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# Third Regional Forum: Ending Violence Against Women in the Western Balkans and Turkey

“Integrated Policies, Inclusive Partnerships”

Online, 1-2 December 2021

**Speaker Bios**

# 1 DECEMBER

## Master of Ceremony



### Afşin Yurdakul

News anchor and journalist

Habertürk News Network

Afşin Yurdakul is a journalist and news anchor with over 15 years of experience. Currently a news anchor with Habertürk News Network, she has worked with a number of leading news outlets, including Newsweek, MSNBC, Al Jazeera, The New York Times, Foreign Policy and others. Ms. Yurdakul has previously moderated various panel discussions, including for UN Women, UNFPA, World Economic Forum, TRT, Harvard University and UNHCR. She holds a master's degree in broadcast journalism from Columbia University and, in 2018, received a fellowship to study at the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University.

## Welcome remarks



### HE Mr. Miloš Lučić

Minister of Human Rights and Refugees

Bosnia and Herzegovina

H.E. Milos Lucic is the Minister for Human Rights and Refugees Bosnia and Herzegovina. He holds a degree in business studies and has worked in the finance sector, with substantive experience in financial management, cooperation with the anti-money laundering department, work with the Central Bank of BiH, human resources management, client communication and management, market analysis, monitoring and implementation of regulation within finance sector, etc. As an active politician, he is a fellow of various programs and academies for political leaders. He has been an activist in student associations, member of the Red Cross society and a regular blood donor, who readily participates in humanitarian and aid activities.



### Michela Matuella

Acting Director Western Balkans, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood

and Enlargement Negotiations, European Commission

Michela Matuella is Head of the Albania, North Macedonia Unit in the Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement negotiations of the European Commission since 2014 and Acting Director for the Western Balkans as of April 2021. She was previously member of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy (2012-2014), after having worked on the EU accession negotiations with Croatia (2009-2012) and Romania (2003-2005), as well on the negotiations for the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina (2005-2006). She has been chargé d'affaires of the EU Delegation in Eritrea, after several years of work in sub-Saharan Africa (Kenya, Lesotho, Somalia). She holds a degree in Political Economy and an MSc in Development studies.



### Alia El-Yassir

Regional Director

UN Women Europe and Central Asia Regional Office

Ms. Alia El-Yassir has been working with UN Women since 2011. Prior to assuming her role as Regional Director, she worked with UN Women as Deputy Regional Director and as Representative at country level. In these roles, she has supported normative processes and UN coordination efforts, as well as complex programmes and projects for tackling gender equality and women's empowerment. Before taking on these roles within UN Women, she worked with UNIFEM and UNDP. She also has experience in the science education field. Alia is a strong believer in volunteerism and has supported a number of women and human rights NGOs in a volunteer capacity. She holds a BSc degree in Biology from McGill University and an MSc degree in Desert Studies from Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

## Welcome remarks



### Željko Komšić

Chairman of the Presidency

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Željko Komšić is the current Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He was born in Sarajevo and started his professional career at the Republic Pension and Disability Fund of Bosnia and Herzegovina. After the war, he actively joined the political life of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the period from 1996 to 1998, Mr. Komšić worked at the Federal Ministry for Displaced Persons and Refugees, and in the period from 1998 to 2000, he served as the President of the City Council of the City of Sarajevo. In the October 2010 General Election, he was re-elected as the Croat member of the Presidency of BiH and was in office until 2014. He is the Founder and has been the President of the Democratic Front party since 2013. He was elected representative in the House of Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH in the October 2014 General Election to a four-year term. In October 2018, Željko Komšić was elected for the third time as the Croat member of the Presidency of BiH.

## Keynote Speaker



### Iris Luarasi

President, Group of Experts on Action against Violence against

Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)

Iris Luarasi, PhD, is the President of GREVIO at the Council of Europe. For 20 years, she has led the Counselling Line for Women and Girls (the national helpline for victims of DV and VAW) and leads the first male centre in Albania, Counselling Line for Men and Boys. She is a member of GREVIO Working Group on a General Recommendation on the digital dimension of violence against women at CoE. Mrs. Luarasi is a professor in the Department of Journalism and Communications at the University of Tirana, where she has taught for almost 25 years. She also trains Albanian journalists in human rights, journalism ethics, fake news, hate speech and sexism. Her research and publication activities include leading a study on domestic violence and sex crimes, a guide for reporters on gender-based violence and sexual assault and authoring two books on radio journalism and media in Albania. Mrs. Luarasi has a PhD in Journalism and Communication. She got her Master in European Studies and was a Golden Medal student during her bachelor studies.

## Plenary Session 1 Presenter

Leveraging data to prevent and respond to cases of femicide



### Dubravka Šimonović

Former United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women,

its causes and consequences

Dr. Dubravka Šimonović was the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences from June 2015 to July 2021, appointed by the UN Human Rights Council. She initiated a femicide watch as a tool for the prevention of femicide and initiated the establishment of the EDVAW Platform, composed of 7 expert human rights mechanisms on the elimination of discrimination and violence against women. Dr. Šimonović was also a member of the UN CEDAW Committee between 2003 and 2014 and served as its chairperson in 2007 and 2008. At the regional level she was the chair of the Council of Europe's Task Force to combat violence against women and co-chair of the Council of Europe's intergovernmental committee that drafted the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence - The Istanbul Convention. Ms. Šimonović holds a PhD in family law from the University of Zagreb. She is the author of several books and articles on women's rights and violence against women. She has also lectured at different universities and was a Visiting Professor in Practice in the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at LSE for 2016-2018.

## Plenary Session 2 Presenter

Preventing and responding to sexual violence against women and girls



### Stephanie Futter-Orel

Executive Manager

WAVE Network

Stephanie is passionate about fighting violence against women and she has over twelve years' experience of working in this field. Austrian by birth, she has lived in London for nine years and worked for over seven years in women's specialist organisations dedicated to fighting violence against women, in frontline roles as well as Senior Management. She holds a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Vienna, as well as a Master's degree in Development Management from the London School of Economics. She has also volunteered for several community projects dedicated to empowering women and young people around the world e.g. in Brazil, India, Bolivia, Portugal, etc. Stephanie has been the Executive Manager of the WAVE Network since June 2017. For the past 20 years the WAVE Network, consisting of 160 members in 46 European countries, has been working to promote and strengthen the human rights of women and children in general, and to prevent violence against women and children in particular.

## Booth 1: Leveraging data to prevent and respond to cases of femicide

Facilitator



### Raphaëlle Rafin

Programme Specialist

Violence against Women Data, UN Women

Raphaëlle Rafin is the Programme Specialist on violence against women data and research in the UN Women Ending Violence against Women section in New York. In this role, she implements a joint programme with the World Health Organization that aims to strengthen methodologies and measurement and to build national capacities for violence against women data, to ensure the availability of quality and comparable data on different forms of violence against women. Prior to that, Raphaëlle worked for the UN Women multi-country office for the Maghreb as the EVAW coordinator, as a justice and human rights officer for the French Embassy in Morocco and as a legal researcher on public international law and international human rights law cases before the United Nations Human Rights Council, the International Criminal Court and the European Court of Human Rights. Raphaëlle holds an LL.M in Public International Law from the University of Leiden and a master's degree in International Relations from Sciences-po Lille.

## Booth 1

Case study presenters



### Samra Filipović Hadžabić

Director of Agency for Gender Equality

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Samra Filipović-Hadžabić has long been at the forefront of women's rights and gender equality in her Bosnia and Herzegovina. Currently director of the Agency for Gender Equality of Bosnia and Herzegovina, she also established and initiated the establishment of other institutional mechanisms for gender equality in Bosnia and Herzegovina including the Gender Center of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Gender Center of the Republika Srpska.

## Booth 1

Case study presenters



### Ana Vuković

Director

Gender Center of the Government of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ana Vuković is the director of the Gender Center of the Government of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH). She graduated from the Law Faculty of Sarajevo University, and her professional career has been mainly in public administration and government. She was the Secretary of the Sarajevo City Council, then Assistant Minister to the Federal Minister of Justice. Since 2005 she has been the director of the FBiH Gender Center. In 2011, by the decision of the Government of Federation BiH she was nominated as the most successful civil servant in management out of 25 directors of public institutions in the Federation BiH. Ms. Vuković is a member of the Coordination body for the implementation of UNSCR 1325, member of the Steering Board of the Program on Financial mechanism for the Implementation of the Gender Action Plan in Bosnia and Herzegovina and a member of the Steering Board for the implementation of the Gender Action Plan in BiH.



### Kosana Beker

Programme Director

Femplatz, Serbia

Kosana Beker is Program Director of FemPlatz, a women's rights organization in Serbia. She holds a PhD from the Center for Gender Studies of the Association of Centers for Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Studies and Research at the University of Novi Sad. Ms. Beker completed her master's degree in gender studies at the UN mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica and received her bachelor's degree at the Law Faculty at the University of Belgrade. Her fields of interest are human rights and antidiscrimination, and her specialties are gender equality and women's rights, especially women subjected to multiple discrimination. She is the author of numerous working papers, publications and research in the field of anti-discriminatory law, gender equality and human rights of marginalized groups.



### Cristina Fabr 

Gender-based Violence Team Leader

European Institute for Gender Equality

Cristina Fabr  Rosell works as Gender-based Violence Team Leader at the European Institute for Gender Equality. She is Project Manager of the studies related to administrative data collection on specific forms of gender-based violence and advancing the conceptual and the measurement framework of femicide. Cristina was Head of Unit of the Observatory against Domestic and Gender-based Violence, and member of the Equal Rights Commission of the Spanish General Council for the Judiciary (2003-2018). As a gender consultant, she has contributed to projects establishing a Gender-based Violence Measurement Framework in Central America and on Strengthening the Victims' Rights in Criminal Justice System in Turkey (led by FIIAPP). Cristina holds a bachelor's degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology and in Educational Sciences and a post-graduate specialization in Applied Social Research and Data Analysis by the Spanish Sociological Research Center (CIS).

## Booth 1

Case study presenters



### Nita Shala

Deputy Minister, Minister of Justice, Kosovo\*

National Coordinator against Domestic Violence

Dr. Nita Shala is Deputy Minister of Justice of Kosovo and National Coordinator against Domestic Violence. She is an academic affiliated to the Faculty of Law, University of Prishtina, teaching criminal law and international criminal law. Her previous professional experience includes advising the Albanian Ambassador at the United Nations Office in Geneva and the Albanian Minister of Interior and advising the Italian Ministry of Interior on the establishment of the new justice institutions out of the latest legal reform in Albania. Nita is Founding Curator of the Global Shapers Community in Tirana, an initiative of the World Economic Forum and Founding Member of the Global Dignity Community in Albania and Kosovo. Nita Shala holds a PhD in international law from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva and she is an alumna of St Hildas College, University of Oxford and Harvard Kennedy School.

## Booth 1

Rapporteur



### Aurela Anastasi

Professor of Constitutional Law, Faculty of Law, University of Tirana

Defense Attorney, Center for Legal Civic Initiatives, Albania

Aurela Anastasi has been a Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Tirana since 1987. She is also a defense attorney specialized in women's rights and a member of Academy of Sciences of Albania. She is the author of several monographs, textbooks, scientific articles, human rights reports, papers and speeches for national and international activities. She has been involved in research projects, studies and working groups for drafting legal acts, such as the constitutional reform of the justice system in Albania, the agreements between the Council of Ministers and the religious communities in Albania, and the reform for academic research institutions, as well as legal acts related to gender equality, domestic violence, and protection from discrimination.

## Booth 2: Preventing and responding to sexual violence against women and girls

Facilitator



### Aleksandra Petrić

Executive Director, United Women Banja Luka

Bosnia and Herzegovina/Civil Society Strengthening Platform

Aleksandra Petrić is a women's human rights activist with 25 years of experience in engaging grassroots CSOs on programmes on human rights protection, gender equality, combating violence against women, and youth empowerment. She has worked as a researcher, analyst, and advisor for CSOs, international aid agencies, and governmental institutions in the Western Balkan region. Aleksandra regularly contributes to alternative reporting on the implementation of CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention in Bosnia and Herzegovina, focusing on the issue of violence against women. She contributed as a columnist on issues affecting women for the online news portal in BiH Radio Sarajevo. Aleksandra holds a master's degree in International Human Rights from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver, USA, and has been with the Foundation United Women Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina since 2003, currently serving as the Executive Director.

\* For the European Union, this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence. For UN Women, references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).



## Booth 2

### Case study presenters



## Majda Halilović

Head of Research and Policy

Atlantic Initiative, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Dr. Majda Halilović is the Head of Research and Policy for the Atlantic Initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She holds a master's degree from Cambridge University and a doctorate in sociology and social policy from the Open University in the United Kingdom. She is also a family systems psychotherapist. Her multidisciplinary research has been focused on topics including gender-based violence, far-right and religious radicalization and extremism, and the rights of minorities. Her most recent works are: The Nexus between Human Security and Preventing/Countering Violent Extremism: Case Studies from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Niger and Tunisia; The Soufan Center (contributor); "What is the Gender of Security?" (book chapter on wartime rape); Mapping online extremism in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Atlantic Initiative (lead author); Survivors Speak: Reflections on Criminal Justice System Responses to Domestic Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Atlantic Initiative.



## Merita Xhafaj

General Director, General Directorate of Policies and Development of Health and

Social Protection, Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Albania

Ms. Xhafaj has over 25 years of experience in high-level policy making positions in the public administration sector and the private sector. She has an extensive skillset due to her different qualifications and direct involvement in policy making processes throughout USA and EU programs. With a bachelor's degree in Finance from Tirana University, Ms. Xhafaj also holds a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Tirana in collaboration with the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, USA. Since her appointment to her current position at the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, her responsibilities include the fields of gender equality, women's empowerment and gender responsive budgeting, violence against women and families, Roma and Egyptian integration, child protection, social protection, and economic aid. She has led the preparation of different reports and strategic documents for Albania, such as Beijing +25 and CEDAW Report. Ms. Xhafaj has been instrumental in the preparation of various key national strategies, such as the National Strategy on Gender Equality 2016-2020 and action plan, the LGBTI National Action Plan 2016-2020, and the National Action Plan on Youth 2015- 2020.



## Ejnxh Pepa

Project Coordinator

Counselling Line for Women and Girls, Albania

Ejnxh Pepa is the Program Coordinator of the Counselling Line for Women and Girls in Albania (National Helpline for Victims of Abuse 116117), one of the pioneering women's rights organizations in the country, dealing with issues of domestic, gender-based and sexual violence. She is also a lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Tirana. Ms. Pepa has a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Sussex, United Kingdom, and a master's degree in Health Economics, Policy and Law from Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Netherlands. She is an expert in women's rights and healthcare, and her efforts lie in developing and implementing projects aimed at addressing gender-based violence in Albania, including working with women, youth, relevant institutions, as well as advocacy campaigns.

## Booth 2

Case study presenters



### Clíona Saidléar

Executive Director

Rape Crisis Network Ireland

Clíona Saidléar, PhD, is a sexual violence activist, researcher, communicator and thought leader. She has almost 20 years' specialization in sexual violence, building experience in service development, policy formation, data and knowledge generation and interagency work to develop innovative analysis and build strategic infrastructure towards combating sexual violence. She is CEO of the national rape crisis policy body in Ireland (RCNI). She works across the CSO sector in Ireland and with partners in Europe as well as across government including being appointed to a range of sexual violence committees and groups. She is experienced in international collaborations towards building common understandings, measures, definitions and shared solutions across different jurisdictions and cultures. She has most recently been a consultant on the WAVE/UN Women Istanbul Convention project in Turkey and the Western Balkans.



### Lepa Mladenović

Feminist counsellor and activist

Serbia

Lepa Mladenović is a lesbian feminist activist, anti-war activist and feminist counsellor for women with trauma of sexual violence, racism, lesbophobia in Belgrade, Serbia. She is the co-founder of several feminist groups and networks in the region, including Autonomous Women's Center Against Sexual Violence, established in 1993, where she worked as a Coordinator of the Counselling Team. She facilitates training for volunteers of women's centers against violence in countries of the post-Yugoslav region.

## Booth 2

Rapporteur



### Nermina Fakovic

Head of Department for Preventive Health Care, Coordinator for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men

Ministry of Health, Republic of North Macedonia

Ms. Fakovic studied gender equality and continues to passionately work in the field. She is actively engaged in combating violence against women and gender-based violence through the design and implementation of policies, strategies, and action plans. She is currently pursuing postgraduate studies in public health related to SGBV response at national level. Ms. Fakovic is a Coordinator for Equal Opportunities in the Ministry of Health and member of the Inter-sectorial Gender Group, a national body responsible for mainstreaming gender into public policies and monitoring the harmonization of national legislation with EU standards and legislation on gender. She also manages the National Preventive Programme for Mother and Child Health. Ms. Fakovic was involved in the development and implementation of the first-ever National Sexual and Reproductive Health Action Plan 2018-2020. She is a certified trainer for GBV, clinical management of victims of rape, and child protection against abuse and neglect.



# 2 DECEMBER

## Opening Remarks



### Ingrid Macdonald

UN Resident Coordinator

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ms. Ingrid Macdonald (Australia) assumed the position of the UN Resident Coordinator in Bosnia and Herzegovina in April 2020. Ms. Macdonald most recently worked at the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) as Deputy Director for Operations and Advocacy overseeing the Asia Pacific region. At OCHA, she was also head of the Ukraine office and a Director with the Peer-2-Peer Support Project supporting Humanitarian Coordinators and country teams strengthen their collective delivery of humanitarian response. Prior to joining the United Nations, she served in leadership positions with international non-profits, the private sector and government for 19 years. She worked for the Norwegian Refugee Council as Representative in Geneva and held positions in Afghanistan, Norway and Pakistan. She also worked with Oxfam in Australia, Sudan and throughout the Asia Pacific region; served as Deputy Director with the New Zealand Defence Force; and worked as a management consultant in Australia.



### Alperen Narmanlı

UN Women National Youth Activist

Turkey

Alperen Narmanlı was born in 1999 in Turkey. In 2017, he began attending Hacettepe University, where he studies English Language and Literature as a major programme and Sociology as a minor programme. His gender activism started in 2019, and now he collaborates with UN Women as a National Gender Youth Activist.

## Plenary session 4 Presenter

Advancing work with perpetrators to protect women and children



### Alessandra Pauncz

Executive Director

European Network for the Work With Perpetrators

Alessandra Pauncz is Executive Director of European Network for the Work With Perpetrators (WWP EN). She has been working in the field of domestic violence for 20 years and has covered many areas of expertise. She advocated and worked for victims of domestic violence as a shelter worker, psychologist, researcher, manager, trainer, and in fund and conscious raising at a local, provincial, regional, national and European level. She founded and ran the first perpetrator programme in Italy (CAM – Centre for abusive men) and set up the national Italian network for perpetrator work (Relive). Additionally, Alessandra has published articles and books for the general public (Shifting power: Romano, 2012; Da uomo a uomo: Erickson, 2015; Dire di no alla violenza domestica: Angeli, 2016).

## Plenary Session 5 Presenter

Positive social norms to end violence against women



### Emanuele Ciriolo

Head of the Competence Centre on Behavioural Insights

Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Since joining the European Commission in 2007, Emanuele Ciriolo has been applying behavioural insights to policymaking as a complement to other traditional approaches. His work has resulted in several Commission services using behavioural evidence in concrete policy initiatives, such as the ban of pre-checked boxes for ancillary services in online contracts, the adoption of energy labelling for electrical appliances, and the EC Recommendation on Online Gambling. He also supported DG JUST in work related to gender stereotypes, gender discrimination and gender violence. He holds a BA in Economics and an MSc in Economics and Statistics (ECARES, Brussels).

## Booth 3: Advancing work with perpetrators to protect women and children

Facilitator



### Roberto Olla

Head of the Human Dignity and Gender Equality Department

Council of Europe

Roberto Olla was recently appointed as Head of the Human Dignity and Gender Equality Department of the Council of Europe. Previously, Mr. Olla spent 13 years as Executive Director of Eurimages, the Council of Europe fund for cooperation in the audiovisual sector. Prior to that, he was a researcher in media law at the European University Institute of Florence, worked for the MEDIA Programme of the European Union and was a legal adviser on audiovisual matters to the European Commission in Brussels. He holds a law degree in public law and a Ph.D in European media law.

## Booth 3

Case study presenters



### Sandra Jovanović Belotić

Training and Capacity Building Manager

European Network for the Work with Perpetrators

Sandra is Training and Capacity Building Manager in European Network for the Work with Perpetrators (WWP EN). She is a psychologist with more than ten years of experience in the field of domestic violence. She has provided psychological support for women and children exposed to violence, run the first Serbian perpetrator group and founded the National Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Violence Serbia (OPNA). She has been working as an expert consultant in the field of perpetrator work, focusing on the standardization of perpetrator programmes, and their set-up in accordance with the provisions of the Istanbul Convention. Additionally, she is supporting capacity-building of professionals through training and supervision. Sandra is coordinating the project STOPP, that focuses on supporting the implementation of perpetrator programmes in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

## Booth 3

Case study presenters



### Berta Vall

Research and Development Manager

European Network for the Work With Perpetrators

Berta Vall Castelló has a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and has post-doctoral experience as a researcher on intimate partner violence topics. Currently she is the Research and Development Manager of European Network for the Work With Perpetrators (WWP EN) and is associate professor at Blanquerna University (Barcelona). She has extensive expertise in research and data analysis in addressing gender-based violence through perpetrator work, she is responsible for the implementation of the Impact toolkit for the evaluation of treatment. She has participated and coordinated several work packages in European Projects and has several scientific publications.



### Jovana Radifković

Advisor at Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare

Montenegro

Jovana Radifković is a senior advisor at the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare in Montenegro. She graduated from the Faculty of Law in Podgorica, majoring in civil law and is currently completing her master's studies at the University of Donja Gorica with a focus on gender studies. Jovana joined the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare in 2016, where she deals with the protection of women and children from domestic and gender-based violence. She also represents Montenegro in the Committee of the Parties of the Istanbul Convention and serves as the contact person of the GREVIO Committee of Council of Europe. Her main duties include following the implementation of the Istanbul Convention and ensuring the coordination, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of policies in line with the Istanbul Convention. Jovana is the co-author of the Protocol on the Treatment, Prevention and Protection against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

## Booth 3

Rapporteur



### Arta Mandro-Balili

Professor

Albanian School for Magistrates

Prof. Dr. Arta Mandro-Balili is currently a pedagogue in the Albanian School for Magistrates in Tirana, Albania. She is a lecturer in the initial training programme, which is a three-year programme dedicated to candidates for judges and prosecutors, as well as a trainer in the continuous training programme for judges and prosecutors on duty. She is an expert in family law, children's rights, mediation and conflict resolution in family matters, gender equality, non-discrimination and private international law. Prof. Mandro was one of the drafters of the Family Code of the Republic of Albania, the Code of Juvenile Justice, the Law on Measures against Domestic Violence in Family Relations, the Law on Gender Equality in Society, the Law on Social Housing, and others. She is the author and co-author of several university and postgraduate textbooks and articles and played an active role in some studies on women's rights and in preparing country reports and shadow/alternative reports on children's and women's rights. She is a civil society activist.

## Booth 4: Positive social norms to end violence against women

Facilitator



### Maja Atanasova

Project Manager

Macedonian Young Lawyers Association

Maja Atanasova is lawyer, experienced both as an attorney at law and as a free legal advice provider for the Macedonian Young Lawyers Association in Skopje. She has been working enthusiastically on women's rights as well as prevention and protection against gender-based and domestic violence. Her work includes legal counseling and referral to victims, tackling harmful stereotypes with high school students and their teachers and conducting trainings on gender-based and domestic violence, as well as gender aspects of trafficking in human beings.

## Booth 4

Case study presenters



### Kai Ruggeri

Assistant Professor, Columbia University, Mailman School of Public

Health, Department of Health Policy and Management

Dr. Kai Ruggeri is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Policy & Management at Columbia University School of Public Health in New York. He studies fundamental questions of population behavior and decision-making, with a focus on reducing inequalities and improving population well-being. His primary research centers on decision-making across diverse groups, implementing a technique known as 'positive deviance' to improve outcomes. Prior to Columbia, he established the Policy Research Group at the University of Cambridge. He also directs the Junior Researcher Programme, a global initiative for early career behavioral scientists that produces large, multi-country studies each year.



### Hasan Deniz

Director of Fatherhood Programme

Mother Child Education Foundation (AÇEV), Turkey

Since 2002, Hasan Deniz has been working within the Mother Child Education Foundation (AÇEV) to change and empower fathers in order to create a supportive environment that will ensure the best development of children. He continues to work for the dissemination of the involved fatherhood model, which includes fathers taking responsibility for their children's care and development, establishing mutual and close relationships with their children, and spending time with their children. In this context, he implements the Father Support Program, a training and support program for fathers, and has developed and conduct other involved fatherhood campaigns as well as worked to strengthen relevant father-parenting practices by the private sector, municipalities and other actors. In addition to his work in the field of fatherhood, he also carries out advocacy activities and campaigns for the transformation of men in achieving gender equality. Seeing the change in fatherhood attitudes as an important opportunity for the erosion of existing masculinity, Hasan Deniz also organizes different trainings and workshops for the egalitarian and non-violent transformation of masculinity.



### Shpresa Banja

President

Woman Forum Elbasan, Albania

Mrs. Shpresa Banja graduated from the University of Tirana. In 1999, she founded the Woman Forum Elbasan, an organization dedicated to protecting the rights of women and girls, with a particular focus on survivors of domestic violence, where she currently serves as president. Since then, she has written and coordinated a multitude of projects in the field of concrete services for survivors of violence, awareness raising and media campaigns on domestic violence and gender-based violence prevention and the environmental field. She has been recognized for her efforts to enhance the role of women and girls in the Albanian society by various national and international actors, such as the Embassy of the United States of America and the Embassy of Sweden in Albania.

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## Booth 4

Case study presenters



### Emina Osmanagić

Director

Institute for Population and Development, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Emina Osmanagić graduated from the Sarajevo Faculty of Pharmacy in 1991. In 2012, she received her master's degree in governance and non-governmental organizations from the Center for Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Studies at the University of Sarajevo. She was awarded the title of primarius from Federal Ministry of Health in 2014 and has been performing the function of SRHR Coordinator in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since 2001, she has held the position of Director of Institute for Population and Development, an accredited member of International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and acknowledged by government institutions and international organizations as a valuable partner in solving the most challenging health and social issues. Ms. Osmanagić has contributed to the development of many policy documents in the field of public health, as well as on advocacy and the development of gender sensitive strategies. Furthermore, she provides an expertise in the field of gender equality and promotes international positive practices in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



### Gordana Gavrilović

Advisor, Office of Deputy Prime Minister and President of

Coordination Body for Gender Equality, Serbia

Gordana Gavrilović has been working as a gender equality advisor of Serbian Deputy Prime Minister and President of Coordination Body for Gender Equality since 2015. In 2014, she worked as a project coordinator at the Podgorica office of Serbia's oldest cultural-scientific institution, Matica Srpska. In 2013, she was an associate at the Serbian Chamber of Commerce in Croatia. From 2008 to 2012, she worked at the Office of the President of Serbia as an expert associate of the Advisor to the President. She started her career in 2006 at the People's Office of the President of the Republic. As a participant of the Fellowship Programme for Young Government Officials from the Western Balkans, Gordana was an exchange civil servant of the Training for International Diplomats programme at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin in 2016, supporting the Global Diplomacy Lab. She is a graduate of the Faculty of Psychology, University of Belgrade, and of the Diplomatic Academy at Serbia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## Booth 4

Rapporteur



### Ehat Miftaraj

Executive Director

Kosovo Law Institute

Ehat Miftaraj is the Executive Director of the Kosovo Law Institute. Mr. Miftaraj completed Law School at Pristina University and received a Master of Laws in Intercultural Human Rights at Saint Thomas University School of Law in Miami, Florida. He has attended numerous professional training courses provided by various law enforcement agencies related to justice reform, criminal justice, human rights, organized crime, corruption, money laundering, etc. Between 2005 and 2011, he was Head/Director of the Ministry of Justice Legal Office Department and Director of the Department for International Legal Cooperation. From 2005 until 2020, Mr. Miftaraj was member of the working groups established by the MOJ in drafting rule of law sector legislation. From 2011 to 2015, Mr. Miftaraj worked as Director of the Unit for Evaluation of the Prosecution Performance at the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council. In 2015, he joined the civil sector in Kosovo.