# Short Bios of the experts

## in the EWL Observatory on Violence against Women in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EWL member</th>
<th>Observatory member 2019-2021</th>
<th>About</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUSTRIA - Austrian Women’s Lobby (Österreichischer Frauenring)</strong></td>
<td>Sophie Hansal (until August 2020) Public Relation manager of the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna Board member of the Austrian Women's Lobby Alternate Board member to the European Women's Lobby <a href="mailto:Sophie.hansal@interventionsstelle-wien.at">Sophie.hansal@interventionsstelle-wien.at</a></td>
<td>Sophie Hansal currently works for the Domestic Violence Centre Vienna. She is a board member of the Austrian Women's Lobby, an alternate delegate to the European Women’s Lobby and a delegate to WAVE – Women Against Violence Europe. Her areas of work include political lobbying for gender equality, representations of victims in the media, structural forms of VAW, cyber violence, LGBTIQ+ rights, and intersectionality. She holds a master's degree in gender studies. At a national level, Sophie coordinates the Alliance for a Life Free from Violence, a network of over 30 NGOs and experts who advocate for the full implementation of the Istanbul Convention in Austria. The Alliance for a Life Free from Violence holds regular meetings, meets with politicians and stakeholders and organizes public events on the issue of GBV.</td>
<td>Austrian Women's Lobby <a href="https://www.frauenring.at">https://www.frauenring.at</a> <a href="mailto:info@frauenring.at">info@frauenring.at</a> <a href="https://facebook.com/Frauenring">https://facebook.com/Frauenring</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GREECE</strong></td>
<td>Coordination of Greek Women’s NGOs for the EWL</td>
<td>Irene Fereti</td>
<td>President of the Greek League for Women’s Rights since 2017 and Director of the GLWR journal “Women’s Struggle.” She is in charge of the Counseling Service of the GLWR, established in 2004, offering the legal advice and social and psychological support to women and children victims of violence. She has worked as a senior researcher at the Institute of Child Health, where she has also developed prevention programs and trained professionals in VAWG. She has been a member in the committee who drafted the Greek Law regulating Family Violence. She obtained a Ph.D. in Feminist Criminology and Sociology and conducted research in the UK and the US. <a href="http://www.cleftfoundation.org/">Cleft Foundation Fellow University of California, Berkeley.</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FINLAND - Coalition of Finnish Women’s Associations (NTKIS)</strong></td>
<td>Anna Nuutio</td>
<td>Coordinator of Work against Human Trafficking MOMA Crisis Centre</td>
<td>Coordinator of Work against Human Trafficking MOMA Crisis Centre. MOMA offers specialised services for immigrant women that have experienced violence, and Anna is in charge of the work against trafficking in human beings. Before Monika she worked as the Executive Director of the Eth Promotion Associates, and before being the director she worked there as a coordinator. She has also worked briefly as a coordinator in NTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women’s Associations. She has a background in working with children and youth and have done my masters in Gender Studies with a special focus on violence against women, sexuality, gender and human rights. She has given speeches in conferences and seminars both in Finland and abroad and train professionals and volunteers frequently on the topic. Last year, she was the Finnish Independent representative for the Mutual Learning program on Gender equality for the European Commission. At her current post she both works directly assisting and coordinating services for female victims of trafficking and acts as an expert work in the issues related to trafficking. She also attended as a support person to court proceedings and police hearings when the victims so wish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRANCE - Coordination française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes – CLEF</strong></td>
<td>Isabelle TRIMAILLE</td>
<td>Coordinator of the CLEF Commission on violence against women</td>
<td>Coordinator of the CLEF Commission on violence against women. Co-chair of the national coordination commission on violence against women involving all the relevant associations. She has organised workshops at European level on the Istanbul Convention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CZECH REPUBLIC - Czech Women’s Lobby</strong></td>
<td>Johanna Nejedlová</td>
<td>Journalist and co-founder of Konsent</td>
<td>Director of Konsent, in 2010, an organisation aiming to change the conversation surrounding traditional Czech attitudes towards sex and sexual violence. Working along the platform of “If she doesn’t want to, she doesn’t want to.” Johanna has been in dynamic force in guiding young Czech women towards a different aspect of their own rights and power. Thanks to a grant from the US Embassy, Konsent produced a video for “If she doesn’t want to, she doesn’t want” which addresses the very necessary subject of her organization’s name. Upon its release Johanna was flooded with emails from girls and young women eager to be heard and to volunteer their time. Johanna began writing a column for Alarm, a popular and savvy publication focusing on culture, society, and politics. She teamed up with artists to promote a groundbreaking art installation forcing the public to acknowledge the reality of incest. Women held a workshop on street harassment at the first conference on harassment in public space in the Czech Republic, spearheaded by Kongres zen (Congress of Women.) Johanna is a member of the Czech Women’s Lobby working group focusing on violence against women. She has given numerous interviews and fights tirelessly for the media to highlight the autonomy of women’s bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EMBASSY - Women’s Council in Denmark (KDS)</strong></td>
<td>Lisa Homfjord</td>
<td>Coordinator of Work against human trafficking MONIKA Crisis Centre</td>
<td>Coordinator of Work against human trafficking MONIKA Crisis Centre. MONIKA offers specialised services for immigrant women that have experienced violence, and Anna is in charge of the work against trafficking in human beings. Before Monika she worked as the Executive Director of the Eth Promotion Associates, and before being the director she worked there as a coordinator. She has also worked briefly as a coordinator in NTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women’s Associations. She has a background in working with children and youth and have done my masters in Gender Studies with a special focus on violence against women, sexuality, gender and human rights. She has given speeches in conferences and seminars both in Finland and abroad and train professionals and volunteers frequently on the topic. Last year, she was the Finnish Independent representative for the Mutual Learning program on Gender equality for the European Commission. At her current post she both works directly assisting and coordinating services for female victims of trafficking and acts as an expert work in the issues related to trafficking. She also attended as a support person to court proceedings and police hearings when the victims so wish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ESTONIA - Estonian Women’s Shelters Union</strong></td>
<td>Eha Reitelmann</td>
<td>Chairwoman of the Estonian Women’s Shelters Union</td>
<td>Chairwoman of the Estonian Women’s Shelters Union. Eha was been working on ending VAW since 2002, initially on human trafficking and prostitution, later on domestic violence. She was involved in establishing women’s shelters in 12 counties out of 15 counties in Estonia. She was instrumental in setting up hotline 1492 for women victims of violence and was the founder of Estonian Women’s Shelters Union in 2004. Within 2006-2016 she organised both and further training courses for shelters staff in the amount of over one thousand hours. In 2006-2008 she was Estonian NGO coordinator for the Nordic-Baltic project under which services for women trafficked for sexual exploitation were developed. In 2015-2016 she coordinated the pre-defined project under the Norway Grants program, where we developed complex services for Estonian women’s shelters which includes emergency crisis support, psychological and legal counseling and accommodation. She has been an active promoter of the ratification of the Istanbul Convention in Estonia, which was ratified in 2015.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CZECH REPUBLIC - Czech Women’s Lobby</strong></td>
<td>Johanna Nejedlová</td>
<td>Journalist and co-founder of Konsent</td>
<td>Director of Konsent, in 2010, an organisation aiming to change the conversation surrounding traditional Czech attitudes towards sex and sexual violence. Working along the platform of “If she doesn’t want to, she doesn’t want to.” Johanna has been in dynamic force in guiding young Czech women towards a different aspect of their own rights and power. Thanks to a grant from the US Embassy, Konsent produced a video for “If she doesn’t want to, she doesn’t want” which addresses the very necessary subject of her organization’s name. Upon its release Johanna was flooded with emails from girls and young women eager to be heard and to volunteer their time. Johanna began writing a column for Alarm, a popular and savvy publication focusing on culture, society, and politics. She teamed up with artists to promote a groundbreaking art installation forcing the public to acknowledge the reality of incest. Women held a workshop on street harassment at the first conference on harassment in public space in the Czech Republic, spearheaded by Kongres zen (Congress of Women.) Johanna is a member of the Czech Women’s Lobby working group focusing on violence against women. She has given numerous interviews and fights tirelessly for the media to highlight the autonomy of women’s bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DENMARK - Danish Women’s Society</strong></td>
<td>Johanna Nejedlová</td>
<td>President of the IAW (International Alliance of Women).</td>
<td>President of the IAW (International Alliance of Women). From 2001 to 2009, Johanna served as President of the Danish Women’s Society, where she spearheaded the establishment of the national coordination commission on violence against women. From 2009 to 2017 she was a member of the Danish Women’s Society’s Board of Directors and from 2017 and elected again for a new term, April 2019. Johanna Nejedlová, a Danish Women’s Council boardmember from 2015-2019, is Denmark’s oldest women’s organisation. One of the main concerns of the organisation is the elimination of all violence against women. She is a co-author of a book on violence against women and how the Danish legislation and its demand for shared custody retains women and children in violence. She was a Danish Women’s Council boardmember from 2015-2017 and elected again for a new term, April 2019. She is also a member of the national observatory on VAWG since 2009 and a longterm member of the national observatory on VAWG. She has given numerous interviews and fights tirelessly for the media to highlight the autonomy of women’s bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FINLAND - Coalition of Finnish Women’s Associations (NTKIS)</strong></td>
<td>Anna Nuutio</td>
<td>Coordinator of Work against Human Trafficking MOMA Crisis Centre</td>
<td>Coordinator of Work against Human Trafficking MOMA Crisis Centre. MOMA offers specialised services for immigrant women that have experienced violence, and Anna is in charge of the work against trafficking in human beings. Before Monika she worked as the Executive Director of the Eth Promotion Associates, and before being the director she worked there as a coordinator. She has also worked briefly as a coordinator in NTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women’s Associations. She has a background in working with children and youth and have done my masters in Gender Studies with a special focus on violence against women, sexuality, gender and human rights. She has given speeches in conferences and seminars both in Finland and abroad and train professionals and volunteers frequently on the topic. Last year, she was the Finnish Independent representative for the Mutual Learning program on Gender equality for the European Commission. At her current post she both works directly assisting and coordinating services for female victims of trafficking and acts as an expert work in the issues related to trafficking. She also attended as a support person to court proceedings and police hearings when the victims so wish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estonia - Estonia’s Associations Roundtable</strong></td>
<td>NYTRIS ry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estonia - Estonia’s Associations Roundtable</strong></td>
<td>MONIKA - Multicultural Women's Association Finland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRANCE - Coordination française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes – CLEF</strong></td>
<td>Isabelle TRIMAILLE</td>
<td>Coordinator of the CLEF Commission on violence against women</td>
<td>Coordinator of the CLEF Commission on violence against women. Co-chair of the national coordination commission on violence against women involving all the relevant associations. She has organised workshops at European level on the Istanbul Convention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GREECE - Coordination of Greek Women’s NGOs for the EWL</strong></td>
<td>Irene Fereti</td>
<td>President of the Greek League for Women’s Rights</td>
<td>President of the Greek League for Women’s Rights since 2017 and Director of the GLWR journal “Women’s Struggle.” She is in charge of the Counseling Service of the GLWR, established in 2004, offering the legal advice and social and psychological support to women and children victims of violence. She has worked as a senior researcher at the Institute of Child Health, where she has also developed prevention programs and trained professionals in VAWG. She has been a member in the committee who drafted the Greek Law regulating Family Violence. She obtained a Ph.D. in Feminist Criminology and Sociology and conducted research in the UK and the US. <a href="http://www.cleftfoundation.org/">Cleft Foundation Fellow University of California, Berkeley.</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Hungarian Women's Lobby**

*https://www.noierdek.hu*

*https://www.facebook.com/NoiErdek/

**National Women's Council of Ireland**

*coordinamento.lef.italia@gmail.com*

*inete.Ielite@bernuforums.lv*

**Women's NGOs Cooperation Network of Latvia**

*postur@kvenrettindafelag.is*

**Icelandic Women’s Rights Association**

*Coordinamento Italiano della Lobby Europea delle Donne – LEF*

**Lithuanian Women’s Lobby**

*https://www.facebook.com/Lithuanianwomenslobby/

**Women's NGOs Cooperation Network of Latvia**

*www.nane.hu*

**Hungarian Women’s Lobby**

*https://www.facebook.com/hungarianwomenslobby/

**NANE Women’s Rights Association**

*www.nane.hu*

*https://www.facebook.com/NANElugosztas/

---

**Enikő Pap**

Legal expert of NANE Women’s Rights Association

Secretary of the Hungarian Women’s Lobby

Email: eppap68@gmail.com

---

**Hildur Fjölía Antonsdóttir**

Researcher, board member of Stígamót

Email: hjfjolia94@gmail.com

---

**Mary Crilly**

Director of the Sexual Violence Centre Cork (SVCC)

Member of the Irish National Observatory on VAW

Email: info@sexualviolence.ie

---

**Siusi Casaccia**

Forum Associazione Donne Giuriste, Board member

Email: gdgi.itag@gmail.com

---

**Edite Kalina**

Psychologist and HR professional

EWB Board member

Email: edite@dfpmc.com

---

**Dovilė Masalskienė**

Works at Women's Issues Information Centre

Email: dmasalskiene@gmail.com

---

**Coordinatore Italiano della Lobby Europea delle Donne**

*https://www.eventiitalianioblungiugno.blogspot.it/*

*https://www.facebook.com/Italianoblungiugno/

*https://twitter.com/Italianoblungi*

**Forum Associazione Donne Giuriste**

*https://www.forumdonnegiuriste.it/*

*https://twitter.com/ForumDGN*

---

**Women's NGOs Cooperation Network of Latvia**

*www.kvenrettindafelag.is/en*

*www.stigamot.is*

*www.liberitas.is*

*www.liberitas.is/svccork*

*www.facebook.com/stigamot*

*www.facebook.com/kvenrettindafelag*

*www.instagram.com/kvenrettindafelag/

**Hildur Fjölía Antonsdóttir** is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Sociology of Law at Lund University in Sweden. Her thesis is about the meaning of justice for people who have been subjected to sexual violence and how this knowledge can be used to further develop traditional and non-traditional justice mechanisms. In May 2019, she submitted a commissioned policy paper on how to strengthen the legal context and rights of action against sexual violence to the Icelandic Prime Minister’s Steering Group on a system-wide response to sexual violence. Previously, she has conducted research on the processing of rape cases within the Icelandic criminal justice system. She has also worked in the field of development on issues related to eliminating violence against women both within UN Women and the United Nations University Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (UNU-GEST). She is currently a board member of Stígamót - Education and Counseling Center for Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Violence.

**Siusi Casaccia**

From Forum Associazione Donne Giuriste, LEF Italia, Board Member

She provides legal assistance to women on family law and VAW in its different kind. She organises and attends as a speaker trainings about ending violence against women. She is part of the group of experts who wrote the Italian shadow report for the GREVSO monitoring process. Last year she produced the association colleagues a critical position paper to the Senate Justice Commission on a law proposal to reform rules on custody rights denying domestic violence.

---

**Edite Kalina**

Psychologist and HR professional

EWB Board member

She provides legal assistance to women on family law and VAW in its different kind. She organises and attends as a speaker trainings about ending violence against women. She is part of the group of experts who wrote the Italian shadow report for the GREVSO monitoring process. Last year she produced the association colleagues a critical position paper to the Senate Justice Commission on a law proposal to reform rules on custody rights denying domestic violence.

---

**Dovilė Masalskienė**

Works at Women's Issues Information Centre

She provides legal aid for women victims since 2015. She has a lecture on VAW and domestic VAW on Lithuanian, European & International legislation, practice, both for the society & specialists working in the field. She is a member of a board of Domestic violence that provides info on the situation in Lithuania, as well as practical advice for victims. She carried out a study on THB of women for forced labour. She is a lecturer on VAW and domestic VAW on Lithuanian, European & International legislation, practice, both for the society & specialists working in the field. She is a member of a board of Domestic violence that provides info on the situation in Lithuania, as well as practical advice for victims. She carried out a study on THB of women for forced labour. She is a lecturer on VAW and domestic VAW on Lithuanian, European & International legislation, practice, both for the society & specialists working in the field. She is a member of a board of Domestic violence that provides info on the situation in Lithuania, as well as practical advice for victims. She carried out a study on THB of women for forced labour. She is a lecturer on VAW and domestic VAW on Lithuanian, European & International legislation, practice, both for the society & specialists working in the field. She is a member of a board of Domestic violence that provides info on the situation in Lithuania, as well as practical advice for victims. She carried out a study on THB of women for forced labour.

---

**Mary Crilly**

Director of the Sexual Violence Centre Cork (SVCC)

Member of the Irish National Observatory on VAW

Email: info@sexualviolence.ie

---

**Hildur Fjölía Antonsdóttir** is currently a PhD candidate in Sociology of Law at Lund University in Sweden. Her thesis is about the meaning of justice for people who have been subjected to sexual violence and how this knowledge can be used to further develop traditional and non-traditional justice mechanisms. In May 2019, she submitted a commissioned policy paper on how to strengthen the legal context and rights of action against sexual violence to the Icelandic Prime Minister’s Steering Group on a system-wide response to sexual violence. Previously, she has conducted research on the processing of rape cases within the Icelandic criminal justice system. She has also worked in the field of development on issues related to eliminating violence against women both within UN Women and the United Nations University Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (UNU-GEST). She is currently a board member of Stígamót - Education and Counseling Center for Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Violence.

**Siusi Casaccia**

Forum Associazione Donne Giuriste, Board member

LEF Italia, Board Member

Email: gdgi.itag@gmail.com

---

**Edite Kalina**

Psychologist and HR professional

EWB Board member

Email: edite@dfpmc.com

---

**Dovilė Masalskienė**

Works at Women’s Issues Information Centre

Email: dmasalskiene@gmail.com

---

**Coordinatore Italiano della Lobby Europea delle Donne**

*https://www.eventiitalianioblungiugno.blogspot.it/*

*https://www.facebook.com/Italianoblungiugno/

*https://twitter.com/Italianoblungi*

**Forum Associazione Donne Giuriste**

*https://www.forumdonnegiuriste.it/*

*https://twitter.com/ForumDGN*

---

**Women's NGOs Cooperation Network of Latvia**

*www.kvenrettindafelag.is/en*

*www.stigamot.is*

*www.liberitas.is*

*www.liberitas.is/svccork*

*www.facebook.com/stigamot*

*www.facebook.com/kvenrettindafelag*

*www.instagram.com/kvenrettindafelag/

**Hildur Fjölía Antonsdóttir** is currently a PhD candidate in Sociology of Law at Lund University in Sweden. Her thesis is about the meaning of justice for people who have been subjected to sexual violence and how this knowledge can be used to further develop traditional and non-traditional justice mechanisms. In May 2019, she submitted a commissioned policy paper on how to strengthen the legal context and rights of action against sexual violence to the Icelandic Prime Minister’s Steering Group on a system-wide response to sexual violence. Previously, she has conducted research on the processing of rape cases within the Icelandic criminal justice system. She has also worked in the field of development on issues related to eliminating violence against women both within UN Women and the United Nations University Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (UNU-GEST). She is currently a board member of Stígamót - Education and Counseling Center for Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Violence.

**Siusi Casaccia**

Forum Associazione Donne Giuriste, Board member

LEF Italia, Board Member

Email: gdgi.itag@gmail.com

---

**Edite Kalina**

Psychologist and HR professional

EWB Board member

Email: edite@dfpmc.com

---

**Dovilė Masalskienė**

Works at Women’s Issues Information Centre

Email: dmasalskiene@gmail.com

---

**Coordinatore Italiano della Lobby Europea delle Donne**

*https://www.eventiitalianioblungiugno.blogspot.it/*

*https://www.facebook.com/Italianoblungiugno/

*https://twitter.com/Italianoblungi*

**Forum Associazione Donne Giuriste**

*https://www.forumdonnegiuriste.it/*

*https://twitter.com/ForumDGN*

---

**Women's NGOs Cooperation Network of Latvia**

*www.kvenrettindafelag.is/en*

*www.stigamot.is*

*www.liberitas.is*

*www.liberitas.is/svccork*

*www.facebook.com/stigamot*

*www.facebook.com/kvenrettindafelag*

*www.instagram.com/kvenrettindafelag/
Andrée Birnbaum is Director general of Femmes EN DETRESSE. The aim of the association is to provide women, their children, and young women and girls with effective protection against violence through the development and management of shelters for women and girls in distress, and information and consultation centers. The association aims at improving the living conditions of women by helping them integrate into economic and social life by providing them with psychological, legal and social assistance and offering them specific training. Andrée has lead on MACODI, a new emergency shelter for women. Andrée is a member of the National Committee against domestic violence, in contact with Public authorities and other civil society organizations. Andrée has social work experience of 20 years working with persons with disabilities, senior and elderly persons, children and youth work. She also worked at the University of Luxembourg as an academic responsible of liaison with social institutions.

Lara Dimitrijevic
Lawyer - Founder and Director of Women's Rights Foundation
lara@art.org.co

Dr Lara Dimitrijevic graduated as Doctor of Laws in December 2008 and has specialised in the field of family law and human rights, with particular interest to issues related to domestic violence and intimate partner violence, human trafficking, sexual abuse, sexual and reproductive rights and human rights. Dimitrijevic is founder and director of Women’s Rights Foundation and has been actively advocating for women’s rights. Dimitrijevic has spearheaded a number of human rights cases dealing with discrimination against women. She is currently a representative on the European Women’s Lobby “Observatory of Violence against Women” on behalf of Malta Confederation of Women Organisations, a delegate to Women Against Violence Europe, a member of the Commission on Gender Based Violence and Domestic violence (Malta), as well as a national expert for gender rights.

Essa Reijmers
Policy Advisor Innovation & Development BFJ Group
Nederlandse Vrouwenraad
essa.reijmers@bfjgroup.nl
https://twitter.com/PlatMulheres

Essa Reijmers represents the Dutch Women’s Council (Nederlandse Vrouwenraad) and has been working for BFJ Group, one of the largest women’s shelter organizations in the Netherlands since 2008. BFJ Group has 6 shelters and a wide range of non-residential services in two provinces. Her focus at BFJ Group has always been on innovation and development of new approaches, amongst which digital safety as part of the pattern of IVS and systems interventions (Orange House approach). She is also involved in research on the programs BFJ Group has developed. She supports social workers in their daily job to find the most effective and efficient ways to help and support women and their families. Essa was one of the pioneers bringing the American Safety Net project to the Netherlands (https://safetyned.org/) and active in the EU DG project Women2Rights. She has been active in local, national and international networks over the last 15 years. She participated in two World Conferences on women’s shelters and helped organise the one in The Hague (2015). She will join the 4th World Conference of Women’s Shelters in Taiwan (November 2019) and be active in workshops on both the Orange House approach, SafelyNet and Networking innovation.

Liljana Popovska
MP of the Republic of North Macedonia
liljana@t-home.mk

Liljana Popovska is Member of the Parliament of the Republic of North Macedonia 2003-2018, member of 10th groups for women, disability, HIV/AIDS, LGBTI and green politics. She was the Coordinator of the Macedonian Women’s Lobby 2003-2006. She has also been Vice-President of the Parliament, Deputy Minister for development, advisor of the Mayor of Skopje, councilor in the City Council of Skopje, researcher in the Institute of Pharmaceutical Factory “Kosmid” - Founder and President of the green political party The Democratic Removal of Macedonia 2006-2018 (member of the European Greens). Liljana Popovska was the initiator as a Member of the Parliament for the establishment of the Macedonian Women’s Lobby 2001-2006. She has also been Vice-President of the Parliamentary Assembly of South East Europe – 2006. As an MP she has participated in the drafting of legislation on violence against women and the monitoring of its implementation. She is member of the Board of the Women’s in Parliament Club that has a big focus on VAW. Engineer of chemical technology, MS in technical sciences and PhD in political sciences.

Malgorzata Tarasiewicz
President Network of East-West Women
tarasiewicz@eww.org.pl
https://twitter.com/polaska72

Malgorzata Tarasiewicz has been involved in many projects aiming at opposing violence against women at the local, national and international level. As the President of the Network of East-West Women (NEW) she has been coordinating projects aiming at policy changes, and introduction of measures that would oppose men’s violence against women. She was active in the campaign which led Poland to sign and ratify the Istanbul Convention on Violence against Women. She is now at the possibilities at the city level to support programs to oppose male violence against women.

Alexandra Silva
Project coordinator at the Portuguese Platform for Women’s Rights
Project coordinator at the Portuguese Platform for Women’s Rights
alexandra.costa@plataformamulheres.org
https://twitter.com/Alexandra26a

Alexandra Silva is a feminist activist and a researcher on women’s human rights and on male violence against women and girls. She is currently coordinating a project on combating early VAW in the Portuguese Platform for Women’s Rights (EUPDAM, VHOED). Cross-border cooperation in combating male violence against women and girls, lead by the Instituto de la Mujer de Extremadura, Spain and she is a member of the team of the project DAICT - Women’s human rights not to be prostituted. She has been a member of research teams in European and national projects, namely at CRIDS – Centre for Studies on Social Intervention (2006-2010). She was one of the coordinators of the NGO shadow report on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention and of the NGO shadow report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Alexandra is a Board member of the Association of Women Against Violence, that runs a national service provider to survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual.

Coordination Luxembourgoise du LEF
https://www.nederlandsevrouwenraad.nl
https://www.cnfl.lu/
info@cnfl.lu

Women’s Rights Board member of Association of Women Against Violence Europe, a member of the Commission on Gender Based Violence and Domestic violence (Malta), as well as a national expert for gender rights.

Malta Confederation of Women’s Organisations
http://www.newwpolska.com
lara@wrf.org.mt
https://www.facebook.com/wrfmalta
https://www.facebook.com/makedonskozenskolobilobi
https://www.facebook.com/blijfgroep
https://www.facebook.com/PlatMulheres
https://www.facebook.com/eww.org.pl

Essa Reijmers represents the Dutch Women’s Council (Nederlandse Vrouwenraad) and has been working for BFJ Group, one of the largest women’s shelter organizations in the Netherlands since 2008. BFJ Group has 6 shelters and a wide range of non-residential services in two provinces. Her focus at BFJ Group has always been on innovation and development of new approaches, amongst which digital safety as part of the pattern of IVS and systems interventions (Orange House approach). She is also involved in research on the programs BFJ Group has developed. She supports social workers in their daily job to find the most effective and efficient ways to help and support women and their families. Essa was one of the pioneers bringing the American Safety Net project to the Netherlands (https://safetyned.org/) and active in the EU DG project Women2Rights. She has been active in local, national and international networks over the last 15 years. She participated in two World Conferences on women’s shelters and helped organise the one in The Hague (2015). She will join the 4th World Conference of Women’s Shelters in Taiwan (November 2019) and be active in workshops on both the Orange House approach, SafelyNet and Networking innovation.

Nederlandse Vrouwenraad
http://www.nederlandsevrouwenraad.nl
http://twitter.com/NederlandseVrouwenraad
http://twitter.com/NVReijmers
http://facebook.com/NVReijmers
http://facebook.com/BlijfGroep
http://facebook.com/blijfgroep

Essa Reijmers represents the Dutch Women’s Council (Nederlandse Vrouwenraad) and has been working for BFJ Group, one of the largest women’s shelter organizations in the Netherlands since 2008. BFJ Group has 6 shelters and a wide range of non-residential services in two provinces. Her focus at BFJ Group has always been on innovation and development of new approaches, amongst which digital safety as part of the pattern of IVS and systems interventions (Orange House approach). She is also involved in research on the programs BFJ Group has developed. She supports social workers in their daily job to find the most effective and efficient ways to help and support women and their families. Essa was one of the pioneers bringing the American Safety Net project to the Netherlands (https://safetyned.org/) and active in the EU DG project Women2Rights. She has been active in local, national and international networks over the last 15 years. She participated in two World Conferences on women’s shelters and helped organise the one in The Hague (2015). She will join the 4th World Conference of Women’s Shelters in Taiwan (November 2019) and be active in workshops on both the Orange House approach, SafelyNet and Networking innovation.

Macedonian Women’s Lobby
http://www.milis.mk
info@milis.mk
lila@milis.mk
https://www.facebook.com/Makedonskozenskolobilobi
http://twitter.com/ewwmacedonia

Malgorzata Tarasiewicz has been involved in many projects aiming at opposing violence against women at the local, national and international level. As the President of the Network of East-West Women (NEW) she has been coordinating projects aiming at policy changes, and introduction of measures that would oppose men’s violence against women. She was active in the campaign which led Poland to sign and ratify the Istanbul Convention on Violence against Women. She is now at the possibilities at the city level to support programs to oppose male violence against women.

Andrée Birnbaum is Director general of Femmes EN DETRESSE. The aim of the association is to provide women, their children, and young women and girls with effective protection against violence through the development and management of shelters for women and girls in distress, and information and consultation centers. The association aims at improving the living conditions of women by helping them integrate into economic and social life by providing them with psychological, legal and social assistance and offering them specific training. Andrée has lead on MACODI, a new emergency shelter for women. Andrée is a member of the National Committee against domestic violence, in contact with Public authorities and other civil society organizations. Andrée has social work experience of 20 years working with persons with disabilities, senior and elderly persons, children and youth work. She also worked at the University of Luxembourg as an academic responsible of liaison with social institutions.
Laura Albu
CEO of Community Safety and Mediation Center
Director, Executive member
Email: direc@cmsc.ro
Website: https://www.facebook.com/Laura2010

Since 2006, Laura is the CEO of Community Safety and Mediation Center (CMSC) in Romania. She coordinated over 25 programs related to social services (domestic violence, child abuse, vulnerable victims). 5 projects for unemployed persons in rural areas (mainly women) focused on social inclusion, coordinated over 35 projects of community development, including cross border projects, promote and advocate for new policies in the field of community development, victim protection and women rights. She has coordinated projects focused on violence against women, equality between women and men, women in politics and decision making; women in rural areas; women and poverty; Roma women; migrant women. Since 2008 she promotes new legislation in the field of violence against women in Romania and conflict resolution, changing and adapting legislation and norms of application of laws in the field together with other NGOs part of the legislative group inside coalitions and networks. Since 2018 she represents Romania as an expert in European Observatory on Violence against Women of European Women’s Lobby, and since 2014 she became Vice President and in January 2015 President of the Romanian Women’s Lobby

Dijana Malbasa
Legal expert at Autonomous Women’s Centre
dijanam@azc.org.rs
Website: https://www.facebook.com/djavan

Since 2015 Dijana has worked as a lawyer in Autonomous Women’s Centre providing legal aid to women victims of male violence, mainly domestic and sexual violence. She is also engaged in providing training on gender based violence issues and asylum issues. Also she worked on policy analysis regarding the implementation of gender dimension in migration and asylum system and has been involved in advocating for implementation of Istanbul Convention in Serbian asylum legislation. Dijana was also engaged in a project relating to position of migrant women and the implementation of a gender dimension in Serbian immigration and asylum system, which resulted in the adoption of a new Law on Asylum which recognises GBV as grounds for granting international protection. Dijana provides legal aid via telephone help line and in direct individual consultations. Her work also includes risk assessments and future development of safety plans for victims of violence.

Barbora Holubová
Independent researcher
holubba@gmail.com
Website: http://www.forumpoliticafeminista.org

Barbora Holubová is a sociologist with more than 15 years working experiences in applied research. In the area of violence against women and gender inequalities, she is currently working as an independent researcher. Previously she was employed at the State research center, affiliated to the ministry responsible for the gender equality and coordination of the VVAH policies in Slovakia for 15 years. She worked also as a research officer in the gender based violence team of the European Institute for Gender Equality in Lithuania, in Lithuania in 2016 - 2017. She is an author and co-author of numerous research reports and publications. She was involved or managed several broad national and EU-wide projects in the area of violence against women. In her research, she intensively cooperates with women’s NGO and activists operating in the field of specialised support services for women’s survivors of violence against women and protecting the women’s rights. Barbora was more than 15 years a member of several working groups in the area of violence against women reviewing the proposed policies and developing the national action plans in Slovakia.

Špela Veselić (until June 2020)
Expert Associate at Association SOS
spela.veselic@drustvo-sos.si
Website: http://www.facebook.com/DrustvoSos

Mag. Špela Veselić is an Expert Associate at the Association SOS Help-Line for Women & Children - Victims of Violence. She was an EMI Observatory expert 2012 mandate and from 2014-2016 again. She is the author of numerous articles and books on violence against women and the situation in Slovenia and its compliance with the international human rights standards, also standards of Interpol Convention. She lead many social and media campaigns since 2005 and different projects on VVAH since 2003. She works as an expert coordinator, with the media, on lobbying with policy makers and policy takers. She participates as an expert in different conferences, round tables, trainings. Networking is an important part of her work as well preparing articles, studies, awareness raising materials. She started working at the Association SOS Helpline as a volunteer in 1995. Since then she is doing networking home and abroad. Association SOS Help-line is a grassroots level NGO that runs two shelters for women and their children – victims of violence, SOS Help-Line, self-help group and psychosocial counseling. They cooperate with other NGOs, GOs and service providers on daily basis – mainly in Slovenia but also abroad. They have established a network with NGOs from former Yugoslavia, and regularly cooperate with neighbouring countries' NGOs. Association SOS Help Line is also a focal point organisation for Slovenia in the frame of VVAH Network.

Elvira Cecilia Muslera Canclini
Public Health Manager
elvira@forumpoliticafeminista.org
Website: http://www.facebook.com/Elvira.

Elvira is the Manager of the Office of Health Technology Assessment of the Principality of Asturias (OETSPA). OETSPA belongs to SESPA, the Spanish Public Health System of the region, and is supported by the Regional Ministry of Health. She has experience in the creation, organisation and analysis of health care records in violence against women, a programme of care for battered women and the development of the first health care protocol for violence against women. She also is responsible for the planning and organisation of training for health workers and public workers jointly with the Asturian Women's Institute. She also worked on the elaboration and edition of a didactic guide of diagnosis and treatment in gender violence in primary care. She has broad experience in teaching health economics, especially the economic evaluation, at the University of Barcelona, University Pompeu Fabra, University of Duiseldorf and Health Public Administration, Medical Colleges. She has a broad experience in teaching and diffusing of gender violence guides into the Public Health System. She is active in the Forum Politica Feminista de Asturias.

Romanian Women’s Lobby
http://www.facebook.com/RoWlLobby/

Community Safety and Mediation Center
http://www.cmsc.ro

Slovenian Women’s Lobby
http://www.facebook.com/rowlobby/

Lobby Europeo de Mujeres
http://www.facebook.com/LobbyEuropeo/

German Women’s Lobby
http://www.facebook.com/GerWgLobby/

Independent researcher
spela.veselic@drustvo-sos.si
Website: https://www.facebook.com/DrustvoSos

Polish Women’s Lobby
https://www.facebook.com/PolishWomenLobby/

Association SOS Help-Line for Women and Children – Victims of Violence
http://www.facebook.com/AsociacionSOS

Autonomous Women’s Center
http://www.facebook.com/AutonomniZenskiCentar/

Women’s Lobby
http://www.facebook.com/Vrouwenlobby/

Mag. Špela Veselić is an Expert Associate at the Association SOS Help-Line for Women & Children - Victims of Violence. She was an EMI Observatory expert 2012 mandate and from 2014-2016 again. She is the author of numerous articles and books on violence against women and the situation in Slovenia and its compliance with the international human rights standards, also standards of Interpol Convention. She lead many social and media campaigns since 2005 and different projects on VVAH since 2003. She works as an expert coordinator, with the media, on lobbying with policy makers and policy takers. She participates as an expert in different conferences, round tables, trainings. Networking is an important part of her work as well preparing articles, studies, awareness raising materials. She started working at the Association SOS Helpline as a volunteer in 1995. Since then she is doing networking home and abroad. Association SOS Help-line is a grassroots level NGO that runs two shelters for women and their children – victims of violence, SOS Help-Line, self-help group and psychosocial counseling. They cooperate with other NGOs, GOs and service providers on daily basis – mainly in Slovenia but also abroad. They have established a network with NGOs from former Yugoslavia, and regularly cooperate with neighbouring countries' NGOs. Association SOS Help Line is also a focal point organisation for Slovenia in the frame of VVAH Network.

Elvira Cecilia Muslera Canclini
Public Health Manager
elvira@forumpoliticafeminista.org
Website: http://www.facebook.com/Elvira.

Elvira is the Manager of the Office of Health Technology Assessment of the Principality of Asturias (OETSPA). OETSPA belongs to SESPA, the Spanish Public Health System of the region, and is supported by the Regional Ministry of Health. She has experience in the creation, organisation and analysis of health care records in violence against women, a programme of care for battered women and the development of the first health care protocol for violence against women. She also is responsible for the planning and organisation of training for health workers and public workers jointly with the Asturian Women's Institute. She also worked on the elaboration and edition of a didactic guide of diagnosis and treatment in gender violence in primary care. She has broad experience in teaching health economics, especially the economic evaluation, at the University of Barcelona, University Pompeu Fabra, University of Duiseldorf and Health Public Administration, Medical Colleges. She has a broad experience in teaching and diffusing of gender violence guides into the Public Health System. She is active in the Forum Politica Feminista de Asturias.
Marie Unander-Scharin
Board member UNIZON
Board member of Swedish Women’s Lobby
marie.unander-scharin@sigtuna.se

Marie Unander-Scharin is a Board member of UNIZON, which represents over 140 Swedish women’s shelters, young women’s empowerment centres and other support services which work together for a gender equal society free from violence, and the Swedish Women’s Lobby. She worked for Fundación Aroa (Aroa Foundation) in Turkey (as a Women’s shelter) for 5 years, where she was the Director and psychologist at “Women’s perspectives” Centre “Women’s Perspectives”

http://www.marinat.se/en/about-women/womens-perspectives
https://twitter.com/Kvinnolobbyn
https://www.instagram.com/kvinnolobbyn/
https://www.facebook.com/Kvinnolobbyn
info@unizon.se

Marta Chumalo
Director and psychologist at “Women’s perspectives”
maria.chumalo@women.lviv.ua

Marta Chumalo is co-founder of the organisation “Women’s Perspectives” and works in the field of violence against women since 1998 with especial focus on domestic violence, human trafficking and gender equality. She has University degrees in psychology and social work. She works directly with women-victims of violence, conducting training for police, social services, lawyers, judges; develop and implement advocacy campaigns, conduct researches; prepare publications. She is an activist expert at the OSCE as Gender Expert to develop and conduct TOT and trainings on gender equality and domestic violence. She was contracted by UNDP and OIC as Gender Expert to develop and conduct TOT and trainings on gender equality and domestic violence, as well as to conduct gender expertise of national and local policy documents, for example Regional Action Plans on gender equality and domestic violence. In 2016 she was involved in conducting training and other events focused on Istanbul Convention ratification and related changes in national legislations, in particular in standards of services for women-victims of violence.

Neus Pociello Cayuela
Director of Fundació Aroa (Aroa Foundation)
npocielloca@fundacioaroa.org
maria.chumalo@women.lviv.ua

In the last fourteen years, Neus has worked on the design and monitoring of local and European social projects with a feminist perspective, mainly in the areas of women’s human rights and violence against women. Since 2015 she is the Director of Aroa Foundation, and previously its coordinator for ten years, that offers services of direct support to women in VVA situations and their children, promotes awareness raising and prevention actions in the community and formal education frameworks and professional trainings on gender equality topics. She has promoted and coordinated the Fem, EU (feminist Europe) campaign in the framework of the European elections 2019. She is an active feminist activist at the Monitoring Group of the 2018 Feminist Agenda Protocol and representing the organization at the National Council of Women of Spain (CNDE), the National Council of Women of Catalonia (member of its delegation at the United Nations CSW for the last 2 years) and the Women Council of the European Parliament. She represents UNIZON and UN, at the EU Anti-trafficking platform. She is interested in prevention work. Neus has, in her role as a Board member of Unizone, worked intensely on the issue of children exposed to violence. 1 in 5 children grow up experiencing violence from their father towards their mother. The work has amongst other included lecturing about work in which every child can grow up free from gender stereotypes.

Nuray Özbay
Generalist, diversity and inclusion strategist
npocielloca@fundacioaroa.org
marta.chumalo@women.lviv.ua

Nuray served as a Board Member of The Association for the Support of Women Candidates (A.A. DİR) between 2013-2015, and led campaigning & fundraising activities to sustain women’s equal representation at all public and political decision making bodies. Between 2015-2018, she was a Board Member at the European Women’s Lobby, representing more than 100 independent Turkish feminist organizations. Between 2009-2014, she worked as the Deputy Secretary General of Women Entrepreneurs’ Association of Turkey (KAGİDER), where she launched the Child Care Incentive Program for Working Parents, which later turned into a public incentive scheme of the Turkish Government. In partnership with the World Bank, she designed and mainstreamed Gender Equity Model for the Turkish private sector leaders, whom she guided companies to develop and sustain their diversity and inclusion agendas. She later joined Ipsos Public Affairs as Insight Partner. Nuray completed “Global Women in Management and Leadership” program by CEDPA & Plan International USA in July 2011, in Washington DC.

Gwendolyn Sterk
Feminist activist, strategist, campaigner, author
gwendolyn@womens-perspectives.uk

Gwendolyn Sterk has led campaigns on sexual harassment in Wales utilising the momentum created by the MeToo and Times Up movement. She has published articles on topics such as sexual violence in the media. Gwendolyn has led campaigns on sexual harassment in Wales utilising the momentum created by the MeToo and Times Up movement.

UK Joint Committee on Women
https://www.womenlobby.org/UK-Joint-Committee-on-Women

Centre “Women’s Perspectives”
http://www.marinat.se/en/about-women/womens-perspectives
https://twitter.com/Kvinnolobbyn
https://www.instagram.com/kvinnolobbyn/
https://www.facebook.com/Kvinnolobbyn
info@unizon.se

Swedish Women’s Lobby
http://www.nlabuday.org/
http://www.facebook.com/sverigeskvinnolobby/
http://www.twitter.com/nlabuday
https://www.instagram.com/sverigeskvinnolobby/
http://info@unizon.se

EU Coordination for Turkey
http://www.facebook.com/Fundaciaoaro/Turkey/
http://twitter.com/Fundaciaoaro
https://www.facebook.com/fundaciaoaro/

UK Joint Committee on Women
https://www.womenlobby.org/UK-Joint-Committee-on-Women

European Centre of the International Council of Women
http://www.facebook.com/ECICW
http://www.twitter.com/InternationalWomenCentre
https://www.instagram.com/InternationalWomenCentre/
Maria Bauer has spent 17 years of her professional life managing and supervising projects and programs for survivors of domestic violence, perpetrator programs and projects for children witnessing and/or experiencing violence. Maria has been educating at national and European level on these issues and is considered one of Sweden’s foremost educators in this area.

Pirkko Mahlamäki, MA, MFL, European Disability Forum Executive Committee Member and EDF Executive Committee Member. She has been involved in campaigns for accessible shelters and support services for women with disabilities, Expert writings on right of women with disabilities to family life, sexual and reproductive health rights, Articles on institutionalization and risk of intimate with disabilities, how to identify risk situations, self-defence and empowerment of women and girls with disabilities. She contributed to the campaign “March on high heels” – it is easier for disabled women to march in high heels than to gain access to shelter. She worked on drafting of a guide for experts, disabled women victims of violence in co-operation with National Institute of Welfare and Health. She was involved in the national campaign for the ratification of Istanbul convention. Campaign ONU RAHV on VAW issues. Lectures on CEDAW and CRPD.

Pascale Franck is the Co-director of the Family Justice Center Antwerp and Vice-president of the European Family Justice Center Alliance - European Alliance for Hope and Empowerment. She is a criminologist and experienced project manager and team leader, with a demonstrated history of developing and coordinating multi-agency approaches and cross professional cooperation in the field of gender-based violence, domestic violence, sexual violence and child abuse. Main tasks are the development, management, monitoring and sustainability of the multidisciplinary centers on domestic violence and child abuse. Focus on methodology, bringing empowerment of survivors of violence (adults/children). Trauma informed care and client-centered approach are the lead in this development. In earlier years developed shelter for survivors of domestic violence, perpetrator programs and projects for children witnessing and/or experiencing violence.
Jean-Ann Ndow works with young people and organisations to develop engaging campaigns on the issues that matter most to them. She is an experienced advocate having lobbied governments on issues relating to the safety and protection for girls and women, access to justice and human rights. She is frequently engaged in advocacy at the global and regional level through engagement with high-level decision makers, institutions and stakeholders. Jean-Ann is a skilled facilitator. She has delivered training to girls and young women in a number of countries, to refugee and internally displaced people in camps and host communities and to activist and development workers to support them in the implementation of projects and campaigns. Her main areas of focus are gender, violence against women and girls, race, culture, youth participation and education. She writes content and develops resources to educate, challenge and equip learners with the skills and tools to take action. With a passion for telling engaging stories she creates content that centres the experiences and narratives of diverse communities and marginalised groups. Jean-Ann holds a LLB Law degree, Post Graduate Diploma in Law and Masters in Human Rights, Culture and Social Justice.

World Association of Girls Guide & Girls Scouts

World Association of Girls Guide & Girls Scouts

Maria Bauer has spent 17 years of her professional life managing, supervising and educating on issues such as violence in the workplace, violence in close relationship. Maria has trained about 150,000 employees on these issues and is considered one of Sweden’s foremost educators in the field of violence. Maria has trained employees and non-profit in all public sector organisations. Maria Bauer has designed courses for, for example, the Swedish Prison and Probation Service and the Swedish Migration Board about women’s vulnerability. It included the treatment of foreign women with mental illness, women in crisis, women who had been subjected to violence and abuse. Maria has been educating at national level for many years and has very good insight through her long experience and close cooperation with authorities, municipalities, county councils and schools. In the challenges society faces in the tabloidal work of measuring violence against women. She is also one of two authors of the book "Threats and violence at workplace".