

SPEAKERS BIO



Sara Ibrahim Abdelgalil

Doctor and Democracy Advocate on the Sudanese Diaspora

Sara Ibrahim Abdelgalil (Arabic: سارة إبراهيم عبد الجليل) is a Sudanese UK-based doctor and democracy advocate involved in Sudanese diaspora initiatives. Member of Sudan's Doctors for Human Rights, she emphasises child protection, and actively contributed during the 2018–2019 Sudanese protests and against the 2021 military coup as a spokesperson for the Sudanese Professionals Association.



Bettina Borisch

Director, The World Federation of Public Health Associations

Professor Bettina Borisch is a prominent figure in the field of public health, serving as the Chief Executive Officer of the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA). Her work bridges the fields of medicine, public health, history and global health governance, reflecting her commitment to improving health outcomes globally. She holds a medical degree and a doctorate in pathology. Her early career was marked by significant contributions to cancer research, particularly in breast cancer pathology and the biology of Non Hodgkin lymphomas. Over time, her focus shifted towards public health, where she advocated for universal health coverage, health equity, including women's rights and sustainable health systems. She is a vocal advocate for advancing racial equity in women's health, leveraging her expertise in public health to address systemic disparities affecting marginalised communities.



Ruben Brouwer

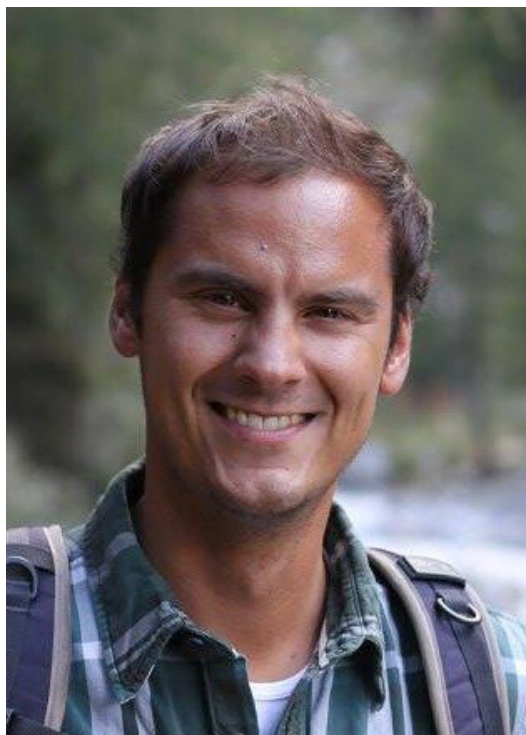
Human Rights Officer, Women's Human Rights and Gender Section, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Ruben Brouwer is a Human Rights Officer with the United Nations Human Rights Office (OHCHR) and has been with the office since 2015. He is part of the Women's Human Rights and Gender Section, where he conducts research and advocacy on women human rights defenders, civic space, and countering anti-gender trends. In OHCHR, Ruben has also worked on sexual and reproductive health and rights and supported OHCHR's engagement in several countries in South-East Asia. Prior to joining OHCHR, Ruben worked for various human rights and peacebuilding civil society organizations in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the United Kingdom, Ghana, the United States of America, as well as the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the UN in New York. Ruben is from the Netherlands and holds a MA in International Security from the Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po, Paris, and an LLM in Public International Law from the University of Amsterdam.

Rafael Carrano Lelis

PhD Student, Gender Centre, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Rafael Carrano Lelis (he/him) is a Brazilian human rights lawyer and LGBTI+ activist. He is a Teaching Assistant and Ph.D. Researcher at the Geneva Graduate Institute, and a member of the Editorial Board of the Australian Feminist Law Journal. His current research focuses on the mobilization of human rights by transnational LGBTI+ activists at Geneva-based UN mechanisms, combining legal and anthropological approaches. Rafael worked as a research consultant for ILGA World between 2020–2021, during which time he co-authored the 2020 edition of the State-Sponsored Homophobia report. He is also one of the contributors to the Queer Judgments Project, and his chapter in the project's recently published edited collection proposes a queer re-writing of views adopted by the UN Human Rights Committee. His latest book analyzes advocacy efforts by the Brazilian LGBTI+ movement in the 1980s.





Ashka Naik

**Chief Research and Policy Officer,
Corporate Accountability**

Ashka Naik is a public policy expert and social scientist with more than two decades of international experience working across food and climate justice movements, corporate accountability issues, multilateral policymaking, and women's rights. She has served in several leadership roles at mission-driven organizations in the U.S. and India. Ashka currently serves as the Chief Research and Policy Officer at an international human rights organization, Corporate Accountability.

Ashka also serves on the steering committee of Geneva Global Health Hub and advises on several experts committees on food systems, security, and sovereignty, as well as political and corporate accountability.

Her doctoral work has also focused on the intersection of women's rights, food security, and power in South Asia.

Ashka continues to work closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Committee on World Food Security's (CFS) ecosystem, in addition to providing interventions for international treaty processes, such as the Pandemic Treaty and the the Business and Human Rights Treaty. Ashka speaks English, Hindi, Urdu, and Gujarati, as well as has working knowledge of Sanskrit, Marathi, and Punjabi.



Parisa Nazari

Activist in the Iranian Feminist Diaspora in Europe



Parisa Nazari was born in Tehran in 1974 and left Iran as soon as she came of age. After studying Art and Architecture for two years at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, she moved to Italy in 1996. Following her graduation in Pharmacy from La Sapienza University of Rome, she became actively engaged in cultural initiatives and human rights advocacy. Currently, she resides in Rome, where she works as a pharmacist, interpreter, intercultural mediator, and human rights advocate. She collaborates with organizations such as Amnesty International, the International House of Women (Casa Internazionale delle Donne), and various cultural and social promotion associations. Her advocacy focuses on defending human rights, promoting gender equality, and empowering women, particularly through campaigns, workshops, and community-based initiatives.

Ruchi Shroff

Director, Navdanya International



Ruchi Shroff is currently the director of Navdanya International, an organization founded in Italy in 2011 to expand Navdanya's global reach. Navdanya is an Earth Centric, Women centric and Farmer led movement for the protection of Biological and cultural Diversity created by Dr. Vandana Shiva 30 years ago in India, to defend Seed and Food sovereignty and small farmers around the world. Her studies are based on physics, economics, on indigenous population rights and land grabbing. She is the coordinator of the Seed Freedom campaign, a global network reclaiming the rights of farmers to save and exchange traditional seeds. She is part of the organizing committee of Monsanto Tribunal and People's Assembly.

MODERATOR



Nicoletta Dentico

Director Global Health Justice Program, Society for International Development, Co-President of G2H2

Nicoletta Dentico, journalist and writer, has a solid experience in international cooperation, human rights and public health. After successfully coordinating the Campaign to Ban Landmines in Italy, she directed Médecines Sans Frontières (MSF), inaugurating the organization's programs on migrants' rights. She was long involved in the MSF Campaign on Access to Essential Medicines, and then led the policy advocacy at Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi).

She worked for the World Health Organization (WHO) on the global strategy on public health, innovation and intellectual property rights – a topic she continues following to date. She currently leads the global health justice program at Society for International Development (SID) and co-chairs the civil society platform Geneva Global Health Hub (G2H2). She teaches global health at the University La Sapienza in Rome.

She has written extensively on health rights and international development policies, including the books: "Rich and Generous? The Dark Weft of Philanthrocapitalism"(2020); "The Geopolitics of Health: COVID-19, WHO and the Pandemic Challenges" (2021). She is married and has three children.