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AUTUMN SCHOOL

International Intensive Course

***Judicial and social aspects of violence against children,
particularly girls, in armed conflict***

**Organized by the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict and the
Institute of Political Studies “S. Pio V”**

**A project supported by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
International Cooperation**

16 October - 3 November 2023

The **Autumn School** is an **international intensive course held online** that offers the possibility of an academic and professional training on the subject of International Human Rights Law (IHRL), International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Criminal Law (ICL) with regard to the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict and with a specific focus on gender issues.

THE AIM OF THE AUTUMN SCHOOL

This intensive course is open to all those interested in learning more about the protection of children affected by armed conflict and in analyzing the judicial and social aspects of violence against them.

The course will cover key issues related to the protection of these children, in particular girls, offering the participants a comprehensive knowledge of the topic with a particular focus on not only a theoretical perspective but also a practical one.

The classes will involve the participation of attendees from different fields of study and training.

The course also aims to ensure a space for networking among the trainees in order to further explore aspects covered during the lessons and to create like-minded *Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC)* and *United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325* “champions groups” coordinated by the professors of the course.

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PARTICIPANTS

It is required that the participants have a background in Law, Political Science, International Relations or Sociology. It is preferable that participants hold a University degree (at least a BA or equivalent with 3 years of studies in these disciplines) or have an equivalent professional experience in a relevant field.

Having already completed a three-year course is a non-mandatory requirement.

Graduates of other disciplines will be considered depending upon the courses they have followed.

We particularly encourage the participation of those from the universities and research centers that are part of the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict as well as organizations working in the sector.

SCHEDULE

The **Autumn School** will be held online **from 16th October 2023 to 3rd November 2023** (for the schedule refer to the *programme* you can find below).

The attendance of participants from different countries is foreseen. For this reason the difference in time zones will be considered and **the course will be held from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm CET (Central European Time)** so to allow every participant from different geographical areas to attend it.

The online course will be recorded and made available to enrolled people for consultation in the days following the school.

The course will be held in English.

DEADLINE FOR COURSE REGISTRATION: 9th October 2023

Registration and participation in the course are free of charge.

Information on the enrollment procedure can be found in the *application form*.

A certificate will be issued at the end of the course.

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COURSE ORGANIZATION AND CONTENTS

The Autumn School favours a balance between theory and practice. The theme of the protection of boys and girls in armed conflict will be analyzed through multidisciplinary approach and with a specific insight into the actions undertaken by States in line with the provisions of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 “Women, Peace and Security”.

The speakers will be selected from international and regional organizations, institutions and agencies, NGOs, and will include professors and experts in different fields who are collaborating in the project activity of the Universities Network.

During the *first week* of the course, the participants will receive an overview of international and regional legal and social framework for protecting children in armed conflict from speakers bringing their experience and expertise to the discussion. A round table that will take place on the last day of the first week will be specifically dedicated to the *gender perspective* in relation to the UNSCR 1325.

During the *second week* of the course, the situation in different geographical contexts, the national action plans and case studies in different countries will be analysed with the aim of contextualizing the general topic of the course with insights from the field. A round table that will take place on the last day of this second week will be dedicated to the topical issue of the International Justice for combating crimes against children affected by armed conflict.

A final individual examination of the course is foreseen. It will consist of an **essay of a maximum of 10 pages** on a specific topic covered during the course.

The last days of the course will be dedicated to the preparation of this final individual examination with in-depth sessions on *Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC)* and *United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325* issues with the support of professors and experts from the Universities Network.

The individual essay must be sent not later than 5 days after the end of the course.

The certificate will be issued at the end of the course after receiving the final individual essay and with a minimum attendance of 70% of the entire course.

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PROGRAMME

DAY	MODULES
First Week	<i>International Legal Framework for Protecting Children in Armed Conflict</i>
Monday, 16 th October 2023 2:30 - 5:30 pm CET	<p><u>2:30 – 3:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>Greetings from Institutional Representatives / Introduction and practical information by representatives of the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict</p> <p>Representative of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (tbc)</p> <p>Virginia Gamba, <i>Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict</i></p> <p>Emilio Puccio, <i>Secretary General of the Intergroup on Children’s Rights - European Parliament</i></p> <p>Fausto Pocar, <i>President of the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict (UNETCHAC)</i></p> <p>Paolo De Nardis, <i>President of Institute of Political Studies “S. Pio V”</i></p> <p><u>Introduction to the Course</u></p> <p>Laura Guercio, <i>Secretary-General of the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict (UNETCHAC)</i></p> <hr/> <p><u>3:30 – 5:30 pm CET</u></p> <p><i>International and Regional Framework and the United Nations Mechanisms in the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Federica Sola, <i>Associate Political Affairs Officer, UN Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, Europe Liaison Office</i>• Ljubomir Petruljeskov, <i>Program Lead Eastern Europe and Central Asia at International Development Law Organization (IDLO)</i> <p><u>Participants are included in two Like-minded champions groups: Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) and United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325</u></p>



<p>Tuesday, 17th October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p><i>The International Human Rights Law Framework for Protecting Children in Armed Conflict</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giuseppe Cataldi, <i>University of Naples “L’ Orientale” (Italy) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Europe</i> • Julia Sloth-Nielsen, <i>University of Huddersfield (UK) / Leiden University (The Netherlands)</i> • Steven Haines, <i>University of Greenwich, London (UK)</i>
<p>Wednesday, 18th October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p><i>The International Humanitarian Law Framework for Protecting Children in Armed Conflict</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fausto Pocar, <i>President of UNETCHAC / Honorary President, International Institute of Humanitarian Law – Sanremo (Italy)</i> • Giulio Bartolini, <i>University of “Roma Tre” (Italy) / Italian Red Cross (tbc)</i> • Massimo Marelli, <i>Head of Delegation, ICRC Delegation for Cyberspace in Luxembourg</i>
<p>Thursday, 19th October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p><i>International Criminal Law and the “Child” in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Guercio, <i>Secretary-General of UNETCHAC / Lawyer on the ICC List of Counsel / University “Niccolò Cusano” (Italy)</i> • Paolina Massidda, <i>Principal Counsel, Independent Office of Public Counsel for Victims (OPCV), International Criminal Court (ICC)</i> • Ahmed Aubais Al-Fatlawi, <i>University of Kufa (Iraq) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Asia</i>
<p>Friday, 20th October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p><i>Round Table</i></p> <p><i>The UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and Children in Armed Conflict: a Gender Perspective</i></p> <p>Moderator: Simona Lanzellotto, <i>UNETCHAC</i></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan Marie Fritz, <i>University of Cincinnati (USA) / University of Johannesburg (South Africa)</i> • Yvonne M. Vissing, <i>Salem State University (USA)</i> • Klodiana Beshku, <i>University of Tirana (Albania)</i> • Silvia Scarpa, <i>John Cabot University (Italy)</i>
	<p><i>Week-end</i></p>
<p>SECOND WEEK</p>	<p><u>Geographic Analysis of current situations of children in Armed Conflict</u></p> <p><i>Which violations against children in armed conflict? Which challenges for IHRL and IHL? Which challenges for International Criminal Justice?</i></p> <p>A comparative regional analysis with a focus on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (National Action Plans, NAPS)</p>
<p>Monday, 23rd October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AFRICA</u></p> <p><u>2:30-3:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>Analysis of the framework of the protection of children in armed conflict and post-conflict situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fausto Pocar, <i>President of UNETCHAC / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Africa</i> <p><u>3:30 - 4:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>The commitments of countries in Africa under the UNSCR 1325</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radoslaw Malinowski, <i>CEO Awareness against Human Trafficking (HAART Kenya) / Tangaza University College (Kenya)/ Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on Africa</i> <p><u>4:30 – 5:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>Granting justice for children victims of armed conflict: achievements and challenges</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kito Masimango, <i>Université Panafricaine de Conformité en Océanique (Democratic Republic of Congo) / Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on Africa</i>
<p>Tuesday, 24th October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ASIA</u></p> <p><u>2:30 – 3:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>Analysis of the framework of the protection of children in armed conflict and post-conflict situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aristide Canepa, <i>University of Genoa (Italy) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Asia</i> <p><u>3:30 – 4:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>The commitments of countries in Asia under the UNSCR 1325</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shyamila Hettiarachchi, <i>Queen Mary University of London (UK)/ Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on Asia</i> <p><u>4:30 – 5:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>Granting justice for children victims of armed conflict: achievements and challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dato’ Shyamala Alagendra, <i>International Criminal Lawyer (Malaysia) / International Criminal Court Bar Association</i>
<p>Wednesday, 25th October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>EASTERN EUROPE</u></p> <p><u>2:30 – 3:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>Analysis of the framework of the protection of children in armed conflict and post-conflict situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vasilka Sancin, <i>University of Ljubljana (Slovenia) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Europe (tbc)</i> <p><u>3:30 – 4:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>The commitments of countries in Eastern Europe under the UNSCR 1325</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bahtije Gërbeshi Zylfiu, <i>University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishhtina” (Kosovo) / Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on Eastern Europe</i> <p><u>4:30 – 5:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>Granting justice for children victims of armed conflict: achievements and challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olena Krytska, <i>Expert in HRL / UNETCHAC Project Researcher on Ukraine</i>
<p>Thursday, 26th October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SOUTH AMERICA</u></p> <p><u>2:30 - 3:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>Analysis of the framework of the protection of children in armed conflict and post-conflict situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annamaria Rufino, <i>University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli” (Italy) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on South America</i> <p><u>3:30 – 5:30 pm CET</u></p> <p>The commitments of countries in South America under the UNSCR 1325</p> <p>Granting justice for children victims of armed conflict: achievements and challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diana Patricia Bolaños Erazo, <i>Doctoral Researcher at Federal University of Santa Maria (Brazil) / Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on South America</i>
<p>Friday, 27th October 2023</p> <p>2:30 - 5:30 pm CET</p>	<p><i>Round table</i></p> <p>The Role of the International Justice for Building a Future for Children in Armed Conflict</p> <p>Moderator: Giovanna Gnerre Landini, <i>UNETCHAC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paolina Massidda, <i>Principal Counsel, Independent Office of Public Counsel for Victims (OPCV - ICC) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Asia</i>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Settimio Stallone, <i>University of Naples “Federico II” (Italy)</i>• Stefano Dominelli, <i>University of Genoa (Italy)</i>
	<i>Week-end</i>
THIRD WEEK	Like-minded groups and in-depth analysis/work with the support of the professors of UNETCHAC
Monday, 30th October – Thursday, 2nd November 2023	Activities in the preparation of the final individual examination with sessions of in-depth analysis on issues relating to <i>Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC)</i> and <i>United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325</i>
Friday, November 3rd 2023 2:30 - 5:30 pm CET	Final session Interactive session with the trainees

Scientific Committee: Laura Guercio, Giovanna Gnerre Landini

Organizing Committee: Simona Lanzello, Riccardo Gugliotta, Arianna Visani, Andrea Ciommei, Antonino Pola

Media and Communication: Elena Rossi, Cecilia Senesi, Lisa Faccin

Organizing Secretariat of the International Autumn School: unetchac.autumnschool@gmail.com

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Studies from the University of Siena, Italy and the University Robert Schuman III of Strasbourg, France. She has held visiting research position at the School of Transnational Governance of the European University Institute. As a lecturer and visiting professor, she has taught academic and policy-oriented audiences in places such as University of Florence, University of Catania, University of Palermo, University Aleksandër Moisiu of Durrës, Albanian-American Development Foundation, Institute for Women in National and International Policies in Tirana, Institute for Philosophy and Social theory in Belgrade and the Centre of Excellence of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of Albania. She has also held advisory positions for the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of Albania on European Integration and the Western Balkans. Her research centres on European Integration and Enlargement, Geopolitics of the Western Balkans and Social Movements. Her first book as a co-editor *Albania and Europe in a Political Regard* appeared with Cambridge University Press (2013). Other research has appeared or is forthcoming in *Journal of Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, *Studia Politica* and *Journal of Liberty and International Affairs*.

Mr. Aristide CANEPA, *Professor at the University of Genoa (Italy) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Asia*

Aristide Canepa, PhD in constitutional law at the University of Bologna, is Associate Professor of Constitutional Law at the Department of Political and International Sciences of the University of Genoa and coordinator of the three-year degree course in Administrative and Political Sciences. He was also coordinator of the undergraduate program in International and Diplomatic Sciences, coordinator of the PhD in Democracy and Human Rights (Genoa) and Director of the Department of European Research. Within the framework of several cooperation programs, has carried out educational and organizational missions at numerous European and South American universities, as well as participated in dissemination and support for the constituent process in some Middle Eastern countries. He was co-director of the review "Gli Stranieri. Rassegna di Studi e Giurisprudenza". He is part of the International Advisory Board of "Zbornik radova Pravnog fakulteta u Splitu/Proceedings of the Faculty of Law in Split" and of the editorial board of "Diritto Pubblico Comparato ed Europeo" and is a referee for other scientific reviews and editorial series. He is a member of the Executive Board of UNETCHAC. His research interests have always focused on comparative constitutional law.

Mr. Giuseppe CATALDI, *Professor at the University of Naples "L'Orientale" (Italy) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Europe*

Giuseppe Cataldi is full Professor of International Law and Director of the Department of Social and Human Sciences in the University of Napoli "L'Orientale" (University Vice-President, 2008-2014). Coordinator of the European Network Jean Monnet "MAPS" (Migration and Asylum Policy Systems. Weaknesses, Shortcomings and Reform Proposals). He is the President of the International Association for the Law of the Sea (AssIDMer), author and editor of many articles and books on International Law and European Union Law issues, in particular concerning Law of the Sea, Human

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Rights, Migration, Relationship among domestic and international order. EMUNI (Euro-Mediterranean University) Management Board Member (former Senate Member). Visiting Professor in the Universities of Faro (Portugal), Cordoba (Spain), Kobe (Japan), Alexandria (Egypt), Paris 1 Sorbonne and Paris 2 Sorbonne-Assas (France) Shanghai, Xiamen and Beijing (China), Quito (Ecuador). From 2000 to 2015 he directed the “International Institute for Juridical Studies”, CNR (Italian National Research Council). He has worked as Consultant for many International as well as National Institutions (also Italian Parliament, 2019 on Migration issues) and private firms, pleading beyond numerous international courts. Former member of the Expert Group on "Mediterranean Governance" appointed by the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature). Member of the Italian delegation to the 21st session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee (1997). He was legal advisor to the European Union Commission - Directorate General for Fisheries, on the legal issues of fisheries management in the Mediterranean, and in this capacity member of the official delegation of the European Commission to the Diplomatic Conference in Crete (December 1994). Cofounder and co-director of “Diritti umani e diritto internazionale”, co-director of “The Italian Yearbook of International Law”. Member of the Italian Society of International Law (Vice-President, 2012 - 2013) and of the Société française de droit international.

Mr. Paolo DE NARDIS, *President of the Institute of Political Studies “S. Pio V” / Vice President of UNETCHAC*

Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the Department of Communication and Social Research of the Sapienza University of Rome. He is President of the S. Pio V Institute of Political Studies. He chairs the Joint Commission of the Faculty of Political Science, Sociology and Communication. He has taught and lectures at the following universities: University of L’Aquila, Suor Orsola Benincasa University, Libera Università Mediterranea – LUM, University of Enna Kore, University of Macerata. He is co-founder and lecturer of the Scuola Superiore dell’Interno and Scientific Director of the “Rivista trimestrale di Scienza dell’amministrazione”. He has authored more than 300 publications.

Mr. Stefano DOMINELLI, *Professor at the University of Genoa (Italy)*

Stefano Dominelli holds a Phd in international law from the University of Genoa, where he currently is Senior researcher and Assistant professor, teaching International law and International Law of Armed Conflicts.

Ms. Diana Patricia BOLAÑOS ERAZO, *Doctoral Researcher at the Federal University of Santa Maria (Brazil) / Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on South America*

Diana Patricia Bolaños Erazo is a colombian researcher with a diverse educational background. She earned her bachelor’s degree in Social Communication and Journalism from the prestigious Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia. She further pursued her academic journey and obtained both

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a MA and a PhD in Social Sciences from the esteemed Federal University of Santa Maria in Brazil. Throughout her academic career, she has been actively engaged in meaningful research. As a dedicated student-researcher, she is affiliated with the NECON - Center for Contemporary Studies, where she works under the esteemed coordination of Prof. Dr. Maria Catarina Chitolina. Additionally, she has made significant contributions as a member of MIGRAIDH (Group of research, teaching, and Extension in Human Rights and International Human Mobility) in the line of Migratory Flows and Alterities. In this capacity, she is part of the team led by Prof. Dr. Maria Clara Mocellin, focusing her efforts on various critical themes such as Migration, Refuge, Transnationalism, Gender, and Family from a comprehensive socio-anthropological perspective.

Ms. Jan Marie FRITZ, *Professor at the University of Cincinnati (USA) / University of Johannesburg (South Africa)*

Jan Marie Fritz, Ph.D., Certified Clinical Sociologist (C.C.S), is a professor in the School of Planning at the University of Cincinnati (USA) and is affiliated with the Department of Sociology and the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. She also is Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg (South Africa). She is a member of the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association (ISA), the lead ISA representative to the United Nations, and a member of the Steering Committee of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. She also is the editor of Springer's Clinical Sociology book series and a co-editor of the *Clinical Sociology Review*. She is a docent at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Cincinnati and is a Fulbright Specialist (consultant) for a four-year term (2021-2025). She has been a Distinguished Visiting Professor with the Honors College at the University of South Florida, and, for many years, a special education mediator for the state of Kentucky. She also has been a Fulbright Senior Research Scholar at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in Washington, D.C., a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar in Human Rights and International Studies at the Danish Institute for Human Rights and a Fulbright-National Science Foundation Arctic Scholar in Iceland. Her work has won a number of awards including the Ohio Mediation Association's Better World Award and the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology. She has published extensively about the national action plans based on UNSCR 1325 women, peace and security and the protection of children in armed conflict.

Ms. Virginia GAMBÀ, *Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict*

Professor Virginia Gamba was appointed Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict at the Under-Secretary-General level in April 2017. She served most recently as Assistant Secretary General, Head of the Joint Investigative Mechanism Syria (SC Res 2235 and 2319). She previously served as Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and Director of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. Past engagements with the United Nations

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include serving as Director to the Disarmament and Conflict Resolution Programme at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in Geneva (1992-1996).

Ms. Gamba has a long career in peace and security, human security and disarmament issues. From 2007 to 2011 she served as Deputy Director and Senior Coordinator on Safety and Security at the Instituto Superior de Seguridad Pública, Ministry of Justice, Government of the Autonomous city of Buenos Aires. From 1996 to 2006 she was based in Africa serving inter-alia as peace and security consultant to the Africa Union, Deputy Director of the Institute for Security Studies in South Africa and Director for South-South Interactions of Safer Africa. She was also the senior program officer for arms control, disarmament and demobilization at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in Chicago (1991-1993). Prior to this she was an academic and a senior lecturer at the Latin American Security Studies, Department of War Studies, King's College, London (1986-1991). Moreover, she also served as an advisor to the Argentine Ministry of Defense on Civil Military Relations and Transformation of the Military under Democracy (1983-1985).

Ms. Gamba holds an MSc (Econ) in Strategic Studies, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth and a B.A. (Hons) in Spanish and Latin American Studies, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, United Kingdom.

Born in San Martin, province of Buenos Aires in 1954, Ms. Gamba is married and has one daughter.

Ms. Giovanna GNERRE LANDINI, *Office Manager for Relations with the Academic Institutions, Students and Associations of UNETCHAC*

Giovanna Gnerre Landini is an Italian researcher in international human rights law and international humanitarian law. She holds a PhD in International Order and Human Rights from Sapienza University of Rome (Italy). She is currently the UNETCHAC Office Manager for Relations with Universities, Students and Associations. Her research and training activities focus on the International Human Rights Law on multilevel protection (national, regional and international) of vulnerable groups in particular children, women and migrants. She cooperates regularly as lecturer, consultant and analyst with several universities, NGOs and national and international institutions in Italy and abroad.

Ms. Laura GUERCIO, *Secretary-General of UNETCHAC / Lawyer on the ICC List of Counsel / Professor at the University "Niccolò Cusano" (Italy)*

Ms. Guercio is a lawyer in Rome and Genoa, with experience in other jurisdictions (namely, Great Britain/Republic of Ireland). Professor of International Relations and Intelligence Systems at University "Niccolò Cusano" (Italy). Member of the Council of the European Law Institute in Vienna (Austria); Expert Consultant of the Italian National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty (NIHMP); Italian Agent of the Management Board of the European Agency for Fundamental Rights (2015- 2020); Secretary-General of the Inter-ministerial Committee for Human Rights at the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (2016-2020); Expert for the Human Dimension Mechanism - Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); Assistant to

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Counsel (for victims) before the International Criminal Court. Since 2010, Legal Consultant/Expert in international Projects developed in Yemen, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Afghanistan, Swaziland, Kosovo, Jordan, Palestine. She holds an international Ph.D in Social Science (Trinity College Dublin- Genoa University); she holds a Master's Degree of Law at the University of Rome La Sapienza, a Master's Degree of Political Science, Politics and Economics of the Mediterranean Region at the University of Genoa (Italy), and a Master's Degree of International Relations at the Queen Mary University London (UK).

Mr. Steven HAINES, *Professor at the University of Greenwich, London (UK)*

Steven Haines has been Professor of Public International Law in the University of Greenwich, London since 2012, prior to which he worked as an academic international lawyer in Geneva, on the Management Board of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy. He served in the British Armed Forces for over thirty years, including with NATO in Kosovo and with the British Joint Force in Freetown, towards the end of the civil war in Sierra Leone. He chaired the Editorial Board of the UK's official Manual on the Law of Armed Conflict and wrote the UK's strategic level Defence Doctrine. He worked with the Global Coalition to Protect Education from attack and led the drafting of the International Guidelines for the Protection of Schools and Universities that are at the heart of the Safe Schools Declaration.

Ms. Shyamila HETTIARACHCHI, *Queen Mary University of London (UK)/ Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on Asia*

Shyamila Hettiarachchi brings to the table a very unique range of experiences and skills. Having worked in the global private sector as well as the development sector, she has the capability to provide holistic insight to the practicalities of sustainable development. She holds an MBA and an MIM from Bond University, Australia and a MSc in International Relations from Queen Mary, University of London. She is also a Certified Coach and Behavioural Analyst. Her forte lies in the qualitative research and development of sustainable avenues for the empowerment and enabling of women and young people to be valuable socio-economic contributors while developing their own lives. She is also a keen participant in working towards strong and lasting solutions for children affected by armed conflict as she too was a 'war child' during the terrorist war in Sri Lanka.

Ms. Olena KRYTSKA, *Expert in HRL / Universities Network Project Researcher on Ukraine*

Olena Krytska: Researcher of a Project conducted by the University Network for Children in Armed Conflict and focused on Children in Armed Conflict in Africa, Asia, South America, and Europe (Ukraine and Kosovo); Co-author of the Analysis and Recommendations for a Renewal of the ICC Office of the Prosecutor 2016 Policy on Children; Author of the article as a part of the third number of handbook series of the University Network for Children in Armed Conflict (that will be spread in December 2023); Master of Laws: faculty of Law of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

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(bachelor's degree); faculty of Law of National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (master's degree). Attended the following courses: the advanced training course “*International Criminal Jurisdiction and Children in Armed Conflict*” by the University Network for Children in Armed Conflict; the course of the lectures “*Sexual violence related with a conflict*” by the center “Jurfem: Education”; the course of the lectures “*Crimes during the war*” by the center “Jurfem: Education”; the course “*European Social Charter and the practice of the European Committee of Social Rights*” by the Council of Europe.

Ms. Simona LANZELLOTTO, *Project Office Manager of UNETCHAC*

Simona Lanzellotto is a lawyer specialized in criminal and family law and international criminal law. Since 2010, she has worked on many international projects in the Middle East (Yemen, Iraq, Libya, Jordan), Africa (Eswatini) and Palestine as a legal consultant and researcher for different NGOs and Universities on the protection issue of women and children. She is currently the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict project manager.

Mr. Radoslaw MALINOWSKI, *CEO Awareness against Human Trafficking (HAART Kenya) / Lecturer at the Tangaza University College (Kenya) / Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on Africa*

Dr Radoslaw Malinowski specializes in issues of historical and modern slavery in East Africa. He is a founder and CEO of HAART Kenya, a nongovernmental organization working on the problem of human trafficking in Kenya. Since its inception HART Kenya has saved over 1000 victims of human trafficking as well as trained over 100 thousand people on safe migration and human trafficking. Radoslaw is also a lecturer at Tangaza University College where he lectures subjects related to Medieval Church History and Law. His areas of specialization are Medieval international and inter-religious treaty on peace, war hostility cessation and slavery in Sudan (Baqt) as well modern trends of human trafficking. His publications are centered on slavery in modern society and its impact on the lives of grass root communities. The recent publications are focusing on modern day slavery relation to climate change in the context of drought affected population of Northern Kenya.

Mr. Kito MASIMANGO, *Professor at the Université Panafricaine de Conformité en Océanique (Democratic Republic of Congo) / Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on Africa*

Monsignor Kito Masimango Pax André Marie is Bishop of the Old Catholic Apostolic of the Padre Pio Mission in Africa. Doctor in Liberal Theology (Théologie Libérale) and Doctor in Didactics of Legal Sciences, specialized in Didactics of International Human Rights Law. University Professor and Builder of Peace in Africa since 2011. Specialist in Victimology, Right to Peaceful Conflict Resolution; International and Comparative Environmental Law, Law of International Organizations, International Humanitarian Law, Transitional Justice, International Criminal Justice and Training of Human Rights Defenders and Democratic Leaders. Lawyer at the Kisangani Bar and Professional

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Expert Actor of Civil Society at national and international level. Former Human Rights Assistant at the United Nations. Since 2020, Bishop Pax KITO has been a Founding Member of the International Association of Universities led by the Perugia University of Rome – Italy. He has published several books, scientific articles and reports at national and international level.

Mr. Massimo MARELLI, *Head of Delegation, ICRC Delegation for Cyberspace in Luxembourg*

Massimo Marelli is the Head of Delegation for Cyberspace in Luxembourg of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Massimo is a member of the Advisory Board and a Fellow of the European Centre on Privacy and Cybersecurity (ECPC) at the University of Maastricht, co-director of the Humanitarian Action Programme at ECPC, and the co-editor of the DigitHarium, a global forum to discuss and debate digital transformation within the humanitarian sector, with a focus on humanitarian protection, policy, ethics and action. He is also a member of the Brussels Privacy Hub Advisory Board, and the co-editor of the Handbook on Data Protection in Humanitarian Action. Prior to his current role, Massimo held several assignments with the ICRC in the field and at the headquarters. He also worked as lawyer at the UK Office of Fair Trading, Referendaire at the EU General Court in Luxembourg and as lawyer in private practice.

Ms. Paolina MASSIDDA, *Principal Counsel, Independent Office of Public Counsel for Victims (OPCV), International Criminal Court (ICC) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on Asia*

Paolina Massidda is the Principal Counsel of the independent Office of Public Counsel for Victims (OPCV) at the International Criminal Court (ICC) since its creation in 2005. In that capacity she represents victims in several proceedings before the Court. Previously, she practised before national and international tribunals, representing accused and victims. She worked as Legal Adviser for the International Federation of the Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross and participated as expert in several European Union training programmes. Expert in children rights and sexual and gender-based crimes, she is specialised in human rights and international humanitarian law, she holds a master in international criminal law and she is a member of the Genoa Bar (Italy) since 1992. She is founding member of the International Criminal Court Bar Association (ICCBA) where she has served in the Executive Committee, the Victims Committee and the Professional Standards Advisory Committee. She has published extensively on matters related to international criminal law and the rights of victims.

Mr. Ljubomir PETRULJESKOV, *Program Lead Eastern Europe and Central Asia at International Development Law Organization (IDLO)*

With over 15 years of expertise in international development, project management, and training, Ljubomir Petruljeskov is a dynamic professional who has illuminated the path of progress. Ljubomir is holding an MBA and M.Sc. in project management and commercial law and he is Weinstein JAMS

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fellow. Ljubomir journey includes pivotal roles as a Technical Assistance Advisor at the Asian Development Bank and a Technical Cooperation Adviser at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, where he spearheaded the formulation, execution, and monitoring of impactful projects across Eastern Europe, Central and South-East Asia. As a Program Lead at the International Development Law Organization, he led initiatives in justice sector reform and legal programming across Eastern Europe and Central Asia. With an unparalleled ability to transform ideas into reality, Ljubomir continues to shape a brighter future through his unwavering commitment to excellence, strategic acumen, and dynamic communication prowess.

Mr. Fausto POCAR, *President of the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict (UNETCHAC) / Honorary President of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law – Sanremo (Italy)*

Fausto Pocar is Professor Emeritus of International Law at the University of Milan (Italy). Since 2017, he is ad hoc Judge at the ICJ. He has been Member of the UN Human Rights Committee under the ICCPR (1984-2000, President 1991-92). He was Judge at the ICTY (2000-2017, President 2005-2008) and Appeals Judge at the ICTR (2000-2015). Between 2012 and 2019 he was President of the International Institute Humanitarian Law, of which he is Honorary President since 2019. Since 1997, he is Member of the Institut de droit international (Treasurer and Bureau Member since 2001). He was also President of the Italian Society International Law (2018-2021) and he is ELI Council Member (2019- to date).

Mr. Emilio PUCCIO, *Secretary General of the Intergroup on Children's Rights - European Parliament*

Emilio Puccio serves as Secretary General of the European Parliament Intergroup on Children's Rights, managing the parliamentary, legislative and advocacy work of the entire network.

Emilio also sits in the advisory board of the *EU Child Participation Platform* and the Better Internet for Kids initiative (BIK). Furthermore, Emilio served as a member of the Judging Panel for the 2020 GSMA Global Mobile Awards (GLOMOs) for the category *Best Mobile Initiative for Enhancing Children's Lives*.

Before joining the Intergroup on Children's Rights, Emilio has worked extensively on human rights, having worked on business and human rights issues in New York City at the United Nations Global Compact and as part of the Individuals at Risk Program at Amnesty International USA. As a qualified lawyer, Emilio served in the Legal office of the Italian General Consulate in Barcelona.

Emilio holds a Juris Doctor Magna cum laude in Law from the University of Palermo, a Master's Degree in International Business Management from EADA Business School in Barcelona, and a Master in Diplomatic Studies from the Italian Society for International Organizations (SIOI) in Rome.

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Ms. Annamaria RUFINO, *Professor at the University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli” (Italy) / Member of the Scientific Committee of the Universities Network research activity on South America*

Annamaria Rufino, Full Professor of Sociology of Law, Deviance and Social change. She analyzes, in particular, in his writings: Social Problems, Insecurity, Conflicts and Risks in various Areas (regulatory, communication, institutional and social transformations) using various analysis tools and observational applications. She has held numerous institutional positions, as Head of Degree Courses and Director of the Department of European and Mediterranean Studies. She has taught in various Italian and foreign universities (Sorbonne, Complutense, Uned, Granada, Càceres, Las Palmas). She was coordinator of the Research Doctorate and Director of numerous Master and Advanced Training Courses in Family Mediation and Interpersonal Conflicts and Civil Mediation. She has held positions for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, in collaboration with the National Anti-Mafia Prosecutor. She is part of various national and international Research Groups and of Scientific Committees of Journals and Associations. She has received awards and acknowledgments. She is the author of numerous articles and monographs. Among his most recent publications: *Anomic dependence and corruptive contagion. Regulatory hypercomplexity and social fragmentation in the mid-global era*, “Italian Sociological Review”, n. 2s.22, *Choose Decide Change. Why the World Forgets To Do Things*, Mimesis, Milan-Udine 2020, *In-security. The Communication of Fear in the Mid-Global Era*, Mimesis International, Milan-Udine 2020, *Future Humanism: Know Thyself*, Mimesis International, Milan-Udine 2020, *Quête et enquête ou des mots oubliés*, in “Matières à penser”, vol. 11, 2018; *Systemic regeneration and circular society*, in “Italian Sociological Review”, vol. 10, n. 3s.20; *Riflessioni possibili sul medioevo globale e sulle periferie dell'impero-mondo. Rischi, conflitti e mutamento sociale*, in “Sociologia del diritto”, n. 2/2020; con Saskia Sassen et. al., *Territorial intelligence as Engine for the History of Future* (Saarbrücken, 2012); con G. Teubner, *Il diritto possibile. Funzioni e prospettive del medium giuridico* (Milano, 2011), *Derecho Mediador*, in “Anales de la Càtedra Francisco Suárez”, Universidad de Granada, 43 (2009), 267-284, *Mediative Law: How to mediate Justice in the global Age*, in Aa.Vv., *Festschrift Für Gunther Teubner*, De Gruyter Recht, Berlin 2009.

Ms. Silvia SCARPA, *Professor at John Cabot University (Italy)*

Silvia Scarpa is Associate Professor of International Relations and Chair of the Department of Political Science and International Affairs at John Cabot University of Rome (Italy). She teaches courses in the areas of international law, international relations, international organizations, contemporary forms of slavery and human trafficking, human rights, and international migration. Prof. Scarpa also worked as consultant for the Italian Office against Racial Discrimination (UNAR) of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Directorate General Justice and Consumers (JUST), the Research Executive Agency (REA) and the Directorate General Migration and Internal Affairs (HOME) of the European Commission, and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). She is the author of the monograph *Trafficking in Human Beings: Modern Slavery* (Oxford University Press, 2008), of the manual *An Introduction to International Human Rights Standards for Law Enforcement Authorities* (UniversItalia, 2012), of the European Parliament's Study on

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Contemporary Forms of Slavery (European Union, 2018) and of scholarly articles published in relevant journals and edited collections.

For more information see: <https://www.johncabot.edu/faculty/silvia-scarpa> and <https://johncabot.academia.edu/SilviaScarpa>.

Ms. Julia SLOTH-NIELSEN, *Professor at the University of Huddersfield (UK) / Leiden University (The Netherlands)*

Julia Sloth-Nielsen is of South African origin where she lectured at the University of the Western Cape for 25 years. She is now based at the University of Huddersfield in the UK, and was previously a professor at Leiden University, the Netherlands (part time). She has worked extensively on children's rights, and taught various Master's programmes on this. She has published widely on many aspects of children's rights and holds the top rating for a researcher in South Africa. She has also participated in law reform in children's rights and in juvenile justice in many countries, mostly in Africa.

Ms. Federica SOLA, *Associate Political Affairs Officer, UN Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, Europe Liaison Office*

Federica Sola joined the Europe Liaison Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG CAAC) in Brussels as Associate Political Affairs Officer at the beginning of 2021. Prior to her work with the OSRSG CAAC, she has worked in different countries with Save the Children International and Save the Children Norway as an international partnerships expert. Federica holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Sciences and International Relations from the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, a Master's Degree in International Relations from the University LUISS Guido Carli and an LL.M in Human Rights Law from the University of Edinburgh.

Mr. Settimio STALLONE, *Professor at the University of Naples "Federico II" (Italy)*

Settimio Stallone is Professor of International History at the Department of Political Science of University of Naples Federico II (where he directs the Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and the Master's Degree in International Relations and Scenario Analysis) and the Academy of Italian Air Force. He taught at the Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples, the University of Lecce and the Higher School of Public Administration. He is associate researcher at the Institute of Mediterranean Studies of the CNR. Member of research programs of national interest, he coordinates international agreements with Albanian, Armenian, Bulgarian, Moldavian and Ukrainian universities. In his research he has focused his attention on Italian foreign policy in Eastern Europe, with particular reference to the Cold War years. He is working to a monograph on political, economic, and cultural relations between Italy and Albania from 1949 to 1991. Among his publications: *Minister in Saint Petersburg. Italian diplomats and diplomacy in Russia (1861-1870)* (2006); *Proofs of Adriatic diplomacy: Italy and Albania, 1944-1949* (2006); *Return to Tirana* (2011); *Italo-Albanian relations*

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between Cold War and hypothesis of normalization (2014); So close, so far (2017); A hope that was not there (2018); Realism and diplomacy. The Greek-Albanian rapprochement of 1967-1974 (2019); An Italian success. Operation Alba (2019); The unfinished friendship (2021); In the country of the forgotten God's Army (2021).

Ms. Yvonne M. VISSING, *Professor at Salem State University (USA)*

Yvonne Vissing, Ph.D., is a sociologist, Professor of Healthcare Studies, and founding director of the Center for Childhood & Youth Studies at Salem State University where she teaches research methodology, statistics, and policy courses. She is the author of 20 books, including two on homeless young people (*Changing the Paradigm of Homelessness and Out of Sight, Out of Mind*), two on unaccompanied and refugee youth, and others on children's wellbeing from a psychosocial perspective. Her book on *Children's Human Rights: Challenges and Opportunities* (Springer) has just been released. Vissing has authored dozens of book chapters about child abuse and child wellbeing globally and domestically, and hundreds of articles, reports, presentations, films, and publications. She is the US policy chair for the United Nation's Hope for Children Convention on the Rights of the Child Policy Center, located in Cyprus, and is a member of the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict -UNETCHAC, the first network of universities and research institutes working in the world to protect children in situations of armed conflict, and the Children On The Move project. She is on the Human Rights Council for the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Steering Committee and Regional Representative for Human Rights Educators USA, and is a national consultant for the American Sociological Association. She is a National Institute of Mental Health Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Whiting Foundation fellow, former mental health and substance abuse counselor, New Hampshire Juvenile Parole Board member, board member of the National Coalition for the Homeless, New Hampshire Coalition for the Homeless, and is on the New Hampshire Youth Homelessness Task Force. She is a guardian ad litem and mediator in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, founded a Training 4 Excellence website, has created award-winning films, and training guides and dialogue trainings for public officials.

Ms. Bahtije Gërbeshi ZYLFIU, *Professor at the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" (Kosovo) / Regional Team Leader of UNETCHAC project on Eastern Europe*

Bahtije Gerbeshi Zylfiu, currently holds the position of Associate Professor in the Master and Bachelor Programs at the Faculty of Education, University of Prishtina in Kosovo. She finished her PhD studies in the Faculty of Philosophy, Department of History at the University of Prishtina in the year 2003. Her main research interests are history, culture, gender, democratic citizenship and Interculturalism. Currently, she is teaching the following subjects: Teaching social studies, Education for democratic citizenship, Teaching/Learning history, Action research, Social harmony and conflict resolution, Teaching about the history of religions, and Intercultural Competences at the OTH-Regensburg and Amberg-Weiden (Germany). She has published a considerable number of scientific papers in various journals as well as two books, one focusing on gender issues and the other one on

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culture. Furthermore, she has actively participated in several scientific conferences (oral presentation) in different countries around the world and has made significant contributions to national and international projects.