



UN Women Executive Director's Civil Society Advisory Group 2022–2025

Feride Acar

Professor Emerita

Feride Acar was faculty member in Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Türkiye. She is also the founding Chair of the Gender and Women's Studies Graduate Program (1994) at the same university. She has been a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) for four terms (1997–2005 and 2010–2018) and has served as CEDAW Chairperson (2003–2005). She has actively participated in the drafting of the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention and served two consecutive terms as the President of the Convention's monitoring organ (The Group of Experts of Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)). In 2019, she was awarded the Pro Merito Medal by the Council of Europe for her services in advancing women's rights.

Anika Jane Dorothy

East Africa Coordinator, Amplify Girls and ONE Champion, East Africa

Anika is the Head of Advocacy and Partner Management at AMPLIFY Girls where she champions the uptake of girls' agency as a critical measure towards girls' success; recognizing the important role community organizations play towards building girls' agency. In this role, Anika has represented AMPLIFY in the UNGEI Feminist Education Coalition, AGIP, Charter for Change in championing localization of resources for community organisations and investing in girls' agency. She served on the Global Advisory Committee and The Safeguarding Working Group for the Women Deliver 2023 Conference. She served on the Core Group in the Generation Equality forum and was a part of the Generation Equality Youth Task Force.

Livia Firth

MBE, Co-Founder and Creative Director, Eco-Age

Livia Firth, MBE is Co-founder and Creative Director of globally renowned Eco-Age, the only integrated strategy consultancy creating systemic solutions in line with science, in harmony with nature and in solidarity with human rights. As such, Livia and Eco-Age have been operating for the last 14 years on a spectrum of strategic support, from climate action and business agility to industry advocacy and creative activations. Livia is also the founder of The Green Carpet Challenge (GCC), The Renaissance Awards and The Green Carpet Fashion Awards, the Los Angeles ceremony uniting the fashion and entertainment industries to celebrate interconnected change and positive transformation. Livia is a founding member of Annie Lennox's The Circle NGO, a powerful women's advocacy group, that recently presented the first legislation in history for a living wage in the fashion industry to the EU Commission. Livia is a UN

Leader of Change and has also been recognised with the UN Fashion 4 Development Award and the Rainforest Alliance Award for Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability. Livia also covers the role of Sustainability Editor at Large of Vogue Arabia and is part of the CNBC ESG Council, a roundtable for discussion and collaboration among chief executives from some of the world's most prominent companies, as well as global thought leaders, to discuss the challenges posed by sustainability—and the strategies needed to surmount them.

Taqbir Huda

Columnist, The Daily Star (Bangladesh), Founding Member, Rape Law Reform Coalition (Bangladesh)

Taqbir Huda is a Bangladeshi legal researcher and human rights defender. He has served in research and advocacy roles at BRAC, the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST), the Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA) and the Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR). Huda has also served as a consultant on a range of human rights issues for the ILO, Equality Now, Human Rights Forum Bangladesh, Ipas, Dnet, and BRAC University, and as a law lecturer for the University of London's International LLB programme in Dhaka. He is a founding member of the Rape Law Reform Coalition (RLRC), a collective of 17 leading human rights organisations campaigning for legal and institutional reform to end legal impunity for sexual violence in Bangladesh. Through BLAST and RLRC, he helped draft over ten public interest litigation cases on violations of fundamental rights before the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, including the petitions challenging the legality of marital rape and admissibility of character evidence against rape complainants (which led to the amendment of Bangladesh's Evidence Act 1872 in 2022). Huda graduated top of his class in law from SOAS, University of London, and then obtained an MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Oxford, with distinction. His research on human rights has been published as journal articles in the Australian Journal of Asian Law, Bangladesh Journal of Law, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters journal and SOAS Law Journal; as book chapters in edited volumes by Routledge and Hart Publishing; and as reports by BLAST, UN Women, Save the Children and Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh. He uses his column with The Daily Star (the largest English newspaper in Bangladesh) titled 'Justice in Practice' to push for social justice and reform.

Eugenia López Uribe

Regional Director, Americas and the Caribbean, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

Eugenia López Uribe is an experienced feminist queer advocate for sexual and reproductive justice, promoting innovation in the delivery of health services from a human rights perspective. She began her professional career as a young activist co-funding the first youth abortion coalition in Mexico. She was part of the team that created the youth friendly services model for rural and indigenous communities in the Mexican Government (IMSS Oportunidades). For more than a decade she was the Executive Director of Balance, a sexual

and reproductive rights organization working on regional advocacy in favour of sexual rights, where she co-founded the Abortion Fund for Social Justice: MARIA, the first initiative of its kind in Latin America and the Central American Coalition for Reproductive Rights of Women living with HIV. Eugenia was part of the first public same sex marriages in Mexico. She worked on Business and Human Rights, with Girls Not Brides and as a civil society leader for the Generation Equality Forum. She is the regional director for IPPF in the Americas and the Caribbean.

Susana Malcorra

Co-founder and President, GWL Voices for Change and Inclusion

Ms. Susana Malcorra is President and cofounder of GWL Voices for Change and Inclusion. She was the Dean of IE School of Global and Public Affairs in Spain. Ms. Malcorra served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, from December 2015 to June 2017. From April 2012 to December 2015, she was the Chef de Cabinet (Chief of Staff) of the Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon. Previously, she led the Department of Field Support (DFS) for Peace Missions, based in New York, as Under-Secretary General of the United Nations. In 2004, she joined the World Food Programme (WFP) in Rome, as an Assistant Secretary General and Chief Operating Officer (COO). Before starting in the United Nations, she had almost twenty-five years in the private sector. From January 1993 she worked in Telecom Argentina, retiring in 2002 as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). She started her professional development in IBM Argentina.

Safwan Masri

Dean, Georgetown University in Qatar

Safwan Masri is a global academic leader and scholar on the Middle East and North Africa. He is currently Dean of Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q) and Distinguished Professor of the Practice at Georgetown's School of Foreign Service. Previously, Masri was a professor at Columbia University, where he served as the executive vice president for Global Centres and Global Development. At Columbia, he also created programmes that focussed on critical international issues such as forced migration and the refugee crisis. In 2020, he established the Columbia University Scholarship for Displaced Students to provide full financial support for refugees and asylum seekers admitted to the university's schools or affiliates. Masri is a lifetime member of the Council for Foreign Relations and an honorary fellow of Foreign Policy Association. He is the author of *Tunisia: An Arab Anomaly* (Columbia University Press, 2017).

Ndioro Ndiaye

Co-founder and President, Alliance for Migration, Leadership and Development, Coordinator, Réseau Francophone pour l'Égalité Femme-Homme (RF-EFH)

Dr. Ndioro Ndiaye is a medical doctor and lecturer and was one of the first African women to gain an agrégation of CAMES, specializing in odontology and stomatology. She was the first woman to head the department of odontology and stomatology at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar. From 1982 to 1988 she was a Technical Adviser to Senegal's Ministry of Public Health.

In 1988 she was appointed Minister for Social Development in Senegal. During the 1989 Mauritania–Senegal Border War, she conducted humanitarian activities on behalf of the Senegal government, helping displaced people from both Senegal and Mauritania. From 1990 to 1995 Dr. Ndiaye was Minister for Women, Children’s and Family Affairs in Senegal. She wrote Senegal’s first national plan on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, and introduced this in the curricula of high schools and universities in Dakar. From 1995 to 1999 Dr. Ndiaye resumed work at Cheikh Anta Diop University, but was increasingly active in international activities, including the United Nations Decade for Women world summits on women in 1990 and 1995. She also chaired and led the African preparatory conferences of Cairo (CIPD) and Beijing in 1994 in DAKAR. She helped found the Scientific Commission for Women and Development and the Network of African Women Leaders for Peace and Development, among several other women’s networks. In 1999 Dr. Ndiaye was elected Deputy Director-General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), winning a second term in 2004 before retiring from the IOM in 2009. She subsequently founded the Dakar-based Alliance for Migration, Leadership and Development, and remains its president. Her organization is also a founding member of the Francophone Network for Gender Equality (Réseau Francophone pour l’Égalité Femme-Homme).

Eddie Ndopu

SDG Advocate, Disability Rights Activist and youth leader

Edward (Eddie) Ndopu is an award-winning, internationally acclaimed activist. Diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy at age two and originally given only five years to live, he has gone on to become a disability rights activist and youth leader, as well as an SDG Advocate. He also serves as Special Advisor to RTW Investments, a leading investor in scientific and medical innovation and has previously advised organizations such as the World Economic Forum, UN Women and Amnesty International. He holds a master’s in public policy from Oxford University and is currently setting in motion plans to deliver a televised address to the UN from Space, in an effort to inspire greater ambition around the SDGs.

Hibaaq Osman

Founder and Chairperson, ThinkTank for Arab Women, the Dignity Fund, Karama, and the Centre for the Strategic Initiatives of Women

Hibaaq Osman, a distinguished Somali activist, adeptly merges political strategy with unwavering advocacy for women’s and human rights. Guiding Karama since 2005, she champions gender equality, peace, and democracy across Africa and the Arab world. Her commitment to policy reshaping amplifies grassroots voices, nurturing inclusive communities. As a transformative catalyst, Hibaaq Osman’s visionary leadership resonates globally, igniting coalitions, shaping agendas, and advancing gender justice. She has also been instrumental in launching coalitions such as the Libyan Women’s Platform for Peace, the Syrian Women’s Forum for Peace, the Arab Regional Network for Women, Peace and Security, and the Arab Regional Network for Women Judges. Her work has garnered international recognition, and she

regularly contributes to international press. As Karama's founder, she focuses on ending violence against women and fostering peace and democracy across Africa and the Arab world. Guiding grassroots women activists adeptly, they shape policies through their voices, becoming agents of peace and equality. Her strategic acumen shines through recognition as one of the 500 Most Influential Muslims, underscoring impactful advocacy. A pivotal force in conflict resolution, she provides women a platform in negotiations, adeptly navigating Arab revolutions for growth opportunities. Collaborations with Karama, especially through the Generation Equality Forum, yield substantial gender equality commitments. Initiatives like the Yemen CEDAW report and the Wa'ed Network for adolescent girls underscore dedication to global change. Hibaaq Osman's biography epitomizes tireless dedication to empowering women, advocating for rights, and fostering inclusive peace across Africa and the Arab world. Her legacy reflects unwavering commitment and transformative impact.

Sharon Bhagwan Rolls

Women, Peace and Security activist and community media leader

Sharon Bhagwan Rolls is a second-generation Fiji Island feminist working on the intersection of gender, media, communications, and peace. She is the Pacific Regional Representative of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) and Programme Manager of the Pacific Women Mediators Network. As the Technical Adviser to the Pacific Island Feminist Alliance for Climate Justice (PIFA4CJ) and the Shifting the Power Coalition POWER System as well as World Pulse Global Voice Council she supports the women-led innovative media and communications action particularly in response to the climate crisis. Sharon is a local member of the YWCA of Fiji, a member of the Women's Resilience to Disasters Board and the Generation Equality Multistakeholder Leadership Group.

Joanne Sandler

Independent consultant and Senior Associate, Gender at Work

Joanne Sandler has been working to strengthen women's rights, gender justice and organizational change strategies in the USA and transnationally for nearly 40 years. She is a Senior Associate of Gender at Work—a global network of consultants who support organizations to build cultures of equality—and co-hosts its regular podcast. Between 2001 and 2010, she was Deputy Executive Director for the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). She was on the transition team for the creation of UN Women, and then served on its first Global Civil Society Advisory Group. She has served on numerous boards of transnational feminist organizations including as Board co-chair for Just Associates/JASS (2014 to 2022) and on the Board of Breakthrough (2010 to 2019). Joanne has authored numerous books and articles on feminist organizing strategies and women's rights, including *Strategies of Feminist Bureaucrats: UN Experiences*. Joanne is currently a member of a new organization, Diplomats Without Borders, a group of former diplomats who provide independent and impartial advice on conflict resolution and stimulate a global dialogue on pressing international challenges.

Hajer Sharief

Co-founder, Together We Build It (Libya)

Hajer Sharief is a peace and human rights activist. She is the co-founder of the Together We Build It (TWBI) organization in Libya. In 2011 and at the age of 19, she co-founded TWBI to build peace in Libya and promote human rights. She is one of UN Women's 12 Champions on Women, Peace and Security, and Human Rights, and a member of the Extremely Together young leaders initiative, begun by the Kofi Annan Foundation. In 2020, Forbes named her as one of "Africa's 50 Most Powerful Women", and she was listed by Advance Media among their "100 Most Influential African Women" for 2020. A winner of the Student Peace Prize in 2017, she was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019.

Melanne Verveer

Executive Director, Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security, Georgetown University

Melanne Verveer is the Executive Director of the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security. She previously served as the first U.S. Ambassador for Global Women's Issues, a position to which she was nominated by President Obama in 2009. She coordinated foreign policy issues and activities relating to the political, economic, and social advancement of women, traveling to nearly sixty countries. She worked to ensure that women's participation and rights are fully integrated into U.S. foreign policy, and she played a leadership role in the Administration's development of the U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. President Obama also appointed her to serve as the U.S. Representative to the UN Commission on the Status of Women.