



CEU SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC
POLICY



Legal Empowerment Leadership Course

10–14 October 2016 | Budapest, Hungary

Participants Booklet



Welcome	2
Course methodology	4
Course schedule.....	8
Program.....	10
Arrival	10
Dinner reception	11
Course venue	12
Farewell reception.....	13
Logistical information	14
Course venue	14
Meals	14
Eating out	14
Smoking.....	15
Internet and WiFi	15
Social media.....	15
Medical care.....	16
Weather and clothing.....	16
Course coordinators	17
A note on Hungary.....	18
Useful Hungarian phrases	21
Reading list.....	22
Questionnaire	24
Biographies	25
Course director	25
Welcome	25
Faculty	26
Course participants.....	29
Course staff	53
Organizers	59
Open Society Justice Initiative	59
Namati	59
CEU School of Public Policy, Global Policy Academy.....	60
BRAC University.....	60

Welcome

Dear participants,

Around the world, more than four billion people are living outside the protection of the law. They are unfairly driven from their land, denied essential services, excluded from society, and intimidated by violence.

Legal empowerment is about turning that tide. It's about enabling people to understand, use, and shape the law. From at least the 1950s, when community paralegals in South Africa began helping people to navigate and resist apartheid, legal empowerment has grown into a global movement. Today, grassroots legal advocates in the Philippines are helping farmers to take part in nationwide agrarian reforms. In Argentina, shantytown residents are pursuing legal remedies to bring clean water and other essential services to their communities.

World leaders increasingly agree that access to justice and legal empowerment are crucial to ensuring equitable and inclusive development, a sentiment that led to the integration of justice in the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Every year the legal empowerment field becomes more robust, with greater evidence of what works. The Legal Empowerment Leadership Course is a unique opportunity to take stock of our collective knowledge and build upon it.





The aim of the course—organized by Namati, CEU–SPP and OSJI in collaboration with the BRACU and SAILS—is to cultivate a global cadre of leaders who are committed to legal empowerment, and who share a common understanding of the field, including history, methodology, and evidence. A faculty of respected practitioners and academics will lead course participants in an in-depth exploration of key themes, including prospects for financing community-based justice services, the history of the global movement for legal empowerment, and the role of grassroots legal advocates in realizing citizenship rights or ensuring effective service delivery.

**WE WISH YOU AN EXCITING TIME IN BUDAPEST
AT THE CEU SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY!**

Z. Namati

Zaza

Vivek

Vivek

Bernhard

Bernhard

The course is designed to help participants explore practical solutions to concrete challenges that arise in their work. Problems identified by participants at the outset will be workshopped with peers and faculty during a series of interactive discussions, reflective exercises, and breakout sessions. Drawing from the comparative experiences of others, as well as from the latest research, participants will come away with new ideas for improving the effectiveness of their efforts. Major elements of the course include:

1 . PREPARATORY WORK

Participants will review selected readings in advance of the course. They will also elaborate on a problem statement describing a challenge area in their work or a research opportunity they wish to pursue.

2. IN-PERSON PARTICIPATION

The course requires in-person attendance over five days, 10–14 October.

3. CASE STUDY-BASED CURRICULUM

Each day will feature lectures, large group discussions, an in-depth exploration of a case study, and small group work. Sessions will offer opportunities for participants to exchange advice on their challenge areas and research inquiries. The course's multidisciplinary approach will also examine potential synergies across legal empowerment programming, policymaking, grant making, and academic inquiry among a range of issue areas.

4. CLINIC

We offer participants the opportunity to sign up for optional evening “clinics” with session leaders. The purpose of these clinics is to give you the opportunity to meet the expert session leaders in person. You will have dedicated time in which to interrogate the issues you are working on in your countries in more depth. Clinics should be participant-led and, ideally, problem-focused: you should come prepared with discussion points for a 10–15 minute session. A useful approach could be to think about what you are working on at present and how the experts' inputs could help you to address the challenges

you face. Clinic slots are of 10–15 minutes in length each and are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign-up sheets will be available on the day on which the clinic takes place. Participants are asked to respect the time of the expert and their fellow participants by arriving on time, being prepared and adhering to their time slot.

5. POST-COURSE

At the end of the course, participants will share final reflections on their challenges or research opportunities. Each participant will construct a course of action to act on, or explore further, what has been learned over the last few days.

► CASE STUDIES

The course will feature a comparative exploration of common themes across three case studies. Each case study will examine the following issues:

- **METHODS:** How do legal empowerment programs approach and resolve multi-faceted problems? How do they make use of existing laws or push for reform where existing laws are inadequate?
- **TRAINING, SUPPORT, AND SUPERVISION OF FRONTLINE STAFF:** How do these programs ensure consistent effectiveness?
- **MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING:** How do these programs conceptualize, collect, analyze, and apply data to improve program quality, measure impact, and generate policy recommendations?
- **SUSTAINABILITY:** What models exist for funding (e.g. building a business case, generating revenue) and capacity building from start-up to scale-up?
- **SDGs:** What opportunities exist to leverage the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals for the advancement of legal empowerment, particularly within the context of national development planning and indicator development?
- **RECOGNITION, ACCREDITATION, AND REGULATION:** How do different actors, players, and stakeholders view these programs? How can one generate interest among policy-makers and senior managers? Among academics?

- **TRANSLATING GRASSROOTS EXPERIENCE INTO STRUCTURAL CHANGE:** How do legal empowerment efforts influence not just specific cases but institutions and policies, e.g. ministries of land, health, and justice?
- **GENDER:** How do these efforts empower women? How do they address gender inequality?
- **SCALE:** How do legal empowerment efforts grow to a scale that addresses the challenges our societies face?

► CASE STUDY TOPICS

12 October 2016

Legal empowerment and securing citizenship rights. How grassroots legal advocates are empowering stateless populations to recognize and protect their citizenship rights.

13 October 2016

The paralegal movement in the Philippines. How the movement of community-based paralegals has adapted and innovated over the decades, to bring about large-scale change in the Philippines.

14 October 2016

Ensuring effective delivery of essential services. How a women-led movement of grassroots advocates, lawyers, and activists is enhancing accountability and advancing the rights of health, food, and housing of marginalized communities in South Asia.

► CROSS-CUTTING SESSIONS

11 October 2016

Introduction to legal empowerment. This introductory session will explore what we mean by legal empowerment. It will address basic concepts, history, and philosophy. The session will offer a vocabulary and a set of questions that we will return to throughout the course.

Helping people understand the law. This session will explore how legal empowerment groups have combined legal services with community organizing.

12 October 2016

Making the case for financing & recognition of community-justice services through research. This session will focus on how community justice services are recognized and financed by governments.

13 October 2016

Diversifying revenue for legal empowerment: client contributions and social enterprise. This session will focus on innovative efforts to diversify revenue and increase financial sustainability for legal empowerment, including client contributions and social enterprise.

► SMALL GROUP WORK AND INDEPENDENT REFLECTION

Each afternoon, participants and faculty will come together in small groups to apply the day's lessons to their challenge areas or research inquiries. Depending on the session, participants will gather in groups by challenge area, geographic region, thematic focus, and more. They will engage in interactive exercises designed to encourage meaningful peer-to-peer learning and networking.



Course Schedule

LEGAL EMPOWERMENT LEADERSHIP COURSE DRAFT AGENDA

	Monday, 10 October	Tuesday, 11 October	Wednesday, 12 October	Thursday, 13 October	Friday, 14 October
09:00		Welcome • <i>Julia Buxton</i>	Review & Day 2 Aims • <i>Vivek Maru</i>	Review & Day 3 Aims • <i>Vivek Maru</i>	Review & Day 4 Aims • <i>Vivek Maru</i>
09:15		Ice Breaker	Ice Breaker	Ice Breaker	Ice Breaker
09:30		Course overview (9:30–9:45) • <i>Vivek Maru</i>	Ice Breaker	Case study II: The paralegal movement in the Philippines (9:30–11:00) • <i>Marlon J. Manuel</i>	Ice Breaker
09:45		Introduction to legal empowerment (9:45–10:30) • <i>Vivek Maru</i>	Case study I: Legal empowerment and securing citizenship rights (9:45–11:00) • <i>Laura Goodwin</i>		Case study III: Ensuring effective delivery of essential services (9:45–11:00) • <i>Francesca Feruglio</i>
10:00					
10:15					
10:30					
10:45		Coffee Break (10:45–11:00)			
11:00		Introduction to legal empowerment (<i>continued</i>) (11:00–12:00) • <i>Vivek Maru</i>	Coffee Break (11:00–11:15)	Coffee Break (11:00–11:15)	Coffee Break (11:00–11:15)
11:15			Case study I (<i>continued</i>) (11:15–12:30)	Case study II (<i>continued</i>) (11:15–12:15)	Case study III (<i>continued</i>) (11:15–12:30)
11:30					
11:45					
12:00					
12:15		Lunch (12:00–13:00)			
12:30					
12:45			Lunch (12:30–13:30)	Lunch (12:15–13:15)	Lunch (12:30–13:30)
13:00					
13:15					

13:00	Session I: Helping people understand the law (13:00–15:00)	Session II: Making the case for financing & recognition of community justice services through research (13:30–15:30)	Session III: Diversifying revenue for legal empowerment: client contributions and social enterprise (13:15–15:00)	
13:15	• <i>Lisa Wintersteiger</i>	• <i>Pascoe Pleasence & Zaza Namoradzé</i>	• <i>Gagan Sethi</i>	
13:30				Working groups (13:30–15:00)
13:45				
14:00				
14:15				
14:30				
14:45				
15:00	Coffee Break (15:00–15:15)	Coffee Break (15:30–15:45)	Coffee Break (15:00–15:15)	Coffee Break (15:00–15:15)
15:15				
15:30				Closing and evaluation (15:15–16:15)
15:45				
16:00	Working groups (15:15–17:15)	Working groups (15:45–17:45)	Working groups (15:15–17:15)	
16:15				
16:30				
16:45				Farewell drinks at Bestia
17:00				
17:15	Wrap up		<i>Independent study</i>	
17:30				
17:45	<i>Optional clinics with faculty</i>	Wrap up	Wrap up	
18:00		<i>Optional clinics with faculty</i>	<i>Optional clinics with faculty</i>	
18:15				
18:30				
18:45				
19:00				
19:15				
19:30	Welcome reception on boat			

Course Schedule

ARRIVAL

The taxi company serving Liszt Ferenc International Airport is Főtaxi. Reservations are made in person outside the exit of the terminal. The fare to the city center will not exceed 8,000 HUF (25 EUR).



There is also an airport shuttle which costs around 4,000 HUF (13 EUR) to the city center. You can order a shuttle to your hotel at the Airport Shuttle stand at Arrivals. The shuttle will probably take slightly longer than a taxi as it is shared with other people.



Central European University



DINNER RECEPTION

The course will be launched on **Monday, 10 October**, with a dinner reception on **Halászbástya boat**. The reception will start at **19:30**.



DINNER VENUE:

Vigadó tér
1052 Hungary

The boat will leave from Vigadó tér. The dock number is not known yet.



Our staff will pick you up in front of the course venue (below) at **19:00 sharp**.

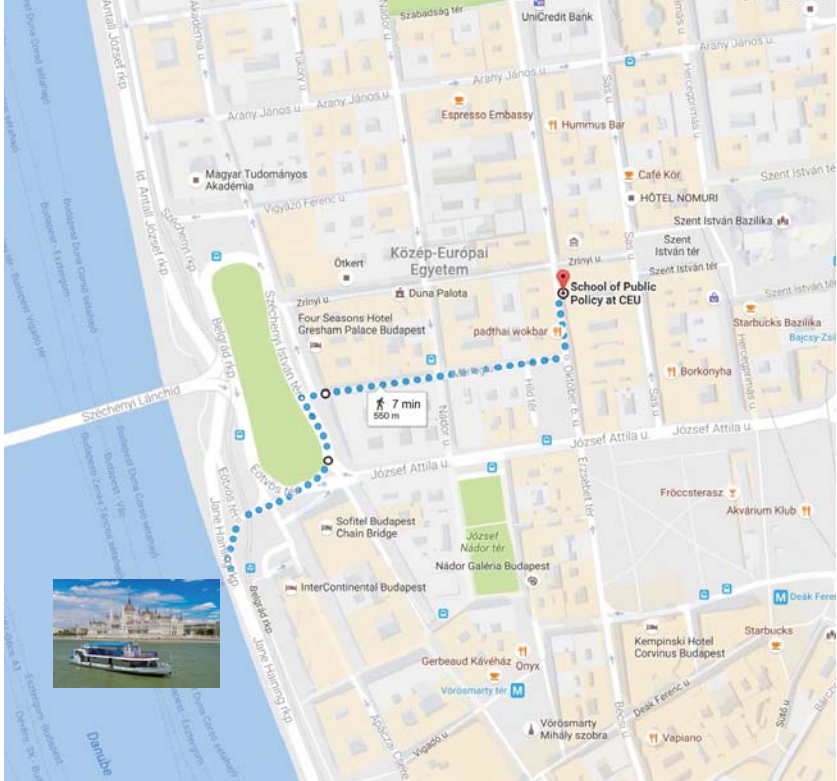
MEETING POINT 7 PM:

CEU School of Public Policy

Október 6 utca 7, 1051 Budapest



From the CEU School of Public Policy to Vigadó tér



COURSE VENUE

The course will take place on the ground floor of CEU's School of Public Policy in **Október Hall**.

Sessions will begin at **9:00 am**; please arrive at the CEU School of Public Policy at **8:45 am** to register.



VENUE: School of Public Policy, Október Hall
Október 6 utca 7, H-1051 Budapest



FAREWELL RECEPTION

Following the end of the course you are invited to join us for drinks and snacks at **Bestia** on **Friday, 14 October**, starting at **16:30**. Bestia is located just two minutes walking distance from SPP.

VENUE:

Bestia

Szent István tér 9, 1051 Budapest
Tel: (+36) 70 333 2163



COURSE VENUE

There are restrooms on all floors. A drink vending machine is located on the first floor. There is a multi-faith quiet lounge and prayer room at the main CEU campus (Nádor utca 11, mezzanine level) where participants can unwind and meditate. Room B100 of the Faculty Tower in Nádor utca 9 is designated for participants with young children who need a space for quiet time or nursing.

MEALS

Coffee breaks and lunches will be served on the first floor of the building where the course takes place.

EATING OUT

There are many places that are close to CEU/SPP where you can have dinner. The list below is not exhaustive, so we encourage you to explore the neighborhood. Restaurants marked with an * offer vegetarian dishes.

Burger and Love

Október 6. utca 6 | open 11:30–24:00

Hummus Bar*

Október 6. utca 19 | open 10:00 (12:00 on Sun & Sat)–22:00

Istanbul Kebab

Október 6. utca 22 | open 08:00–05:00

La Trattoria

Október 6. utca 13 | open 11:00–23:00





Padthai Wokbar*

Október 6. utca 4 | open 11:00–23:00

Rétesház (Strudel House)*

Október 6. utca 22 | open 9:00–23:00

Soup Culture*

Október 6. utca 19 | open 11:00–19:00, closed on Sundays

Vai Me! Georgian Restaurant*

Október 6. utca 8 | open 08:00–23:00

SMOKING

Smoking is strictly prohibited within five meters of all building entrances.

INTERNET AND Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi is available on campus.

- Network name: CEU Guest
- Password: Budapest1991

European plugs (220V) are available at CEU.



SOCIAL MEDIA

You will be invited to join Namati's Community Discussion Forum (which is also where you will find alerts on pre-course readings). Also, if you wish to tweet about the event, please tweet at the handles **@SPPCEU** and **@Namati**. The hashtag is **#LegalEmpCourse**.

MEDICAL CARE

The CEU Medical Center is open to participants with valid medical insurance. There are two qualified English-speaking doctors (male and female) who hold regular consultation hours.



CEU Medical Center

Nádor utca 11 Building, Courtyard
Tel.: (+36-1) 327-3815

WEATHER AND CLOTHING

October in Budapest usually means pleasant sunny days with a chance of rain. Nights get colder and frost prevails more often than not as the month continues. We recommend that you pack sweaters and jackets because temperatures drop in the evenings. The weather can change quickly. It can be sunny with temperatures as high as 16°C/60°F, or as low as 7°C/44°F with thunderstorms and rain. Except for the welcome reception (smart casual), dress code for the course is casual.

Chain bridge, Budapest



COURSE COORDINATORS



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The 2015 Legal Empowerment Leadership Course Participants



A NOTE ON HUNGARY

► **Capital city:** Budapest

► **Population:** ~ 9,9 million

► **Population of Budapest**

~ 1,7 million (city)

~ 3,3 million (including periphery)

► **Language:** Hungarian

► **Religion**

54.5% Catholic, 19.5% Protestant, 0,2% other Christians, 0.1% orthodox Christian, 0.1% Judaism, 0,1% other.

► **Electric plug:** European plug with two circular metal pins

► **Country Dialing Code**

Hungary: 0036 or +36 (00361 or +361 – for Budapest)

To dial Hungarian numbers from Hungary you can dial:

06 + 1 xxx xxxx (Budapest), or

for cellular phone: 06 + 2/3/7 + 0 + xxx xxxx.

► **Money**

The Hungarian currency is Forint (HUF).

1 EUR = 310 HUF, 1 USD = 285 HUF

You usually CANNOT pay in Euro or US dollars. You can exchange money at the airport or train stations, but change as little as possible there since exchange rates at these locations are bad. It is preferable to use one of the many ATMs or cash points across the city.

► **Safety**

Budapest is a safe city but as with other popular tourist destinations you need to be vigilant. There are three risks that we want to alert you to:

- Do not hail a cab on the street; call a cab. A reliable company is CITY TAXI, at +36 1 211 1111. Make sure the meter is set at the pickup rate of 470 HUF before you begin any journey.
- Shops, bars, and restaurants may give the wrong change as a result of frequent visitor confusion over the multiple zeros in the currency.
- For male participants: young women may approach you and ask you to buy them drinks or offer to take you to clubs and bars. Male tourists who take them up on these offers will find that the women are in the employ of local bars and clubs, resulting in a hefty bill at the end of the night.

► Public Transport

Budapest has an excellent public transit system consisting of subways, buses, trolleys, trams, and electric commuter trains called HÉV. Tickets are available at all Metro stations from automated machines, and most stations also have cashiers at ticket windows. As the machines are not always reliable, it is preferable to buy tickets directly from the cashier. Tickets can also be bought at some newsstands, tram stops, and on some buses, but it is best to purchase tickets at the Metro station and keep a supply with you. Tickets can be bought individually, discounted in books of 10, or in the form of daily, weekly, or monthly passes.

You need to validate your ticket before starting your trip on the Metro or immediately upon boarding a bus, tram, trolley, or commuter train. Insert the ticket into the machines at Metro station entrances and in the red or yellow boxes on trams, buses, and trolleys. The yellow boxes automatically stamp the ticket, but you must pull the black lever on the red boxes towards the ticket to punch it.

Tickets are valid for 60 minutes after they have been stamped or for 90 minutes on the night service. Passes and tickets are checked by inspectors at random and you will be fined HUF 6,000 on the spot if you cannot produce your pass or validated ticket. If fined, get a receipt, as foreigners are sometimes overcharged. Public transportation runs from 4:30 until 23:00 and is both regular and frequent. Night trams and buses run on an abbreviated schedule.

► Emergency Numbers

Any kind of emergency: 112

Police: 107

Ambulance: 104

Fire-fighters: 105

Metro and Suburban railway lines in Budapest



USEFUL HUNGARIAN PHRASES

English	Hungarian	Pronunciation
Yes/No	Igen/nem	igen/nem
Thank you	Köszönöm	Kurssurnurm
Hello	Jó napot	Yow nopot
Goodbye	Viszontlátásra	Vissont-latashruh
Please	Kérem szépen	Kherem sehpen
Do you speak English?	Beszél angolul?	Bessayl ungolool?
I can't speak Hungarian	Nem beszélek magyarul	Nem besseylek mud-yarool
Entrance	Bejárat	Beh-yarut
Exit	Kijárat	Ki-yarut
I'm sorry	Elnézést	Ellnezeysht
Toilet	WC	Vaytsay

The 2015 Legal Empowerment Leadership Course



You have been given access to an e-learning site that contains all pre-course readings:

► **Introduction to Legal Empowerment**

Vivek MARU

- Vivek Maru, V. & Gauri, V., “Bringing Law to Life: Community Paralegals and the Pursuit of Justice” (Chapter V, book forthcoming 2017)
- Vivek Maru’s talk at the 2016 Oslo Freedom Forum at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGYOER9DI_Y. “*Rule of Law for All*”—please watch this 11 minute video from the Oslo Freedom Forum.

► **SESSION I: Helping people understand the law**

Lisa WINTERSTEIGER

- Mulqueen, T. & Thorpe T., “How do we teach about the law?” *law for life* blog at <http://www.lawforlife.org.uk/blog/how-do-we-teach-about-the-law-by-tara-mulqueen-and-tony-thorpe/>
- Collard, S., Wintersteiger, L., et al., *Public Legal Education Evaluation Framework* (November 2011), pp. 3–12

► **CASE STUDY I: Legal empowerment and securing citizenship rights**

Laura GOODWIN

- Open Society Foundations/Namati/Nubian Rights Forum, *What law/decision influenced the Bangladesh project and is now often used by paralegals?*, Briefing Paper, 2015

► **SESSION II: Making the case for financing & recognition of community-justice services through research**

Pascoe PLEASANCE & Zaza NAMORADZE

- Pleasance, P., “*Legal Need*” and *Legal Needs Survey: A Background Paper* (Open Society Justice Initiative, June 2016)

► **CASE STUDY II: The paralegal movement in the Philippines**
Marlon MANUEL

- Franco J., Soliman H., & Cisnero M.R., *Community Based Paralegalism in the Philippines: From Social Movements to Democratization*, World Bank Justice & Development Working Paper Series 27/2014

► **SESSION III: Diversifying revenue for legal empowerment: client contributions and social enterprise**

Gagan SETHI

- Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency, *Free Legal Aid in Pakistan: PILDAT Position Paper*, Position Paper (October 2015)

► **CASE STUDY III: Ensuring effective delivery of essential services**
Francesca FERUGLIO

- Feruglio F., “Accountability in the Delivery of Maternal and Infant Health Services: Nazdeek’s Approach to Fight Maternal and Infant Mortality,” *MIDIRS Midwifery Digest* 25:3 (September 2015)
- NAZDEEK: bringing justice close to Assam’s tea garden workers—video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RA05IP51LQ8>



Questionnaire

To be answered by **19 September** (send to michaelotto@namati.org or post (for others to see) in the online forum:

1. In one paragraph, please restate the challenge that you would like to workshop throughout the leadership course. Many of you included this in your application materials—now is your opportunity to refine or elaborate on your plan. Please focus on a problem that you can make progress on over the course of our week together.
2. What would you most like to get out of this course?
3. What kind of knowledge, resources, or services can you share with others that may help them with their legal empowerment efforts?



COURSE DIRECTOR



Vivek MARU

Vivek founded Namati in 2011 to grow the movement for legal empowerment around the world. Namati and its partners have built cadres of grassroots legal advocates— also known as “community paralegals”—in eight countries. The advocates have worked with over 40,000 people to protect community lands, enforce environmental law, and secure basic rights to healthcare and citizenship. Namati convenes a community of 500+ legal empowerment organizations from all over the world who are collaborating on common challenges and learning from one another. This community successfully advocated for inclusion of access to justice in the new global development framework, the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. From 2003 to 2007, Vivek co-founded and co-directed the Sierra Leonean organization Timap for Justice, which has been recognized by the International Crisis Group, Transparency International, and President Jimmy Carter as a pioneering model for delivering justice services in the context of a weak state and a plural legal system. From 2007 to 2011, he served as senior counsel in the Justice Reform Group of the World Bank. His work focused on rule of law reform and governance, primarily in West Africa and South Asia. Vivek was named an Ashoka Fellow in 2014, a “legal rebel” by the American Bar Association in 2015, and a Skoll Awardee for Social Entrepreneurship in 2016.

WELCOME



Julia BUXTON

Julia is the acting dean and a professor of comparative politics at CEU's School of Public Policy. She is a specialist on South America and an expert on Venezuela, receiving her PhD from the LSE, where she also studied for her MA (Distinction) in comparative politics. Her current research focuses on the drugs and development nexus and the development impact of counter narcotics programs. Her publications on drugs include *Drug Crop Production, Poverty and Development* (OSF 2016); *Drugs and Development: The Great Disconnect* (with T. Bingham); *The Rise and Challenge*

of *Dark Net Drug Markets* (both January 2015, Global Drug Policy Observatory, University of Swansea); *The Politics of Drugs* (ed., 2010, Routledge); “Opportunity Lost: Alternative Development in Drug Control” in J. Tokatlian (ed.) *Old Wars: New Thinking* (2010, Libros Zorazal); “A History of Drug Control” in P. Keefer and N. Loayza (eds.), *Innocent Bystanders* (2010, World Bank Publications); “The UK drug problem in global perspective,” *Soundings* (2009); “The Historical Foundations of the Narcotic Drug Control Regime,” World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 4553 (2008), and *The Political Economy of Narcotic Drugs* (2006).

FACULTY



Francesca FERUGLIO

Francesca is a human rights researcher and activist with a focus on socioeconomic rights and legal empowerment. She co-founded Nazdeek, a legal capacity building organization based in Delhi that works with communities, activists, and lawyers to seek justice for economic, social, and cultural rights (ESCR) violations in India. Nazdeek works within the framework of legal empowerment, fusing human rights training with public interest litigation and advocacy at the local and national level to demand accountability in the delivery of essential services, including maternal and infant healthcare, housing, and food. Prior to Nazdeek, Francesca worked with international and grassroots organizations, both in Europe and India, on issues of community accountability, discrimination, and access to essential services. In India, she contributed to the success of landmark cases addressing violations of reproductive rights, food security, and housing rights for women, Dalits, and indigenous people. She is currently also engaged as a research officer in the Health and Nutrition Cluster of the Institute for Development Studies in Brighton, UK. She holds an LL.M in international human rights law from the National University of Ireland, Galway (Ireland).



Laura GOODWIN

Laura is a program director at Namati. She manages Namati's Citizenship Program, which trains paralegals from historically stateless communities to empower people to access legal identity documents and full citizenship rights in Bangladesh and Kenya. She previously launched and managed Namati's

Myanmar Program, focused on land rights. Laura has previous experience with human rights work in the US and many countries in Asia. She also spent several years administering international education programs in China. Laura earned her MA in law and diplomacy at the Fletcher School, where her studies focused on human rights law and human security.



Marlon J. MANUEL

Marlon is the national coordinator of the Alternative Law Groups (ALG), a coalition of more than 20 Philippine NGOs that adhere to the principles and values of alternative or social development-oriented law practice. These organizations have distinct programs for legal assistance that are primarily concerned with the pursuit of public interest, respect for human rights, and promotion of social justice. Since 1996, he has gained two decades of experience in social justice and human rights lawyering. He has combined his involvement in strategic litigation on human rights and public interest issues with his education activities. He is deeply involved in justice and human rights education, not only as a law school professor, but also as a grassroots community educator. Marlon is also actively involved in policy reform work on social justice and human rights legislation, and in justice system reform work on improving access to justice by the poor.



Zaza NAMORADZE

As the director of the Open Society Justice Initiative's Budapest office, Zaza oversees activities on legal aid and defendants' rights and legal empowerment and capacity. He previously served as staff attorney and, later, deputy director of the Open Society Institute's Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute, where he designed and oversaw projects in constitutional and judicial reforms and student law clinics and human rights litigation capacity building in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Zaza has worked for the Center for the Study of Constitutionalism in Eastern Europe, the Central Electoral Commission of Georgia, and was a member of the State Constitutional Commission of Georgia. He graduated from the Law Faculty of Tbilisi State University, studied in the Comparative Constitutionalism Program of the Central European University, and earned an LL.M from the University of Chicago Law School.



Pascoe PLEASENCE

Pascoe is professor of empirical legal studies and co-director of the Centre for Empirical Legal Studies at the University College London—Faculty of Laws. Until recently he was academic and scientific advisor at the Legal Services Commission, and continues to advise a number of governmental bodies in the United Kingdom and overseas. He is a fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, a member of the International Group of Experts on the Measurement of Access to Justice, and a member of the International Working Group on Civil Justice and Dispute Resolution. He additionally holds membership of the International Working Group on the Legal Profession and International Legal Aid Group. Pascoe is a former head of the Legal Services Research Centre, London, and a former government social research head of profession. His substantive areas of research interest span the civil and criminal justice fields, but he has a particular interest in the public's understanding and experience of law, access to justice, and decision-making.



Gagan SETHI

Gagan is a development educator, a practicing organizational development expert, and a gender trainer. He joined the Behavioral Science Centre (BSC) of the St. Xavier's Non-formal Educational Society, Ahmedabad, in 1977 and was appointed associate professor and member of the Governing Board in 1985. While working in two areas of rural Gujarat he developed an interest in improving the economic realities of scheduled castes and tribes, organizing village groups. As founder of Janvikas, he has helped set up several strategic organizations in India, for example Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan, Sahjeevan, Drishti, the HID forum, and the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ), one of the largest grassroots programs in Gujarat dealing with access to legal services, legal education, and citizenship rights. He is also the founder and former chair of the Dalit Foundation (presently board member). Gagan's professional expertise lies in human and institutional development training, focusing on social forestry co-operatives, ecology-related grass root organizations, and scheduled castes and tribes.



Lisa WINTERSTEIGER

Lisa is the chief executive and co-founder of Law for Life–The Foundation for Public Legal Education based in the UK. She has 20 years' expertise as an advocate, caseworker, trainer, and educator in civil and social welfare law. She has developed community-based law curricula, done youth and community development work, and has taught in a range of community settings. Lisa has developed EU cross-border programs and provided access to justice policy advice and consultancy to UK and international bodies. She has also published research in the field of public legal education since 2008. She is currently conducting research for a PhD in law and critical theory and co-convening clinical teaching at Birkbeck College School of Law, University of London.

COURSE PARTICIPANTS



Muhammad ASIF

Sarhad Rural Support Program | Pakistan

Muhammad is a lawyer by profession and is a member of the Peshawar High Court Bar Association. He has been working as a legal advisor within the legal empowerment project of the Sarhad Rural Support Program (SRSP) since 2013. His responsibilities include providing free legal aid to disadvantaged litigants and conducting legal aid clinics for grassroots organizations. He also lends technical assistance to paralegals during mediation processes.



Prabhakar BAGCHAND

Lawyers' National Campaign for Elimination of Caste Discrimination | Nepal

Prabhakar, who holds a master's degree in sociology, is the executive director of the Lawyers' National Campaign for Elimination of Caste Discrimination (LANCAU). A committed and passionate social activist, he has more than 12 years of

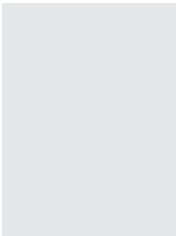
experience in the areas of human rights monitoring, social and political inclusion, gender, program development, capacity building, and policy advocacy. Prabhakar has been using public interest litigation as a tool for effective enforcement of the Right to Information Act for many years. He has carried out research on various socioeconomic issues in Nepal and has worked on projects funded by ICCO Netherlands, USAID, and the European Union. He believes that the purpose of life is to be able to lead a life of purpose—this is what guides his inexhaustible fight for the rights of Dalits.



Oleksandr BARANOV

Coordination Center for Legal Aid Provision | Ukraine

Oleksandr graduated from the Kyiv National Economic University in 1998 with a master's degree in international investment management, and subsequently earned an LL.M degree from the same university. He has held numerous managerial positions at domestic and foreign companies and was appointed deputy director of the Coordination Center for Legal Aid Provision in 2012. He is responsible for managing the regional legal aid network and coordinating logistics operations, IT and data analysis.



Naomi BETANA

Witzenberg Rural Development Centre | South Africa



Annalisa BEZZI

WANA Institute | Jordan

Annalisa holds a BA in cultures and languages of the Middle East from Ca' Foscari University of Venice and an MA in Islamic law from the School of Oriental and African Studies, UK. As a research fellow at the WANA Institute, Annalisa aims to facilitate debate on legal reform concerning women's rights by drawing on progressive interpretations of Islamic jurisprudence. She works in partnership with a core group of Shari'a lawyers, legal aid organizations, and women's

organizations from around the region and combines advocacy, training, and raising awareness. Annalisa is also working on mapping the status of legal empowerment in West Asia—North Africa, and producing a comparative multivariate measure of women empowerment within legislative frameworks around the region.



Zoran BIKOVSKI
NGO KHAM Delcevo | Macedonia

Zoran is a sociologist with over 15 years of experience in the Roma NGO sector. Since 2011, he has been the health program coordinator at the NGO KHAM Delcevo responsible for introducing legal empowerment and social accountability programs in the field of healthcare. He has served as a trainer and mentor, and has contributed to strengthening the capacities of numerous NGOs in the region. As a practitioner he engages with the local Roma community to advocate for the implementation of government programs and to foster community mobilization through legal empowerment.



Rose Jeptoo BIRGEN
Natural Justice | Kenya

Rose obtained a law degree from Moi University in 2010 and earned her master's in marine and environmental law from the University of Cape Town in 2015. She joined Natural Justice on an Africa Community Rights Fellowship program in June 2015 and later became a legal researcher at its Extractives, Infrastructure and Industry Program. She finds it rewarding to work in the intersection between human rights and environment and assisting communities to know the law and use it to achieve environmental justice. Rose believes that empowering communities has multiple socio-economic and environmental benefits, including boosting people's democratic participation.



Mihaela BURDUJA
National Legal Aid Council | Moldova

Mihaela is an aspiring jurist. She holds a bachelor's degree in civil law from the State University of Moldova and recently obtained a master's degree in civil procedure law from the same institution. Her long-term goal is to contribute to the welfare of society by strengthening democratic values and institutions, which is why she chose to work at the National Legal Aid Council—a key institution which promotes human rights through the implementation of policy in the field of delivering state-guaranteed legal aid. As a project assistant at the Human Rights Information Center in Moldova she is also raising awareness about pressing human rights issues through news articles and short analysis briefs. Mihaela's activities are divided between public authorities and civil society, offering opportunities to create a dialogue between the two as a way of promoting reform initiatives in the justice sector in Moldova.



Natalia CAMBURIAN
Soros Foundation–Moldova | Moldova

Natalia holds a licentiate's degree in social work and law, and a master's degree in work and organizational psychology. She has been employed at the Soros Foundation-Moldova since 2009 and was recently appointed to its Justice Program as program coordinator. She is currently responsible for two important projects: the “Shared Framework on Legal Empowerment” project, which aims to institutionalize a responsive, accountable, credible, and financially secure system that offers nationwide and/or population-specific community-based justice services; and the “Human Rights and Democratic Practice” component, which focuses on addressing alleged conflicts between selected rights (freedom of religion, non-discrimination, assembly, sexual and reproductive rights, health), securing observance of human rights through effective monitoring, reporting, and advocacy, and reducing human rights violations related to unjustified classification of public information.



Juan Carlos CARRILLO FUENTES

Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental A.C. | Mexico

Juan Carlos is a lawyer from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). He received his master's degree in environmental law and policy from Alicante University. In 2016 he finished his PhD at the same university where he wrote his thesis on "Equitable distribution of REDD+ benefits in Mexico." From 1996 to 2000, he worked at the Ministry of Environment focusing on economic instruments, environmental fiscal reform, environmental funds, and the environmental institutional development program. Since January 2001 he has worked in the Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental, where he provides various environmental legal services, such as study and analysis of legislation and environmental policies, elaboration of laws, regulations and standards, counsel for the defense, education, and training related to environmental law issues. Juan Carlos has been a member of the REDD+ Technical Advisory Committee (CTCREDD+) and is the coordinator for the committee's Working Group for Safeguards.



Roxane CASSEHGARI

Open Society Justice Initiative | United States

Roxane is an Aryeh Neier fellow at the Open Society Justice Initiative. Prior to joining OSJI, Roxane worked for the International Center for Transitional Justice as a legal officer. Roxane's initial professional experience was in the field, working with internally displaced people. She was later based in Haiti with the International Organization for Migration. At OSJI, she is currently working within the freedom of information program, promoting the right to truth and civil society's right to protest. She has also worked on projects related to justice for grave crimes. Roxane holds an LL.M degree from Columbia Law School and a dual law degree from Cambridge University and Pantheon-Assas University. She is a licensed New York attorney.



Neda CHALOVSKA

Macedonian Helsinki Committee | Macedonia

Neda is currently legal advisor and project coordinator at the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia and is the representative for the Helsinki Committee in the National Network to End Domestic Violence. She is responsible for providing legal assistance in the free legal aid program, especially in cases of discrimination, hate crime, hate speech, and domestic violence. She is also working on improving access to justice among victims of discrimination (tracking instances of discrimination, identifying the most vulnerable groups, and proposing initiatives to protect them). She has lectured at trainings organized by the Helsinki Committee, OSCE, and other national and international organizations and has authored several reports including “Improving the participation of local communities under 20%” and a shadow report for the Recommendation CM/Rec (2010) 5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity.



Bayasgalan GUNGAA

Ministry of Justice | Mongolia

Bayasgalan is the State Secretary at the Ministry of Justice of Mongolia and is one of the country’s leading figures in the field of legal policy development, implementation and promotion. He has held positions at the General Prosecutor’s Office, the Office of the President of Mongolia, and at international organizations such as UNDP. He has been involved in policy development and legal drafting since 1999, and has overseen several nationwide legal research efforts. Bayasgalan is a graduate of the University of Moscow and holds an LL.M degree from the University of Delhi. At present, he is pursuing a PhD at the Law Enforcement University of Mongolia. He is a certified member of the Mediation Committee of Mongolia as well as the Mongolian and International Bar Associations, and an arbitrator at the Mongolian International and National Arbitration Center.



Syafirah HARDANI
Tifa Foundation | Indonesia

As program officer at the Tifa Foundation based in Jakarta, Fira has extensive experience working in the field of women's rights and social justice. She began her career at the Rifka Annisa Women's Crisis Center in Yogyakarta. She then conducted field research on human trafficking in West Kalimantan, and later joined the American Center for International Labor Solidarity as project officer of its counter-trafficking program. Fira also worked at UNIFEM (now UN Women) as the national coordinator for CEDAW implementation in Indonesia and has served with the Pulih Foundation and the National AIDS Commission as a gender and human rights officer. Fira holds a master's degree in development studies from Auckland University and received her law degree from the University of Gadjah Mada.



Maria HAWILO
Northwestern University | United States

Maria joined the Northwestern law faculty in September 2013 as a visiting clinical assistant professor of law at the Bluhm Legal Clinic. She focuses on criminal defense law and the representation of juveniles and adults charged with crimes. She co-teaches a juvenile justice and criminal trials clinical course focusing on state and federal criminal cases. Maria has also co-taught an intensive practicum focused on prisoner conditions and sentencing practices in Malawi. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she helps supervise law students who have been assigned criminal cases domestically and who are conducting field work internationally, specifically in Malawi. Before her appointment as a visiting clinical assistant professor of law, she served as a supervising attorney for the District of Columbia Public Defender Service where she tried complex criminal defense cases.



Julius IBRANI
Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation | Indonesia

Julius graduated from the Faculty of Law, University of Indonesia. He worked first as legal counsel before joining the Jakarta Legal Aid Institute where he spent two years working on community legal empowerment and as a human rights campaign manager. For the past four years he has worked

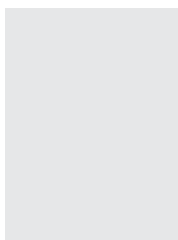
with the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation. His remit has involved case handling, managing the legal aid program and policy advocacy for legal aid, judicial system reform, abolishing the death penalty, tobacco control, and anticorruption. He was appointed as a representative of Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation for the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA), and has worked to emphasize its regional and/or international advocacy in ASEAN and the United Nations.



Iryna IVANKIV

OSCE Project Co-ordinator | Ukraine

Iryna is a lawyer with a background in rule of law, human rights, counteracting human trafficking, and cybercrime investigation. In addition to being a highly motivated and passionate researcher, she is experienced in project management, monitoring and evaluation, capacity building, and online forensic investigations. She also has a keen interest in the political affairs of Central and Eastern Europe. Iryna holds a master's degree in law from the Yaroslav Mudry National Law University of Ukraine and an LL.M degree in rule of law for development from Loyola University Chicago. She is currently working as national project officer at the OSCE's Project Co-ordinator office in Ukraine and is conducting research for her PhD thesis on the "right to humanity," including the right to peace, the right to sustainable development, and the right to a clean environment.



Mitali JAHAN

Bangladesh National Woman Lawyer's Association | Bangladesh

Mitali is a lawyer of the High Court division of the Bangladesh Supreme Court and is currently working as the project manager of the Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association (BNWLA). She has over ten years' experience in violence prevention, protection, law enforcement and policy reform, and has delivered technical assistance to the government in drafting and amending laws and policies, such as the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2010 and the Children's Act 2013. She has led capacity building trainings for different stakeholders, including lawyers, judicial officials, members of law enforcement agencies, community members and local government representatives, and is a member of various national and international rights-based networks.



Arshid JAN

United Nations Development Programme | Pakistan

Arshid has over 14 years of experience in the justice and development sectors and has practiced law for six years. He holds an MPhil in international development studies, an LL.B degree in law as well as a master's degree in history and political science. In 2009, he joined UNDP as a gender violence analyst and was later appointed legal aid specialist within UNDP's rule of law program. He has designed and supervised the implementation of a series of legal empowerment activities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa benefitting over 80,000 community members. Arshid has also held a number of volunteer positions at – among others – the MenEngage Alliance in Pakistan working together with men to end violence against women. He lives in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan.



Khunan JARGALSAIKHAN

Open Society Forum | Mongolia

Khunan is an advocacy consultant of the Open Society Forum's legal empowerment project. He has extensive experience in access to justice and human rights, and has held positions at the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs and UNDP Mongolia. He was the national project coordinator of the "Access to justice and human rights" and "Overcoming poverty through legal empowerment" projects implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs. He was a member of several working groups in charge of developing the national development strategy, MDG9 human rights indicators, and other human rights-related legislation. Khunan is a graduate of Eötvös Loránd University in Hungary and holds a master of law and state degree. He is a member of the Mediation Committee of Mongolia, the Mongolian Bar Association, and the International Bar Association.



Yuhanee JEHKA

Human Rights and Development Foundation | Thailand

Yuhanee is a human rights lawyer from Bangkok. She is Melayu Thai and can speak Melayu. She currently holds the position of refugee case worker at the Human Rights and Development Foundation, where she assists urban refugees and asylum

seekers in getting their refugee status and relocating to a third country in compliance with Refugee Status Determination procedures. She also gives legal assistance on human rights abuse and illegal immigration cases based on the Refugee Convention and Thai law. In 2013, Yuhanee worked with refugees along the Thai-Burmese border and in 2009 she served as legal officer in Thailand's Deep South.



Patrick Ngenda JOHN BULL

Center for Access to Justice Peace and Human Rights | Sierra Leone

Patrick is a Sierra Leonean barrister and solicitor advocate of the High Court of Sierra Leone. At present, he is a lecturer of law at the University of Makeni, a private Catholic university in the northern part of Sierra Leone. He is also the executive director of the Center for Access to Justice Peace and Human Rights, an indigenous human rights civil society organization. Patrick obtained a bachelor's degree in English language, law and philosophy at Fourah Bay College in 1994 and continued his teaching career until 1999, when he was appointed group development officer at Amnesty International Sierra Leone. In 2001, he became the acting director and later director of the same organization, and subsequently left to pursue a bachelor of law degree. Throughout his career, Patrick has served in various capacities for national and international organizations, and has been motivated by the desire to defend the rights of vulnerable rural communities, especially those affected by large-scale land investments.



Scholastica JULLU

Legal Services Facility | Tanzania

Scholastica is a lawyer advocate of the High Court of Tanzania, and a women's rights activist. She has worked with paralegals at the Women's Legal Aid Center for 19 years. In 2011, she joined Niras Consulting International as a consultant responsible for managing the Legal Services Facility basket fund. She has also worked as a consultant for a variety of international organizations, including UNDP, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the British Council, and ARD Incorporation. Scholastica earned her LL.M degree in international law from the Georgetown University Law Center in 2001 and has completed professional trainings at the Education Center for Women in Democracy in Kenya and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. She is an active member of

the Tanganyika Law Society—the Bar Association of Tanzania—and is devoted to strengthening paralegal work by ensuring effective engagement with local government authorities in designing sustainable access to justice programs. Scholastica currently lives in Dar es Salaam and is employed by the Legal Services Facility as a program director.



Ismail KAMBERI

Roma Lawyers Association | Macedonia

Ismail is a Roma human rights activist and one of the co-founders of the Roma Lawyers Association in the Republic of Macedonia. He holds a master's degree in criminal law and is planning to become an attorney, advocating for Roma in need of legal aid. He has worked for international organizations such as OSCE/ODIHR, and is currently working at the European Policy Institute in Skopje, an organization focusing on research and analysis on various topics related to Macedonia's accession to the European Union. More specifically, he is working as a junior researcher on a project that deals with the discriminatory practice of Macedonian border police against the Roma population.



Erin KITCHELL

Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles | Senegal

For nearly a decade, Erin has worked on land and natural resource rights in West Africa. In particular, she focuses on how decentralization is affecting customary rights and understandings of citizenship. She is particularly interested in the opportunities it may create for enhancing accountability to local citizens. Erin is currently working with local associations in Senegal to conduct action research on the use of negotiated local land use planning as a tool for conflict management. She is affiliated with the Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles and the Pôle Pastoral et Zones Sèches based in Dakar. Prior to starting her PhD in geography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she was the program director for Mali Health, an NGO that works to improve access to primary care in peri-urban neighborhoods.



Fortunata Frederick KITOKESYA **Legal Services Facility | Tanzania**

Fortunata is a program officer for Women’s Rights Protection at Legal Services Facility in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. She is a technical advisor and also coordinates the paralegal program which is available in all districts of Tanzania. She has a special interest in legal empowerment of the poor, access to justice, and human rights. She has been successfully engaged in the Human Right Development Initiative’s project “Increase of Access to Justice for Vulnerable People in Africa, 2008–2011” as a country coordinator. She was also a fellow of the Open Society Justice Initiative and worked on a project that introduced clinical legal education in Tanzania. She is a graduate of the University of Dar es Salaam and holds an LL.M (human rights) from Central European University, Budapest.



Orsolya KIZER **Lawyers Without Borders | Canada**

Orsolya is a legal advisor with Lawyers Without Borders Canada (LWBC) and focuses on access to justice and legal aid services as well as on women’s rights. Before joining LWBC in 2015, she worked with various organizations involved in the promotion and protection of fundamental rights, including a coalition of civil society organizations based in Cairo, and the International Committee of the Red Cross. Between 2012 and 2014, she was posted in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, first as a human rights officer with the UN Peacekeeping mission, reporting on human rights violations, and later as a humanitarian affairs officer with Doctors Without Borders, monitoring the situation of internally displaced people (IDPs) and local populations in the North Kivu province. Orsolya holds an LL.B from Laval University in Quebec City and an LL.M in international humanitarian law and human rights from the Geneva Academy. She has been a member of the Quebec Bar since 2007.



Mihajlo KOSTOVSKI
Ministry of Health | Macedonia

Mihajlo holds a bachelor's degree in law from the Ss Cyril and Methodius University and a master of European social security from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. He has spent his career working in the public health sector and as an advisor and an assistant manager for health insurance at the Health Insurance Fund and at the Ministry of Health. Through his work, he became aware of the disadvantages of certain groups in the field of social security, particularly in the field of health care and health insurance. As a result, he has provided legal aid through trainings, practical work, specific legal assistance, and teaching how to navigate through various administrative procedures.



Constantinus KRISTOMO
Ministry of Law | Indonesia

Constantinus is the deputy director of the Legal Aid and Public Legal Education Center at the Ministry of Law's National Law Development Agency. He is running the implementation of the Legal Aid Program under Act 16/2011 with a focus on developing regulation, disbursement and monitoring, developing case management application and database, and other legal aid development. He is also in charge of developing public legal education including producing legal awareness campaign modules and media tools, establishing public legal counselors, and conducting legal awareness campaigns through media such as television, radio, internet, and community development.



Mario E. MADERAZO
Philippine Misereor Partnership, Inc. | Philippines

Mario is a lawyer from the Philippines. Prior to his law practice, he engaged in development work as a writer and policy advocacy officer for an NGO involved in community-based coastal resource management. As a lawyer he has immersed himself in the training of fisherman volunteers for community-based fisheries law enforcement called the "bantay-dagat" (sea guardian) in various fishing communities in the Philippines since 2000. He has also been

engaged in policy advocacy on farmers' rights at the national and international level as the policy coordinator for a Philippine-based NGO operating in Southeast Asia. He is currently the legal counsel for the anti-mining campaign project of the Philippine Misereor Partnership, Inc., a network of people's organizations, NGOs, church/faith-based groups, and Misereor, the overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Germany. He provides legal representation for the mining-affected communities: mostly farmers, fishermen, and indigenous peoples.



Sinazo MAKHOTYANA

Association of Community Advice Offices | South Africa

Sinazo works as a program coordinator for the Association of Community Advice Offices of South Africa (ACAOSA). ACAOSA is the voice and membership organization of the community advice offices sector in South Africa and serves as an operational body, unifying the sector through national leadership and committees. Sinazo joined the community advice office sector as a projects officer intern at the National Alliance of the Development of Community-based Advice Offices in 2012. She then moved to ACAOSA in 2014 where she provided secretariat support to the Council and to the ACAOSA Board. Sinazo now conceptualizes and runs ACAOSA's programs. She holds a BA in industrial sociology and African linguistics from Rhodes University. Her overarching aim is to be more involved in the thought processes of legal empowerment globally to better understand her work and the work of the grassroots networks that she engages with.



Omar Bashir MANIAR

Legal Aid Society | Pakistan

Omar is a lawyer and an academic working with the Legal Aid Society in Karachi. He graduated with an LL.B degree from the Lahore University of Management Sciences in 2008 and worked in the private sector before founding the first street law clinic in Pakistan at the Hamdard University in 2012. Omar joined the Legal Aid Society in 2013 and leads a paralegal program in nine prisons across the Sindh province. He is also involved in community outreach activities and legal aid work with religious minorities across three districts. With a special interest and expertise in interactive teaching methodology, Omar has helped train paralegal trainers, legal clinicians as well as judges and police officers. Aside from his work on legal empowerment, Omar is a dairy farmer and owns and operates a farm in Karachi.



Helena-Ulrike MARAMBIO

VisAbility | Germany

In 2014 Helena-Ulrike co-founded the non-profit association VisAbility that combines mixed-abled dance and legal education to empower people with disabilities in Sri Lanka. She is in charge of research, advocacy, and the workshops on disability rights and social benefits, and for the set-up of the organization's future paralegal program. Previously, Helena-Ulrike was a campaigner, a mobilization and planning coordinator, as well as deputy executive director at Amnesty International in Chile. Later, she supported different programs as a program manager in Amnesty's International Secretariat in the UK. She has also worked as a fundraiser for a mixed-abled dance company and acted as a consultant on cases of discrimination for a law firm in Chile. She has extensive experience as a personal assistant for people with disabilities. She has an MA in political science (University of Cologne, Germany) and an LL.M in international human rights law (University of York, UK). Her dissertation focused on the legal empowerment of indigenous victims of forced sterilizations in Peru. She is currently pursuing a PhD on the role of legal empowerment for accountability in post-conflict situations (University of Essex, UK).



Alejandra MARTINEZ

Fundacion Microjusticia | Argentina

Alejandra is a human rights activist and legal procurator and is pursuing a degree in law at Universidad Empresarial Siglo 21. Her areas of expertise include access to justice, legal empowerment and community organization. Having been committed to promoting the rights of vulnerable people early on, she organized a health solidarity project with Caritas Internationalis during her university years. She later joined Fundación Microjusticia Argentina as a volunteer, and since 2015, she is the executive director of the organization. She is responsible for coordinating the legal empowerment programs, and works closely with grassroots organizations and governmental actors in order to ensure access to justice for the most vulnerable populations.



Olena MATVIICHUK
Legal Development Network | Ukraine

Olena has over nine years of experience in the field of human rights with a focus on legal empowerment and legal aid. She has a strong knowledge of local government legislation and understands the necessity of cooperating with local authorities in order to prevent human rights violations in her community.

She is experienced in developing and conducting trainings, and co-authored two textbooks on legal aid for local government officials. She is the Chairman of the Board for the Legal Development Network (LDN) in Ukraine and was initially involved in developing the state structure for the implementation of the free legal aid system. For the past two years, Olena has also worked on establishing a mediation system within Ukraine's court system in order to increase citizens' access to justice through alternative methods of conflict resolution.



Tem Fuh MBUH
Open Society Initiative for West Africa | Senegal

Tem is the law, justice, and human rights program officer for the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA). He holds a bachelor's degree in law from the University of Buea, Cameroon, and a master's degree in human rights and democratization from the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, South

Africa. Tem has extensive knowledge and experience in national and international human rights practice. Prior to joining OSIWA, he spent more than four years in various capacities at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. His primary focus is on international human rights litigation, access to justice, and the treatment of people deprived of their liberty and governance.



Marry-Jane Lucky MKHIZE
Centre for Community Justice and Development | South Africa

Lucky is a qualified paralegal having acquired her paralegal certificate with SASSETA and paralegal diploma from the University of Natal. She has been a paralegal for 20 years and now works for the Centre for Community Justice and

Development (CCJD) that provides access to justice to vulnerable and disadvantaged communities in the province of Kwa-Zulu Natal. Lucky is responsible for CCJD's Community Outreach Program as a field coordinator and development officer, providing overall supervision, legal guidance, and support for cases submitted to CCJD for analysis. Lucky serves on the National Council of the Association of Community Advice Office in South Africa (ACAOSA) where she is deputy president.



Faith MUTUMBA

Paralegal Advisory Services | Uganda

Faith is a human rights lawyer currently working with the Paralegal Advisory Services (PAS), a criminal justice program managed by the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI). She holds an LL.B degree from Uganda Christian University and is pursuing an LL.M degree with a specialization in human rights at Makerere University in Kampala. She has over six years of experience in the field of human rights and criminal justice, and is dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of disadvantaged people through advocacy and civic engagement.



Sylvia NAMUBIRU MUKASA

Legal Aid Service Providers Network | Uganda

Sylvia is an advocate of the High Court of Uganda and is, as a social justice advocate, currently working as the executive director for the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET). She holds a master's degree in development studies, majoring in human rights, gender, conflict resolution, and social justice perspectives with a specialization in human rights, from the International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University, Netherlands, and a bachelor's in law from Makerere University, Uganda. Prior to joining LASPNET, Sylvia worked as a judicial officer for five years and as senior project advocate, head of legal aid & pro-bono service, and executive director for the Uganda Law Society for six years. She also worked as operations manager and director of programs with the Centre for Justice Studies & Innovations under the Justice for Children Programs for two years. Her work experience, which spans over 16 years, includes adjudicating, legal aid programming, and advocating for the rights of the poor and marginalized.



Som NIROULA
Alliance for Social Dialogue | Nepal

Som is the senior program officer responsible for the human rights program at the Alliance for Social Dialogue. He has a decade of experience of working in the field of human rights and has previously worked at the South Asia Forum for Human Rights (SAFHR) based in Kathmandu. He holds an MA in peace education from the United Nations mandated University for Peace (UPEACE) in Costa Rica and a master's in anthropology from Tribhuvan University.



Khanyisile Yolanda NTSENGE
National Alliance for the Development of Community Advice Offices | South Africa

Khanyisile works at the National Alliance for the Development of Community Advice Offices (Nadcao) as a research and knowledge management officer. Nadcao began in 2005 as an alliance of partners interested in the long-term sustainability of the Community Advice Offices (CAOs) in South Africa. Khanyisile holds a BA in demography and population studies from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. He is currently studying towards a degree in clinical psychology. His interests are in psycho-social development, women's empowerment, and accountability through open data.



Violetta ODAGIU
National Council of State Guaranteed Legal Assistance | Moldova

Violetta is a paralegal, mediator, psychologist, and human rights activist. She is currently working as a paralegal and psychologist and promotes human rights, especially for people from rural districts. Since 2010, she has worked as a community paralegal in Fundurii Vechi village, district Glodeni, on two Soros Moldova Foundation projects: "Stimulation of democracy processes in Moldova through empowerment and participation" and "Promotion of community education ... at the local level through empowerment of paralegals."



Sandra ORYEMA
Makerere University | Uganda

Sandra has over seven years' experience in practicing law in Uganda. She completed her master's in leadership and governance at Makerere University Business School, Uganda, this year. She is an enrolled advocate and holds a post-graduate diploma in legal practice from the Law Development Center and an LL.B from Makerere University. Sandra is passionate about advocating for the protection of the rights of refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, and urban poor communities. She currently works as the legal aid manager with the Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC) at Makerere University which provides legal aid services and community literacy to vulnerable communities. She also worked for the Norwegian Refugee Council ICLA (Information Counseling and Legal Assistance) for five years where she helped internally displaced persons access their land through court representation and trained local leaders on land law. Sandra is a member of the Global Alliance for Justice Education (GAJE), Uganda Law Society (ULS), Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), and Network of Public Interest Lawyers (NETPIL) whose broad mission is to ensure social justice for all.



Mariana PENA
Open Society Justice Initiative | Argentina

Mariana has been working in the field of international justice for the past 10 years, focusing primarily on victims' access to justice and reparations and the role of civil society in transitional justice contexts. She is currently a legal officer at the Open Society Justice Initiative. She has been a consultant for national and international NGOs and donors, has worked with victims' legal representatives in one of the Kenya cases before the International Criminal Court (ICC), and was the International Federation for Human Rights' Permanent Representative to the ICC. She has held volunteer positions with the ICC's Registry, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the American NGO Coalition for the ICC. Mariana is a qualified attorney in her native country, Argentina, where she handled domestic litigation and also worked as a tribunal clerk. She holds a law degree from El Salvador University (Argentina), a master's degree in international and comparative law from Uppsala University (Sweden), and a master's degree in international organizations from Paris I University (France). She is a published author of articles on international tribunals and victims' access to justice, and is fluent in English, French, Italian, and Spanish.



Olesea PEREAN

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights | Moldova

Olesea graduated from the law faculty at the Moldova State University with a master's in criminal law and started her career working for the Ministry of Justice. In addition she is engaged in consultancy activities with national and international NGOs such as the Soros Foundation—Moldova. In 2012–2013, she was a member of the Human Rights Resource Group that was designed to develop advocacy activities on various human rights issues. She graduated from Essex University in 2015 and received an MA in theory and practice of human rights. Since her return to Moldova in October 2015 she has been working as a national human rights consultant for the UN OHCHR and has been continuously involved in activities related to empowering the most vulnerable groups to claim their rights.



Yevgen POLTENKO

Legal Development Network | Ukraine

Yevgen is an executive director in the Legal Development Network, a coalition of Ukrainian NGOs providing free primary legal aid to the residents of local communities, particularly vulnerable groups. The network currently consists of 26 organizations in 17 regions of the country. Before joining the LDN, Yevgen worked for charities, financial companies, and government institutions. He has seven years' experience in NGO management and developing a vision and strategic plan to guide organizations and has a significant track record of project implementation at the national level. Yevgen's recent activities include national advocacy campaigns aimed at establishing a favorable regulatory framework for philanthropy and corporate social responsibility, and improving legislation on volunteerism and tax regulation for SMS charity.



Manisha POUDEL

Legal Aid and Consultancy Center | Nepal

Manisha has been working as a legal practitioner since 2012. After receiving her master's degree in human rights and gender justice, she started her career as a human right activist. She is currently working as a program coordinator in the Legal Aid and

Consultancy Centre (LACC) on a project that helps marginalized and disadvantaged groups access justice. She has also worked as a facilitator between the government and local people in identifying problems around legal identity documents such as citizenship, birth and marriage registrations, etc.



Badamragchaa PUREVDORJ

Open Society Forum | Mongolia

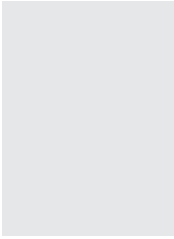
Badmaa works as a governance program manager at the Open Society Forum in Mongolia. She began to work at Open Society Forum after completing law school in 2002, left to do graduate work in the US, and then returned to the forum in 2008 to oversee the legal reform and human rights projects under its governance program. She is involved in the justice sector reform process and actively advocates for a national legal aid mechanism and the development of policy blueprints of ongoing judicial and criminal justice reforms in Mongolia. In addition, she also manages initiatives related to the Open Society Information Program. Badmaa earned a bachelor's degree in international law from the National University of Mongolia and received her LL.M degree in intercultural human rights from the St. Thomas University School of Law.



Taegin REISMAN

Open Society Justice Initiative | United States

Taegin is an associate legal officer with the Open Society Justice Initiative. As part of her work, she manages the International Justice Monitor, a website monitoring ongoing international justice trials as well as related social media platforms. The website aims to bridge the gap between The Hague and victim communities and to bring independent, high-quality information to help sway public opinion to become more supportive of justice efforts. Taegin earned her undergraduate degree in international affairs at Florida State University and her JD at the University of Cincinnati College of Law, where she was a fellow at the Urban Morgan Institute for Human Rights. During her final year in law school, she was the managing editor of *Human Rights Quarterly*. Prior to joining the Open Society Justice Initiative, she worked as a program assistant with Amnesty International and as a legal researcher with the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights. She also spent a summer as a law clerk with the High Court of Botswana under the direction of judge Unity Dow.



Ariel SÁENZ TEJEIRA

Ministry of Justice and Human Rights | Argentina

Ariel is a senior advisor of the Secretary of Justice at the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Argentina. In 1994, he joined the federal judiciary, serving in various offices in criminal courts. In 2004, he was appointed as a member of the Anticorruption Bureau task force that was assembled during the intervention in the province of Santiago del Estero. Between 2005 and 2012, he served as public official at the criminal court of the city of Buenos Aires. From 2012 to 2014, he was appointed chief advisor for the Secretary General for Access to Justice and Human Rights at the General Prosecutor's Office. Ariel received his law degree from the University of Buenos Aires in 2004. In 2015, he completed the specialization program in criminal law and criminal procedure at the Torcuato Di Tella University. He is currently assistant professor of criminal law at the University of Buenos Aires and has collaborated with several authors on the publication of various papers on justice and criminal policy affairs.

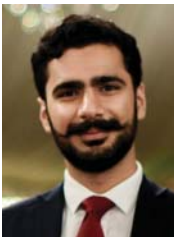


Ansumana Ivan SESAY

Sierra Leone Legal Aid Board | Sierra Leone

Ansumana, alias Ivan, is a Sierra Leonean barrister from Moyambawusia, a small village in the Southern Province of Sierra Leone. He was awarded a bachelor of law degree from Fourah Bay College in 1995, and subsequently received a barrister-at-law certificate from the Sierra Leone Law School.

He began his career as a research counsel and public relations officer with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Sierra Leone, and has gained a wealth of experience in both the public and private sectors in his home country. He is currently senior defense counsel and legal aid manager at the Sierra Leone Legal Aid Board and is committed to the promotion of grassroots justice and legal aid.



Ghulam Hussain SOOMRO

UK Department for International Development | Pakistan

Ghulam first took an interest in the development sector while studying law and working part-time in an INGO during which time he completed international assignments in Thailand, Myanmar, and Laos. After graduating, he practiced civil and

corporate law for several months before returning to the development sector. He worked as a protection officer in Afghanistan and Pakistan for a year, ensuring protection mainstreaming in all disaster response programs and lobbying to provide for the most vulnerable. He is currently working as a program officer within the DfID's Conflict, Humanitarian and Resilience Department. He manages the conflict program portfolio which aims at improving the rule of law in Pakistan and making governance services more accessible.



Serhii TROTSENKO

Coordination Center for Legal Aid Provision | Ukraine

Serhii is deputy director of the Coordination Center for Legal Aid Provision at the Ministry of Justice in Ukraine. He is responsible for strategic planning and development, finances, communication, and international cooperation within the free legal aid system in Ukraine. He began his career at the Department of Youth and Sports of the Cherkasy Oblast State Administration in 2006, and later worked at the Department of External Relations and European Integration in the same administration. He has held positions at the Center for Adaptation of the Civil Service to the Standards of the European Union where he coordinated CIB, SIGMA, and administrative reform programs. Prior to joining the Coordination Center, he gained experience at the Center for Legal Reform and Legislative Drafting where he was responsible for information support, external relations development, and strategic planning. Serhii holds a degree in economy and international politics.



Mahendra Nath UPADHYAYA

Supreme Court of Nepal | Nepal

Mahendra is director general of the Judgment Execution Directorate of the Supreme Court of Nepal as well as chief of secretariat of the Access to Justice Commission. He has held positions within the judicial service of Nepal for the past 23 years and has participated in numerous international trainings and seminars. Mahendra holds a bachelor's degree in law from the Tribhuvan University of Nepal.



Hristina VASILEVSKA

Foundation Open Society—Macedonia | Macedonia

Hristina is currently working as a project manager at the Foundation Open Society—Macedonia and is coordinating activities within the “Access to justice in Macedonia” project. She has been actively engaged in the civil sector in Macedonia, especially in providing legal protection and legal education for all citizens. After completing a postgraduate program in criminal law at the South East European University, she started working as the coordinator of the legal aid program of the Association Multikultura in Tetovo. She joined the foundation in early 2016 and is currently coordinating the work of five CSOs authorized to provide free legal aid. She is also responsible for organizing public legal education sessions.



Lorenzo WAKEFIELD

Open Society Initiative for South Africa | South Africa

Lorenzo is a senior program officer in the Justice, Equality and Rights Program at the Open Society Initiative for South Africa (OSISA). He works on the legal empowerment program—among others—and manages grants to promote the financial sustainability and institutionalization of the community advice office sector in South Africa. He has a master of law degree in international criminal and human rights law from the University of the Western Cape.



Mostofa ZAMIL

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust | Bangladesh

Mostofa is the deputy director of the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST). He is responsible for overall project management, including monitoring and evaluation, policy implementation and donor relations, and acts as a representative of BLAST at international seminars and workshops. He is also experienced in government liaison, policy advocacy and training. He holds a master's degree in economics from Jahangirnagar University in Dhaka.



Mohammad ZIAUDDIN
Council of Minorities | Bangladesh

Mohammad completed his master's degree in social science from National University. Since his youth, he has been working as a social worker for the rights of the camp-dwelling Urdu-speaking community of Bangladesh and other minority communities. Presently he is working on a project to empower linguistic minorities to realize citizens' rights in Bangladesh. Mohammad is a program officer of the Council of Minorities in Bangladesh which is currently implementing, jointly with Namati, a camp-based paralegal project within Urdu-speaking camps. Mohammad has ten years of experience with Bangladesh Women's Health Coalition, Marie Stopes, and Dushtha Shasthya Kendra. He has experience working in domestic violence, children's rights, and human rights.

COURSE STAFF

Open Society Justice Initiative



Zsanett BORSOS
OSJI Program Associate | Hungary

Zsanett is the program associate for the legal empowerment project of the Open Society Justice Initiative. Based in the Budapest office, Zsanett received her bachelor's degree in international relations and history from Western Maryland College and her master's degree in Arab Gulf studies at the University of Exeter. Zsanett previously worked as a personal assistant to the CEO of the Hungarian subsidiary of a multinational corporation. She has interned with the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee in the United States and the European Roma Rights Centre and the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, both located in Budapest.

Namati



Krithika DINESH

Research Associate, Environmental Justice Program | India

Krithika holds a bachelor's in law from the Faculty of Law, Delhi University, and a bachelor in economics from Lady Shri Ram College for Women. While pursuing her studies she had the opportunity to work with various legal and policy organizations, such as PRS Legislative Research, the National Human Rights Commission, and Natural Justice. She is a research associate for the Centre for Policy Research-Namati Environmental Justice Program.



Eduardo MALO

Program Coordinator, Right to Health Program | Mozambique

Eduardo has more than a decade of experience in grassroots advocacy around health and human rights. From 2002 to 2006, he served as coordinator of community programs for Geração BIZ, a national initiative that seeks to advance the sexual and reproductive rights of adolescents and youth. From 2007 to 2011 he was employed by the Irish organization TRÔCAIRE, where his work focused on building the institutional capacity of Mozambican community-based organizations working in schools to prevent unwanted pregnancy, gender-based violence, and HIV. Prior to joining Namati in 2014, Eduardo spent three years in Mozambique's remote northernmost province, Cabo Delgado, where he served as program officer for Pathfinder International. His work there focused on promoting and protecting the right to health of vulnerable populations, including sex workers, gay men, intravenous drug users, and those in prison. He has earned certificates from both REPROLATINA-Brasil and UNFPA Moçambique and has a degree in human resources management from the Universidade Pedagógica de Moçambique.



Nant Thi Thi Oo

Program & HR Associate | Myanmar

Nant Thi Thi Oo holds a bachelor's degree in computer technology from the University of Computer Studies, Yangon, and a master's degree in management from the National University of Ireland, Dublin. She gained international experience with Thai Airways International and worked as a document controller at PTTEP's Zawtika project in Kanbauk, Dawei. She has been working as the Myanmar program associate at Namati since June 2014. She is closely working with five partner organizations and 90 paralegals working in the field of land rights in Myanmar. She is mainly responsible for handling and analyzing paralegals' data for implementing program and advocacy activities.



Michael OTTO

Global Network Officer | United States

Michael has worked in access to justice, legal education, and development since 2004, where he began building legal clinics and paralegal programs throughout Southeast Asia with Bridges Across Borders. In Cambodia, he managed the Community Empowerment and Legal Awareness Program, supporting grassroots advocates through participatory curriculum development, legal rights training, and advocacy campaigns. Michael has also worked with Equal Access International in London and Nepal and has served as a founding board member of Tiny Toones in Cambodia, a non-profit working with at-risk youth through arts, dance, and education, since 2007. Michael holds a BA in legal studies from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, an MSC in Violence, Conflict and Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and is a certified mediator.



Ashley VAN WAES

Program Associate, Global Network Team | United States

Originally from Blair, Nebraska, Ashley has worked on human rights issues across the United States, Africa, and Latin America. She received her bachelor's degree cum laude at the University of Nebraska with a focus on international business and economics. Previously she worked for the International Association for Feminist Economics, the American Red Cross, and Women's Micro-finance Initiative.



Mustafa Mahmoud YOUSIF **Program Officer, Citizenship | Kenya**

Mustafa is the program officer for Namati's Citizenship Program. Most recently, he was the program manager at the Nubian Rights Forum, a Kenyan NGO, where he managed a team of seven paralegals assisting the Nubian ethnic minority in applying for citizenship documents. His responsibilities included overseeing casework, managing an online paralegal case database, and advocacy efforts. Mustafa also has previous experience with a wide range of community work, including hosting programs such as *Uhaki Radio Program: Showcasing Politically Motivated Violence*, and *Uhaki Radio Programme: Re-integration of Ex-inmates*, and volunteering with the Kenyan Red Cross. Mustafa is currently pursuing a degree in development studies at the University of Eastern Africa Baraton, Nairobi.



Hassan SESAY **Paralegal | Sierra Leone**

Hassan brings years of experience as a lead paralegal with Timap for Justice from 2009 to 2013, where he first began as a community paralegal in 2007. As lead paralegal, Hassan coordinated paralegal work country-wide. He also served as a project supervisor at the district level of Timap's Community Mediation Program. Throughout his career, he has worked in cases involving agro-based and mining companies, and advocated on behalf of vulnerable communities to achieve respect for human rights principles. Hassan holds a degree in agricultural economics from Njala University.



Bernhard KNOLL-TUDOR

**Director, SPP Global Policy Academy; Adjunct Professor
I Austria**

Prior to his appointment as director of the CEU School of Public Policy’s Global Policy Academy, Bernhard worked for the OSCE, an international organization devoted to “hard” security as well as to human rights diplomacy. He was involved in policy design and public relations, both at the level of field missions (Sarajevo, 1999–2000; Prishtina, 2000–2002) and at the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in Warsaw (special advisor to the director, 2006–2012). He has held positions at the European Union Monitoring Mission (deputy head, Political and Information Division, Bosnia & Herzegovina, 1998); the United Nations Administration Mission in Kosovo (acting Temporary Media Commissioner, 2003), and with the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Political Directorate, desk officer for EU accession countries, 2005–2006). Bernhard earned a master in law at the University of Vienna and an MA in international relations and economics at Johns Hopkins/SAIS with a focus on IR theory (Bologna and Washington, D.C.). He obtained his PhD from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, and is the author of *Legal Status of Territories Subject to Administration of International Organisations* (Cambridge University Press, 2008). He teaches SPP’s course in public international law.



Tanja K. MANNERS

**Senior Program Manager, SPP Global Policy Academy
I United States/Slovenia**

Tanja has spent the past decade working in education both in front of the classroom and behind the scenes, teaching mathematics in Micronesia and Austria and working in administration at the Institute of Education, University College London, and King’s College London. She has a degree in applied mathematics from Brown University and a master’s degree in comparative education from the Institute of Education of the University of London. She moved to Hungary in 2015 after spending a year as an education consultant in Shanghai.



Livia MARSCHALL

Program Coordinator, SPP Global Policy Academy | Hungary

Livia joined CEU as a program assistant at the Roma Access Programs Unit in 2014. She was appointed to her present role as part-time program coordinator at SPP's Global Policy Academy in 2015. She holds an MA in cultural anthropology and English language and literature from Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) in Budapest. During her university years, she conducted fieldwork in a Hungarian Roma community and has participated in various Roma advocacy projects. Livia is also currently working as a curator at Gallery8—Roma Contemporary Art Space.



Ilona PUSKAS

Events Manager and Program Assistant, SPP Global Policy Academy | Hungary

As a devoted communications professional, Ilona liaises with creative practitioners, the business sector, and the media. She has a background in cultural project management. Involved in contemporary fine art, she has been researching the role of the curator in facilitating sustainability and solidarity in curatorial praxis. She earned an MA in art and design management from the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design and a BA in communication and media studies (specialization in journalism) from Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) in Budapest.



Sebastián SOTO

CEU School of Public Policy | Chile

Sebastián is currently studying towards an MPA at SPP. He studied law at Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez in Chile. Before joining CEU, Sebastián worked for several years as a lawyer at the Regional Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ministry in Valparaíso, Chile, and was involved in the legal regulation and implementation of housing policies. While being a civil servant, Sebastián organised several workshops with housing committees where he provided legal training on issues related to co-property law, civil law, procedural law, family law and housing policies.

Open Society Justice Initiative

The Open Society Justice Initiative uses law to protect and empower people around the world, supporting the values and work of the Open Society Foundations. Through litigation, advocacy, research, and technical assistance, we strive to secure legal remedies for human rights abuses and promote effective enforcement of the rule of law. Justice Initiative lawyers have represented scores of individuals before domestic and international courts, in cases that have sought not only to vindicate individual claims, but to establish and strengthen the law's protection for all. The Justice Initiative documents violations, proposes solutions, engages policy-makers, and offers assistance that draws on our global legal experience. Its efforts focus on accountability for international crimes, racial discrimination and statelessness, criminal justice reform, abuses related to national security and counterterrorism, the promotion of freedom of information and expression, and combating natural resource-related corruption.

Namati

In a world where billions of people live outside the protection of the law, Namati is building a global movement of grassroots legal advocates who work with communities to advance justice. Trained in basic law and in skills like mediation, organizing, education, and advocacy, these “community paralegals” form a dynamic, creative frontline that can engage formal and traditional institutions alike. Across the world, they are empowering people to protect their land, access essential services, and take part in the decisions that govern their lives. Namati has built paralegal efforts with local partner organizations in eight countries. We collect data rigorously on every case and use that information to advocate for systemic, large-scale reforms. Namati hosts a network of 500 organizations from every region in the world, and is fostering greater learning and collaboration among these groups. Together, we are growing a mature global field around legal empowerment.

CEU School of Public Policy, Global Policy Academy

SPP's Global Policy Academy (GPA) organizes academically rigorous and policy-relevant courses that are designed not as traditional training seminars but as hubs for sectoral dialogue and experience exchange. The Academy leverages the broad and deep expertise of SPP faculty to address the needs of policy professionals who wish to broaden their knowledge as they serve the public good. Participants from the public, private, and non-profit sectors enroll in GPA courses to gain relevant practice-oriented skills grounded in research-based knowledge. They also take advantage of the School's global reach to grow and enrich their professional networks in an exceptional learning environment.

BRAC University

BRAC University (BRACU) was established in 2001. It follows a liberal arts approach to education which nurtures fresh ideas and gives new impetus in the field of tertiary education. Building on BRAC's experience of seeking solution to challenges posed by extreme poverty, BRACU hopes to instill in its students a commitment to working towards national development and progress. The mission of BRAC University is to foster the national development process through the creation of a centre of excellence in higher education that is responsive to society's needs, and able to develop creative leaders and actively contributes to learning and creation of knowledge.

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[https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/about/programs/
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