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24TH WAVE CONFERENCE OCTOBER 10–11, 2022 PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

SPEAKERS BIOS

Keynotes:

Markéta PEKAROVÁ ADAMOVÁ,
President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic

Markéta Pekarová Adamová is a Czech politician who currently is the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic. Additionally, she is the leader of TOP 09, a liberal-conservative political party that holds seats in the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic and the European Parliament.

She studied Andragogy and Personal Management, as well as Economy and Management in Prague. Following university, she worked for an educational organisation before moving on to a human resources company. As an entrepreneur, she additionally engaged in some economic activities in the services sector.

Markéta Pekarová Adamová joined the political party TOP 09 in the summer of 2009. She won a seat in Prague's municipal government during elections held in the fall of 2010.

She was selected as a Member of the Parliament in the October 2013 elections. Further, she joined the petition committee and the committee for social policy in the Chamber of Deputies. Since February 2014, she has served as chairwoman of the subcommittee for human rights.

In 2017 she was chosen the First Vice-Chairwoman for the fifth National Assembly of TOP 09. She declared her candidacy for party chair in August 2019 and was chosen to lead TOP 09 at the 6th National Assembly the following November.





Klára ŠIMÁČKOVÁ LAURENČÍKOVÁ, Commissioner for Human Rights from the Czech Government

On May 11th 2022, Klára Šimáčková Laurenčíková was appointed by the Government of the Czech Republic to the position of Commissioner for Human Rights.

Before being appointed to the position, she worked as the chairwoman of the Committee for Children's Rights, a member of the Government Council for Human Rights and a member of the Committee for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women at the Government Council for Gender Equality. She founded and led the Czech Expert Society for Inclusive Education. She also worked as the manager of the children's mental health agenda in the Department of Mental Health Care System Reform at the Ministry of Health. She is the recipient of an award from the Committee of Good Will - Olga Havlova Foundation for promoting the quality and openness of educational systems and activities in the area of transformation of the care system for vulnerable children. She was awarded a medal by the Psychiatric Society of the Czech Medical Society for her support in changing the child mental health care system. In the past, she collaborated with the Office of the Public Defender of Rights and was a member of the advisory body of the Expert Group on Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion of the EU in the European Commission.

Reem ALSALEM, UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women its causes and consequences

Ms. Reem Alsalem was appointed United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences in July 2021 by the UN Human Rights Council for a three-year tenure. She started her tenure on 1 August 2021.

Reem Alsalem is an independent consultant on gender issues, the rights of refugees and migrants, transitional justice and humanitarian response. She has consulted extensively for United Nations departments, agencies and programmes such as UN-Women, OHCHR, UNICEF and IOM, as well as for non-governmental organizations, think tanks and academia. Previously, she worked as an international civil servant, serving with the UNHCR in thirteen countries. During her service, she has planned, implemented, and monitored programs that served to protect persons that were survivors of gender-based violence, particularly women and girls.



Panel 1:

Sarah DAVIDGE, Women's Aid Federation of England, UK

Sarah Davidge is the Head of Research and Evaluation at Women's Aid Federation of England and has worked at Women's Aid for 15 years in a range of roles within the membership and research teams. Sarah leads a number of projects providing an evidence base for the experiences of survivors of domestic abuse and the specialist services supporting them and has produced a range of research exploring the impact of domestic abuse on survivors. Her research has included the 2020 report *A Perfect Storm: The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on domestic abuse survivors and the services supporting them*.

Radan ŠAFAŘÍK, Head of Gender Equality Department, Government of the Czech Republic

Radan Šafařík has a degree in law and international relations. He has been working in the Gender Equality Department of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic since 2010. In 2019 he was appointed director of the Department. He is responsible for the coordination of gender equality policies at the national level and is a co-author of several governmental action plans on the prevention of domestic and gender-based violence. He represents the Czech Republic in international organisations, including the UN, Council of Europe, OECD and the EU.

Katarzyna WILKOŁASKA, Human rights and rule of law Adviser to MEP Sylwia Spurek, Poland

Katarzyna Wilkołaska is currently the Human rights and rule of law adviser to MEP Sylwia Spurek. She is a lawyer by profession and a feminist. She was furthermore the gender equality and gender-based violence expert at the Anti-Discrimination Law Department at the Office of the Human Rights Defender in Poland (2011-2019), the assistant to the Deputy Ombudsman for equal treatment and coordinator of the Gender Equality working group at EQUINET (2017-2019), the plenipotentiary of the Mayor's of Warsaw for Women's Affairs and the head of the Team for Counteracting Domestic Violence in the City of Warsaw (2019-2021).



Kiki PETROULAKI,
European Anti-Violence Network (EAVN), Greece

Kiki Petroulaki, President of BoD of the European Anti-Violence Network (E.A.V.N.). She is a psychologist, with a Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology, and a founding member of EAVN. This is an NGO in Athens, Greece, aiming at primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of VAWG, with an emphasis on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Domestic Violence (DV).

EAVN constantly tries to promote the implementation of the provisions of International and European legislation in Greece (e.g. the Istanbul Convention, the 2012/29/EU Directive on Victims' Rights) and fights against National legislation that violates them, with the most recent example being a National and European Campaign AGAINST the Bill MANDATING shared custody for ALL children in Greece (https://www.antiviolence-net.eu/Joint_Letter.pdf) which, unfortunately, became a Greek Law in May 2021.

Panel 2:

Selime BÜYÜKGÖZE,
Mor Çatı Women's Shelter Foundation, Turkey

Selime Büyükgöze is a feminist activist involved in the organization of various feminist campaigns and protests in Turkey. She's a volunteer for Mor Çatı Women's Shelter Foundation and one of the founders and contributors of feminist zine Çatlak Zemin. She is a WAVE Board member and works as a lecturer.

Michele LEVOY,
PICUM - Platform for International Cooperation of Undocumented Migrants

As Director of PICUM, Michele has led the organization for nearly two decades in advocating for undocumented migrants' human rights towards European and global institutions. Michele has played a key role as board member for several civil society organisations at the global and EU levels. She holds degrees in French, Justice and Peace Studies and a Master's in Applied Sciences (Housing and Development).



Kateryna CHEREPAKHA,
International Women’s Rights Center La Strada, Ukraine

Kateryna Cherepakha is the president of the CSO “La Strada-Ukraine”. The organization was established in 1997 and focuses on the prevention of all forms of gender-based violence, in particular domestic violence and human trafficking. The organization also seeks to protect children’s rights, promote women’s rights, and achieve gender equality. “La Strada-Ukraine” is a member of the international networks La Strada International, WAVE, CHI, and ECPAT International.

Kateryna has more than 23 years of work experience in this field. She is engaged in advocacy, monitoring, expertise, strategic planning, capacity building, and networking, working with different stakeholders on the national and international level. Kateryna is the author and co-author of numerous analytical materials, publications, research papers, monitoring and training documents in the field of gender-based violence and domestic violence prevention, human trafficking, and the promotion of gender equality.

Irene DONADIO,
International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network

Irene Donadio is the senior lead on Strategy and Partnership of the International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network, the largest federation of SRHR NGOs in the world. Irene studied political sciences in Florence and has 20 years’ experience in leadership positions. She is specialized in advocacy, strategic communication, responses to the opposition to sexual and reproductive rights and cross-movement support. Irene helped create the European and global IPPF Movement Accelerator Program. Prior to joining IPPF Irene was the EU Representative of ECRE, the European Council on Refugees and Exiles and the Communication Advisor of BEUC ,the European Consumer Association.

