

## Biographies WIDE+ speakers and participants

**Briddick, Catherine** has ten years' experience providing legal advice and engaging in legal advocacy on issues relating to violence against women, forced migration and human rights law in the UK. Catherine is a barrister (currently non-practising). She is Co-Chair of the Migrants Resource Centre, which now includes Asylum Aid, and a member of their Women's Advisory Committee. She is currently reading for a DPhil in Law at the University of Oxford, focusing on discrimination against women in migration law and the legal options available to migrant women in Europe who have been subject to violence. She teaches at the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford.  
<https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/people/catherine-briddick>

**Girma, Marchu** co-ordinates all Women for Refugee Women's work with asylum seekers and refugees. She is also a project co-ordinator for Narrative Eye and the chair of 100 Mothers Movement. Marchu also provides training programmes for ProDiverse: <http://www.refugeewomen.co.uk/>

**Hennache, Lamya** is a migrant from Morocco with a degree in Law. She works for Humanrights.ch and also co-coordinates workshops by Ncbi covering various topics related to violence, prejudice, interfaiths dialogue, education ([www.ncbi.ch](http://www.ncbi.ch)). In this capacity she won an award as "bridge builder" to promote the "better together living". She is also co-coordinator Café Marhaba: meeting for refugees and migrants. listen to German, speak German, get to know other and share knowledges. And she is the head of commission "women and Gender" in the African diaspora council of Switzerland.

**Ismail, Stella** is coordinator of **African Sky**. **African Sky** is an East African women's organization based in the Netherlands that empowers women in East Africa and diaspora to speak up for peace, security and women's rights. It raises awareness on the Dutch Action Plan 1325, for example through providing training to women. She is also a trainer and was previously policy officer at VON: Refugee Association Netherlands.

**Jaf, Mina** funder of Women Refugee Route in Denmark - a refugee herself – Women Refugee Route (WRRoute) is a women's NGO that focus on refugee women and girls on the migration route access to information on their rights and services. WRRoute is also working on increasing visibility and publicity through advocacy both national and international.. She is winner of the Women's Refugee Commission Voices of Courage Award 2016. She is also an active leader of [Young Feminist Europe](http://www.youngfeminist.com). For more about Women Refugee Route: [https://www.facebook.com/Women-Refugee-Route-204055663308201/?hc\\_ref=PAGES\\_TIMELINE](https://www.facebook.com/Women-Refugee-Route-204055663308201/?hc_ref=PAGES_TIMELINE)

**Lenggenhager, Jelena** is a gender activist and teacher. Her principal areas of interest and work are gender, migration and education. As a member of the feminist network WIDE Switzerland she has been involved in organising conferences and events that brought together gender activists and raised awareness on the importance of topics such as care, decent work and feminist economics for a gender-just society. She is currently on Board of WIDE+.

**Matevzic, Grusa** is a legal officer in the refugee protection programme in the Helsinki Committee Hungary. She is a refugee counsellor in Slovenia too, where she is representing asylum seekers in the courts procedures. And in addition to her legal practice, she has been involved in research as well, such as the European Union funded Gen Sen project on gender related asylum claims in Europe. She assessed the practices related to gender-based violence and gender-related persecution in the Hungarian asylum procedure: <http://www.helsinki.hu/en/gender-and-asylum-in-hungary/>

**Meijers, Gea** is currently WIDE+ (conference) coordinator and member of the WIDE+ board. She has worked within several international and national NGOs promoting human rights in different capacities, including organizing conferences. Her activism is mainly centred around transnational feminism and humanism (the protection of non-believing). Currently she has a special interest in highlighting the interrelations between EU trade policy and economic gender discriminations.

**Reyna, Cristina** after a long career with women's rights NGOs, she is currently an independent gender and knowledge management consultant. She has coordinated all communications strategy for WIDE conference 2016. Cristina has been active for women migrant rights in different Latin American women networks in Belgium and in the Netherlands.

**Savic, Marijana** is a founder and director of NGO Atina, women's rights organization from Serbia. Over last 20 years, as a women and human rights activist, she has been dedicated to direct support and assistance to victims of trafficking and other forms of gender based violence. Marijana is actively engaged in building capacities of civil society organizations and institutions engaged in addressing human trafficking, violence against women, exploitation as well as promoting anti-discrimination standards and policies in order to create framework for tackling root causes of gender based violence and advance position of women. Since the refugee crisis, she is actively involved in supporting girls and women refugees, especially those suffering from different forms of violence: [www.atina.org.rs](http://www.atina.org.rs)

**Shakely, Trifa.** Born in 1976 and living in Sweden Gothenburg. Shakely holds a degree in law and political science from Salahaddin University and social work theory and practice from the University of Gothenburg. Shakely has worked for nearly 12 years with the asylum seekers and undocumented migrants beside her work in media. She started the campaign Ain't I a woman in 2010 to form public opinion and change the conditions for undocumented women and their protection needs. The campaign led to shelters in several Swedish cities received resources to receive undocumented women 6 months after the campaign began. Shakely is currently working as a writer, lecturer and as councilor/ psychosocial coordinator of the Red Cross therapy center for war and tortured in Gothenburg.

**Wichterich, Christa,** sociologist, works as university lecturer, author and researcher; she published widely on topics of globalisation, development and gender, women's movements, feminist economics and feminist political ecology. Presently she is a member of the WIDE+ caucus.