



GIJTR

Global Initiative for Justice,
Truth & Reconciliation

Eighth Annual Consortium Partner Meeting **Understanding the Changing Nature of the Transitional Justice Field:** **Gaps, Challenges, and Innovations**

Panelists bios

Bhavani Fonseka

Bhavani Fonseka is a Senior Researcher and Attorney at Law with the Centre for Policy Alternatives based in Sri Lanka, with a focus on research, national and international advocacy and public interest litigation. Her work has revolved around assisting victims and affected populations across Sri Lanka, legal and policy reforms and public interest litigation (PIL). She is the editor of the books *Elusive Justice & Emblematic Cases in Sri Lanka* (2023) & *Transitional Justice in Sri Lanka: Moving Beyond Promises* (2017) & co-editor of the book *Salient Aspects of Public Interest Litigation Jurisprudence in Sri Lanka* (2023). She is presently on the editorial board of the *International Journal on Transitional Justice* and a member of the policy committee of Human Rights Watch. She was an adviser to the Consultation Taskforce appointed by the Government of Sri Lanka in 2016 and a member of the drafting committee to formulate the National Human Rights Action Plan for Sri Lanka for the period 2017-2021. She has a LLB (Hons.) (Bristol), LLM (Denver) and MPA (Harvard). She was a Asia21 Fellow, Mason Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School and an Eisenhower Fellow.

Diego Herrera Duque

Diego Herrera Duque is the Regional Director Antioquia and Coordinator "Culture of Peace and Reconciliation" at Viva La Ciudadania Corporation. Corporación Viva La Ciudadanía is a civil society organization with more than 30 years of experience working on Democracy, Human Rights and Peacebuilding in Colombia.

Currently, its focus and peace strategy is around the memory and truth agendas in the country, as well as the achievement of total peace around the implementation of the Peace Agreement signed with the extinct FARC EP, promoting the negotiation table of the government and the ELN, contribution to the dialogue table with criminal structures (Paz Urbana), and promotion of citizen participation and the culture of peace and reconciliation with a differential and territorial approach. All this under strategies of pedagogy, diffusion and communication, advice and political incidence.

Gennadiy Tokarev, Ukraine

An attorney-at-law working in the area of human rights, a head of the Strategic Litigation Center of the CO 'Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group'. More than 20 positive judgements in the European Courts of Human rights on the matters of torture, violation of the rights to liberty, fair trial, etc. Drafted "shadow reports" on the periodic Government's report to the UN CAT (and presented them before the Committee), submissions for the UPR. The particular sphere of activity is prisoners' rights.

At the time of Russian aggression against Ukraine I represent victims of war crimes in national and international institutions, developed a methodology of drafting submissions to the UN Treaty



GIJTR

Global Initiative for Justice,
Truth & Reconciliation

Bodies, prepared and preparing of submissions to the International Criminal Court under Article 15 of the Rome Statute.

Gerald Gahima

Dr. Gerald Gahima has had a distinguished career in private legal practice, public service, and international development. He began his career as an attorney with law firms in Nairobi, Kenya. Following the Rwanda genocide, he left private legal practice to join public service in Rwanda, where he served as Deputy Minister of Justice and Public Service, Attorney General and Deputy Chief Justice, at a critical time in Rwanda's recent history. As Deputy Minister of Justice, Dr. played a leading role in the development of policies on Rwanda's legal responses to the genocide. As Attorney General, Dr. Gahima oversaw the investigation of well over 135,000 genocide cases, and the most extensive prosecutions of the crime of genocide by any state since the adoption of the Genocide Convention. Since leaving government service in Rwanda, Dr. Gahima has worked as an international consultant on the rule of law and human rights. He also served as a judge on the War Crimes and Organized Crime Section of the State Court of Bosnia Herzegovina, and he currently leads the Sudan Programs of Project Expedite Justice.

Hadi Marifat, Afghanistan

Hadi Marifat is the Executive Director of the Afghanistan Human Rights and Democracy Organization (AHRDO). He previously worked as Permanent Representative of the Afghan Civil Society to the International Criminal Court (ICC), Country Analyst with the Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC), Researcher with Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Associate with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. Hadi studied Politics and International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science in the UK. He earned his Master's degree in Peace and Conflict Studies from the International Institute of Social Studies of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, in The Netherlands.

Lucía González Duque, Colombia

Lucía is a social and cultural manager, she has worked on peace, social development and comprehensive care projects in national disaster situations. She has led artistic and cultural projects such as museums, orchestras, and theaters, among others. She has worked with the communities, victims, and ex-combatants in memory and reconciliation projects.

Mariana Gomez Godoy

Mariana Gomez Godoy, currently works at the Undersecretariat for Human Rights of the Government of Mexico in the area of Public Memory. For four years, she has supported public policy actions on memorialization in Mexico, both in the development of a general law of memory and in the design and management of the first government led memory site, Circular de Morelia, currently a member site of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience. BS in Political Science and Public Administration. She is a member of the Stirring Committee on Memory set by the government of Mexico for the promotion of civil society memory initiatives. She has played an active role in supporting memory initiatives in the State of Guerrero to encourage women's political participation and community communication strategies.



GIJTR

Global Initiative for Justice,
Truth & Reconciliation

Marta Cisterna Flores, Chile

Marta Cisterna Flores, Human Rights Advocate, Executive Director of ICSC member site Casa Memoria José Domingo Cañas. Health and Education professional, with vast experience in the Defense and Monitoring of Human Rights. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Education and Speech Therapy, a Diploma in Education for Human Rights, and a Senior Diploma in Human Rights, Conflicts, Policy and Activisms. She participated in the Secondary Student Movement in Dictatorship, leaving for exile in mid-1985, returning to Chile in 1993. Member of the Board of Directors of the 1367 Casa Memoria José Domingo Cañas Foundation, Co-founder and Coordinator of the Commission of Human Rights Observers, the first Commission of Observers to be formed in Chile. She was Coordinator for Southern Cone of the RESLAC (ICSC's Memory Sites Network of Latin America and the Caribbean), was part of the RESLAC Incident Team. She has been an advisor on issues of Memory, Transitional Justice, Archives, Human Rights, Torture Prevention and Network Management in Civil Society for national level institutions in Chile and for International Bodies, such as the United Nations Rapporteur on the Right to Demonstrations, where she has been part of the Latin America and Caribbean working group in 2022 and 2023.

Nicolás Cuellar, Colombia

Nicolás is an experienced freelance director with a demonstrated history of working in the motion pictures and film industry. He has strong media and communication professional skills in Acting, Video, Film, Documentaries, and Commercials. Through his experience leading documentary and narrative projects worldwide, he is now spearheading a storytelling style that links fiction with real-life social effects. He is the funder and director of "Historias en KM."

Sumaiyah al-Haddad, Syria

Sumaiyah al-Haddad, a Syrian human rights activist since 2011, currently holds the position of the manager of the documentation section at the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR). She holds a master's degree in environmental engineering. Sumaiyah has worked to document victims and massacres, as well as all other violations participated in Syria, and contributed to dozens of reports and investigations.

Phuong N. Pham, United States

Phuong N. Pham is an Associate Professor at the Harvard Medical School and has a secondary appointment at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Additionally, she serves the Director of Education at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) and co-founded KoboToolbox. With an extensive experience spanning over two decades, she specializes in the design and implementation of epidemiologic and evaluation research, as well as the development of innovative technology solutions and educational programs aimed at achieving peace, justice, and optimal human development. Her research and program cover regions impacted by ongoing conflicts and post-conflict scenarios, including northern Uganda, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, the Central African Republic, Iraq, Cambodia, and other areas. Furthermore, she directs the Humanitarian Studies Concentration within the Global Health Department of Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and leads the development of the "Building a Better Response" online training program. Prior to Harvard, she was the Director of Research at the Human Rights Center, University of California, Berkeley and Adjunct Assistant Professor the Payson Center for International Development and Technology Transfer.



GIJTR

Global Initiative for Justice,
Truth & Reconciliation

Teresa Vazquez, International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

Prior to joining ICSC, Teresa co-founded and served as the inaugural Executive Director for the Museum of the Courageous, curating the stories of courageous Americans who have taken a stand against hate. She has also served as a Special Advisor to the board, Chief of Staff, and Chief Development Officer for Echoing Green, a global nonprofit that supports emerging social entrepreneurs and invests deeply in their ideas and leadership.

Before joining Echoing Green, Teresa was an economic development advisor for two terms of the Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg Administration. In that capacity, she led multiple arts and economic development initiatives that uplifted emerging artists and established arts-based economic engines in local communities. Teresa also served as a Director for the Nonprofit Finance Fund, a leading national Community Development Financial Institution that builds a more just and vibrant society by helping mission-driven organizations adapt, thrive, and drive social change.

Teresa began her commitment to social justice in college when she co-led an international student movement to address prejudice and discrimination in local communities. She graduated from Vassar College and NYU's Robert F. Wagner School for Public Service. She also holds a certificate in management from Columbia Business School's Institute for Nonprofit Management.

Sebastián Escobar, Colombia

Sebastián Escobar, Lawyer from the Autónoma Latinoamericana University of Medellín, completed a Master's Degree in Advanced Studies in Human Rights at the Universidad Carlos III in Madrid, and currently holds a Doctors degree in Law Studies from the Universidad Externado de Colombia. He began his work as a human rights advocate when he joined the José Alvear Restrepo (CAJAR) Bar Association and then from the Foundation for Education and Development -FEDES-. Currently, as an attorney for the CAJAR, he has been supporting the coordination of the criminal investigation team and leading the litigation strategy of the CAJAR Collective before the Special Jurisdiction for Peace.

Vanessa Márquez Mena, Colombia

Director and news anchor of the News of the House of Representatives. Ethnic manager of the Secretariat of Culture, Recreation and Sports of Bogotá. Founder of the Digital Magazine Vive Afro a mass media and digital content creation company that works for the visibility, respect and recognition of the Afro community and with which it has won local and national awards, positioning itself as the most important digital magazine specialized in Afro-Colombian topics in the country.

Journalist and master's degree in Management and Cultural and Audiovisual Production, digital content creator and opinion columnist on ethnic issues for journalistic portals such as La Silla Vacía and Kien & Ke.