

2021 WORLD CONGRESS ON JUSTICE WITH CHILDREN

www.justicewithchildren.org



"Ensuring access to justice for all children: towards non-discriminatory and inclusive child justice systems".

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

ABOUT:

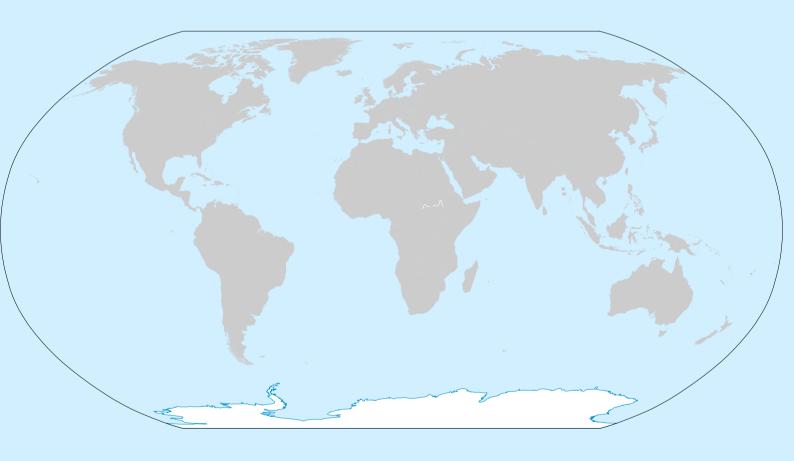
The scientific committee plays an important role in advising the decision making of potential conference participants for the World Congress on Justice With Children. Significantly, the World Congress aims to be an action oriented conference where experts and professionals of different capacities exchange ideas and best practices on justice for and with children. The Scientific Committee will hereby give advice on regional and global strategies for training, research, advocacy and capacity building.

Members of the Scientific Committee are further invited to discuss proposals for plenary topics, symposia, workshop and roundtable discussions; suggest appropriate speakers, moderators and round table leaders for the different sessions; advice the organizing committee on the development of a program that reflects multidisciplinary content and discussions; support the Chair of the Scientific Committee with any tasks and/or decisions as requested; and propose good practices for the World Congress on Justice with Children.

The Scientific Committee is chaired by Luis Pedernera, the immediate former President of the Committee of the Rights of the Child and has representatives with diverse professional backgrounds representing each continent.



PRESIDENCY









LUIS PEDERNERA

URUGUAY

Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (2017/2021- 2021/2025)

Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (2019/2021).

Chair of the Meeting of Chairpersons of Human Rights Treaty Bodies (2020/2021). Member of the Board of Directors of the International Bureau for Children's Rights, Canada.

Member of the Academic Committee of the Certificate of Advanced Studies in Juvenile Justice of the University of Geneva and the Institut de droit de la Enfant, Switzerland.

Member of the Governing Board of the African Child Policy Forum.

Member of the Executive Committee of the International Human Rights Network,

Geneva, Switzerland.

Member of the Assembly of the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) Geneva, Switzerland.

He has extensive experience in monitoring adolescent criminal justice systems, has visited and coordinated teams for the inspection of detention centres for children in Uruguay and other countries, working specifically in the fight against torture.

Consultant on children's rights issues for various public and private entities, United Nations agencies and National Human Rights Institutions; Invited to teach classes on children's rights at various universities.

Founder in 2011 of the National Commission Against the Lowering of the Age of Imputability in Uruguay.

NORTH AMERICA









DIANE GERAGHTY

USA

A. Kathleen Beazley Chair in Children's Law
Professor of Law and Director, Civitas ChildLaw Center Co-director of the Center for
Criminal Justice Research, Policy and Practice - Loyola University Chicago - USA.

A member of the Loyola faculty since 1977, Professor Geraghty developed and directed Loyola's nationally recognized CivitasChildLaw Center. Her teaching, scholarship, and service focus primarily on all aspects of the law as it affects children and families. For nearly a decade she served as the director of the Illinois Models for Change initiative, which is a national initiative to promote a more fair and effective response to young people in conflict with the law. Currently she co-chairs Loyola's new interdisciplinary Center on Criminal Justice Research, Policy and Practice. Professor Geraghty has served as a consultant on legal education and children's rights in Africa and Asia and is the recipient of many awards for her contributions to children's law, including the American Bar Association Livingston Hall Award, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Award, and the Women of Concern Leadership Award. From 2004 - 2005 she served as Interim Dean of the School of Law. In 2009 she received Loyola University Chicago's Faculty Member of the Year award.





MARSHA LEVICK

USA

Marsha Levick is the co-founder and Chief Legal Officer of Juvenile Law Center,
America's first public interest law firm for children. Throughout her career, Levick has
advocated for youth involved in the justice and child welfare systems, and currently
manages Juvenile Law Center's national litigation docket.

Levick has participated in numerous landmark cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, including Roper v. Simmons, Graham v. Florida, Miller v. Alabama, and Montgomery v. Louisiana, all cases striking extreme adult sentences for youth in the criminal justice system, and J.D.B. v North Carolina, requiring consideration of a suspect's youth during police interrogations. Levick also led the Juvenile Law Center's work in Luzerne County, Pa. "Kids for Cash" judges' scandal, resulting in the vacatur and expungement of nearly 2500 juvenile adjudications and substantial financial awards to the youth and their parents.

Levick serves on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Center for Children's Rights and is a member of the Dean's Council of the Indiana University O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs and the Board of Visitors of Temple University Beasley School of Law. Levick has received numerous awards for her work, including the Philadelphia Award (2015), the Arlen Specter Award (Inaugural Winner 2013) and the Philadelphia Inquirer Citizen of the Year Award (2009 - co-winner), as well as recognition for her work from the American Bar Association, American Association for Justice, the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Philadelphia Bar Association, among others. Levick is an adjunct professor at Temple University Beasley School of Law and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.





HERNÁN CARVENTE MARTINEZ

USA-MEXICO

Hernán is the Founder & CEO of Healing Ninjas,Inc. a health and wellness company using tech to build and deepen community between people on their respective healing journeys. He is a Chicano social entrepreneur, community organizer, and leader in the fight to end youth incarceration.

He is also currently the National Youth Partnership Strategist at the Youth First Initiative, a national campaign focused on closing youth prisons and reinvesting that money into community alternatives. Mr. Martinez is also an advisor to the Credible Messenger Justice Center, serves on the board of Community Connection for Youth, and is a member of several philanthropic funds that support the leadership of directly impacted communities.

Previously, he worked as a Program Analyst at the Vera Institute of Justice, where he worked to ensure that youth and families were included in state-wide policy reform efforts around the country. He was awarded the "Spirit of Youth Award" by the Coalition for Juvenile Justice and the "Next Generation Champion for Change" award by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. He has a B.S. from John Jay College.

CENTRAL AMERICA









CARLOS TIEFFER

COSTA RICA

Prof. Dr. Carlos Tiffer, ILANUD and University of Costa Rica. He obtained his law degree from the University of Costa Rica in 1983, his thesis was approved with distinction. In 1990, he obtained an LL.M. at the Albert-Ludwings-Universität, in Freiburg, Germany. Subsequently, he obtained his PhD in law from the Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität in Greifswald, Germany, with the qualification of magna cum laude; thanks to a scholarship awarded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Since 1983 he has been a practicing lawyer and has served as Prosecutor of the Public Ministry and Superior Criminal Judge of the Supreme Court of Justice of Costa Rica.

In the academic field, he has served as Professor of Criminology in the Master of Criminal Sciences of the University of Costa Rica and in the Master of Human Rights and Criminology of the State University at a Distance. Likewise, he has stood out as a professor in Criminal Law at the University of Costa Rica, both in the Bachelor's Degree and in the Postgraduate Degree in Criminal Sciences, where he currently teaches the Chair of Criminology and Juvenile Criminal Law.

He is also the author of the Juvenile Criminal Justice and Execution of Juvenile Penalties laws in Costa Rica. Likewise, he authored various books and articles on Criminal Law, Criminology and Juvenile Criminal Law.

Dr. Tiffer is also a consultant on criminal matters for the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD), and on juvenile criminal matters for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). He is an international lecturer on Human Rights, Criminal Law, Criminology and Juvenile Criminal Law. He was named "Distinguished Jurist of the Year 2010" by the Costa Rican Bar Association.

CARIBBEAN









HAZEL THOMPSON-AHYE

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Senator Hazel Thompson-Ahye is the founder and Chairlady of Child Rights and Restorative Justice Organization (CRARJO) and is currently an Independent Senator in the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago.

Since 1982, she has been an attorney-at-law. She possesses an LLB (Hons.) degree from the University of the West Indies, an LLM. Merit in Family Law from London University and a MS degree in Restorative Practices from the International Institute for Restorative Practices in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She is a certified mediator in civil and family mediation, a former schoolteacher, and a well- known advocate for child rights, especially child justice.

She was the Director of the Hugh Wooding Law School (HWLS) Legal Aid Clinic in Trinidad and Tobago for 14 years, and the Senior Tutor at the Eugene Dupuch Law School in The Bahamas for 10 years. In 2012, she received an award from the Council of Legal Education (CLE) for outstanding service to the Council.

Senator Thompson-Ahye is a former board member of many organizations, including the Legal Aid and Advisory Authority, the Police Complaints Authority, the St Dominic's Children's Home; Deputy Chairman of the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, and Chairman of the Adoption Committee.

She is currently a Vice-President of the International Society of Family Law (ISFL) and a licensed trainer with the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP). She has published many articles on child rights and restorative justice and delivered presentations in her areas of expertise throughout the Caribbean region and on every continent.

On 24th September 2018, on the occasion of Trinidad and Tobago's 42nd Republic Day celebrations, she received a National Award, the Hummingbird Medal Gold, for loyal and devoted service to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in the sphere of Public Service and Youth Development.

LATIN AMERICA









NICOLAS ESPEJO

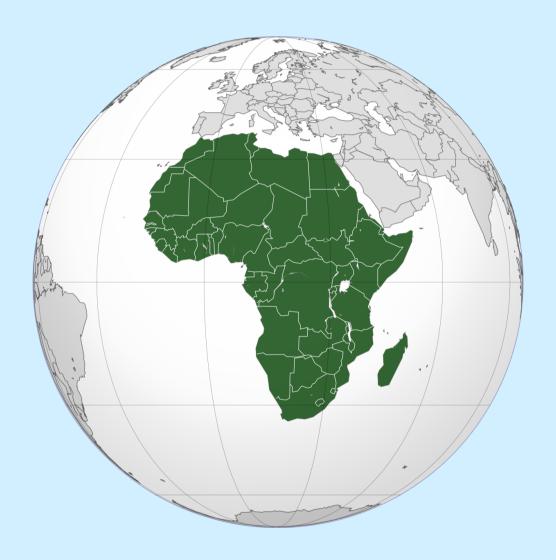
CHILE

Nicolás is Senior Researcher at the Centre for Constitutional Studies of the Supreme Court of Mexico; Guest Lecturer in Law and Member of the Editorial Board of the Leiden Children's Rights Observatory (University of Leiden); Corresponding Member of the Cambridge Family Law Centre (University of Cambridge); Visiting Fellow (2019–2021) at Exeter College (University of Oxford) and President of the International Network on Constitutional Family Law (INCFL). Dr. EspejoYaksic has been a Representative in Chile for the Centre for Justice and International Law (CEJIL); Director of the Centre for Human Rights at Diego Portales University in Santiago de Chile and Director of the International Network of Public Interest and Human Rights Legal Clinics. Nicolás has been a permanent advisor to the United Nations in the field of children's rights. He has supported UNICEF in Chile, Uruguay, Ecuador, Perú and México. Since 2015, he has worked closely with the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence Against Children (SRSG-VAC), in the city of New York. Dr. EspejoYaksic has also worked closely with civil society's organisations from Latin America, judiciary schools and regional organisations such as the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Dr. Espejo Yaksic has extensively researched and published about the relationship between children's rights and family relationships; the specialization and prevention of violence and access to justice for children and adolescents, migration and access to justice, mental disability and law, social rights, legal theory and comparative constitutional practices, particularly in the adjudication of children's rights.

Nicolás holds a LCJS (Law Degree) from Universidad Diego Portales (Chile); a M.St. in International Human Rights (Oxon) and a Ph.D. in Law (Warwick).

AFRICA









KARABO OZAH

SOUTH AFRICA

KaraboOzah is the Director of the Centre for Child and a lecturer in the Department of Private Law of the University of Pretoria in South Africa. She obtained her LLB and LLM in Child Law (cum laude), as well as a Certificate in Advanced Labour Law from the University of Pretoria. Karabo joined Centre for Child Law, which is a child rights organisation that protects and promotes children's rights through strategic litigation, research and advocacy, in 2007. She also lectures undergraduate and postgraduate courses in child law, education law and human rights.

Karabo served as an independent board member and the National Chairperson of Childline South Africa from 2009 until September 2016. She was a member of the Rules Board's Children's Court Task Team whose mandate was to draft court rules for the Children's Courts in South Africa. Furthermore, Karabo is a member of the Hague Expert Group on International Parentage and Surrogacy which is tasked with researching the possibility of a Hague treaty to regulate international parentage and surrogacy. In 2020 Karabo was appointed by the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services to serve on the Advisory Committee of the South African Law Reform Commission's Project 100D on Care of and Contact with Children (incorporating Family Dispute Resolution).





GAYE SOWE

GAMBIA

Prof. Dr. Carlos Tiffer, ILANUD and University of Costa Rica. He obtained his law degree Gaye Sowe is the Executive Director of the Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa, a Pan-African human rights organization based in The Gambia. MrSowe has spent more than 12 years at IHRDA. He rose through the ranks as Legal Officer, Senior Legal Officer to Director of Programs before his appointment as Executive Director in October 2015. Having gathered an incredible wealth of experience in litigation, capacity building and advocacy at domestic and regional levels up his sleeve, Gaye is the resident law reference, especially in common law, constitutional, criminal and non-discrimination law.

Gaye has conducted training and presentations on different areas of international human rights law with judiciary and law enforcement officials, as well as lawyers and human rights activists, in Africa and beyond. He is an Expert Member of the ECOSOC Working Group of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, and has made significant contributions in developing the jurisprudence of various African human rights mechanisms.

Gaye was called to the Nigerian and Gambian Bars in October and November 2000 respectively. He worked with the Gambian Judiciary as a Principal Magistrate and Acting Judicial Secretary prior to joining IHRDA. He was a member of the Steering Committee for the Establishment of a Law Faculty in the University of the Gambia and has been an Adjunct Lecturer at the UTG since its inception. He was also lecturer at The Gambia Law School until December 2014. Mr. Sowe studied at the University of Essex's International Human Rights Law programme (LLM), and at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife (LLB Honours), as well as at the Nigerian Law School (BL Honours) He has also done shorts courses in alternative dispute resolution, election observation and human rights in the UK, the U.S, Germany, Hungary, Finland and Ghana





THÉOPHANE NIKYÈMA

BURKINA FASO

Child rights advocate, Mr. Théophane Nikyèma is a member of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) and its Special Rapporteur on Children in conflict with the Law. Concurrently, he is the President of the Board of the International Bureau for Children Rights (IBCR) and serves on the board of Keeping Children Safe. Prior to that, as its Executive Director, he led the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) and contributed to elevating the issue of violence against children in Africa through the promotion of the African Partnership to End Violence against Children.

His diversified work experience of more than 25 years includes senior level positions in UNICEF and UNDP.

A national of Burkina Faso, Mr. Nikyèma holds a Postgraduate diploma in Human Resources from the University of Manchester, UK; a Master of Business Administration from the Claremont Graduate University, USA, and a Bachelor's Degree in economics from the Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal.

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA









SUHAIR TOBASI

JORDAN

Judge Suhair Tobasi has more than 20 years of thorough professional experience in the legal and justice sector as a lawyer, judge, mediator, and trainer. She is currently an inspector in the judicial Council of Jordan.

In addition to being a judge, she has been invested in providing advisory and legal support services; drafting legislation, providing legal analysis and advisory services in the field of policy, justice and legislative reform, and organizing judicial training workshops. She trained judges, prosecutors and other relevant actors on juvenile justice both in Jordan and Yemen. Additionally, she managed and implemented national and international-donor funded projects in the justice sector and drafted strategies and policies for the improvement of the Jordanian legal system on justice and human rights affairs.

Judge Tobasi has publications in Juvenile Restorative Justice and Jordanian Juvenile law and attended many specialized courses and workshops at the regional and international levels. She has worked as a judge in Amman juvenile court, first instance court, and first instance criminal court and at the Amman Appeal Court.

Judge Suhair Tobasi is a distinguished Lecturer in juvenile justice, alternative measures (diversion) and domestic violence and also a regional expert accredited to the International Organization for Penal Reform (PRI) in the area of criminal justice for juveniles and domestic violence.

SOUTH ASIA









JUSTICE MADAN LOKUR

INDIA

Born on 31st December 1953. Graduated in History (Hons.) from St. Stephen's College Delhi University in 1974. Obtained LL.B. degree from Faculty of Law, Delhi University in 1977. Enrolled as an Advocate on 28th July 1977 with the Bar Council of India. Practiced in the Supreme Court of India and the Delhi High Court. Qualified the examination and enrolled as an Advocate-on-Record in the Supreme Court in 1981.

Experienced in Civil, Criminal, Constitutional, Revenue and Administrative laws. Editor, Indian Law Reports (Delhi Series) in February 1983. Central Government Standing Counsel from December 1990 to December 1996 during which period engaged on behalf of the Central Government in a variety of cases including criminal trials in respect of economic offences. Designated as Senior Advocate in February 1997. Appointed as Additional Solicitor General of India on 14th July 1998. Appointed as an Additional Judge of Delhi High Court on 19th February 1999. Appointed as Permanent Judge of that High Court on 5th July 1999.

Functioned as the Acting Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court from 13th February 2010 to 21st May 2010.

Functioned as Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court from 24th June 2010 to 14th November 2011 and Chief Justice of High Court of Andhra Pradesh from 15th November 2011 to 3rd June 2012. Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court on 4th June 2012.Interest in judicial reforms, computerization of courts, judicial education, legal aid and services, juvenile justice and ADR. Member of the Mediation & Conciliation Project Committee of the Supreme Court of India since its inception in 2005.Appointed as Judge in charge of the Juvenile Justice Committee in the Delhi High Court on 23rd April 2006. Judge in charge of the E-Committee of the Supreme Court of India since 2012.

Appointed as one-Man Committee on 22nd September, 2013 to suggest improvements in the working of the Homes and Organization under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

Appointed as Chair of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee in 2017. Retired as a Judge of the Supreme Court on 31st December, 2018. Appointed as Judge, Supreme Court of Fiji with effect from 21st January, 2019.

SOUTH EASTASIA









SANPHASIT KOOMPRAPHANT

THAILAND

Sanphasit Koompraphantis a child rights expert from Thailand. His activities have involved the identification and investigation of cases concerning child abuse and neglect including child trafficking, the development of instruments for child protection services on the monitoring of children and their families, the development of guidelines on the treatment of abused children and their families, the development of assessment tools on social reintegration of abused children and particularly the building of preventive measures to make families, schools and communities safe for children.

He is also involved in the development of national legislation on child protection and the training of professionals especially those working in the areas of health, social, and law on the appropriate ways to respond to cases concerning child abuse and neglect since 1985. Moreover Mr. Koompraphant has been supporting of the concerning government agencies such as developing instruments on Child Protection, National Child Protection Strategy and developing of Child Protection Mechanism and revision of Child Protection System which can empower Local Authorities to take lead on Child Protection and Promotion of Child and Youth Development.

The main professional activities on legislation are the drafting committees of Child Protection Act 2003, Domestic Violence Act 2007, the Promotion of Child and Youth Development Act 2017, the Protection of Surrogated Child Act 2015, the revision of Penal Code on minimum age of criminal responsibility to be 12-year-old, the revision of Family and Youth Court and Procedure Act 2010.

PACIFIC AND OCEANIA









NESSA LYNCH

NEW ZEALAND

Professor Nessa Lynch joined the Faculty of Law | Victoria University of Wellington in mid-2008. She has undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Law from the National University of Ireland, University College Cork, and a doctorate in Law from the University of Otago.

Dr Lynch's primary research interest is criminal law and the criminal justice system as it applies to children and young persons. She has published books, chapters and journal articles on issues in youth justice; particularly around principled approaches to children and youth who commit very serious offences such as murder.

Dr Lynch's scholarly work has a high impact globally and locally, and her expertise is sought after in the government, judicial and non-governmental fields. She has spent time on secondment at the New Zealand Ministry of Justice and is a member of the Government's Data Ethics Advisory Group, and the Law Commission's Expert Advisory Group on the review of DNA legislation.

Current research projects are on the legal and ethical parameters of the use of automated facial recognition technology, young adults in criminal justice systems, and principled approaches to children and young persons who commit serious offences.





HANNAH MCGLADE

AUSTRALIA

Prof. Hannah McGlade is an Associate Professor at Curtin Law School. She is currently working with NATSILS (National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Legal Services) the peak body for Aboriginal legal services, who are very much campaigning to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 years old.

In 2020, Prof. McGlade was appointed to the UN Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues. Her career has focused on justice for Aboriginal people, race discrimination law and practice, Aboriginal women and children, family violence and sexual assault. She has been a researcher, published writer and conference speaker and held a range of professional positions that required her legal training and specific expertise in Aboriginal women and children's issues.

Her Ph.D thesis received the Stanner Award for Excellence in Aboriginal research and was published by Aborginal Studies Press in 2012: 'Our Greatest Challenge, Aboriginal Children and Human Rights'. An experienced tribunal member, Dr. McGlade has been appointed to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, the State Administrative Tribunal and the Mental Health Tribunal. In 2016, she was appointed the Senior Indigenous Fellow at the Office of the High Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, and as Senior Indigenous Research Fellow at Curtin University.

EUROPE









JENNIFER DAVIDSON

U K

Professor Jennifer Davidson is the Executive Director of the Institute for Inspiring Children's Futures at the University of Strathclyde, an international research, policy and practice implementation group with a collective vision of ensuring that children and young people have what they need to reach their full potential, particularly those who experience adversity. Prof Davidson works to embed children's human rights into the delivery of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, with a sharp focus on the mechanisms that promote meaningful and sustainable impact, from policy into children's day-to-day lives.

Prof Davidson's leadership of international children's human rights projects has driven change for children over many years, most recently as Director of the Justice for Children, Justice for All Global Initiative with the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies and as a Founding Partner of the Observatory of Children's Human Rights in Scotland; and earlier through the implementation of the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children.

The Founding Director of the Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection (CELCIS), she has held leadership positions in child and youth care, social work, and professional education, and served on national and international committees related to children and public services.

Prof Davidson was recently awarded an OBE for services to the care and protection of children in Scotland and abroad.





OLIVIA LIND HALDORSSON

SWEDEN

Olivia Lind Haldorsson is a children's rights advocate who has been working in the field of children's rights and child protection for more than 20 years.

Olivia currently holds the position as Senior Adviser and Head of the Children at Risk Unit at the Council of Baltic Sea States Secretariat (childrenatrisk.cbss.org). In 2014 she co-founded 'Child Circle', a Brussels-based NGO focusing on strengthening national child protection

Olivia has played a central role in the Promise project, which promotes the establishment of Barnahus and excellence in practice to hear, assist and support child victims and witnesses of violence (www.barnahus.eu). She is the author of the Barnahus Quality Standards and other practical tools to support Barnahus.

systems.

She has also worked as an independent expert with a wide range of stakeholders on strategic advocacy initiatives and regional projects in the field of children's rights and child protection.

Prior to that she worked with Save the Children International EU Office.





AVRIL CALDER

U K

Avril Calder was a magistrate for 35 years, sitting exclusively in two specialised courts—the Inner London Youth Court and the Inner London Family Proceedings Court. These courts deal both with young offenders and with children in need of care and protection, adoption and aspects of domestic violence.

During her years of service, she held many leadership roles including those involving the training and assessment of colleagues. Her capacities as a trainer of actors in the fields of youth and family justice have also been in play in European Union projects and overseas. She has spoken widely at and organised many conferences from Children Who Kill in 1995, when she was President of the British Juvenile and Family Courts Society, to, in association with PRI and Tdh, the World Congress on Justice for Children held at UNESCO, Paris in 2018 when she was President of the International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates (IAYFJM).

From 2006 to 2018 Avril was Editor in Chief of IAYFJM's Chronicle, published in English, French and Spanish, and took an active role in drafting IAYFJM's Guidelines on Children in Contact with the Justice System launched at UNODC in Vienna in 2017 with a major follow up at the World Congress in Paris in 2018. The Guidelines, available in Arabic, English, French and Spanish, are universally applicable and aimed at all professionals working in many child related fields, (but especially justice), where decisions are taken that affect the rights of children.





TON LIEFAARD

THE NETHERLANDS

Prof. Dr. Ton Liefaard is Vice-Dean of Leiden Law School and holds the UNICEF Chair in Children's Rights at Leiden University, the Netherlands. He is the Director of the Master's Programme (LL.M) Advanced Studies in International Children's Rights. He also coordinates the Leiden Summer School on International Children's Rights. In 2015, he received the award for best lecturer of Leiden Law School.

He teaches and publishes widely on issues related to international children's rights, juvenile justice, child friendly justice, deprivation of liberty of children, violence against children and access to justice for children. Publications include: Litigating the Rights of the Child (Springer 2015, edited with J.E. Doek), The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Taking Stock after 25 Years and Looking Ahead (Brill | Nijhof 2017, edited with J. Sloth-Nielsen) and the reference work International Human Rights of Children (Springer Nature 2019, edited with U. Kilkelly). His list of publications can be found here.

Ton Liefaard regularly works as a consultant for international organizations, including UN agencies, the Council of Europe and the European Union. He has also served as an advisor to the Dutch government on issues related to children's rights, juvenile justice, child protection and family law.

Ton Liefaard holds a Master and a PhD in law from the VU University Amsterdam.