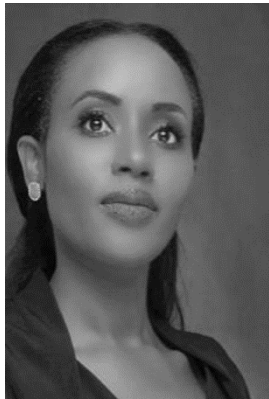
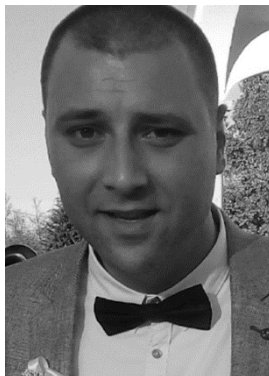




Bios of the Members of the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council – second cohort (ISTAC)



Jeanne Celestine Lakin (US) is an award-winning author of *A Voice in the Darkness: Memoir of a Rwandan Genocide*, which she wrote as a survivor of genocide in Rwanda. She obtained her MA in Public Administration and Public Policy from Eastern Washington University. Jeanne is a Human Rights Advocate. Passionate about the unmet needs of children, Jeanne founded an NGO, One Million Orphans, an initiative dedicated to providing sustainable support to the world's most vulnerable children. She shared her story in various media such as Today Show, NPR, KPRC, Fox News, Universities, faith base organizations, and many others, and it was also recently featured in President Bush's book, *Out of Many, One: Portraits of America's Immigrants*. She has spoken at the high-level events for the UN, OSCE and [ICAT](#) and is a member of the [Washington Speakers Bureau](#). Jeanne Celestine is the Chair of ISTAC.



Marko Tamindžija (Bosnia and Herzegovina). As a student in the fourth year of Medical Faculty in Banja Luka, he left Bosnia and Herzegovina for employment in Azerbaijan in 2009 and became a victim of human trafficking for labor exploitation. In 2011, he co-founded and became the Chairman of an NGO called Novi Pocetak (New Beginning). Marko worked with Bosnia and Herzegovina Trade Union and Ministry for Refugees, as well as IOM and Caritas on several projects providing direct assistance to victims and preventing labor exploitation. His work resulted in a positive judgment from the European Court of Human Rights for 33 complainants in the [Serbaz Case](#). Marko also worked with the Council of Europe Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina on raising awareness about labour exploitation. Marko is the Vice-Chair of ISTAC.



Alina Catrinel Gheorghe (Romania) is the Educational Program Officer of eLiberare Association, an NGO working on preventing and combating human trafficking and sexual exploitation in Romania. The organization is defined by five priorities: preventive education, capacity building, assistance, advocacy, public policies and awareness campaigns. In this capacity, she coordinates the Educational Program. Her role at eLiberare also has a layer of co-creation as well as managing various tasks, organizing and planning.



Alisa Gbiorczyk (US) holds a master's degree in international relations from Harvard University. Alisa is a member of INTERPOL's Human Trafficking Expert Group, and a member of the Global Association of Human Trafficking Scholars. Alisa has identified human trafficking networks operating across the United States. At the international level, Alisa led an international operation that conducted research and intelligence collection that identified potential victims and human trafficking networks in Europe. Alisa has provided training on cyber-enabled human trafficking and migrant smuggling to INTERPOL's Human Trafficking and Crimes Against Children Units. Additionally, she developed training for prosecutors and law enforcement officials in South Africa and trained Canadian law enforcement officials on how to identify and disrupt criminals engaging in child exploitation online and human trafficking.



Angelina Kurdenok (Georgia/Russian Federation) is a survivor leader originally from Russia, now living and working in Tbilisi, Georgia. She remotely leads and coordinates the 'Eurydice' Novosibirsk feminist initiative, founded in 2019. This is the only independent grassroots initiative in Russia combating exploitation in prostitution. In this position, she deals with case-management of clients, social assistance, mentoring, and also periodically writes articles and gives lectures. She is not only a public activist, but she also works as an IT recruiter full-time. She was a member of the 1st ISTAC.



Hyab Yohannes (UK) is a PhD holder from the University of Glasgow, is a research associate and academic coordinator. Hyab recently signed a book contract with Routledge for his upcoming book, "The Coloniality of the Refugee." He is an Eritrean refugee in the UK, completed an MA in Migration and Diaspora Studies at SOAS University of London. He is a member of the RSE Young Academy of Scotland and holds several management and leadership roles outside academia. He engaged extensively with refugees and asylum seekers at various positions ranging from community facilitation to casework and community organising in Sudan, in Egypt, and in the UK. He worked formally for local charities and international organisations in Egypt including UNHCR, IOM, Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance (AMERA) and Saint Andrew's Refugee Services. He was a member of the 1st ISTAC.



Itohan Okundaye (Finland) is a survivor leader of human trafficking of sexual exploitation, a human rights activist, a consultant, and an advocate, and has worked and volunteered in several anti-trafficking organizations. The NGO Finnish Women in Development started an anti-trafficking campaign Toisenlaisia tarinoita (Different Stories) based on Okundaye's initiative in 2018. She provides awareness-raising about human trafficking and societal impact by organizing seminars and events, public speeches, giving interviews, and fundraising. Her autobiography was published in 2020. In 2022, Okundaye founded an NGO called Shinning Hope Foundation against human trafficking in Benin City, Nigeria. She is a member of the International Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Survivor

Network and was a member of the 1st ISTAC.



Jane Lasonder (UK) is a founding member of the Red Alert Task Force, a multi-disciplinary task force designed to raise awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking. She is also the author of Red Alert: the inside story of prostitution and human trafficking and a photographer. As a survivor of child trafficking, Jane shares her expertise with organizations and groups who are interested in increasing their knowledge of modern slavery and human trafficking, including school-age children, teens, medical students. She has contributed to the work of the European Parliament, the UN, OSCE/ODIHR, the WHO and the media on human trafficking, amongst others.



Jerome Elam (US) is the Founder and President and CEO of Trafficking in America Task Force. After his completion of eight years in the United States Marine Corps, Jerome attended the University of Florida, earning a Bachelor of Science degree. He went on to spend several years working in the Biotechnology sector. He is a public speaker, a staff writer, and a columnist for Communities Digital News. He was featured as one of New York's New Abolitionists and received the Award for Courage from the National Council of Jewish Women in 2015. He was appointed as a Special Advisor to the Utah Attorney General on human trafficking. Jerome contributed as a speaker at the highest level internationally, including the Council of Europe, UN and OSCE. In 2023, Jerome received a lifetime achievement award from the United States Attorney

General's Alliance. He was a member of the 1st ISTAC.



Kelly Dore (US) is the Co-founder and Executive Director of Sierra Cares Foundation. She is also an international policy consultant for many organizations including government entities and non-profits on best practice and ethical standards, voluntourism, orphanage trafficking and migrant repatriation. She serves to help non-profit leaders in war-torn nations to build healthy organizations and policies through strategic planning, trauma-informed care and has advised elected officials to write and implement legislation and funding for exploited and vulnerable populations in the US, Europe and Africa. She helped to develop and implement the first mental health and trauma program for migrants returning home from captivity in other countries. Kelly has also served as an advisor to human trafficking councils in several US states, as well as the US Department of State

Council on World Affairs. She was a policy advisor for the US Department of Justice, FBI and United Against Slavery on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children on familial trafficking and data compliance. She helped to author one of the first guides on familial trafficking and provided a Ted Talk on "The Intersection of Trauma and Vulnerability."



Kelly Tallon Franklin (Canada) is the founder and Chief Executive Director of Courage for Freedom, a non-profit organization dedicated to eradicating human trafficking and sexual exploitation with a focus on ending the buying and selling of children. She is a leading expert in Canada on minor-aged victim/survivor support work. Kelly's tireless work in the field led to the first acknowledgment of Ontario as a "hub" and corridor with ProjectONroute now ProjectMapleLeaf. Government, industries, all faith and religious leaders, and civic organizations have been part of her team building and movement mapping strategy. Kelly is a member of Business and Professional Women Canada, International.



Lydia Osifo Festus (Spain) is a Nigerian activist, survivor and Agent of Change on behalf of the CSO's Accion Contra la Trata – ACT (Action Against Human Trafficking in Persons) and the group called Las Poderosas (Women in Power) in Pamplona, Navarre, Spain. As an Agent of Change, Lydia leads conferences and participates in public events to share her own experience related to the origin and consequences of human trafficking for sexual exploitation. Lydia's story was published in the book "Libres para soñar" (Free to Dream, 2021, Spain). Lydia is also part of the start-up company called "Costura Poderosa - COPO", an occupational company created by Las Poderosas and Accion Contra la Trata - ACT to provide employment opportunities to women, which can be seen in the Costura Poderosa

short film.



personal trafficking experience, can be effectively channelled into the fight against this grave issue.

Maria Kirdan (France/Russian Federation) is an art and community worker, activist, and queer person, originally from Russia and currently residing in France. She is a survivor of child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation from the ages of 12 to 15. In 2021, Maria embarked on a documentary project, delving into the pervasive issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children in her home country. She conducted interviews with survivors from various regions, age groups, and genders, aiming to shed light on their experiences. Unfortunately, her project was disrupted by the ongoing Russian military aggression against Ukraine, as she had to leave Russia. She believes that her professional expertise in public relations, community management, and project coordination, coupled with her



Ireland. She holds a BA (Hons) in Community and Youth Work; a Master in Rights and Social Policy from Maynooth University and a postgrad in European Union Policy Making from Vrije Universiteit Brussels. In 2019, she was selected as one of the 12 people globally to take part in an intensive three week UN Fellowship for People of African Descent, which was recognised by the UN General Assembly as (and added to the list of) 100 Most Influential people of African Descent under 40 Worldwide. She was a member of the 1st ISTAC.

Mariaam Bhatti (Ireland) is an experienced campaigner, community work and social policy practitioner, a migrant woman, survivor of trafficking and co-founder of the Great Care Co-op. For nearly 8 years she campaigned on behalf of Migrant Rights Centre Ireland's Domestic Workers Action Group which became a dynamic campaigning group for the rights of domestic workers working in Ireland. She was one of the 23 workers who campaigned successfully for the criminalization of forced labour in 2013. She was one of the 25 core group of 500 migrant domestic workers, who campaigned to get Ireland to ratify the ILO Convention C189 in 2014 and in the same year got the Department of Foreign Affairs to design a policy that protected domestic workers employed in diplomatic households in



Regina Lee Jones (Norway) is a human trafficking survivor, originally from Estonia and as of today with permanent residence in Norway. Regina holds a bachelor's degree in cognitive psychology. She has long work experience as a security inspector and now works as a counselor at Norwegian Labor and Welfare Administration. Besides this, she has always been passionate about advocating for work against human trafficking, working as a co-trainer and advisor in this field, and helping directly victims out of trafficking situations. She has also been a proud member of ISTAC first cohort.



Shamsiya Asanalishoeva (Tajikistan) is a survivor of labour trafficking to Saudi Arabia for the purpose of domestic work. After returning to Tajikistan, she has engaged in advocacy and awareness raising activities locally and with IGOs to prevent trafficking of Tajik citizens to destination countries. She currently works with the NGO Femida, contributed to the work of the OSCE Office in Bishkek, IOM and various government agencies in Tajikistan and serves as a witness in court cases against employment agencies, who traffic Tajik women for the purpose of domestic servitude.



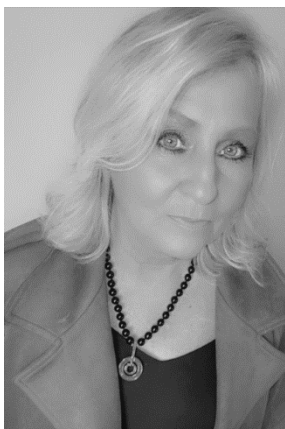
Shandra Woworuntu (US) is the founder and CEO of Mentari Human Trafficking Survivor Empowerment Program, Inc. As a survivor leader, Shandra has testified before the United States Senate, Committee on Foreign Relations Ending Modern Slavery Senate and State courts. She consulted with numerous governmental bodies in the United States, Indonesia, Mexico, UN- ICAT, UN-Women, UNODC, WHO, and the OSCE-ODIHR. In 2011, Shandra co-founded a survivor leadership “Voices of Hope”. From 2013-2017, she was the State of New Jersey Commissioner on Human Trafficking. In 2014, she was appointed by former President Barack Obama to be a member of the first United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. She was a 2017 L’Oréal Paris Women of Worth National Honoree and she was recognized as 2020 and 2021 Top 100 Most Influential Asian Americans in New York politics and policy. In 2022, Shandra received recognition as one of the 2022 Power of Diversity: Asian 100 New York’s Asian American trailblazers. Shandra is the author of Taste of Freedom. Shandra founded the Indonesian Survivor Advisory Council. Shandra is “WHY SLAVERY?” Ambassador to the United Nations. She was a member of the OSCE/ODIHR NRM Advisory Group and the Chair of the 1st ISTAC.



Dr. Suamhirs Piraino-Guzman (US) is a behavioural neurologist and clinical psychologist that specializes in human trafficking, gender-based violence, trauma-informed care, mental health to at-risk communities, and innovative behavioural health. As a male survivor of child sexual exploitation and trafficking, he has become an outspoken public advocate and active member of survivor networks. In 2015, he was appointed by President Obama to serve as National Security Advisor and Member of the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. Additionally, Dr Piraino-Guzman was appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General as Chair of the Board of Trustees for the United Nations Fund for Contemporary Forms of Slavery and Human Trafficking. As expert in behavioural psychology, he has years of experience developing curriculum and providing training on trauma-informed care, mental health, the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and evidence-based practices. He was a member of the 1st ISTAC.



Tanya Gould (US) is the Anti-Human Trafficking Director for the Virginia Commonwealth Attorney General’s Office and serves on the Governor’s Commission on Human Trafficking Prevention and Survivor Support. In 2023, Tanya received the *Presidential Award for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking in Persons*. She served 2 terms on the on the U.S. Advisory Council on Human trafficking. Tanya has given lectures and trainings at universities, human trafficking conferences, and faith communities raising awareness both nationally and abroad. She has served as a consultant to various anti human trafficking organizations, as well as US Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime, Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign, Global Strategic Operatives for the Eradication of Human Trafficking, Inc. and US Department of State TIP Office. She also serves on boards and organizations such as Polaris, Beloved Haven and Parliamentary Intelligence-Security Forum Taskforce on Human Trafficking.



Teresa Forliti (US) is a survivor of sexual exploitation. While serving as the former Chief Executive Officer of Breaking Free, a service-provider founded and led by survivors, she helped create a permanent living community, Safe Harbor Shelter and a Drop-In Center in St. Paul, Minnesota that served over 200 clients annually. Terry works to mitigate and leverage opportunities and interdictions, theories and best practice to effectively promote healing and sustainable solutions, as an independent contractor. She is often requested as an inspirational speaker, trainer, curriculum consultant, focus group facilitator, project manager while staying involved with coalitions, survivor support groups, community activism and the anti-trafficking movement in the US. Terry was awarded the College of Adult and Professional Studies Alumna of the Year for Bethel University in 2019.



Zita Cabais (France) is a Filipino-French citizen, former domestic worker and migrant advocate. She is a survivor of human trafficking, illegal recruitment, slavery and forced labor. In 2002, she founded and is the president of the association “Asosasyong Sanguniang Filipino ASF”. From 2003 to 2020, Zita was the General Secretary and Founder of Domestic Workers Union based in Paris. Formerly, Zita was a representative of the union as negotiator of Collective Agreement on Domestic Worker's Protection. She is an activist on protection of the domestic workers rights. Zita was also a former member of Federal Board of Directors of Federation of Services CFDT in France. Zita used her experience and expertise to work as a member of the board of Committee Against Slavery in France. Zita also contributed to the work of international organizations such as OSCE, ICAT and UN Women. She was a member of the 1st ISTAC.