban planning practice, Rise Community Development's affordable housing and urban planning teams, and the Children and Youth Constituency for Sustainable Communities.

Carrick holds a master's degree from the Urban School at l'Institut d'études politiques de Paris and a bachelor's degree in architecture and international development from Washington University in St. Louis.

Kevin Hyland OBE

## **Ireland | Strategy Director, Santa Marta Group**

Bio



Dr. Rachel Tavernor

## **Ireland | Global Gender Strategist, ACT Alliance**

Rachel is a Global Gender Strategist at ACT Alliance, a coalition of over 150 faith-based organisations working for sustainable development, humanitarian response, and advocacy. She has over six years of experience in leading and facilitating strategic gender initiatives, which focus on multi-stakeholder partnerships, global UN policy forums, and programme development at the intersection of gender, faith, and human rights.

With a PhD and background in Media and Cultural Studies, and committed to feminist values, Rachel has established new methodologies and tools for engaging with Member States, UN Agencies, and civil society actors on key issues, such as sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender-based violence, and climate justice. Rachel has a strong track record in advancing gender justice and equality by leveraging the potential and diversity of faith-based actors and allies, by co-creating impactful and inclusive campaigns, communications, and cross-cultural strategies.

# Israel

Aharon Ariel Lavi

## **Israel | Managing Director, The Ohr Torah Interfaith Center**

Lavi is the Managing Director of the Ohr Torah Interfaith Center, which works with religious leaders worldwide to make religion part of the solution to global challenges. He is also the founder and co-director of Hakhel, the Jewish Intentional Communities Incubator in the Diaspora (awarded the 2020 Jerusalem Unity Prize), and the founder of the Garin Shuva community on the Gaza border.

Lavi holds Rabbinic Semicha and academic degrees in Economics, Geography (BA), and History and Philosophy of Ideas (MA). He recently completed his PhD dissertation on the migration of ideas between US Jewry and Israeli society. In 2024, he was a post-doctoral fellow at the Harvard Divinity School and wrote on Jewishly-inspired community building. He is a published author on Jewish economic and environmental thought, community building, international religious affairs, and more.

Outside of his professional life, Lavi is an avid mountain biker, instructor, and trail builder.

Asher Maoz



## **Israel | Dean of the Peres Academic Center Law School**

Asher Maoz is a distinguished legal scholar and educator who has consistently exhibited exceptional leadership and dedication for several years. His influential role has played a pivotal part in shaping the institution's academic culture, emphasizing excellence, innovation, and intellectual rigor. As Dean, Maoz is responsible for overseeing academic programs and faculty, contributing to the law school's reputation for producing highly capable legal professionals equipped to navigate the complexities of our ever-evolving legal landscape. In addition to his administrative duties, Maoz is a highly regarded legal scholar with expertise spanning various areas of law. His research contributions have significantly enriched academic discourse, showcasing his unwavering commitment to advancing legal scholarship and justice.

# Italy



Davide Torzilli

## **Italy | UNHCR**

Mr. Davide Torzilli is the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) Representative in Brazil. Before that, he served as the Deputy Director of the UNHCR Office in New York and was the Senior Policy Advisor in charge of the Protection and Human Rights Section. He has contributed to developing the Global Compact on Refugees in this role. From July 2009 to April 2015, he served as the Senior Legal Advisor in the Bureau for the Americas at UNHCR Headquarters in Geneva, where he was in charge of policy, legal and protection issues within the Director's Office.

With over 26 years of experience with UNHCR and different responsibilities worldwide, Mr. Torzilli has a deep knowledge of refugee and humanitarian issues. His career started in Rwanda, initially as Protection Officer and later heading one of UNHCR's Field Offices, supporting the emergency and repatriation programs. He subsequently served at UNHCR Headquarters as Research Officer, contributing to the research on major refugee-producing countries.

# Japan



Rev. Yoshinobu Miyayke

## **Japan | International Shinto Studies Association**

Rt. Rev. Yoshinobu MIYAKE, born in 1958 into a well-known family of Shinto priests in Osaka, Japan. He studied at Doshisha University in Kyoto and at Harvard University. He took the important rolls in his Konko Church as Superior General. For the past 4 decades he has been active worldwide in the interfaith field, such as Religions for Peace and the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF). In 1997 he established RELNET Corporation, whose website publishes widely on religion-related matters in Japanese. He is serving Chair of the Board of International Shinto Studies Association. He led G20 Interfaith Forum 2019 in Kyoto to success as Chair of the Steering Committee. He appointed the Director General of the United Nations Association in Kansai. He published many books in Japanese. Most recently, he served as a keynote speaker for G20 Religion Forum 2022 in Bali. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yoshinobu\\_Miyake\\_\(religionist\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yoshinobu_Miyake_(religionist))

# Kazakhstan

Anuar Temirov

## **Kazakhstan | Ambassador's assistant, Embassy of Kazakhstan**

I am Ambassador's assistant who will represent the Embassy of Kazakhstan in Brasilia at the event

# Kenya

Felix Kiptoo

## **Kenya | Programme Lead-Right to Peace, Arigatou International**

Mr. Felix Kiptoo is a professional peacebuilder with vast experience in implementing peacebuilding programmes in the Eastern Africa region. He is currently the Programme Lead for Right to Peace at Arigatou International-Kenya, where he is managing the Eastern Africa Regional Peace Programme. In a world challenged by interconnected challenges, he believes in inclusion and meaningful participation of all stakeholders which is important to fostering dialogue as a first step to ending conflict. He is promoting social cohesion in the Eastern Africa region and advocating for Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) by mobilizing youth, men, women and religious leaders to enhance their capacities for promoting social cohesion and FoRB. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Studies from the University of Nairobi, Kenya, with a major in Security Studies. His purpose for peacebuilding is driven by silencing the guns in Africa and promoting the wellbeing of children.



Dr. Mustafa Y. Ali

## **Kenya | Secretary General Centre for Sustainable Conflict Resolution (CSCR)**

Dr. Mustafa Y. Ali is the Executive Director of Arigatou International-Nairobi and the Secretary General of the Global Network of Religions for Children. Deeply committed to building peaceful, just, safe, and secure communities, Dr. Ali has founded, developed, and led many innovative programs and initiatives to prevent, transform, and end conflicts and wars in several communities and countries worldwide. Dr. Ali serves as Co-Chair of the Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities (IAFSC), at the United Nations Multifaitth Advisory Council (UNMFAC), and on the boards of several global and grassroots development and peacebuilding organizations. In these capacities, Dr. Ali leverages global and grassroots leadership to transform societies from conflictual to harmonious, insecure to secure, and unsustainable to sustainable. He is a recipient of the Community Service Award from the Government of UAE, the Jasiri Award (for 'bravery' from the Government of Kenya, and the Coexist International Peace Prize, among others. Citations on the awards include: 'for his vision and courage in mobilizing religious and faith leaders in transforming difficult and challenging conflicts in many parts of Africa'; 'courage and bravery'; and 'service to communities'. With PhD, Masters and Bachelors degrees in International Relations, Sociology, Diplomacy, and Information Sciences; Dr. Ali is widely recognized as a scholar, an author, and a thought leader. He appears regularly on major international news channels as a commentator and expert on peace and conflicts, safety, and security. His books include The Globalization of Terrorism: From Sicariis, Assassins to ISIS; Globalization and the Media; and Alone and Frightened: Experiential Stories of Former Child Soldiers in Uganda. He is also an author of the BRAVE and CRAVE manuals and resource guides, among others, to address extremism and hate crimes. He has contributed several book chapters and conference papers on media, diplomacy, conflict, religion, and peace-building.



Sheikh Ibrahim Lethome

## **Kenya | Secretary General Centre for Sustainable Conflict Resolution (CSCR)**

My Names are Sheikh Ibrahim Lethome Asmani, I am a Lawyer and a Muslim religious scholar based in Kenya. Currently I am the secretary General of Centre for Sustainable Conflict Resolution( CSCR), an Intra-Faith Muslim led NGO whose main focus is using religion to address challenges facing society; e.g., Violent extremism, interfaith/ethnic conflict, Climate Change .

Also a Committee member of the Jamia Mosque -Nairobi, Member of Supreme Council Of Kenya Muslims.



Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro

## **Kenya | Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians**

Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro is one of the founders of The circle of Concerned African women , an academic group dedicated to changing the Narrative that African women do not study, write or research theology. Since 1999 when it was foundef Members have published more that 100 books and thousands of articles. Dr Kanyoro had worked in various ecumenical as staff or Board member. These include Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches and the World YWCA.

Her commitment to women is saw her become the president and CEO of the Global Fund for men. philanthropic foundation from which she retired in 2019. Currently Dr. Kanyoro is Board chair to United World Colleges and a member of the council of London School of Economics where she chairs the Ethic Committee of the university Dr. Kanyoro is also a member of the UN Global Compact. Musimbi is an educator, an international recognized executive of international organizations and a widely published author

Ann Kioi

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**Kenya | Programmes Development and Fundraising Officer**

I work at the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) in Nairobi, Kenya where I am in charge of programmes development and fundraising. I am an experienced Program Management & development Specialist and holds a Masters degree in Gender and Development Studies. I have over 20 years of work experience in gender and development work, advocacy, fundraising, program/project coordination, portfolio management, project implementation, monitoring & evaluation, forecasting & budgeting, program management, program support, administration, training and facilitation of international meetings, workshops, conferences, seminars, rapporteur in meetings and report writing.

I am also in charge of Grants and Partnerships management, Monitoring and compliance – existing and new partnerships, alliances, and networks. I am also passionate about gender equality and women's empowerment and dedicate 20% of my time in gender and development work.

Denise A. O. Kodhe

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**Kenya | Director General, Institute for Development and Leadership in Africa (IDEA)**

I am the Director General of the Institute for Development and Leadership in Africa (IDEA) which is a member of PaRD. I am also a founding member of PaRD Africa Voice is enhancing and promoting the activities of the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD) by bringing together Interfaith actor ,Religious organizations, Civil Society Organizations, governments and other non - state actors in Africa to promote the role of religion in Sustainable development. IDEA is registered in Kenya as an NGO championing economic and Leadership development. He is working with other like minded organizations and institutions to promote the same through advocacy, research and other capacity building activities IDEA is a member of the General Assembly of the African Union Economic Social and Cultural Council ( AU ECOSOCC) which is an organ of the African Union ( AU) championing and promoting the participation of non- State actors e.g., Interfaith organizations, CSO's in Africa.



Ulfat Hussein Masibo

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**Kenya | Executive Director, Africa Muslim Women Action Network (AMWAN)**

Ulfat Hussein Masibo is a Kenyan Muslim Feminist passionate about advocating for Muslim women's and Girls rights in her community. She holds an LLB degree from Moi University, a BA Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Nairobi, Kenya. and a short course on Gender and Islam from Roehampton University, London. She has experience in Corporate Law and later joined Civil society organization where her passion for advocacy of women's rights was born begun, she worked at Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims(SUPKEM) from 2017 as an assistant program officer Peace and security programs.

She is the founder and Executive Director of Africa Muslim Women Action Network (AMWAN) a grass root Muslim women led organization based in Mombasa advocating for gender equality and women's rights that has been in operation since the year 2019.



Fred Nyabera

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**Kenya | DIRECTOR, ARIGATOU INTERNATIONAL**

Fred Nyabera is the Director of the Interfaith Initiative to End Child Poverty at Arigatou International. He is a Social Scientist and a trained Theologian whose interest is in development work. He has extensive experience in faith-based peacebuilding and advancement of the Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB), at the local, regional, and global levels.

He has undertaken graduate and post graduate studies in Sociology, Anthropology, Divinity, Conflict Transformation and Organizational Leadership at the University of Nairobi, Union Biblical Seminary, India, Eastern Mennonites University, Virginia U.S.A and the Africa International University.

Previously he served as a pastor at the Nairobi Baptist Church and Karen Community Church respectively. He also served as the Executive Director of Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA).

Evans Onyango Nyesi

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**Kenya | Program Manager, Institute of Faith and Gender Empowerment**

Evans Onyango Nyesi holds a BA in Development Studies with IT and has completed a Masters in Divinity awaiting graduation. He has expertise in program development, child protection, research, and advocacy, contributing notably to organizations like Compassion International-Kenya and Anglican Development Services-Nyanza. Evans is a lay minister in ACK, Diocese of Maseno West, and authored "Foxes in the Vineyard." He co-founded The Tikvah Centre and manages programs at the Institute of Faith and Gender Empowerment. Evans instructs in the Religion and Development Program, which is jointly implemented by the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians and the Joint Learning Initiative at St. Paul's University, Limuru, and trains for PROCMURA'S FoRB program. He consults for Dutch funded Makeway's SRHR program on Religion and SRHR, showcasing his commitment to holistic community development and 2integrating faith with sustainable development and social justice.





Dr. Dinah Ewuradjoa Ogara

**Kenya | Director (Urban Development, Blue Economy), IDEA for Africa**

Dinah is an urban development professional, lecturer, researcher, mentor, and ocean expert with a keen interest in sustainable land-sea planning and management of coastal and port cities. Enthusiastic about the use of indigenous knowledge in oceans, coasts, and climate change management, she currently serves as the Director of Urban Development and Sustainable Blue Economy at IDEA for Africa. Since 2021, she has co-led the WECARE workstream within PaRD, focusing on SDGs 6, 13, 14, and 15, and also coordinates the PaRD Africa Forum. Dinah is a visiting scholar at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Africa Sustainability Center in Tokyo, Japan. She is dedicated to advancing global solutions for sustainable development and fostering inclusive dialogue and cooperation. In addition, Dinah serves as a volunteer by providing mentorship programs on matters of religion, faith, and education to orphans and other less fortunate children, especially young girls in Kenya.



Rosemary Atieno Wesonga

**Kenya | Director, Tree Initiative Sustainable Agriculture (TISA)**

Rosemary Atieno Wesonga, an accomplished Kenyan professional, boasts a diverse skill set encompassing financial analysis, budgeting, strategic development, and project management. With a solid foundation in commerce and certifications in accounting and business management, she has excelled in pivotal roles. At Izone Africa Ltd, she adeptly managed financial operations and oversaw audits. Her tenure at Pistec Power Systems Co Ltd saw her proficiently documenting sales, reconciling accounts, and contributing to financial planning. Furthermore, as a Constituency Officer at the Youth Enterprise Dev Fund, Rosemary played a pivotal role in facilitating loans, conducting rigorous financial evaluations, and delivering impactful capacity-building services. Her expertise extends beyond finance to encompass administration and customer relations, rendering her an invaluable asset across diverse organizational landscapes.

## Kyrgyzstan

Frontbek kyzy Zhamal

**Kyrgyz | Chair person of the Board, Progressive Public Association of Women**

I, Frontbek kyzy Zhamal, founder of the Progressive Public Association of Women "Mutakalim". I have been actively defending the rights of religious women for more than 20 years. Previously, in our country it was forbidden for girls to wear a headscarf to school and to be photographed wearing a headscarf for their passport. In 2007, I collected 300,000 signatures from all over Kyrgyzstan and obtained permission to be photographed wearing a headscarf for my passport. Also in 2012, I was able to obtain permission for girls to attend educational institutions wearing a headscarf. Since 2014, our organization has been working with international organizations such as UNDP, UNFPA, NED, Pisenexus, NDI and others in the field of promoting religious freedom, peacebuilding, preventing terrorism and extremism, countering the radicalization of women, increasing legal awareness and citizenship of women and youth. We have successfully implemented many projects aimed at increasing the economic opportu

## Malaysia

Herizal Hazri

**Malaysia | Advisor, Higher Committee of Human Fraternity**

Herizal Hazri is the Advisor to the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity in Abu Dhabi. Before taking up this role, Herizal was the Chief Executive Officer at the Institute for Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia where he served as Advisor to two Malaysian Prime Ministers namely HE Muhyiddin Yassin and HE Ismail Sabri Yaakob. Herizal was appointed as a member of the Malaysian Government's Consultative Council on Foreign Policy (2021-2022) by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Malaysia. Herizal also served as a member of the International Contact Group at the Bangsamoro Peace Process where he advised the Malaysian Government, the Mindanao Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) Peace Panel, as well as the Government of Philippines Peace Panel on the Bangsamoro Peace Process (2010-2014). This led to the historic signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro on March 27, 2014.

## Mexico



Mindhahi Crescencio Bastida Munoz

**Mexico | Chief Leader, Grand Council of the Eagle and the Condor**

Mindhahi Crescencio Bastida Muñoz is the chief of the Grand Council of the Eagle and the Condor, General Coordinator of the Otomi-Toltec Regional Council in Mexico. He was director of the Original Nations Program of the Fountain, director of the Original Caretakers Program, Center for Earth Ethics, Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York. He served as a delegate to various commissions and summits on indigenous rights and sustainability, including the 1992 Earth Summit and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. He is a consultant with UNESCO on issues related to sacred sites and bioculture and has written on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, sacred sites, intercultural education, collective intellectual property rights and associated traditional knowledge.



Karen Castillo Mayagoitia

**Mexico | CEO IMDOSOC Instituto Mexicano de Doctrina Social Cristiana**

I am theologian and work as CEO at the Mexican Institute for Catholic Social Teaching. I have developed specially 3 topics: interreligious dialogue, feminism and social justice. The axis of my professional and voluntary work has been highlighted by the humanitarian and social sense. Diversity in its different expressions has become a replica that has led me to promote dialogue and human rights. I am moved by the desire to transform the reality of the vulnerable groups, mainly women, boys and girls.



Dr. Benjamin Laniado

**Mexico | Founder Cadena**

Naci en Mexico , dentro de una familia de migrantes judios de Siria  
Me desarrollé como líder comunitario desde muy chico , activista y más tarde en luchador social humanitario , y filósofo.  
Tratando siempre de construir puentes fuertes entre los seres humanos sin importar el credo , la creencia , la clase social , nacionalidad o raza.

I was born in Mexico, into a family of Jewish migrants from Syria. I developed as a community leader from a very young age, became an activist, and later a humanitarian social fighter and philosopher. Always striving to build strong bridges between human beings regardless of creed, belief, social class, nationality, or race

Karol Arambula

**Mexico | Programme Management Officer on Human Mobility and Climate Justice ACT Alliance**

Karol Arámbula (México) has worked on numerous projects, programmes and movement-building initiatives with the United Nations (UN) and other stakeholders in +15 countries. She has represented intergovernmental entities, the private sector and civil society in +400 high-level UN processes related to sustainable development, human rights, peacebuilding and civic space. She possesses +10 years of expertise in the design and implementation mechanisms of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), recognized by the UN Deputy Secretary-General, the UN SDG Action Campaign and the UN Volunteers Programme. In 2014, I founded MY World Mexico: Hub of Action for Sustainable Development, which has now impacted on +100 million people across Mexico and Latin America thanks to +2 million actions, +10,000 organizations, +100,00 volunteers and +100 campaigns.

Jose Eduardo Rojas Sarubbi

**Mexico | Presbitero, Iglesia católica**

Sacerdote Catolico de la Diócesis de Tlaxcala. Secretario Ejecutivo de la Comisión Episcopal de Dialogo Interreligioso y Comunion.

# Morocco

Khalid Boudali

**Morocco | Presiding Officer, African Union- ECOSOCC**

Président fondateur de l'ONG Internationale Clé de la Paix pour le Développement et la Solidarité et du Conseil Consultatif de la Jeunesse Africaine.

FORMATIONS :

- Bachelor en Études Topographique.
- Master en Études Topographiques et Ingénierie Maritimes.

FONCTIONS :

- Vice-président d'US International Shipping Management, INC.
- Président d'US International Shipping Management, INC.
- Président de la Ste Imperial Village and Strategic Studies.
- Président de la Ste Imperial De

President and Founder of the International NGO "Clé de la Paix pour le Développement et la Solidarité" and the Advisory Council of African Youth, with expertise in innovative strategies, lobbying, and economic intelligence. Holds roles in shipping management, strategic studies, and financial services. Specializes in promoting democracy, social justice, and human rights through institutional development and training for sustainable development. religion tolerance.

# Nepal

Rev. Mukunda Sharma

**Nepal | Founder and Chairman, Transformation Nepal**

Rev. Mukunda Sharma is a Senior Pastor and Deputy General Secretary of Nepal Christian Society (NCS), Founder and Chairperson of Transformation Nepal, and Founder . Treasurer of Inter-religious Peace Federation Nepal (IPFN), Vice President of Micah Network Nepal. Sharma Holds a Master's degree Sharma Holds a Master's degree in Development Studies (MDS) from Purbanchal University Nepal and a Master's in divinity (M.Div) from CGLD India. He has a Bachelor's in business administration (BBA) from nepal. He worked with the United Nations Center for Regional Development (UNCRD). Admin/ Finance, government liaison manager of Fida and FELM as a international NGO.

He is heavily involved in organizational development, financial and disaster management in different capacities, and played a Leadership role in many organizations and strategic work with Wider network.years' cooperation within churches, government, non-governmental agencies.

# Nigeria

## Abdulkareem Sarat Dauda

### **Nigeria | Strength in Diversity Development Center**

I am saratu Dauda Abdulkareem a member of Strength in Diversity Development Center since 2018 as the intelligence and gender base violence advocacy executive. I have attended couple of seminars and training regarding gender mainstreaming across different states in the Country and also impacting it to the community for development.

My primary Occupation is working with the Nigerian Correctional Service as gender desk officer, intelligence and investigation. I have been in the service for 14yrs



## Adebayo Anthony Kehinde

### **Nigeria | Executive Director, CYM Education Foundation**

Adebayo is a global advocacy and policy professional cutting across peace building, disarmament, civic mobilization, and education with over 10 years of experience working with FBOs, INGOs multilateral ecumenical and civil society organisations.

An International Affairs professional with experience in advocating, campaigning, organizing and mobilizing people from different organizations and diverse faith expressions both in Africa and around the World. An effective team player with excellent leadership, communication, analytical and interpersonal skills;

A civil society actor at national and international level as youth leader, coordinator, facilitator, and speaker with specialty in Africa Affairs, Human Right, Peace building, Disarmament, Poverty, Interfaith Dialogue, Small Arms Proliferation. I just gave a speech at the Austrian government's conference on autonomous weapons systems, which focused on the interfaith perspective of AWS and its CSO event.

## Sheikh Muritala Muhammed Alawiye

### **Nigeria | Strength in Diversity Development Centre**

Sheikh Muritala Muhammed Alawiye is the International Religious Outreach Executive at the Strength in Diversity Development Centre since 2014. He is the Founder and Executive Director of the As-Abul Jannah International Islamic Society of Nigeria.

Sheikh Muritala Alawiye is an Alumni of the Harvard Divinity School and the United States Institute of Peace. He is a member of the National League of Islamic Scholars of Nigeria.

## Imam Saadullah Olohunlalaro Bello

### **Nigeria | Strength in Diversity Development Centre**

Imam Saadullah Bello is an Interfaith Educator at the Strength in Diversity Development Centre. He is the Chief Spiritual Leader of Oluwole Ogba Central Mosque in Nigeria and the Secretary General of the Lagos State League of Imams and scholars. He is an Alumni of the United States Institute of Peace (USIP). He is among faith leaders that engaged the warring youths of Rigasa in Kaduna State during the 2016/2017 rehabilitation programme of violent extremist Offenders in Maiduguri, Borno State.

## Bolanle Usman Olawunmi

### **Nigeria | Strength in Diversity Development Centre**

Bolanle Usman Olawunmi is a member of the Strength in Diversity Development Centre since 2022. He is the state coordinator for the organisation in Lagos State. He is a graduate of accounting from Yaba College of Technology, Lagos Nigeria.

Bolanle Usman Olawunmi has participated in various inter-religious engagements and trainings such as Inter-Religious Coalition Against Corruption in Nigeria, Interfaith Partnership on Sustainable Environment with special focus on climate change adaptation

## Sheikh Ahmad Ayinla Bukhari

### **Nigeria | Strength in Diversity Development Centre**

Sheikh Ahmad Ayinla BUKHARI is the founder of the Muhammad Rosulla Global Family and the Executive Director of the International Centre for Religious Moderation in Nigeria. He is a bonafide member of the Strength in Diversity Development Centre since 2019 and has contributed immensely into religious freedom in Nigeria.

He is a graduate of Public Administration of the University of Lagos, Nigeria.

## David Jennifer Chinyere

### **Nigeria | Strength in Diversity Development Centre**

David Jennifer Chinyere is a member of the Strength in Diversity Development Centre since 2021. She is the gender advocacy officer for the organisation in Lagos State. She is a graduate of business administration.

She directs and coordinates efforts to build and deliver an inclusive culture across the network and ensure that diversity, equality, and inclusion are central to all inter-religious departments.



Dr. Emmanuel Ande Ivorgba

**Nigeria | Executive Director, Centre for Faith and Community Development**

Emmanuel Ande Ivorgba, PhD, serves as West Africa Regional Coordinator for United Religions Initiative (URI). Emmanuel Ande Ivorgba holds a PhD in Philosophy and Religion, specializing in Comparative Religion. He is the recipient of several awards, including the 2014 Unsung Heroes of Compassion Award, in San Francisco, CA, USA. Dr. Ivorgba is Co-Producer of the 2012 Award-Winning Documentary titled: "Dialogue in Nigeria: Muslims and Christians Creating their Future Together". Dr. Emmanuel Ande Ivorgba has previously served as Resource Person, Trainer and Facilitator at the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations- Education First Summer School, in Tarrytown, New York, USA, where he led Special Sessions on Interfaith Dialogue Models and Discussions Circles. Dr. Ivorgba has previously served as Coordinator, Ethics Education Fellowship (EEF) for Arigatou International, Geneva. He currently serves Executive Director at Centre for Faith and Community Development (CFCD).

Evangelist (Mrs) Doris Balami YARO

**Nigeria | Strength in Diversity Development Centre**

Evangelist Doris Balami YARO is the founder of Gabasawa Women and Girls Empowerment Initiative and Co-Executive Director at the Strength in Diversity Development Centre Nigeria. He is a graduate International policy of the University of Jos, Nigeria.

She focuses on women and children empowerment with her Biase for vulnerable children and women in conflict zones in Nigeria. She was one of the very few people supporting mother's of the abducted Chibok girls in Nigeria.

## Norway



Mr. Hjalmar Bø

**Norway| Secretary General, Digni**

Mr. Hjalmar Boe serves as the secretary general for Digni. This is an umbrella organization for 17 Norwegian churches and faith-based organisations involved in long-term development in 30 countries around the world with support from Norad, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation.

## Pakistan



Dr. Rubina Feroze Bhatti

**Pakistan| Founding & Board Member /Chairperson EXCOM, Taangh Wasaib Organization (TWO)**

Dr. Bhatti, an academically informed practitioner, holds a Ph.D. in Leadership Studies, an M.A. in Development Studies, and M.Sc. in Chemistry. Her work in education, human rights, and leadership has earned her national/global recognition, including a Nobel Peace Prize nomination, recipient of UNDP's N-Peace Award, and being listed twice among The News International's 100 most influential women in Pakistan. With roles like Visiting Scholar at Stanford University & Commissioner at the National Commission on the Rights of Child, she embodies inclusive leadership. Her blend of academic & practical expertise, while operating at both grassroots and executive levels, positions her as a catalyst for fostering interfaith harmony. As the author of several publications, she demonstrates her commitment to advancing inclusive, diverse, and socially just practices. Her extensive travels across 30+ countries have provided her with opportunities to engage with UN agencies, governmental bodies, NGOs



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ilyas

**Pakistan | IDRAC / International Dialogue Research & Awareness Center**

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ilyas currently Grand Imam of National Mosque of Pakistan. He is Chirman of IDRAC / international Dialogue Research & Awareness Center Islamabad Pakistan.

Dr. Muhaimin Abdul

**Pakistan | Assistant Professor, The University of Haripur**

Dr. Muhaimin is a Professor of Religious Studies and the founding chairman of an organization named; SPACM – Society for Peace and Conflict Management which has the membership of PARD. He has got twenty seven years of teaching and research experience including seven years working abroad. Dr. Muhaimin is an author of seven books. Dr. Muhaimin has been nominated for four international awards and has received two presidential awards for his writings and two national peace awards. Dr. Muhaimin regularly writes in local newspapers. He delivers Friday sermon (on multimedia) in a mosque in Islamabad. He is a host of a Radio Show as well. Dr. Muhaimin has organized more than four hundred volunteer programs on peaceful co-existence, religious harmony, interfaith and intrafaith dialogue, acceptance and tolerance etc. Dr. Muhaimin has presented his work in many countries including USA, Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Austria, Myanmar, Maldives and many more.

## Shahid Rehmat

### **Pakistan | Founding Executive Director, Youth Development Foundation (YDF)**

Shahid Rehmat is a peace entrepreneur with a decade of experience working with multiple nonprofits and social enterprises. He is the founder of YDFPK, CEO of Acceptance for Inclusion (A4I), a social enterprise using cutting-edge technology to end hate crimes and promote inclusion and social integration. After graduating from Punjab University, he founded the Youth Development Foundation, one of Pakistan's leading Youth Resilient Movement with over 20,000 alumni for P/CVE and Inclusion. He has supported the Pakistani government in drafting the First-ever interfaith harmony policy, Harmony Checker, A tool to detect and analyze hate speech and unharmonious language to counter discrimination and hate within public school curricula. Shahid is an alumnus of the Acumen Fellowship, Ifa -Germany and Atlantic Council USA. In Pakistan, where senators do not receive publicly funded secretariat support, this crucial role is filled by the Youth Development Foundation (YDF), a minority nonprofit.

# Palestine

## Mohammed Abu Asaker



### **Palestine | Senior Partnerships and Philanthropy Officer, UNHCR**

Mohammed Abu Asaker is a Senior Philanthropy and Partnerships Officer at UNHCR's Washington office. Previously, he held the role of Senior Policy Officer at UNHCR's MENA regional Bureau in Amman. Mohammed holds a master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government (2019) and another master's degree in International Development from American University, Washington DC (2007). With over 20 years of professional experience in the humanitarian sector, Mohammed has served as UNHCR's Senior Regional Spokesperson, focusing on humanitarian crises in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, and the Rohingya refugee situation. He spearheaded different partnership fundraising and awareness initiatives. Mohammed's contributions have been recognized with awards such as the Michigan Arab-American Association's International Justice Award (2015) and the White House American Presidential Scholarship (2005).

# Panama

## Maricarmen Plata



### **Panama | Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity, Organization of American States**

Maricarmen Plata received her undergraduate degree in law and political science at the Universidad Santa María La Antigua (Panama) and an LLM at the University of Cambridge. While focusing on her private legal practice, Maricarmen actively participated in civil society engagement on public policies with a focus on gender equity, women's leadership and representation in government and private sector boards. Among others, she represented the private sector in the governance working group of the Panamanian Gender Parity Initiative from 2019 to 2021. Maricarmen has been involved in academic projects for the study and promotion of human rights and was recognized by Chambers Diversity & Inclusion as Highly Commended attorney for Central America. She is presently the Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity at the OAS, overseeing areas that work with OAS Member States on initiatives pertaining to inclusion and access to rights of vulnerable populations, promotion of equity and civil society.

# Peru

## Howard Chacon

### **Perú | Arquitecto, Fundación Roble del Sur**

Nací en Perú hace 28 años y soy arquitecto. Mi nombre es Howard Chacon y actualmente estudio marketing digital y comunicaciones. A los 6 años, me trasladé a Japón, donde viví hasta los 16, comprendiendo profundamente los desafíos de la migración. Serví durante dos años como misionero de la Iglesia de Jesucristo de los Santos de los Últimos Días en Colombia, aprendiendo el valor del servicio y la ayuda al prójimo. Mi interés en la integración cultural me llevó a ser ponente en el Global Mormon Studies en México, donde presenté "Uniando Puentes de Fe: La Influencia de Peruanos en Japón en la Iglesia de Jesucristo", un análisis sobre la libertad religiosa y la migración. Actualmente, imparto el curso Launching Leaders como proyecto personal, ayudando a las personas a encontrar un enfoque claro en sus vidas. Además, dirijo mi propio estudio de arquitectura, combinando mi pasión por el diseño con el deseo de guiar y apoyar a otros en sus trayectorias personales y profesionales.

## Paula Franco



### **Perú | Regional Coordination Officer, Religions for Peace Latin America and the Caribbean**

Experience in religious media and interfaith networks. Since 2008, Regional Coordination Officer at Religions for Peace Latin America and the Caribbean, supporting the Latin American and Caribbean Council of Religious Leaders, regional networks of Women of Faith and Interfaith Youth and national Interfaith Councils in the region. He also accompanied the Interfaith Initiative for the Peruvian Rainforest (IRI), the Interreligious Council of Peru - Religions for Peace, and the Interreligious Committee for Refugees and Migrants in Peru (CIREMI). I came to Religions for Peace after working for the Peruvian Catholic Episcopal Conference (CEP). I have organized numerous ecclesial events, such as the meeting of Pope Francis with the Indigenous Communities during his visit to Peru. She has a degree in Journalism from the University Jaime Bausate y Meza. As a laywoman, she is a member of the Interconfessional Network of Women of Faith and Spirituality of Peru and the Laudato Si' Movement.

## Rabino Simantob R. Nigri- U.I.P.



### **Perú | Rabbi, Asociación Judía del Perú**

Soy el rabino de la comunidad judía Peruana autor de libros y canal de Youtube.. participó activamente en el diálogo Inter religioso cómo vive presidente del consejo en mi país.



Dennis Cesar Rojas Huerta

**Perú | Pastor y Capellán, Iglesia Metodista del Perú**

Soy licenciado en teología actualmente terminando una maestría en divinidades, pastor ordenado de la Iglesia Metodista del Perú y Capellán en el colegio María Alvarado Lima High School. Integro el comité interconfesional del Callao y el comité interreligioso del Perú. Tengo dos hijas y mi esposa es ña primera superintendente mujer en la Iglesia Metodista del Perú. Durante los últimos 10 años, venimos desarrollando un ministerio pastoral con los niños y adolescentes de los colegios metodistas enfatizando la cultura de paz y el buen trato entre las diferentes confesiones de fe. Así mismo soy graduado en diálogo interreligioso del Kaiciid y profesor de teología en el Semnario Teológico Wesleyano en Perú.

Álvaro Santiago Salazar Torres

**Perú | Coordinador, Red Juvenil Interreligiosa del Perú**

Bachiller en Turismo Sostenible por la Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya. Diplomado en Humanidades y Filosofía por dicha Universidad, con estudios en Planificación de proyectos en Pastoral Juvenil por el Centro Bíblico Teológico Pastoral del Consejo Episcopal de América Latina y el Caribe - CELAM y Prevención de Abuso contra menores por el Centre for Child Protection de la Pontificia Universidad Gregoriana de Roma y en el Centro de Protección de Menores - CEPROME de México. Profesional con amplia experiencia en el área de marketing y administración de instituciones educativas de nivel posgrado; co-fundador de Elefanta Consultores, empresa dedicada al marketing y desarrollo humano de la pequeña y mediana empresa. Soy coordinador de la Red Juvenil Interreligiosa de Religiones por la Paz en el Perú

Laura Vargas



**Perú | Interfaith Rainforest Initiative**

María Laura Vargas is a Peruvian with extensive work experience in social pastoral work on human rights issues and care for God's Creation. For 30 years I had worked for the Episcopal Conference , for 12 years I have been Secretary of the Interreligious Council of Peru-Religions for Peace and for 5 years I have been Coordinator of the Interfaith Initiative for Tropical Forests, which has allowed us to coordinate, raise awareness with churches that operate in the Amazon and other areas of the country, with an important level of recognition from religious, authorities and indigenous leaders in the great task of caring for the Common House and defending our forest heritage.

## Philipines

Prof. Tirmizy E. Abdullah



**Phillipines | Professor/Coordinator, MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY / INTERFAITH COOPERATION FORUM**

Tirmizy E. Abdullah, Ph.D, is a professor at Mindanao State University in Marawi City, Philippines. He is one of the alumni of KAICIID Fellowship Program in 2016. He was the founder of the Mindanao Interfaith Youth Circle (MIYC). Also, he is also a member of the Interfaith Cooperation Forum (ICF). He has been an active practitioner and advocate for peacebuilding and interfaith dialogue in community level in Mindanao and Bangsamoro Region for more than a decade.

Dr. Faizan Mustafa



**Professor, Aligarh Muslim University; Former Vice-Chancellor of Nalsar University Of Law**

Prof. Faizan Mustafa well-known constitutional law teacher is presently working as Professor of Law at Aligarh Muslim University. Till July 31,2022 he was serving NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad as its Vice-Chancellor. He was the recipient of both Commonwealth Scholarship as well as Fulbright Fellowship. He was conferred the SAARC's Best Law Teacher Award in 2014. He was the President and Vice-President of the prestigious Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) which was incorporated in Canada in 1968 and is bi-national organization of Canadian and Indian governments. He has also served as the Vice- President and President of Consortium of National Law Universities.

## Portugal

Ana Có

**Portugal | Programmes Officer, Fellows/KAICIID**



Andreia Henriques

**Portugal | External Relations and Partnerships Adviser, The International Dialogue Centre - KAICIID**

Ms. Henriques joined KAICIID in January 2023 after a career mostly dedicated to human rights and youth advocacy with intergovernmental, governmental and civil society organizations. She is an experienced trainer and facilitator, programme manager, and policy analyst. She is experienced in establishing partnerships and coordinating consortia composed by a wide variety of stakeholders, in Europe, Africa, Southern Mediterranean, Latin America and at the global level. In addition to her professional career, she has nearly 20 years of national and international volunteer experience in promoting social inclusion and participation, including of migrants and refugees. As External Relations and Partnerships Adviser she is responsible for promoting and maintaining KAICIID's strategic and programmatic relationships with IGOs, NGOs, and other stakeholders. She holds a Master's degree in Development and International Cooperation from the University of Lisbon.

Vera Leal Ferreira

**Portugal | Head Regional Programmes & Oversight, KAICIID**

Ms Ferreira has over 12 years of experience developing human rights and peace education and facilitating training programs, dialogues and consultations with faith actors, educators, youth and adults in interreligious contexts in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribe and the Middle East, managing programs, facilitating processes and fostering its sustainable implementation and scaling up. Preceding her engagement with KAICIID, Ms Ferreira served as Head of Programmes at Arigatou International and as Secretary General of the International Movement of Apostolate of Children, managing educational grassroots projects for children all over the world in citizenship education. Vera holds a degree in Psychology and a Post Graduate Diploma in Human Resources specialising in Training Management.



Imam Ihtsham Ahmad Moman

**Portugal | Vice-Presidente, Ahmadiyya Muslim Association**

I am Graduated in Theology and Languages and serving as a missionary in Brazil. Im vice Presidente of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and have served in Ghana and UK.

## Russia



Liliya Khasanova

**Russia | Executive Director, A Common Word Among the Youth (ACWAY)**

Liliya Khasanova is the Executive Director of A Common Word Among the Youth, after being a fellow and a member of the Executive Committee since 2015. As an ACWAY fellow, Liliya drafted Interfaith Development Goals (IDGs), organized several international youth forums and held trainings for youth on various topics such as interreligious and intercultural dialogue, peacebuilding, and human rights. Liliya is currently doing her post-doctoral research in international law. She also held several academic positions with Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School, University of Fribourg (Switzerland), Stockholm Center for International Law and Justice (Sweden), conducting research on international peace negotiations and human rights..



Alexander Stenko

**Russia | Political and Religious Sciences Researcher, RUDN University**

Political and Religious sciences researcher at one of the leading higher educational institutions in Russia - the RUDN University. Graduated from RUDN University (Moscow, Russia, 2009) and Pontificia Università Gregoriana (Rome, Italy, 2020). Fields of research - intercultural communication, interfaith relations, religious factors in international politics, religious engagement in solving social challenges.



Dr. Vera Solovyeva

**Sakha | Researcher Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian; George Mason University**

Dr. Vera Solovyeva, an Indigenous (Sakha) person from the Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russian Federation, is a fellow of Arctic Studies Center (Smithsonian Institute) and affiliated with the George Mason University. Her research focuses on how Indigenous peoples preserve and develop their cultures and traditions in a contemporary world that is rapidly changing under the pressure of factors such as globalization and climate change.

Vera Solovyeva also advocates revitalization, protection and continuity of Indigenous Spirituality and advocates for social justice and the Empowerment of Indigenous women. She is a member of the Global Advisory Board of the Global Alliance of Indigenous Peoples, Gender Justice, and Peace.

## Saudi Arabia

H.E. Dr. Zuhair Alharthi

**Saudi Arabia | Secretary General, KAICIID Dialogue Centre**

Dr. Zuhair Alharthi has a wealth of cultural experience and enjoys a parliamentary, human rights, legal and political background. He was a member of the Saudi Shura Council (parliament) for 12 years (2009-2020), Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Saudi Shura Council, and member of the Board of Trustees of the National Dialogue Center in 2018. In 2008, he was appointed as a board member at the Human Rights Commission. He is a renowned writer and researcher on issues of ideology, politics, and law. He holds a MA in law from Brunel University and a Ph.D. in law from the University of Kent at Canterbury. He participated as an analyst and political expert in political and news programmes for over twenty years.

## Sierra Leone



Hazel Maureen Danetta Dixon

**Sierra Leone | Regional Desk Officer, African Union Commission**

Hazel Dixon has been the Regional Desk Officer of CIDO's Civil Division since 2016. In this role, she coordinates engagement of civil society organizations with the African Union Commission, African Union Organs, and African Union member states. She is responsible for the planning, preparation and management of programme activities related to the mainstreaming of civil society in the affairs of the African Union. She provides expert advice and guidance on planning and formulation of strategic options for inclusion of civil society organizations and non-state actors in the affairs of the African Union. She is deeply convinced of the need to implement the AU vision and the Constitutive Act to have a people-centered, people-driven Union. To this end, she has supported development of platforms to ease the interaction between AU and non-state actors including trade unions, youth, women, Faith Based Organizations and facilitated CSOs engagement in various Africa-Partnerships

# South Africa



Faith Busika

**South Africa | Director of Relationships Africa South, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**

Dr Faith Busika studied at the University of the Witwatersrand for her undergraduate and postgraduate studies. She obtained her doctoral degree at the same University. She is a registered and practicing Drama Therapist with the Health Profession Council (HPCSA). Faith has also Lectured at the University of the Witwatersrand for the past 10 years. She is passionate about education and transformation of Africa for the good.

Charles May

**South Africa | Bishop, Diocese of the Highveld**

The Rt Revd Charles May is married to Tebogo, a Professional Nurse employed by Gauteng Health Department. They will be celebrating their 33rd anniversary on the 21st December 2015. He has two children, a daughter, Sipiwe graduating BA Accounting from Wits University. His son, Thami graduating BA Law at UCT and LLB from Wits University. Bishop Charles has served in the following parishes: 1989 – Ordained; 1989 – 1992 St Nicholas, Ennerdale; 1993 – 1994 St Thomas, Kagiso; 1995 – 2004 St James, Diepkloof; 2004 – 2010 St George’s, Parktown; 2010 – 2015 Dean of The Cathedral of St Mary the Virgin. Leadership Roles that Bishop has been involved in include: served in the Bishop’s Executive 2008 – 2012, Diocesan Clergy Day program co-ordinator, Archdeacon of Region 4 : 2012 - 2014. Bishop Charles was also the Vicar General of the Diocese of Johannesburg when Bishop Brian Germond was out of the Diocese and after his retirement until Bishop Steve



Prof Luka David Mosoma

**South Africa | Former Chairperson of the CRL Rights Commission**



Dr. Sylvia Pheto

**South Africa | Deputy Chairperson, CRL Rights Commission**

Dr. Sylvia Mmamohapi Pheto is a Deputy Chairperson of the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (CRL Rights Commission). She has been at the forefront of the fight for women’s emancipation for many years, a cause that is close to her heart. As a Commissioner of a Chapter Nine institution established to support democracy, she has had the opportunity to offer her experience and expertise in dealing with issues affecting marginalized groups, particularly related to culture, religion, and languages. Dr. Pheto has served in various civil society portfolios. She was highly active in organizing rural women, focusing on gender equality and women’s empowerment. Despite the democratic dispensation, there has been a spike in violations of religious and cultural rights within communities. Women have consistently borne the brunt of these abuses.



Ebrahim Rasool

**South Africa | Founder, World For All Foundation**

Ebrahim Rasool’s life was shaped by a lifelong commitment to justice and co-existence and forged through participation & leadership in the anti-apartheid struggle. Spending time in prison, he met Nelson Mandela for the first time. He was SA’s Ambassador to USA, Parliamentarian in SA, Special Advisor to RSA President, and Premier of Western Cape Prov. His social and political involvement has been faith-driven, through involvement in both the Islamic Movement (as a founder of The Call of Islam) as well as the Interfaith Movement. He mobilised Muslims and the broader faith communities to develop deeper understandings of Islam and faith under the prevailing conditions of globalisation in the world today. In Government he led various departments. He is Founder of the World for All Foundation and serves on SA Institute for Entrepreneurship, Maqasid Institute, Consultant - All-Dulles Areas Muslim Society, and Board Chairperson of DBSA. He Holds BA Degree & Higher Education Dip & Hon Doc



Professor Maniraj Sukdaven

**South Africa | Professor/Director, Oxford (University of Pretoria) Centre for Religion and Public Life**

Current position: 1. Associate professor at University of Pretoria 2. Adjunct Professor with the University of Tehran 3. Director: Oxford [University of Pretoria] Centre for Religion, Public Life and Security in Africa Qualifications: 1. BTheol – University of KwaZulu Natal (South Africa) 2. MA Religion Studies – University of the Free State (South Africa) 3. PhD Hinduism – University of the Free State (South Africa) Academic profile: 1. National Research Foundation rated scholar.

# South Sudan

Juan Racheal

**South Sudan | Advocacy and Peace Coordinator, South Sudan Council of Churches**

Juan Racheal is a South Sudanese national. She is currently the Advocacy and peace coordinator at South Sudan Council of Churches which is an ecumenical body made up of seven churches and three affiliates in South Sudan. Her work is to analyse implementation of peace processes, in particular the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS) while informing policies and decision making by the church and the government. Her goal is to contribute to knowledge and gender mainstreaming in governance, peace and security through research, training, community outreach and advocacy. She is a Teaching Assistant at the University of Juba, School of Social and Economic Studies, Department of Political Science. Juan is also engaged with contextualising and implementation of the Youth Peace and Security agenda and Women, Peace and Security Agenda in South Sudan and the Great Lakes Region of Africa.



# Spain



Mercè Bofill Cardona

**Spain | Office Managerin PaRD Secretariat, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH - PaRD Secretariat**  
Mercè Bofill Cardona is an operative support for PaRD Secretariat (GIZ).

Agustin Nunez-Vicandi

**Spain | International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID)**

Agustin Nunez-Vicandi is the Spokesperson and Senior Programme Manager for the Africa Region, using interreligious dialogue as a tool to support conflict resolution and the achievement of sustainable peace; as SPM he manages two country programmes and a staff of 6 professionals. Prior to joining KAICIID, Agustin was a Human Rights Adviser for the OSCE where he managed projects aimed at building the capacity of human rights defenders as well as national human rights institutions. Agustin also spent several years working for the OSCE Mission in Northern Republic of Macedonia overseeing the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement, and later contributing to reducing tensions, fostering peace, stability and security in east Ukraine. Throughout his 14-year carrier he has acquired ample experience in programming (design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation), as well as in aspects related to political analysis, peace and security, protection of human rights, dialogue and mediation

# Sri Lanka

Dilshan Annaraj

**Sri Lanka | Associate Director Peacebuilding Programing, World Vision International**

I am a Peacebuillder. My mission is to empower young people as agents of peace. I enjoy my job with World Vision International as the Associate Director for Peacebuilding Programing. My primary responsibility is to ensure the integration of this work in to our Humanitarian and Development programing in all the places where we work including the most fragile contexts. This work also contributes to the wider HDP Nexus Programing that World Vision is committed to. I love working with different stakeholders and partners to amplify and sustain this work. I strongly believe in the valuable contribution of faith actors in this journey and have started laying a stronger foundation via Do No Harm for faith groups. Proud to be a member of PaRD and the opportunity to co-lead the SDG 16 workstream.

# Sweden



Katherine Cash

**Sweden | Advisor and Learning Resource developer on Freedom of Religion or Belief, SMC Faith in Development/FORB Learning Platform**

Katherine Cash is an advisor on freedom of religion or belief (FORB) at SMC Faith in Development and learning resource developer for the Freedom of Religion or Belief Learning Platform. Katherine has worked with human rights and development education since 1994 and with advocacy and capacity building on FORB since 2009. Katherine was heavily involved in forming the Nordic Ecumenical Network on FORB (NORFORB) and founding the FORB Learning Platform, which provides free, open-access digital courses and learning resources in over 20 languages to the development, peacebuilding and faith sectors. In collaboration with colleagues and partners across the globe, Katherine has developed many of the Learning Platform's resources, including a series of explainer videos on FORB, the FORB Training of the Trainers course, the FORB Facilitators Toolkit and the Local Changemakers Course (a complete curriculum for grassroots level awareness raising and mobilisation).



Mikael Jägerskog

**Sweden | Senior Policy Advisor, PMU / Pentecostal World Fellowship / EUCORD**

Mikael has over 25 years of experience in faith-based and rights-based global work, primarily with PMU (Swedish Pentecostals). His roles at PMU include Program Coordinator in East Africa, Facilitator in Southeast Asia, Head of Policy, Advocacy, and Learning, and currently, he leads global advocacy and political contacts. Educated in political science, economics, and leadership, Mikael has also attended and worked with Bible schools. He engages with the Swedish government on ODA and international trade, collaborates on EU/AU relations at the EU level, and participates in UN initiatives like the Summit of the Future and COP. Mikael is the lead contact for UN engagements for the Pentecostal World Fellowship (PWF) and is active in networks such as CONCORD Sweden (board member, Aid Watch group) and EUCORD advocacy. He often speaks on business and human rights, focusing on conflict minerals and sustainable production chains, particularly in the DR Congo.



Dr. Josephine Sundqvist

**Sweden | Secretary-General/Global CEO, EU-CORD network/LM International**

Mikael has over 25 years of experience in faith-based and rights-based global work, primarily with PMU (Swedish Pentecostals). His roles at PMU include Program Coordinator in East Africa, Facilitator in Southeast Asia, Head of Policy, Advocacy, and Learning, and currently, he leads global advocacy and political contacts. Educated in political science, economics, and leadership, Mikael has also attended and worked with Bible schools. He engages with the Swedish government on ODA and international trade, collaborates on EU/AU relations at the EU level, and participates in UN initiatives like the Summit of the Future and COP. Mikael is the lead contact for UN engagements for the Pentecostal World Fellowship (PWF) and is active in networks such as CONCORD Sweden (board member, Aid Watch group) and EUCORD advocacy. He often speaks on business and human rights, focusing on conflict minerals and sustainable production chains, particularly in the DR Congo.

# Switzerland



Arthur Lyon Dahl

## **Switzerland | President, International Environment Forum**

Environmental scientist Dr. Arthur Lyon Dahl, a specialist on complex systems, is President of the International Environment Forum, a Bahá'í-inspired professional organisation, and a retired Deputy Assistant Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme. As environmental advisor to all the Pacific Islands, he organised the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). He coordinated the UN System-wide Earthwatch, led work on indicators of sustainable development and global solidarity accountability, represented the Baha'i International Community at the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment and other international meetings, served in the Secretariat of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit drafting Agenda 21, and has participated in numerous UN conferences on sustainable development and climate change, addressing most recently challenges of global environmental governance. He chairs the IF20 environment working group.

# Thailand



Somboon Chungprampree (Moo)

## **Thailand | Executive Secretary, International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB)**

Somboon Chungprampree (Moo) is a Thai social activist working for Peace and Justice in Asia. He became involved during the early 1990s in Thailand's student movement which focused on Environmental Justice and Spiritual Engagement. Since 1997, he has held different positions with key Thai and Asia regional and international civil society organizations. They include Sathirakoses-Nagapradipa Foundation (SNF), a Thai NGO established in 1968, Spirit in Education Movement (SEM), focusing on empowering civil society in Burma, Laos PDR, Cambodia, and Thailand, School for Well-being Studies and Research, and Wongsanit Ashram. He has served as Executive Secretary of the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB) since 2010. He is the editor of the Seeds of Peace journal issued three times a year. As a civic leader he serves on the boards of several international and national foundations.



Venerable Napan Thawornbanjob

## **Thailand | Founding Chair, Institute of Buddhist Management for Happiness and Peace Foundation**

Venerable Napan is the head of the Institute of Buddhist Management for Happiness and Peace Foundation ([IBHAP Foundation](#)). He also founded the "For Beautiful Life Group" in 2001 and was the Chair until 2015. He has designed and led trainings for Buddhist community leaders in southern Thailand affected by violent conflicts to heal the victims and prevent further conflicts. He also designed a training to promote living together peacefully based on Buddhism and was an anchorman for the reality TV show "TRUE Little Monks" which received The Cannes Corporate & Media Awards 2013. Venerable Napan has completed the Interfaith Peace Fellowship: "Conflict Analysis, Inclusive Peacemaking, Coalition & Collaboration Building" and is a founding member of Buddhist Peace Network. He has participated in conflict resolution discussions in Uganda at the United Religions Initiative "Great Lakes Region".

# Tunisia

Ms. Samah Khouaja

## **Tunisia | Protocol Officer, KAICIID International Organization**

# Türkiye



Mohammad Abo-Hilal

## **Türkiye | MHPSS Consultant, Syria Bright Future**

Dr. Mohammad Abo Hilal is a Syrian psychiatrist. Trainer and supervisor in mental health and protection. Founder of Syria Bright Future organization: a Syrian organization specializing in MHPSS and protection. He is a co-founder of several other NGOs that work in the Syrian context in the fields of MHPSS, Women's protection, and youth empowerment. Over the last ten years, he designed and supervised many MHPSS programs and projects that supported Syrians inside Syria and in neighboring countries. – He is a PM+ Trainer and Supervisor. – He Authored and co-authored several research papers about the mental health of Syrians. Special interests: – He specializes in adapting the MHPSS curriculums to the Syrian culture. – Has a special interest in building the capacity of youths and grassroots organizations. Other qualifications: – He has a Management qualification (MBA, PMP, MSP). Life: Lives in Turkey, Istanbul and he is a father of four children.

# Uganda



Muhamad Balonde Menya

## **Uganda | Program Officer, Jinja Muslim District Council/UMSC**

Muhamad Balonde Menya is a trained Flight Operator from the EAST AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION ACADEMY and he is KAICIID FELLOW, which works in the areas of Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, he has worked on several projects which include PREVENTION OF HATE SPEECH AMONG PREACHERS, THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN PROMOTING INTERRELIGIOUS STUDIES IN UGANDA and recently KAICIID assigned him a role of being a member of the committee responsible for drafting the Interreligious Studies Curriculum for Higher Institutions in Africa and this was held at the University of Ibadan

# United Arab Emirates

H.E. Sheikh Al-Mahfoudh Bin Bayyah

**United Arab Emirates | Secretary General, Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace**

Secretary General, Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace, United Arab Emirates

H.E. Sheikh Al-Mahfoudh Bin Bayyah, is the Secretary General for the Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace United Arab Emirates And organizer of the annual African conference for the promotion of peace (Republic Islamic of Mauritania ) and serves as the President of the Al Faith and Civil Society Commission (United Kingdom). As an influential diplomat, he played an instrumental role in establishing the flagship programs like the Marrakech Declaration( To defend the rights of religious minorities in Muslim-majority countries ) and the New Alliance of Virtue, and Charter for Inclusive Citizenship in the MENA region. He also contributed significantly to the field of countering violent extremism and supported the establishment of Zaytuna College, the first accredited Muslim liberal arts college in the US.

# United Kingdom



Prof. Husna Ahmad OBE

**United Kingdom | CEO, Global One 2015**

Prof. Husna Ahmad OBE is the CEO of Global One 2015, a faith-based international NGO focusing on women. She holds honorary and associate professorships at UCL and the University of Birmingham, respectively. Prof. Ahmad advises the Global Muslim Business Forum and participates in several UN initiatives, including the Multi-faith Advisory Council and Faith for Earth. She is a board member of Faith for the Climate and Palmers Green Mosque and involved in the Women's Faith Forum UK and Barnet Faith Forum.

Monica E. Maghami

**United Kingdom | EU and Brazilian sustainability and technology lawyer, International Environmental Forum - Bahá'í**

Monica Maghami is an EU and Brazilian senior regulatory lawyer, with focus on technology and sustainability for over 20 years, living in London UK where she resides with her husband and two children. She holds her Masters degree in Commercial and Business Law from Coimbra Portugal and worked from global leading law firms to Big 4 consultancies and top tier technology companies. Monica is a Baha'i and previously served at its UN NY, UN Geneva and World Centre offices as a volunteer. She was invited to COP28 and Nairobi Conference, wrote comprehensive reports to key NGOs, and is in the board of trustees of NAWO UK, for women and girls rights. She facilitated SoTF workshops for the FCDO UK and participates regularly in meetings with them for the review of Chapters 3 and 4 of the Pact for the Future. Monica is a convenor of the Institutional Mechanisms and Environment WGs of UN Beijing+30, member of the IF20/G20 Environment WG, convenor of SIGs on AI and a public speaker on SDGs and tech.



Mejindarpal Kaur

**United Kingdom | Chair, UNITED SIKHS**

I am the Chair and International Legal Director of UNITED SIKHS, a registered charity in the UK. As International Legal Director of UNITED SIKHS, a UN associated, humanitarian, human development, and advocacy NGO, I lead a global multi-faith effort to address human rights violations post 9/11, against discrimination and for religious freedom. This has included the legal campaign against the 2004-French-law that prohibits religious signs in state schools. Projects: Aug 2010 to date. From 2019 to date I have headed another NGO based in Punjab called Sikh Aid Foundation, whose flagship project is called PASS ( Punjab After School Study). Through 72 PASS' centres in 33 villages in Punjab, India, about 2000 needy students from 34 government primary schools receive after school support, five days a week. I am a Steering Board member of PaRD and co-chair of the Freedom of Religion or Belief Work Stream.



Howard Mollett

**United Kingdom | Head of Humanitarian Policy, CAFOD**

Howard Mollett is Head of Humanitarian Policy at CAFOD, the Catholic aid agency for England and Wales, and member of the Caritas confederation. He is also a member of the Charter4Change global coordination group, which is a coalition supporting partnership based advocacy between national NGOs and INGOs on localisation and shifting power to local actors in crisis response. He has a background in work with local civil society partners and INGOs in Afghanistan, Syria, Sudan and elsewhere.



Michael Swain

**United Kingdom | Executive Director, Freedom of Religion South Africa (FOR SA)**

Michael was raised in England, graduating from the University of Bristol with an Honours degree in Law before immigrating to South Africa in 1983. Michael is a co-founder and former Vice-President of the Every Nation (formerly His People) movement of churches and ministries. He has spent over 30 years in Christian ministry in South Africa, Europe and the USA. He has also enjoyed success as a businessman, having founded and run companies in diverse areas, including software development, events management, as well as marketing and communications. Michael currently serves as the Executive Director and primary spokesperson of FOR SA, a non-profit legal advocacy organisation dedicated to defending religious freedom and related rights guaranteed by the South African Constitution and international law. He and his wife, Lynn, live in Cape Town.



Gopal D. Patel

**United Kingdom | Co-Founder and Director, FutureFaith**

Working at the intersection of faith and sustainable development, Gopal's work has ranged from leading global grassroots campaigns for climate action, to advising and consulting with organizations such as the UN, the World Economic Forum and WWF International. His current areas of focus are mobilizing action and advocacy on biodiversity and ecosystem restoration. He is Co-Founder and Director of FutureFaith, a new international think tank that works to harness wisdom and experience of faith traditions to address global challenges.

## United States of America



Abiola Afolayan

**United States of America | Director, Policy and Research Institute, Bread for the World**

Abiola Afolayan is an international lawyer and currently serves as director of the Policy and Research Institute at Bread for the World, a U.S. based NGO focused on addressing hunger and its roots causes, since 1974. Her portfolio includes work with the World Food Programme in Rome, Italy, as a foreign affairs staffer on Capitol Hill, as adjunct professor at George Washington University Global Food Institute and at the American Bar Association as Vice Chair of Programs for the Section on Energy and Environment and the Rule of Law Initiative-Africa Council. She is the author of "A Seat at the Table for Women, Girls and Movements: A Manifesto on Peace and Security" and is currently working on a book titled "Climate, Gender, and Financing in Africa." Abiola speaks about food security globally, including at the global food security research organization International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in Hyderabad, India.



Huda Alawa

**United States of America | USA for UNHCR**

Huda serves as Manager of Civil Society and Foundation Partnerships at USA for UNHCR, mobilizing partners for the UN Refugee Agency in the United States. Huda also leads the organization's faith-based partnerships. In this role, Huda facilitates and scales mutual partnerships to make a meaningful impact for refugees and those displaced around the world. Previously, Huda led the development work at a humanitarian NGO. She has a background in academia and qualitative research, especially focused on refugees, minority inclusion, and national identity in the United States and Europe. Huda earned two MA degrees from Heidelberg University (Germany) and Ludwig Maximilian University (Germany) and holds a BA in Anthropology from Mount Holyoke College.



Angela Amantite

**United States of America | Sustainable Global Analyst, Environmental Educator, Masters Student, Program Manager for University of Hawaii Institute for Sustainability and Resilience, World Stewardship Institute**

Angela Amantite is a student, environmental educator, program manager, and global sustainability analyst. She is working to get her master's at the University of Hawaii at Manoa studying human geography and sustainable development through food systems. Angela is originally from Northern California and is inspired by Indigenous culture and Hawaii's land management practices as a model for sustainability across the globe. Angela volunteers with many local non-profits doing environmental education with children and the public from Mauka (mountain) to Makai (the ocean) to connect people with local problems and solutions and build greater community and empowerment through hands-on local action. She is currently involved in nonprofits, projects, and education on the issues of plastic pollution at Sustainable Coastlines, and deforestation at the World Stewardship Institute, children's connection to nature at the Hawaii Nature Center.

Jonathan K. Ammons

**United States of America | Sustainable Global Analyst, Environmental Educator, Masters Student, Program Manager for University of Hawaii Institute for Sustainability and Resilience, World Stewardship Institute**

Jonathan Ammons serves as the Director of Interfaith Relations for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He previously served as Associate Director of the Church's New York Office of Public and International Affairs and as United Nations Representative of the Church's humanitarian organization, Latter-day Saint Charities. In addition to his work for the Church, Jonathan currently serves as President of the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief, a New York-based association of civil society leaders engaged in promoting FoRB within the United Nations ecosystem. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Religion Communicators Council and is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Jonathan holds a bachelor's degree in humanities from Brigham Young University and a master's degree in democracy studies and political communication from Johns Hopkins University. Jonathan and his wife Bree have four wonderful children and enjoy hiking and camping.



Chloe Atkins

**United States of America | 3rd-Year Law Student, Brigham Young University**

Sr. Abby Avelino, MM

**United States of America | Talitha Kum International Coordinator**

Sister Abby Avelino, is a Catholic woman religious who belongs to the Maryknoll Sisters of Saint Dominic. She was initially missioned in Japan as a pastoral worker, where she accompanied many migrants from all over the world. Sister Abby became the coordinator of Talitha Kum Japan, which advocates for the rights and dignity of migrants and refugees. She then served as Talitha Kum's regional coordinator for Asia, with a focus on understanding and responding to the needs of national networks in 16 countries. Currently, she is the Talitha Kum's International Coordinator, a global Catholic Sister-led network against human trafficking. Talitha Kum International headquarters based in Rome under the umbrella of the International Union Superiors General (UISG). Talitha Kum is network of networks present in 97 countries with more than 6,000 members of religious men and women, laities, and young people continue to spread its mission to end human trafficking and any forms of slavery.



MOHAMED BAHR

**United States of America | Head of Strategic Planning, Muslim Council of Elders**

With extensive experience as a management consultant and a seasoned strategist, I oversee strategic planning for a renowned Muslim organization focused on peace, development, and interfaith dialogue. I design and implement initiatives that promote harmony and understanding across diverse communities. Additionally, I lead my organization's faith engagements at the Conferences of the Parties (COPs), where I advocate for climate policies that blend spiritual and material perspectives, guided by the highest value of a strong moral compass. My work aims to facilitate inclusive and transformative dialogue, striving for a just and compassionate world.



Bani Dugal

**United States of America | Principal Representative, Baha'i International Community**

Bani Dugal is the Principal Representative of the Bahá'í International Community to the United Nations.

Ms. Dugal is co-president and member of the World Council of Religions for Peace; Vice Chair of the Steering Committee of the NGO Working Group on the Security Council; Vice Chair of the Board of InterFaith Alliance for Safer Communities and serves as a member of the International Religious Freedom or Belief Alliance Council of Experts. She previously served as President of the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief NY, as Co-Facilitator of the NGO Working Group on UN Access, co-facilitator of the GEAR campaign (Gender Equality Architecture Reform), Co-Facilitator of the Faith and Feminism Working Group, Chair of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, and Chair of the Global Forum of the NGO Committee on UNICEF and member of the Steering Committee of the NGO Committee on UNICEF's Working Group on Girls.



Rev. Dr. David Beckmann

**United States of America | Circle of Protection and President Emeritus of Bread for the World**

The Rev. Dr. David Beckmann is one of the foremost advocates on hunger and poverty issues in the United States. He is the Coordinator of the Circle of Protection, an advocacy coalition of U.S. church bodies that together include 100 million people. He is also President Emeritus of Bread for the World, a faith-based grassroots advocacy movement with 500,000 members. David was awarded the World Food Prize in 2010 in recognition of Bread for the World's successful advocacy for programs that benefited hundreds of millions of people struggling with hunger.



Stuart Bird

**United States of America | Student Assistant, G20 Interfaith Forum**

I am a student assistant for the G20 Interfaith Forum.



Dr. Judd Birdsall

**United States of America | Assistant Professor of the Practice Georgetown University**

Judd Birdsall is assistant professor of the practice in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at Georgetown University, where he is also a senior fellow at the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs and the project director of the Transatlantic Policy Network on Religion and Diplomacy (TPNRD). From 2011 to 2020 Birdsall was based at Cambridge University, where he earned his Ph.D., founded a research center on religion and international studies, and served as an affiliated lecturer. Prior to his time at Cambridge, he served in the U.S. State Department's Office of International Religious Freedom and on the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff. Birdsall is the editor of Religion & Diplomacy, and his work has appeared in the Washington Post, Foreign Policy, Guardian, Huffington Post, Christianity Today, and Religion & Politics. He is also a senior editor and a frequent contributor at the Review of Faith & International Affairs.



Prof. Andrew J. Boyd

**United States of America | Senior Programme Manager International Dialogue Centre - KAICIID**

Prof. Boyd is a Catholic theologian with a focus in ecclesiology, ecumenism, and interreligious dialogue. He is currently the Senior Programme Manager of the KAICIID International Fellows Programme, based in Lisbon. In Rome from 2009 to 2022, he taught for pontifical and international university and seminary programs and worked with the John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue, the Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas, and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. In the early 2000s he was a pastoral minister in the Archdiocese of Seattle (USA). He has taught in ministry formation and adult education for 25 years, and higher education for 15. He has a lifelong vocation to promoting Christian unity and interfaith dialogue.

He is a global consultant to the World Organization of the Scout Movement for UN Sustainable Development Goals and Interreligious Dialogue, and a member of the board of directors of the North American Academy of Ecumenists.



Prof. Dr. Clair Brown

**United States of America | IF20 Environmental Working Group and UC, Berkeley**

Clair Brown, PhD, is economics professor and director of the Climate and Society Center, University of California, Berkeley. Clair has published research on understanding inequality, mitigating the climate emergency, and improving sustainability. Her book *Buddhist Economics: An enlightened approach to the dismal science* (Bloomsbury Press) provides an economic framework that integrates global sustainability, shared prosperity and quality of life. Brown's research team developed a Sustainable Share-prosperity Policy Index that evaluates 50 countries' economic policies according to how well they protect the environment (sustainability), structure markets to achieve social goals (equity), and provide basic services and opportunities (wellbeing). Clair works with environmental justice and faith-based groups on climate policies that reduce carbon emissions in a way that improves the lives of vulnerable populations and meets the Paris goal of under 1.50C temperature rise.



Rose Kimeu Craigue

**United States of America | Stakeholder Engagement Lead, World Bank**

Rose Craigue leads Stakeholder Engagement for the World Bank overseeing partnerships with civil society, faith based partners, and parliamentarians. Rose brings over 20 years of stakeholder engagement experience from her work in the United Nations and civil society. Before this role, she served as the Country Director for the UN in Eswatini, where she led and coordinated the HIV response on behalf of the World Bank and 11 UN agencies. She led the eSwatini country team in managing risk and building and expanding partnerships with diverse stakeholders including civil society, faith-based organizations, and parliamentarians. Prior to her Country Director role, Rose served as a Team leader for the World Food Program's regional office in South Africa and served in various senior roles with civil society, working in Washington, DC, Ethiopia, DRC, South Sudan, and Kenya with World Vision and Catholic Relief Services



Prof. Gary B. Doxey

**United States of America | Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies**

Prof. Gary B. Doxey is associate director of the International Center for Law and Religion Studies at Brigham Young University's J. Reuben Clark Law School. He leads the Center's work in Latin America. The Center is a global leader in the field of international and comparative law relating to religion. Doxey has helped organize dozens of academic activities with leading universities in Latin America. He consults frequently on legislative initiatives. His research and teaching focus on religious liberty in history. He has authored many amicus briefs, commentaries, articles, and legislative initiatives. Before joining the law school, he served two governors of the State of Utah as chief of staff and general counsel. He served earlier as associate general counsel for the Utah Legislature. He now serves as a member of the Independent Executive Branch Ethics Commission of Utah. He has a PhD in History from Cambridge University and a JD and BA from Brigham Young University.

John Dye

**United States of America | Executive Director—skylight.org**

John Dye currently serves as Executive Director of skylight.org, an initiative of the Radiant Foundation. Skylight's mission is to help young adults live happier and more fulfilling lives through a personal relationship with God and the positive tenets of religious traditions.

John has served as a mentor in many youth-focused organizations, including Boy Scouts of America, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Boys State. John serves on the board of EyeCare4Kids, a non-profit that helps children receive much-needed eyeglasses and vision correction to help them succeed in school and life. John has been a long time participant in social media and has helped numerous youth-focused non-profits effectively incorporate social media and influencer outreach tactics into their overall marketing strategies. He enjoys experiencing how technology creates connection, camaraderie, and compassion between individuals.



Prof. W. Cole Durham, Jr.

**United States of America | President G20 Interfaith Forum**

W. Cole Durham, Jr. President, G20 Interfaith Forum Association. Founding Director of the International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University. Graduated from Harvard College and Harvard Law School; Note Editor of the Harvard Law Review and Managing Editor of the Harvard International Law Journal. Former chair of the Comparative Law and of the Law and Religion Sections of American Association of Law Schools. Immediate Past President, International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies (ICLARS), Milan, Italy; Co-Editor of the Oxford Journal of Law and Religion; co-author of *Law and Religion: National, International and Comparative Perspectives* (2d ed. 2019); co-editor of the *Encyclopedia of Law and Religion* (Brill 2016), and co-author of a 4-volume treatise, *Religious Organizations and the Law*.



Martin Egbert

**United States of America | Advisory Board Member, Ponseti International Association at the University of Iowa**

Martin and Allyson Egbert, Martin a member of the Advisory Board of Directors of the Ponseti International Association for the Treatment of Congenital Clubfoot at the University of Iowa. Congenital Clubfoot is the 6th most common birth defect affecting 200,000 children per year worldwide. W.H.O. has indicated that Clubfoot is the leading cause of Musculo-skeletal disability in the world. The Ponseti method is a lower tech, "non-surgical" method of treatment with an over 95% success rate.

Since 1999, the Ponseti method of treatment has become the mainstream initial method of treatment for children born with congenital clubfoot in the U.S. and throughout the world.

Martin and Allyson are the parents of six children. They have lived in Utah, Boston, Chicago and Las Vegas.



Dr. Mohamed Elsanousi

**United States of America | Executive Director, Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers**

Dr. Mohamed Elsanousi is the Executive Director of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers, a global network that builds bridges between grassroots peacemakers and global players to work towards sustainable peace. Prior to this position, Dr. Elsanousi was the director of Interfaith and Government Relations for the Islamic Society of North America. He also served on the Taskforce for the U.S. Department of State's working group on Religion and Foreign Policy in which he was charged with making recommendations to the Secretary of State and the Federal Advisory Commission on how the US government can better engage with civil society and religious actors.

Dr. Elsanousi is the founding executive committee member of Shoulder to Shoulder, and most recently selected to join the NGO Working Group on the U.N. Security Council. Dr. Elsanousi is currently the co-chair of the Multi Faith Advisory Council to the United Nations Interagency Task Force on Religion and Development.



Sharon Eubank

**United States of America | Director of Humanitarian Services for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**

Sister Sharon Eubank was sustained in April 2017 as first counselor in the general presidency of the Relief Society, the Church's organization for its six million female members ages 18 and older.

At the time of her call in April 2017, Sister Eubank was employed as the director of Latter-Day Saint Charities, the humanitarian organization of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and she continues in this role while serving in the Relief Society.

Since 1998 she has been employed by the Church's Welfare Department, helping establish Church employment offices in Africa and Europe before directing the Latter-day Saint Charities wheelchair initiative. In 2008, she was also asked to oversee humanitarian work in the Middle East as the regional director of Latter-day Saint Charities. In 2011 she was named the director of Latter-day Saint Charities worldwide. She believes serving others is "the very DNA of being a member of Christ's Church" and the heart and soul of Relief Society.



Dhilanthi Fernando

**United States of America | OMNIA Institute for Contextual Leadership**

Dhilanthi Fernando, is a professional musician with degrees from the American Conservatory of Music and University of Chicago (Musicology). In a professional career that spans 50+ years, she has taught both piano and theory, accompanied and directed choirs (both concert and church), and performed as soloist and accompanist in Sri Lanka, India, Chicago, New York and Switzerland, where she was on the piano faculty of the International School of Geneva. She also served was on the faculty of the Merit School of Music, and St. Therese Chinese Catholic School in Chicago. In New York, in addition to teaching privately and serving as an editorial associate at the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, she was pianist for the United Nations choir for many years. She is a volunteer leader and a member of the Advisory Board of OMNIA Institute for Contextual Leadership.



Richard T. Foltin

**United States of America | Executive Director (AAJL); Fellow for Religious Freedom (Freedom Forum)**

Richard T. Foltin is Executive Director of the American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists (AAJL), as well as serves as a Fellow for Religious Freedom at the Freedom Forum. He previously held several senior positions at the American Jewish Committee (AJC), including as Director of National and Legislative Affairs in AJC's DC office. Foltin is a special counsel to the ABA Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice and co-chair of the Section's Religious Freedom Committee. He has written and spoken extensively on civil rights and civil liberties issues, including testimony before congressional committees on, among other things, religious accommodation in the workplace. Foltin received the Dorothy Height Coalition Building Award from the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and is a former Harvard Law School Wasserstein Public Interest Fellow. He is a native of New York City, a child of Holocaust survivors, and a graduate of New York University and Harvard Law School.



Doug Fountain

**United States of America | Executive Director Christian Connections for International Health**

Doug Fountain serves as CCIH Executive Director. Doug brings over 30 years of experience in health services planning, research, and evaluation and over 20 years in the faith-based and international development sectors. He consults on development strategy and policy with bilateral and multilateral partners and global faith actors. He served in Executive Leadership at Medical Teams International, a relief-focused NGO, and with Uganda Christian University, where he lived for over eight years. He helped start the Christian Health Asset Mapping Consortium, the Christian Journal for Global Health, and the Faculty of Health Sciences at Uganda Christian University. Doug holds an MPA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a B.S. in Political Science and Economics from the University of Oregon.



Anne Gould

**United States of America | Director of International Exchanges, The Stirling Foundation**

Anne is the Director of International Exchanges and a recent addition to the Stirling Foundation. Prior to joining Stirling she spent the last fourteen years cultivating and transforming the Jordan Education Foundation as a Board Member and their Associate Director. In this role she developed key relationships within the Utah business, political and non-profit community advancing educational outcomes for students and teachers in one of the largest school districts in the state. Her efforts expanded the size and outreach of the foundation more than a hundred fold, touching the lives of thousands of teachers and students. She is excited to dedicate her talents to the Sterling Foundation mission. Anne is the devoted mother of three daughters.



Dr. Brian Grim

**United States of America | Founding President, Religious Freedom & Business Foundation**

Brian Grim, Ph. D., is founding president of the Religious Freedom & Business Foundation and global chair Dare to Overcome, a corporate diversity initiative that promotes mutual respect and engagement among differing groups in the workplace. He works with Fortune 500 and FTSE 100 companies to include religion and belief as part of their diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. Brian is the world's leading expert on the relationship between economic sustainability and freedom of religion or belief for all (including those without a religious faith). He is an affiliated scholar at Baylor University, Boston University & the Notre Dame University Law School's Religious Liberty Advisory Board. Brian is a Penn State alumnus and author of numerous works including The Price of Freedom Denied (Cambridge), World Religion Database (Brill), World's Religions in Figures (Wiley), and Yearbook of International Religious Demography (Brill). He lives at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Dr. Fletcher Harper

**United States of America | UPF Main Representative to the UN Universal Peace Federation International**

- Chairman, World Association of Non-Governmental Organization
- Chairman of the Organizing Committee, World Summit of Muslim Leaders in Jakarta, London
- Vice Chairman Global Forum on Human settlement
- Global Vice President SM University, Korea
- Studied Public Health at Khartoum University, Sudan
- Graduated from Unification Theological Seminary in NY, USA
- Editor of Books "Culture of Responsibility and the Role of NGOs" and "State of the Muslim World today"
- Born in Sudan, reside in New York with my Australian wife and five children
- Worked for decades at the United Nations HQ in NY representing NGOs, and furthering interfaith dialogue, and conflict transformation in the Middle East, Far East, Africa and the West.
- Travelled to over 100 countries, to participate, speak, and organize Regional and International conferences. I had the honor to meet and collaborate with numerous Heads of State, with UN leadership, and with many of the world's most important stakeholders.

Jack Hildebrand

**United States of America | Executive Director, GreenFaith**

Jack Hildebrand is a Community Specialist at the World Economic Forum supporting the engagement and participation of global religious leaders and faith-based organizations. He is currently a part of the Forum's Civil Society team, working with the world's largest nonprofit organizations in nature conservation, climate action and urban inclusion, as well as with global Indigenous leaders. Jack was one of the authors of the Faith in Action Report and has helped build the Forum's multistakeholder Faith in Action community for accelerating faith-business partnerships around common values.



Manisha Jain

**United States of America | Distinguished Engineer/Architect, Microsoft**

I have been at the cutting edge of technology for over last 3+ decades. I have experienced both the benefits and drawbacks of internet, mobile and artificial intelligence revolution for both my own life as well as the society. That experience has made me realize the intense need for a healthy community and faith above all for all of us. And with new awakening, I look forward to G20 Interfaith events.



Dallin Jenkins

**United States of America | G20 Interfaith Forum**

Junior in the finance program at the BYU Marriott School of Business.



Anastasia L. Jespersen

**United States of America | Treasurer and Program Officer, G20 Interfaith Forum Association**

Anastasia Jespersen currently works with the G20 Interfaith Forum Association as treasurer and program officer. She also serves on the executive board of LDS Earth Stewardship and the alumni board for the Romney Institute of Public Service and Ethics at Brigham Young University. Anastasia has a Bachelor of Science in accounting from George Mason University and a Master of Public Administration and a Juris Doctor from Brigham Young University. She has drawn on her education while working in state and local government and with various non-profit organizations over the years.



Palwasha Lena Kakar

**United States of America | Director Religion and Inclusive Societies, USIP**

Palwasha L. Kakar is a dedicated peacebuilder and women's rights activist with a master's degree from Harvard University's Divinity School in Theological studies with a focus on the intersection of gender, religion, and politics. Throughout her career, Kakar has dedicated herself to promoting dialogue, understanding, and inclusivity in peacebuilding efforts. Kakar's unique background has shaped her perspective on the importance of faith-based approaches in resolving conflicts. She started her career mediating local conflicts and directing a local faith-based peace center. Currently serving as the director for religion and inclusive societies at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), Kakar has been instrumental in advancing initiatives aimed at fostering peace and stability in conflict-affected regions. Her extensive experience includes roles such as the Afghanistan director for Women's Empowerment and Development at The Asia Foundation and Director of Peace Connections.



### Andrea Kaufmann

#### **United States of America | Director, Faith & External Engagement, World Vision International**

Andrea Kaufmann is World Vision's Director of Faith and External Engagement. She has worked in international development, humanitarian and advocacy work for two decades—serving in programme management, technical leadership, communications and relationship building roles. She convenes and supports a number of groups promoting the rights and flourishing of children—including the Faith Action for Children on the Move network as well as the Weekend of Prayer and Against Hunger group. She serves on the World Bank's Moral Imperative, the Board of Joint Learning Initiative for Faith and Local Communities and Arigatou International Advisory Group. She is passionate about the evidence-based role of faith and faith actors in development and humanitarian work and works to build cross-sector relationships to drive positive impact for children.

### Dennis Lange Beltrán, MD

#### **United States of America | Co-executive director, FIDELA**

Dennis is a medical doctor, with a specialty in Internal Medicine and Nephrology. He currently is co-executive director of FIDELA (Foro Interreligioso de las Américas), which brings together faith leaders, civil society and government officials to find ways in which human dignity and rights can be promoted. He is also a Senior Fellow at the International Center for Law and Religion Studies (ICLRS), J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University (BYU). He represents ICLRS, BYU at the Organization of American States.



### Eric LeCompte

#### **United States of America | Executive Director, Jubilee USA Network**

For more than 30 years, Eric LeCompte has led religious groups to win policies that alleviate poverty, address global conflict and promote human rights. He is the Executive Director of Jubilee USA Network, a development coalition of more than 750 religious groups and organizations.

LeCompte frequently addresses and advises governments, global institutions, United Nations fora and interfaith religious groups on pandemic response and needed economic and climate policies. He serves on expert working groups to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner.

LeCompte's views on religion, politics and economic issues regularly appear in major media outlets.



### Emma Lindberg

#### **United States of America | BYU**

Global Supply Chain Management Undergraduate student at Brigham Young University, former missionary in the Brazil Natal Mission



### Judge Denise P. Lindberg

#### **United States of America | Senior Judge, Third District Court, State of Utah**

Born in Cuba, Judge Denise Lindberg was educated in Cuba, Puerto Rico and the United States. She earned a B.A. from Brigham Young University (BYU) as well as Masters' degrees and a Ph.D., from the University of Utah. Thereafter, she graduated Magna Cum Laude from BYU law school and clerked for Judge Monroe McKay, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit and Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, U.S. Supreme Court.

She practiced law in Washington, DC, and later, in Salt Lake City, UT. Utah Governor Leavitt appointed her a district court judge in 1998; she became a senior judge in 2015.

Judge Lindberg chaired two Utah Supreme Court advisory committees and served on several Utah State Bar committees. She's taught law students in Ukraine and judges in the Dominican Republic, and has spoken or moderated at numerous events in Latin America on topics including rule of law and judicial independence, religious freedom, and human dignity. She has authored articles and a book chapter on Cuban law.



### Archbishop Nikitas

#### **United States of America | Archbishop Of Thyateira and Great Britain - President of CEC**

Archbishop Nikitas is currently serving as President of CEC (Conference of the European Churches). He has studied in the USA, Greece and Russia and has a keen interest in working with other religious communities, as he has demonstrated over the years. He also serves on the Council of Christians and Jews (UK), Churches Together in England, the Elijah Interfaith Institute and a number of academic institutions. He is known for his work against human trafficking and modern slavery and represents the Ecumenical Patriarch in this area. He resides in London, England



### Peter Mandaville

#### **United States of America | Senior Advisor for Faith Engagement, United States Agency for International Development**

In April 2024, Dr. Peter Mandaville was appointed by the Biden-Harris administration to serve as Senior Advisor for Faith Engagement at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In this role he leads the U.S. Government's faith-based partnerships in development and humanitarian contexts around the world and serves as the primary advisor on strategic religious engagement to USAID Administrator Samantha Power. He was previously Senior Advisor for Religion and Inclusive Societies at the United States Institute of Peace, and has also worked at George Mason University, Georgetown University, the Brookings Institution, the Pew Research Center, and the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Previous government experience includes serving on the U.S. State Department's Policy Planning Staff and the Secretary of State's Office of Religion and Global Affairs.



#### Katherine Marshall

##### **United States of America | Vice President, G20 Interfaith Forum Association, Georgetown University**

Katherine Marshall's life journey has focused on international development, over five decades and all continents (including a long stint at the World Bank). She now leads work on religion and development at Georgetown University's Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs, teaching diverse courses on the ethics of development work. She is executive director of the World Faiths Development Dialogue, an NGO that works to bridge between different sectors and institutions, and vice president of the G20 Interfaith Association. She sits on several NGO boards and advisory councils and speaks and writes in wide ranging settings.



#### Medlir Mema Ph.D.

##### **United States of America | Head of Programme, AI and Global Governance, Global Governance Institute**

Medlir Mema is the Head of Programme for Artificial Intelligence and Global Governance at the Global Governance Institute as well as co-founder and co-host of the "Age of AI: Politics, Law, and Society" podcast. He is also Professor of International Relations at the Brigham Young University Idaho in the United States. Previously, he was an Associate Professor of Political Science at Tokyo International University in Japan, Adjunct Faculty at Vesalius College, and a Senior Associate Researcher at the Institute for European Studies - VUB in Brussels, Belgium. From 2010 to 2011, Medlir joined the International Law Center at the Swedish National Defense College as a guest scholar. Medlir holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the George Washington University, and a MA in European Studies and International Economics from Johns Hopkins University—School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

#### Miles Hansen

##### **United States of America | President, The Stirling Foundation**

Miles Hansen is the President and a board director for The Stirling Foundation. Previously, Miles served as the President & CEO of World Trade Center Utah, an organization that accelerates global growth for Utah businesses. In 2022, Miles was recognized by Utah Business as CEO of the Year. Earlier in his career, Miles served in the White House on the National Security Council as the Director of Gulf Affairs and worked as a U.S. diplomat focused on energy, security, and business issues throughout the Middle East and Eurasia. Miles has served on various private and public boards, including as Chairman of the Utah Inland Port Authority and as a member of the U.S. Trade Representative's Policy Advisory Committee. He graduated with honors from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies and with distinction from Brigham Young University. Miles and his wife, Siena, are the proud parents of five children.

#### Dr. Nicholas Miller

##### **United States of America | Professor of Law and Religion, Washington Adventist University**

Dr. Nicholas Miller is Professor of Law and Religion at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Maryland, where he also directs the Center for Law Public Policy. Dr. Miller has advanced degrees in both law and history, and has appeared before the US Supreme Court in religious liberty litigation. He has published numerous scholarly and professional articles on issues related to religious freedom, and is the author or editor of five books, including *The Religious Roots of the First Amendment* (Oxford, 2012) and the *Oxford Handbook of Seventh-day Adventism* (Oxford, 2024).

#### Kimberly Parent

##### **United States of America | Faith Engagement Lead, World Bank**

Kimberly is the Faith Engagement Lead for the World Bank Group's Stakeholder Engagement team - focused on engaging with faith actors at headquarters and in the field. Before joining this team, Kimberly spent 10 years focused on the World Bank's Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), a \$1.5 billion multi-stakeholder trust fund for the poorest countries. This role involved extensive collaboration between the World Bank, regional MDBs, UN agencies, governments, and local communities. Prior to her time at the Bank, Kim worked in corporate social responsibility and socially responsible investing.



#### Gianna Patchett

##### **United States of America | ICLRS**

Gianna Patchett recently graduated from the J. Reuben Law School at Brigham Young University and is beginning her legal career in commercial litigation in Texas. While a student she participated avidly with the ICLRS religious freedom symposium and other events promoting religious freedom around the world, including becoming a JRCLS religious freedom fellow. As a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Gianna lived in Manaus, Brasil for 18 months and considers Brasil a second home.



James Patton

**United States of America | President and CEO, International Center for Religion & Diplomacy**

James Patton is President of The International Center for Religion & Diplomacy, and has conducted international development, conflict transformation, and social reconciliation for over two decades, building collaborative programs with broad stakeholders in complex environments. His experience includes: coordinating citizen security in the Andean region; training Cambodian Buddhists on post-conflict stability; training North African religious actors in countering violent extremism; supporting tolerance reforms in Saudi education, and; leading stability assessments for the US State Department in South Sudan. He is a Council on Foreign Relations Lifetime Member, Senior Visiting Fellow at Brigham Young University's Wheatley Institution, and co-author, with Rev. David Steele, of the U.S. Institute of Peace publication, Religion and Conflict Guide Series: Religion and Reconciliation. James holds Master's degrees from The Fletcher School at Tufts and Harvard Divinity.



Angelica Pinto-Santiago

**United States of America | Communications Assistant, BYU LAW ICLRS**

Angelica Pinto-Santiago is an undergraduated student attending Brigham Young University. She is studying Political Science with an emphasis in international diplomacy and strategy. She also completed a minor in the portuguese languages. She works for BYU Law's center of International law and Religion studies as a Communications Assistant.



Dr. Shanta Premawardhana

**United States of America | President OMNIA Institute for Contextual Leadership**

Dr. Shanta Premawardhana is president of OMNIA Institute for Contextual Leadership, a global network of Interfaith Peacemaker Teams that trains religious leaders and people of faith to build power by collaborating across religious and other boundaries that divide human communities for effective action. Interfaith Peacemaker Teams counter religious extremism and region-based oppression, domination and violence. It trains people of faith to deconstruct theologies of exclusivism and superiority and reconstruct theologies of pluralism. As a result, they build social cohesion, reduce extremist violence and strengthen democracy. Previously, Dr. Premawardhana served as the Director for Interreligious Dialogue and Cooperation at the World Council of Churches, in Geneva, Switzerland.



Rachel Miner

**United States of America | Founder and CEO, Bellwether International**

Rachel Miner is the founder and CEO of Bellwether International, a 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to building genocide-resistance through freedom of religion or belief and economic development. Rachel has a bachelors in economics from Brigham Young University and master's in public administration from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a second masters in economic and political development from the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. In 2021, Rachel was named a U.S. Truman Scholar.

Rachel's research explores the economics of religious freedom and has published in the Journal of Economics, Management, and Religion, and is a regular contributor on BBC Woman's Hour, SiriusXM, and Newsweek. Her research also discusses religious freedom and technology, artificial intelligence, and using complex systems to model genocide. Rachel has presented at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, the Global Women's Summit, the Ministerial



Angela Nielsen Redding

**United States of America | Executive Director, Radiant Foundation**

Angela Nielsen Redding currently serves as Executive Director at Radiant Foundation, which invests in more accurate, balanced, and positive representation of all religions while creating space for connection with a higher power. Radiant particularly focuses on interfaith collaboration with and representation in news and entertainment.

Prior to her work at Radiant Foundation, Angela led innovation and partnerships for a technology subsidiary of Ford Motor Company. Previously, she built and led a media innovation trade association while leading multi-million and billion-dollar investments in media companies.

Her professional experience includes a decade of nonprofit management and management consulting with some of the largest and most impactful corporations, nonprofits, and startups.

In her personal time, she has led church youth groups in Northern California and Northern Utah and engaged in interfaith and media relations in local communities. Most of all, she loves adventuring with her husband and little girls.



Dr. Stephen D. Richardson

**United States of America | Associate Professor of Computer Science, Brigham Young University**

Steve Richardson is an associate professor of Computer Science at Brigham Young University (BYU). He received B.S. and M.A. degrees in Computer Science and Linguistics from BYU and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the City University of New York. Prior to joining the BYU Computer Science faculty in 2021, he was the manager of Machine Translation (MT) at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where he worked for ten years. Before that, he completed a 3-year missionary assignment in Brazil, 17 years at Microsoft Research as a Principal and Partner Researcher and as manager of the Machine Translation Group, and 11 years at IBM working in Natural Language Processing (NLP), including at the TJ Watson Research Center. He recently finished serving as the president of the Association for Machine Translation in the Americas and served previously as president of the International Association for Machine Translation, as well as on numerous advisory boards and conference program committees. He is the author and/or editor of various books, conference proceedings, and research papers, as well as numerous patents in NLP and MT.



Dr. Marianna Richardson

**United States of America | Director of Communications, G20 Interfaith Forum**

Dr. Marianna Richardson is the Director of Communications for G20 Interfaith Forum and is an adjunct professor at Brigham Young University in the Romney Institute of Public Service and Ethics.



Sherie Rogde

**United States of America | Conference Liaison, International Center for Law and Religion Studies**

As part of the team, Sherie organizes various conferences and symposia for the International Center for Law and Religion Studies at Brigham Young University. Specific areas of focus include the United States, Latin America, East Europe, and Central Asia. Sherie earned a master's degree in Organizational Behavior with an emphasis in international development. She has served on nonprofit boards of directors and participated in development and humanitarian efforts in West Africa, Egypt, Central and South America.



Jeffrey D. Sachs

**United States of America | Director, Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University.**

Jeffrey D. Sachs is an economics professor and bestselling author. He serves as the Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University. He is President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Co-Chair of the Council of Engineers for the Energy Transition, academician of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences at the Vatican, Commissioner of the UN Broadband Commission for Development, and SDG Advocate for UN Secretary General António Guterres. He is also one of the editors of The World Happiness Report.



Rabbi David Saperstein

**United States of America | Senior Advisor for Policy, Union for Reform Judaism**

For 40 years, Rabbi Saperstein directed the Religious Action Center, representing the Reform Jewish Movement, the largest segment of American Jewry, to the U.S. Congress and Administration. During the second term of the Obama administration, Rabbi Saperstein served as the U.S. Ambassador for International Religious Freedom. Also an attorney, he taught seminars on Church-State and on Jewish Law for 35 years at Georgetown U. Over the years, he served on exec. committees of numerous civil rights, human rights, economic development, and environmental NGOs, including: • Chair, Interfaith Coalition on Energy • founding board member of National Religious Partnership on Environment, (coalition of U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Jewish community, National Council of Churches –with its 36 Protestant and Orthodox denominations – and Evangelicals on the Environment.) • chair, the World Faith Development Dialogue • Chair, a federal government Advisory Council on combat human trafficking.



Ven. Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati

**United States of America | Secretary-General, Global Interfaith WASH Alliance**

SADHVI BHAGAWATI SARASWATI is a renowned spiritual leader, author and motivational speaker based in Rishikesh, India. She is International Director, Parmarth Niketan, one of India's largest spiritual institutions; Secretary-General of the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance, dedicated to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene; President of Divine Shakti Foundation, which runs free schools, vocational training programs, and empowerment programs; she is Co-President of Religions for Peace and director of the world-famous International Yoga Festival at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh—which has been addressed by both the Prime Minister and Vice President of India. She was also the Managing Editor for the 11-volume Encyclopedia of Hinduism.

Sadhviji has been honoured with many awards including from renowned world leaders, recently being awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by U.S. President Joe Biden for her lifelong commitment to volunteer service.

Julia Schiwal

**United States of America | Program Officer, The United States Institute of Peace**

I'm a writer. I like to write about things deeply, critically, and strategically.

In my free time, I enjoy painting.

Views are my own.



Dr. C. Jonathan Scriven

**United States of America | Professor and Associate Director, Honors College, Washington Adventist University**

Jonathan Scriven is a Professor of Political Studies and International Relations at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, MD (USA). He is also the Associate Director of the WAU Honors College and the Co-Director of the WAU Center for Law and Public Policy. Prior to WAU, Scriven spent 13 years in France where he taught at the Center International de Valbonne. While living in Europe, Scriven earned his doctorate degree from the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations where he studied with David Chikvaizde, the Chief of Staff of the UN Office in Geneva, as his thesis advisor.

Scriven earned a Bachelor's Degree in History and Economics from Andrews University (Michigan) and a Master's Degree in History and Education from The Johns Hopkins University (Maryland). Scriven is married and has three children.



Ahmed Shehata

**United States of America | CEO, IRUSA**

Ahmed Shehata, renowned in Islamic leadership, becomes CEO of Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA). With nearly 20 years at IRUSA, he notably led as Director of Fund Development, achieving unprecedented revenue growth, surpassing \$135 million. His strategies included major gifts management, community fundraising, and cross-channel donor cultivation, attracting funds from diverse sources. Ahmed holds a Masters in Management from Strayer University and a Masters in Philanthropic Studies from Indiana University. As CEO, he prioritizes impactful outcomes and positioning IRUSA as a trusted philanthropic partner.



### Blythe Shupe

#### **United States of America | Communications Specialist, International Center for Law and Religion Studies**

Blythe Shupe joined the International Center for Law and Religion Studies at BYU Law in September 2015 as a communications specialist. In this role, she manages the Center’s social media outlets and the ICLRS website and oversees the production of major Center conferences, including the Annual Symposium, the Religious Freedom Annual Review, and the international G20 Interfaith Forums. Before coming to the Center, she worked as an account manager in the world of pre-employment screening where she specialized in the complicated screening practices surrounding healthcare, financial firms, and aviation. Blythe earned her bachelor’s degree in Comparative Literature from Brigham Young University and believes that a degree in the humanities is good preparation for any career. She is married with two sons, two daughters, and two large dogs.

### Anne Simmons-Benton

#### **United States of America | Deputy Secretary General, Religions for Peace**

Ms. Anne Simmons-Benton is a senior international development leader and trade attorney with more than 30 years of experience in government, private sector, and academia. She has worked in more than 32 countries, managing and leading complex initiatives, including the World Trade Organization’s (WTO) Integrated Framework for Least Developed Countries, the Presidential Initiative on Trade Capacity Building, and the Stability Pact in the Balkans. She brings a strong passion and enthusiasm for advancing equity for women and promoting social justice and the rule of law around the world. Anne is currently the Co-Head of the US Delegation to the Women20 (W20), the Chair of the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area, the Deputy Chair for the Society for International Development – US and a Board Member for the Mines Advisory Group – US. Anne earned her BS in foreign service from the Georgetown University Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service and her JD from Antioch.

### Deepika Singh

#### **United States of America | Deputy Secretary General, Religions for Peace**

Deepika Singh is the Deputy Secretary General at Religions for Peace, the world’s largest and most representative multi-religious coalition that advances common action among the world’s religious communities for peace.

Ms. Singh directs the overall programme strategy and implementation at Religions for Peace, work that is informed by over two decades of professional experience in international affairs and development, including service in USAID-funded programmes in Nepal and consultancies with UNDP, UNICEF, and other international NGOs. In addition, she provides technical guidance in areas of conflict, integral human development and organizational strengthening to Religions for Peace global, regional, national and local affiliated organizations, including their Women of Faith and Youth Networks in over 90 countries. Ms. Singh holds a MPA degree from Pace University, USA; MA from Dhaka University, Bangladesh; and BA (Hon) from St. Bede’s College, India.

### Hannah C. Smith

#### **United States of America | Associate Director, ICLRS**

ICLRS Associate Director Hannah Smith worked for U.S. Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito and as Becket Law’s Senior Counsel where she secured four landmark Supreme Court victories. Hannah has appeared before Congress and on national media, and is a sought-after speaker.

Hannah received her BA from Princeton University and her JD from BYU Law School (Order of the Coif), where she served as the Law Review’s Executive Editor. Hannah received BYU’s Alumni Achievement Award, the Women-in-Law Leadership Award, and the James Madison Award. Hannah worked in private practice at national law firms in Washington, D.C.

Hannah served as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in France. She is a Director for the Religious Freedom Institute, a chair on the JRCLS’s Religious Freedom Committee, and a member with her husband John on the ICLRS International Advisory Council.



### Dr. Sherrie Steiner

#### **United States of America | Associate Professor, Purdue University Fort Wayne**

Sherrie Steiner (PH.D.) serves as the Historian for the G20 Interfaith Forum. Sher is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Purdue University Fort Wayne. She specializes in social change, environmental sociology, and sociology of religion. Her research focuses on public health and religion. Her publications on environment and religion include *Religious Soft Diplomacy and the United Nations: Religious Engagement as Loyal Opposition*, co-edited with James T. Christie (2021, Lexington); and *Moral Pressure for Responsible Globalization: Religious Diplomacy in the Age of the Anthropocene*, *International Studies in Religion and Society*, Volume 30 (2018, Brill).



### Nicole Stirling

#### **United States of America | Vice President and Chief Relations Officer, The Stirling Foundation**

Nicole Stirling is a founding board member of The Stirling Foundation. She also serves as the organization’s Vice President and Chief Relations Officer. In addition, she maintains her role as President of an IT consulting firm based in Houston that develops custom software solutions for the oil and gas, chemical, and gold mining industries across the globe. In addition to launching the Stirling Foundation, Ms. Stirling has worked as a board member and employee at other non-profit organizations, including a prominent, multinational organization, providing high-level support at the forefront of their efforts to build and strengthen relationships. She also worked closely with Richard B. Wirthlin, former chief strategist and pollster for President Ronald Reagan, at Wirthlin’s international market research firm. She and her husband Bryant are the parents of three children and grandparents to one grandson.



### Christina-Tobias-Nahi

#### **United States of America | Director of Public Affairs, IRUSA**

Christina Tobias-Nahi has been at the helm of IRUSA’s public affairs efforts since 2006. Prior to rejoining the organization as Director of Public Affairs initially, Christina lead International Programs at the Joint Council on International Children’s Services, with a portfolio on orphans and nutrition. She also managed the program Tech Girls, a summer program of the U.S. State Department and Legacy International that brings emerging female leaders from the Middle East and North Africa to DC for leadership training.



### Brayden Walters

#### **United States of America | Associate Director of Communications, G20 Interfaith Forum**



Chris Yadon

**United States of America | Chief Philanthropy Officer, The Derek and Shelaine Maxfeild Family Foundation**

Chris currently serves as the Chief Philanthropy Officer at The Maxfield Family Office. Much of his professional career has been in start-up executive management, with an emphasis on operations, marketing, and sales. Over the past ten years, he has focused exclusively on non-profit executive management. Chris' expertise centers on designing and implementing efficient giving practices and stewardship. In addition, he provides public leadership for Saprea, a nonprofit seeking to end child sexual abuse. His responsibilities on both the giving and receiving sides of nonprofits give Chris a unique perspective on philanthropy. Chris considers his family to be his greatest motivation and joy. He is the grateful father of six children: three boys, three girls, and two grandchildren. He and his wife, Christy, have been married for 27 years.



Elder Corbitt Ahmed

**United States of America | The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**

Ahmad S. Corbitt was sustained as a General Authority Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 1, 2023. Elder Corbitt received a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from Richard Stockton University of New Jersey in 1989 and a juris doctorate degree from Rutgers University School of Law in 1993. He has worked as a trial attorney, as vice president and general counsel for a New York public relations firm, and as executive director of corporate communications and government relations and associate general counsel for a Delaware company. He directed the Church's New York Office of Public and International Affairs and, most recently, trained mission leaders as an Area Mission Specialist.

## Uruguay



Alvaro R. Martínez

**Uruguay | Licenciado en Trabajo Social, Roble del Sur Foundation**

Alvaro es Miembro de la Fundación Roble del Sur y obispo de La Iglesia de Jesucristo de los Santos de los Últimos Días. Es Licenciado en Trabajo Social y actualmente está cursando una Maestría en Trabajo Social con orientación a las migraciones internacionales. La población migrante y refugiada ha sido su tema de investigación académica desde su formación de grado. Ha participado en grupos de investigación y escrito artículos académicos sobre el tema. Su actual tema de investigación es la inclusión educativa de las infancias migrantes en Uruguay. Como Licenciado en Trabajo Social, desde el año 2019 se ha dedicado a trabajar con infancias y adolescencias en situación de vulnerabilidad social, especialmente en comunidades con altos índices de pobreza y pobreza extrema. Ha trabajado en la promoción de la educación alimentaria, el fomento de huertas familiares, el fortalecimiento de redes comunitarias y la colaboración con iniciativas de la sociedad civil y programas gubernamentales.



Gabriela Viale Ciompi

**Uruguay | Member, Fundación Roble del Sur**

I am a graduate in International Relations, currently working on my thesis for the Master in International Public Law regarding the implementation of refugees resettlement programs in Uruguay. I work as a civil servant for the uruguayan social security institute. My current position is as an investigator of the social security benefits given by the institute, in order to determine that the requisites were correctly fulfilled and that they are used for the right purpose. I also serve as a volunteer for the Jesuit Migrant Service since 2022. I am a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and have served in many volunteer assignments within that religious community, including helping women and young people on their personal development.

## Uzbekistan



Dr. Muzaffar Kamilov

**Uzbekistan | Senior Advisor to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Religious Affairs**

M. Kamilov was born in 1970 in Kokan, Fergana region. 1996 graduated Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies, orientalist-philologist, candidate of history, associate professor. Career: 2000-2001 - Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Economics and International relations of the Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies. 2001-2009 - vice-rector for scientific affairs of the Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies. 2009-2016 - Head of the spiritual and moral education and sports department of the Center of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan. 2016-2018 - vice-rector for spiritual and educational affairs of Tashkent State University of Economics. 2018-2022 - First Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Religious Affairs. 2021-2023 - Rector of the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan. From 2022 Advisor to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on religion and inter-ethnic relations. Author of about 50 scientific articles.

Mr. Murodkhonov Muhammadnur

**Uzbekistan | Bachelor of Jurisprudence (Islamic Law), International Islamic Academy, Tashkent (Uzbekistan)**

Murodkhonov Muhammadnur Muzaffarkhan o`g`li. Sex: Male | Date of birth: 24/04/2004 | Nationality: Uzbekistan. 2022-present Bachelor of Jurisprudence (Islamic Law) at International Islamic Academy, Tashkent (Uzbekistan). Communication skills: to negotiate and mediate to achieve aims as well as going extra mile to finish the project; Organisational managerial skills: Leadership/team management, Good experience in project cycle and management, in networking; Sense of organisation (experiences in logistics, in events management); Memberships: Member of Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), 2021 - present. Volunteer of Academy of sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

# Zambia

Dr. Jasur Nadjimitdinov

**Uzbekistan | Leading Consultant**

**Administration of The President of The Republic of Uzbekistan**

Nadjimitdinov Jasur Khatamdjanovich was born in Tashkent in 1984, nationality Uzbek. In 2006, he graduated Tashkent Islamic University, and in 2008, master's degree of the same university, in "Religious Studies". In 2022, he defended his Doctor of Philosophy dissertation on the topic "Social-historical content of missionary work and its manifestation in Uzbekistan". In 2008-2013 he was a teacher of the Department of "Religious Studies and Comparative Study of World Religions UNESCO" of Tashkent Islamic University, in 2009-2014 he was head of the department in the Research Center of Islamic Studies under Tashkent Islamic University. In 2014-2016, dean of the Faculty of Higher Education and Personnel Retraining, and in 2016-2018, director of the Research Center of Islamic Studies. From 2018 he is working in the Administration of The President of Uzbekistan. Author of 2 textbooks, 4 instructional manuals, 2 brochures, about 20 scientific and popular scientific articles.

Fr Charles Chilufya, SJ.

**Zambia | Director Justice and Ecology Office, Jesuit Conference of Africa and Madagascar**

I am a Jesuit priest working for the Jesuit Conference of Africa of Africa and Madagascar (JCAM) as the Director of the Jesuit Justice and Ecology Office and I am the director of the Jesuit Justice and Ecology Network-Africa. Both of these entities work for the eradication of poverty and protection of the planet. My main role is to provide the Jesuit interface with global policy and local African reality. I also work to coordinate the work of Jesuits in the promotion of social justice and environmental issues. Before this I worked for the Copperbelt University where I taught business and economics and I served as chaplain.

# Zimbabwe

Thabani Sibanda

**Zimbabwe | World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA)**

An international development professional with over 15 years of experience, Thabani specializes in women's leadership, gender equality, and access to essential services. She has successfully led programmes and secured significant funding, including a multi-million euro grant from the Netherlands government for eliminating SGBV, and large-scale grants from DFID for SRHR in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. As the Lead for the YW4A Partnership and Initiative at World YWCA, Thabani manages a consortium focused on eradicating SGBV and promoting women's leadership. Her previous roles include spearheading resource mobilisation at IPPF Africa and Plan International, enhancing fundraising capabilities and securing vital funding. Thabani is skilled in strategic partnership building, resource mobilisation, bid management, and multi-country programme management, dedicated to advancing sustainable development and gender equality.



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