

## Women's Foreign Policy Group 2018 Mentoring Fair Biographies

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### **Halima Adams - Church World Service**

Ms. Adams is a refugee protection and resettlement expert with over 15 years of multi-sector humanitarian affairs and development experience in the US and abroad, focused on program monitoring and evaluation, gender equality, refugee protection and resettlement, public diplomacy and program development and management. As monitoring and evaluation coordinator at Church World Service, she oversees monitoring and evaluation development and implementation for over 30 US-based organizations providing refugee resettlement and integration support; she also supports domestic and overseas innovation initiatives focused on refugee livelihoods and newcomer integration. She received a MA in Refugee Studies and Forced Migration from the University of East London and a BS from Florida A&M University.

### **Amanda Alampi - Amnesty International USA**

Ms. Alampi is a social media strategist specializing in social media for social good. She previously worked at Sunshine Sachs, a full service communications firm headquartered in New York designing social media campaigns for nonprofits, NGOs, corporations and celebrities. Her past clients have included The Malala Fund, Malaria No More, the Center for Reproductive Rights and Alicia Keys' Keep a Child Alive. She currently works at Amnesty International USA and teaches at Fordham University. She has a BA in Journalism and MPA in International Policy and Management, both from New York University.

### **Priya Alvarez - UN Women**

Ms. Alvarez is a feminist and a women's rights professional currently working as an Evaluation Specialist in the UN System Coordination Division at UN Women. Previously, she served as Gender Budgeting Specialist for the European Commission at the European Institute for Gender Equality, where she researched institutional capacity and methods for gender mainstreaming in the EU. Ms. Alvarez also worked as independent evaluator and gender equality expert for a range of non-profit organizations, national governments, bilateral agencies, and UN entities, including UNDP and the OSCE. She holds a MS degree in Evaluation of Public Policy from the Complutense University in Madrid and a MS degree on Sociology of Law.

### **Megan Amer - Strategic Capacity Group**

Ms. Amer is Director of Development for the Strategic Capacity Group. Previously, she was Team Lead for Strategy & Resources for the State Department's Bureau of South and Central Asia Affairs. During her tenure at State, she oversaw US foreign assistance programs to reform criminal justice sectors in MENA, strengthen law enforcement and rule of law institutions to combat narcotics production and trafficking in South America, and to combat terrorism. She was also a Presidential Management Fellow in the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation and a lead Steering Committee member for Executive Women at State: Entry and Junior Level group. Ms. Amer teaches international relations at Mercy and Manhattanville College. She received her MA from the George Washington University and her BA from the UNC at Charlotte. Prior to joining the State Department, she worked in the private sector for an international building automation firm.

### **Rasjit Basi - Open Society Foundations**

Ms. Basi is a program manager for the Open Society Foundations, where she currently manages student mobility programs in international higher education for the South Asia region. She has served in several capacities at the Open Society Foundations, initially joining to manage a program co-funded by the Department of State for youth from the former Yugoslavia. The program focused on developing conflict resolution, critical thinking, and debate skills and was run by the Open Society Network Children and Youth Programs. Prior to joining Open Society, she worked in the area of international development for a grass-roots NGO focused on sustainable development and innovative solutions to poverty alleviation in India. Ms. Basi spent her early career working in higher education in Slovakia and holds a BA in communications and a master's in liberal arts.

### **Florrie Burke - FB Consulting**

Ms. Burke is a consultant on human trafficking and modern day slavery to governmental and non-governmental agencies. Her expertise is focused on a victim-centered approach in human trafficking cases and collaborative efforts of criminal justice actors and victim care providers. She is a founder of the Freedom Network, the NY Anti-Trafficking Network and the Safe Horizon Anti-Trafficking Program. She provides extensive training, speaking and consultation on human trafficking issues, trauma, and torture both in the US and internationally. Ms. Burke also serves as an expert witness and consultant on cases of human trafficking. She was awarded the inaugural Presidential Award for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons in May 2013.

**Ruth Cowan - *The Graduate Center, CUNY***

During her career as a political scientist and human rights activist, Dr. Cowan has been engaged in efforts in Bolivia, Peru, Nicaragua, Argentina, Mexico, El Salvador, Cuba, Afghanistan and South Africa, as well as in the US. *Tribal Justice* (2017), a documentary she helped produce, is winning best documentary, best director, best for social justice awards at film festivals (trailer: [vimeo.com/196530073](https://vimeo.com/196530073)). The film features two women Chief Justices serving the Yurok and Quechan tribes as they create justice systems which incorporate tribal values. Her previous film, *Courting Justice*, featured women judges in post-apartheid South Africa. She is the founding president of Pro Mujer--an organization integrating micro-lending with business training, health education and primary health care to thousands of women in five Latin American countries. She has served on the board of directors of a number of development organizations including the Global Partnership for Afghanistan and the American Jewish World Service.

**Yael Danieli - *International Organization for Victim Assistance***

An international advocate for victims' rights and optimal care, Dr. Danieli, a clinical psychologist and traumatologist, represents the International Organization for Victim Assistance at the UN, having served in the same capacity the World Federation of Mental Health and the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. She has consulted national and international organizations, including the UN Secretary-General and the ICC, and chaired the NGO Alliance of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Dr. Danieli is the director and co-founder of the Group Project for Holocaust Survivors and their Children, the first program of its kind. She has extensive psychotherapeutic and research experience with traumatized peoples worldwide, societal and professionals' responses to them, from an individual to an international level. During her career, she has created and implemented tools for studying life-long and multigenerational effects of massive trauma, treatment and training programs, published in six books and numerous articles.

**Yamile Eusebio - *Global Foundation for Democracy and Development***

Mrs. Eusebio is the director of the New York office of the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development and is serving as acting co-executive director through March 1. Her work at GFDD/Funglode includes the conceptualization, creation and development of national and international programs, including exchanges, film festivals and the development of an agenda to bring together the Dominican diaspora in NY and their peers in the Dominican Republic. Her experience in the NGO sector started in 2000 at Funglode, an NGO created by the former Dominican Republic President Leonel Fernández. She holds degrees in Hotel Business Administration from the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra (DR), postgraduate in HRM from (DR), and in Management of Non-Profit Organizations from the Open University of Catalonia and San Pablo CEU University (Spain), and a master's degree from the Centro Universitario Doctor Emilio Cárdenas (Mexico).

**Allison Ford - *United Technologies, WFPG Board of Directors***

Ms. Ford is a manager of international government relations for United Technologies, a high-tech aerospace and building systems manufacturer with nearly 200,000 employees around the world. In her role, Ford monitors and analyzes developments in global policies that impact UTC's business and international operations. She is responsible for engaging with embassies, NGOs, and foreign and US government officials to advocate on behalf of UTC's international interests. Prior to working for UTC, Ms. Ford was a policy practice coordinator for Van Ness Feldman, an environmental and energy law firm with offices in Georgetown and Seattle. Ford graduated from Gonzaga University in 2004 with a BA in History and was a member of the UTC Employee Scholar Program where she received her MPA degree in 2014 from George Mason University. She serves on the WFPG Board of Directors and its Executive Committee.

**Joanne Fox-Przeworski - *Senior Advisor and Lecturer on Environment and Sustainable Development***

Dr. Fox-Przeworski is a senior advisor on environment and sustainable development projects, lecturer, and educator. Formerly an international civil servant, her positions included: UNEP Director, North America & Representative to the UN; Coordinator for Sustainable Development, Special Advisor to Deputy Secretary General; and Project Director, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. She was also the Founding Director of Bard College Center for Environmental Policy and their professional masters program. She serves on several non-profit boards including the Environmental Integrity Project, Green Seal, Women's Network for a Sustainable Future, and Environment & Public Health Network for Chinese Students & Scholars. She has published several books and articles, and has lectured in the US and abroad. She holds an AB from Northwestern, an AMT from Harvard, a MA and PhD from Washington University, St. Louis, and an honorary LLD from Ripon.

**Paolo Galli - *United Nations Development Programme***

Mr. Galli, Senior Regional Advisor of in UNDP's Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS, has nearly 30 years of experience working in the UN system. Previous positions have included: director of the Office of the Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development HM Queen Maxima of the Netherlands; deputy director of UNDP's Washington Liaison Office; principal officer and acting director of the Office of the Deputy Secretary-General/ Office of the Secretary-General

handling development, peace building, political and other related matters; senior policy advisor in the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict; cluster chief for the Western Balkans in UNDP's Bureau for Europe and the CIS; UNDP's assistant resident- representative for programs in Kabul, Afghanistan; and country-officer for West Africa, UN Capital Development Fund. Prior to joining the UN, Mr. Galli worked in the financial sector in London.

**Marta Garcia Argenal - *United Nations Secretariat***

Ms. Garcia Argenal is a procurement specialist for the for the Peacekeeping Procurement Section of the UN Secretariat. In the last year, she has managed procurement processes in support of Peacekeeping Missions, particularly the medical support. She has also led a team to ensure the contractual success of the requirements to set up the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul. Previously, she was the head of UNDP Nicaragua's Procurement Team, managing the procurement for over 30 projects and heading the UN inter-agency initiative on Harmonized Procurement. Before joining UNDP, Ms. Garcia Argenal worked in the World Bank in Nicaragua and DC as a procurement analyst for the Central American Portfolio. She also helped implement the first MCC Compact in Nicaragua. She started her career in finance and modernization of the public sector in the Ministry of Finance in Nicaragua and has a Master's Degree in the Public Administration.

**Suzanne Harvey - *Developmental Programs Ltd.***

Ms. Harvey, director of Developmental Programs Ltd., is an experienced consultant specializing in the design and implementation of a wide range of economic development, marketing and investment projects. She focuses primarily on public private partnerships, women's empowerment, and international economic development projects. Ms. Harvey has extensive experience collaborating with and liaising between the civil sector, national and international NGOs, international development bodies including US government agencies, The World Bank and the UN. She served as VP of the Board of Directors of US Committee for UN Women Metro Chapter, is Executive Director of the NGO Peacemaker Corps Peace in the Streets Global Film Festival for youth 18 and under, works as a special consultant to United Nations NGO Commission on the Status of Women. Prior to her work in international development, her career was in classical ballet, theater and film.

**Justine Jablonska - *Communications Specialist***

Ms. Jablonska is a multimedia digital content strategist with extensive experience in digital initiatives. She created the first social media program for the Polish Embassy in the US, which was then rolled out by the Polish Ministry of Affairs to all the Polish embassies and consulates around the world. She has worked in media, corporate, government, and non-profit environments, leveraging complex content into compelling stories. Her experience includes the Atlantic Council foreign policy think tank, C-SPAN's American History TV, Aquila Polonica publishers (specializing in WW2), as well as a number of journalism projects that span from tourism to urban issues.

**Becky Band Jain - *UN Peacekeeping***

Ms. Jain has been coordinating digital and social media campaigns for UN Peacekeeping as a digital communications officer since November. Previously, she served as social media coordinator at UNICEF. She has also been an independent communications consultant in New York and India, where she lived for five years, helping NGOs and social enterprises strategically use new digital platforms. She has been actively involved in both online and offline community organizing, and is also a writer, blogger and yoga practitioner. She holds a master's in gender, development and globalization from the London School of Economics and a BA from Wesleyan University.

**Vesna Jaksic Lowe - *Communications Consultant and Freelance Writer***

Mrs. Jaksic Lowe is a freelance writer and communications consultant. Current and recent work includes serving as a communications officer for Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict; a consultant for the UN Sustainable Development Goals Fund, and a writer for Carnegie Corporation of New York. Before becoming an independent employee, she was the deputy director of communications at Physicians for Human Rights, a media strategist at the ACLU, and a reporter at three newspapers. She has also served as a faculty advisor on international delegations in Australia, China and South Africa. She has a BA in Communications from Hofstra University and an MS in International Relations from The New School.

**Eva Jansen - *United Nations Secretariat***

Ms. Jansen is a Human Resources Officer in the Outreach Unit of the Strategic Planning and Staffing Service of the Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM) at the United Nations Secretariat's Department of Management. Previously she held a variety of positions in OHRM in New York, in the Department of General Assembly Affairs (in Geneva, Switzerland), at the United Nations Independent Investigation Commission (in Lebanon), in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as well as the United Nations Office in Vienna (Austria), where she started her career with the United Nations. Before that, she gained work experience in the private sector and with an NGO. Ms. Jansen is from Austria but has spent her early childhood in Saudi-Arabia. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Arabistics and a Master of Law from the University of Vienna. She is married and has one son.

**Mariam Kakkar - *United Nations Development Programme***

Ms. Kakkar is the Chief of Talent Development at UNDP. She has spent the last 13+ years working in the UN system at UNICEF and UNFPA in the areas of organizational development, integrated talent management, high potential identification/development, career management, executive talent management, employee engagement and leadership development. Prior to joining UNDP, she was the head of the UNICEF Leadership Academy, focused on building the management/ leadership capability of the UNICEF talent pipeline. In this role, she worked directly with Harvard Business Publishing, INSEAD, IESE, and other business schools. Ms. Kakkar began her career at the Center for the Study of Learning and Performance at Concordia University and the Technology Lab of the Ministry of Education of Quebec. She has a doctorate in Educational Technology from Concordia University in Canada.

**Tara Kangarlou - *Art of Hope***

Ms. Kangarlou is an award-winning journalist who has reported and produced breaking news stories, investigative pieces, and magazine-style print and broadcast stories on domestic and international issues. She has written, reported, and produced for CNN, CNN International, NBC Los Angeles, Al Jazeera America, Huffington Post, and Al Monitor. In 2015, she led Al Jazeera America's unprecedented access to report and produce from Iran during the nuclear negotiations. In recent years, she has spent time on the ground in conflict zones and in the Syrian border regions of Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey. This experience led her to move beyond reporting and in 2016, she founded Art of Hope Inc., an NYC-based non-profit that provides alternative educational and vocational training for Syrian refugees. Ms. Kangarlou is currently a fellow at the East West Institute and is working on a book on Iran.

**Mehmet Kilic - *The Journalists and Writers Foundation***

Mr. Kilic is the President of the Journalists and Writers Foundation (JWF), a US-based international civil society organization that advances peace, human rights, and sustainable development. In this position, he organizes programs on global issues by engaging diplomats accredited to the United Nations with the private sector, the media, academics, representatives of civil society organizations, and youth at local, national, and global levels. He has also served as JWF's representative to the United Nations since 2012. Until 2016, Mr. Kilic worked as the Director of the Center for Global Affairs at the Peace Islands Institute. He earned his master's degree in Education from Mercy College and is currently working on his PhD in Global and Comparative Education at Walden University. He lives in New York with his wife and two children.

**Carolyn Kissane - *NYU Center for Global Affairs***

Dr. Kissane serves as the Academic Director of the graduate program in Global Affairs at the NYU Center for Global Affairs and is a Clinical Associate Professor where she teaches on the geopolitics of energy, comparative energy politics, energy, environment and resource security, a regional course focusing on Central Asia. She leads the Energy and Environmental Policy concentration at the Center and is faculty adviser to the Energy Policy International Club. Dr. Kissane has received several awards from NYU, including a Excellence in Teaching Award in 2007. She was also named Breaking Energy's Top Ten New York Women in Energy and Top Ten Energy Communicator. She hosts Fueling our Future, an energy series she moderates which bring in energy and environment experts for conversation and debate. She serves on the boards of the New York Energy Forum, the Clean Start Advisory Board and CIV-Lab.

**Zoe Leung - *EastWest Institute***

Ms. Leung serves as Senior Program Associate of the EastWest Institute's Asia-Pacific Program, providing leadership on programs that impact US foreign policy toward Japan and China. She also serves as a member of the International Exchange Program Committee at the US National Committee of International Council on Monuments and Sites, an organization affiliated with UNESCO, facilitating knowledge exchange and increased international exposure for young professionals from the US and overseas. Prior to joining the EastWest Institute, Ms. Leung has worked for UNESCO and affiliated NGOs in the U.S. and China with a specialization in World Heritage programs and international knowledge sharing. A cultural heritage specialist, she focuses on cultural identities and capacity building in South Asia. She holds a master's degree in International Policy Analysis from the Elliott School of International Affairs of the George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in Historic Preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design.

**Julia Maciel - *Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations***

Ms. Maciel is a Paraguayan diplomat, serving as Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations since 2011. She is the Delegate of Paraguay to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, and also is responsible for a broad range of multilateral issues, with special focus on gender issues (including UNSC Resolutions 1325 and 2122), UN-Women and UN YOUTH agenda. Previously, she served as Technical Advisor to the Vice President of Paraguay, Minister of Planning for Economic and Social Development of Paraguay (first woman in this post), Advisor in International Cooperation (technical and financial) to the Government, and General Director of International Relations Office at the Ministry of Education. She has also

completed projects for numerous agencies and international organizations including the World Bank, IADB, UNDP, USIA, and EU. She was a Fulbright Scholar at Ball State in Indiana, studied at the University of Oxford and at Columbia University.

**Youssef Mahmoud - *International Peace Institute***

Dr. Mahmoud is Senior Adviser at the International Peace Institute supporting the Africa, Middle East, and peace operations programs. Before retiring from the United Nations in 2011, he was the Secretary-General's Special Representative and Head of the UN Peacekeeping Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad. From 2007 to 2009 he served as Executive Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Burundi. Prior to that, his positions included UN Resident Coordinator in Guyana, Director in the UN Department of Political Affairs, and Head of the Office of the Undersecretary-Secretary-General for Political Affairs. He recently served as member of the UN Secretary-General High Level Panel on Peace Operations and of the High Level Advisory Group for the Global Study on UNSCR 1325. He writes on political transitions in Africa and serves on the Boards of several non-profits in the US and Tunisia.

**Kelechi Mbiannoze - *Global Coalition for Peace and Security***

Mr. Mbiannoze is Executive Director at the Global Coalition for Peace and Security, a nonprofit organization which works with stakeholders and multilateral institutions to advance sustainable peace and foster lasting solutions to nuclear weapon proliferation, violent extremism, terrorism, and transnational and organized crime. From 2009 to 2014, Mr. Mbiannoze served as a political affairs officer at the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations, where he managed the offices Security Council issues portfolio. He also serves as Chief Operating Officer of the Nigerian Council. He holds a MPA from Columbia SIPA in International Security Policy and International Conflict Resolution, a MA in International Conflict Studies from the University of Ibadan, and a BA from Abia State University in Nigeria.

**Shannon McBride - *US Peace Corps***

Ms. McBride is a Senior Regional Recruiter for the Peace Corps. She served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Uganda from 2010 to 2012 in the education sector as a teacher trainer at Kiyoora Primary Teachers' College. While there she supervised student teaching and educated college-level students on educational methods, special needs education, math, and computer skills. Her secondary projects were focused on community outreach projects teaching life skills such as: HIV/AIDS awareness, malaria prevention, reproductive health, and gender development. Throughout her service, she focused on promoting women empowerment and helped to coordinate and facilitate the regional and national Camp GLOW (Girls Leading Our World). She taught elementary school for two and a half years prior to Peace Corps service. She holds a BA in elementary education, early childhood education, and theatre from Albright College.

**Carleen Miller - *Church World Service (CWS)***

Dr. Miller is Deputy Executive Director for the Immigration and Refugee Program of Church World Service, a faith-based organization focused on finding sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. In her current role, she oversees CWS's domestic resettlement network, as well as the relief, development, protection and processing work with refugees and displaced persons in Sub-Saharan Africa. Previously, she led Exodus Refugee Immigration, a refugee resettlement agency in Indianapolis. Dr. Miller also served as Director for Social Services, Shelter Services and the Human Trafficking Assistance Program at the Julian Center, a domestic violence and sexual assault services center. She is a licensed Mental Health Counselor and Marriage and Family Therapist. She holds a BA from Valparaiso University, a MA in Marriage and Family Therapy from Christian Theological Seminary, and a PhD in Clinical Social Work from the Institute for Clinical Social Work in Chicago.

**Harriet Mouchly-Weiss - *Strategy XXI Partners***

Ms. Mouchly-Weiss, managing partner of Strategy XXI, has over 30 years of experience in communications. Throughout her career she has advocated communications programs that incorporate a component of social responsibility. Previously, she served as vice chairman and senior partner of Kreab Gavin Anderson Worldwide, where she led their Corporate Responsibility and Accountability Practice. She specializes in bringing together the corporate world, government, international organizations and activists on such issues as obesity, marketing to children, vaccine distribution, micronutrients and healthy lifestyles. In the corporate world, some of her principal clients have included Nestlé, MasterCard, Walmart, PepsiCo, McDonald's and Danone. Ms. Mouchly-Weiss is an active member of the boards of L-1 Identity Solutions Inc., Friends of the United Nations, UJA-Federation of NY, The Acumen Fund, and the Count-me-In micro-lending Group. She is an advisor to the International Crisis Group and to the UN Office for Partnerships.

**Katie Novy - *Cultural Vistas***

Ms. Novy joined the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals (CBYX) team at Cultural Vistas in December 2014. As Program Officer for the outbound side of CBYX program, she works primarily with the American participants going to Germany. She also supports the new CBYX Alumni Association and administers STEM LAUNCH, a short-term study tour to Germany for STEM students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Prior to joining Cultural Vistas, Ms. Novy lived

in Germany for nearly five years, working in business development and event management. She holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Miami, and grew up in Delray Beach, Florida.

**Onyeka Obasi - *Friends of Africa International***

Ms. Obasi is the CEO of Hemisphere Frontiers Consulting, a strategy and management firm that specializes in Energy, Mineral Markets and Financing, with a focus on energy security and renewable energy technologies. Obasi is the President and Founder of Friends of Africa International, a NY-based non-profit that provides research oriented policy advice to government and regional institutions in Africa on development and global governance issues. She has spoken at several conferences and summits and has been featured on several prominent publications, including Forbes, radio and television interviews. In 2009, Ms. Obasi was invited by to COP15 by President Mary Robinson, Gro Brundtland, and the EU Commissioner Margot Wallstrom to speak on Africa's common agenda in the climate negotiations. She sits on the advisory board of the Center for Asia Leadership Initiatives. She has an MPH from Boston University, MPA from Harvard, and an MBA from MIT.

**Theresa Panuccio - *United Nations Development Programme***

Ms. Panuccio has 30 years of experience in the United Nations spanning three continents and four organizations, in senior leadership positions dealing with managerial, budgetary, corporate governance and administrative issues as well as leading corporate change efforts and structural and process reforms. Currently a Senior Advisor of Business Models at UNDP, she previously served at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, Kenya and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome, Italy. She also has over 15 years of experience and involvement with Pension fund boards and committees and with Credit Unions' work (and board of directors). She holds a MS in Business Administration and Management from Boston University and a BS in Sociology from St. John's University.

**Swadesh Rana - *World Policy Institute***

Dr. Rana was chief of the Conventional Arms Branch at the UN, the first woman to hold that position. She has also served as a senior political analyst in the Executive Office of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, chosen as the senior political aide to the chief of civil administration for UNPROFOR in Yugoslavia and directed the first UN project on small arms and intra-state conflicts. She was the executive secretary of the intergovernmental group of experts for the UN's first report to the GA on Small Arms, and deputy leader of the Exploratory Mission to Albania. Since retiring from the UN, she has consulted for the governments of Germany, Switzerland, Argentina, and Kenya, and is a senior fellow at the World Policy Institute. Her recent work has covered: ISIS, war avoidance and civil society, implementation of the SDGs, climate change, global catastrophic risks, and Indo-US defence collaboration.

**Jessica Rodrigues - *UNICEF***

Ms. Rodrigues is a HIV program specialist for UNICEF in New York. She has fifteen years of experience as an international health and development professional and has expertise in strategic communication and information, evidence-based advocacy and research. She spent eight years working overseas, primarily in Mozambique. Prior to joining UNICEF, she worked for various non-governmental organizations including the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation and World Relief International. She is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese and holds a BS in Social Work from New York University and a MSFS from Georgetown University in International Health and Development.

**Lois Romano - *Harvard University, WFPG Board Co-Chair***

Ms. Romano has had a distinguished career as a political journalist at The Washington Post, Newsweek and POLITICO. She now serves as a strategic advisor at the Institute of Politics at Harvard University. Ms. Romano was most recently the editor of Washington Post Live, the news organization's editorial events platform. In early 2015, she returned to the Post where she had a long career as a political correspondent and profile writer. Previously, she was a senior political reporter and the first editorial director of POLITICO events. She had been instrumental in shaping live editorial programming and content for the organization's dozens of issue-driven events. During her first career at the Post, she covered seven presidential races, served as a columnist, and was a regional correspondent based in Tulsa. She holds a Masters degree in international relations from George Washington University. Ms. Romano co-chairs the WFPG Board of Directors.

**Elena Garofalo Sammartano - *Guttmacher Institute***

Ms. Garofalo is a Senior Development Associate at the Guttmacher Institute, a leading research and policy organization committed to advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights in the United States and globally. In this position, she supports the development and implementation of Guttmacher's institutional fundraising effort, working directly with private foundations, government agencies and bilateral donors to ensure alignment of the Institute's projects and programs with funding agency priorities. Prior to her current position, she was a Development Officer at the Women's Refugee Commission, and a Program Director at the National Committee on American Foreign Policy. She has her MPA from NYU's Robert F. Wagner

Graduate School of Public Service and she completed her undergraduate degree in International Relations and Italian from Mount Holyoke College.

**Linda Senat - American Jewish Committee**

Now retired, Ms. Senat has had an unusual and interesting career. With a US law degree she began practicing as a US attorney in London, England. Specializing in international tax and working with blue chip companies and consultancies led her to be working in Russia and Kazakstan as the Soviet Union was disintegrating. She helped these countries, and later Vietnam, transition from command to market economies. She then became a Business Development Manager for Deloitte and Touche in NY working with companies expanding internationally. She later joined the American Jewish Committee as Director of International Relations. She worked with top NY-based diplomats to further AJC's mission of strengthening pluralism around the world as the best defense against anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry. She values economic development in emerging economies as a vehicle for expanded educational and democratic opportunities particularly for girls and women.

**Jana Smith - ideas42**

Ms. Smith is a Vice President at ideas42 and Adjunct Faculty at NYU's Center for Global Affairs. She has over 13 years of experience designing, implementing, and scaling innovative programs and services in public health, financial inclusion, and international development with expertise in gender and behavioral science. At ideas42, Ms. Smith co-leads the Global Health portfolio which focuses on reproductive health and gender-based violence in low and middle income countries. Before joining ideas42, she was the Director of Health Services for Pro Mujer, where she led design and implementation of health programs within a global women's development organization serving 250,000 clients in Latin America. She began her career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Bolivia and holds an MPH from Columbia and a BS from the University of Richmond. She previously served on the Board of the Microfinance Club of NY and is fluent in Spanish.

**Sabrina Stein - Social Science Research Council**

Ms. Stein is a program manager at the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum (CPPF) a program of the New York-based Social Science Research Council. CPPF works to strengthen the knowledge base and analytical capacity of the United Nations in conflict prevention and management, peacemaking, and peacebuilding. Ms. Stein's work focuses mostly on Latin America and the Caribbean, including post-conflict Colombia and violence in Central America, and more recently her regional focus has included work on the Middle East and North Africa. Some of the cross-regional issues that she covers include prevention, sustaining peace, humanitarian affairs, gender, and drug policy. Sabrina has an MA and BA in Political Science and a BA in French from the University of Central Florida.

**Aruna Thanabalasingam - United Nations**

Ms. Thanabalasingam is Director, Strategic Planning and Staffing Division, at the United Nations. She has significant organizational development and human resources management experience from the private sector and UN system, and has led organizational change and strategic talent management initiatives for both. Ms. Thanabalasingam was with KPMG, Kenya; Pricewaterhouse Coopers and Deloitte Consulting in New York, and prior to the UN, she was Director, HR Consulting Practice at KPMG, East Africa. Since joining the UN, she has been with UNDP, UNICEF and is now at the UN Secretariat. She holds a MA in Organization Psychology from Columbia University; a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Analysis from University of Lancaster, UK; and a BA in Policy-Making and Administration from University of Essex, UK.