

FIAPAC

International Federation of Abortion and
Contraception Professionals

Program book

2 - 3 October 2026
Barcelona, Spain



CONTACT & ORGANISATION

CONFERENCE VENUE

Acadèmia de Ciències Mèdiques i de la Salut
de Catalunya i de Balears
Carrer Major de Can Caralleu, 1-7
Barcelona, Spain

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

FIAPAC Congress Secretariat
Orga-Med Congress Office
Opalfeneweg 3
1740 Ternat
Belgium
Tel. +32 2 582 08 52
admin@fiapac.org
www.fiapac.org

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

J. Baroja Benlliure (Spain), Chair
K. Black (Australia)
D. Choucroun (Luxembourg)
A. Dawson (Australia)
A. Dermish (USA)
C. Fiala (Austria)
C. Furau (Romania)
M. Parachini (Italy)
C. Puig Borràs (Spain), Chair
O. Rys (Poland)
M. Toschi (Italy)
S. Yosef (UK)

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION DESK

Opening hours:

- > Friday, 2 October 08:00 - 17:00
- > Saturday, 3 October 07:30 - 16:00

BADGES

Conference badges should be always worn by all participants during the Conference and while visiting the exhibition area.

No badge, no entry.

Please bring your badge for the cocktail-get-together

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

After the Conference, you will receive an evaluation form.

We kindly ask you to take a few moments to complete the evaluation for the sessions you attended. Your feedback is highly appreciated and will help us improve future events. Once you have completed the evaluation form, your Certificate of Attendance will be sent to you automatically.

LUNCH

Lunch will be provided for all participants on Friday 2 and Saturday 3 October.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Paid-up members are invited to attend the General Assembly in the Auditorium on Friday 2 October, 17:30 - 18:30.

LANGUAGE & INTERPRETATION

The official language of the Conference is English. Simultaneous interpretation into Spanish will be available.

Interpretation is provided **from English into Spanish only**.

SLIDES SPEAKERS

Speakers are kindly requested to submit their presentation slides to the technician in the Auditorium where their presentation will take place, at the latest during the coffee break immediately preceding their session. The technician will upload the PPT to the presentation computer and ensure it is ready for projection.

WIFI

Wireless internet is available.

Network: [wifi_academia](#)

Password: robert80

COCKTAIL-GET-TOGETHER:

Friday 2 October 2026 - 20:00 – 00:00

Restaurant **Xiroi** - Address: PG. Marítim de la Nova Icària 38, Barcelona, Spain

SPONSORS

HEADSPONSOR



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Trek je trailschoenen aan en ontdek de prachtige natuur die Haaltert te bieden heeft op 18 oktober 2026!

VONDELHOF TRAIL = bekerloze trail!

- Neem dus je eigen beker mee als je graag wat water drinkt aan de bevoorradings.

healthcare providers in the UK, Europe and Australia and is widely used for medical

abortion follow-up, including pill by post service.

SUPPORTER



L'Associació Pels Drets Sexuals I Reproducti is a feminist organization based in Barcelona (Catalonia, Spain) with over 40 years of experience promoting and defending sexual and reproductive rights. Through advocacy, direct services, education and knowledge generation, the organization works to ensure universal, equitable and rights-based access to sexual and reproductive health. Its QUIEROABORTAR.ORG is the main abortion programme in Spain and provides reliable information, counselling and support on abortion access, accompanying women and pregnant people throughout the process and working with healthcare professionals and institutions to identify and overcome barriers to abortion care.

Scientific Program

Friday, 2 October 2026

08:00 - 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 – 09:15 **Opening: Welcoming address**

- Welcome by the FIAPAC President – *Raina Brethouwer, The Netherlands*
- Welcome by the FIAPAC Conference Committee Chairs
Jordi Baroja Benlliure & Cristina Puig Borràs, Spain

09:15 - 10:45 **Plenary Session 1: An introduction to contragestion**

Auditorium

Chair: Danielle Choucroun, Luxembourg & Cristina Puig Borràs, Spain

- The history, the narrative and the language of contragestion
Elena Caruso, United Kingdom
- Drugs and Indications - *Kristina Gemzell-Danielsson, Sweden*
- Advocacy and Service Provision - *Fatoumata Bah, United States*

10:45 - 11:15

Exhibit area

Refreshments, exhibition and networking

11: – 12:30

Free Communication Session 1

Trials and advancements in abortion and contraception drugs

Auditorium

Chairs: Nathalie Kapp, France & Margit Endler, Sweden

- Contraceptive efficacy of 50 mg Mifepristone once-a-week: an open-label, single-arm multicentre clinical trial in Moldova
Kristina Gemzell-Danielsson, Sweden
- Results of an early-terminated Phase III trial of once-weekly mifepristone 50 mg as a contraceptive - *Nanke Cui, The Netherlands*
- 30 mg compared with 60 mg of ulipristal acetate prior to misoprostol for early medication abortion – *Manuel Bousiéguez, Mexico*
- Digital contraceptive counseling at the time of emergency contraception purchase in pharmacies and uptake of effective contraception: a pragmatic cluster-randomized crossover trial - *Maral Shafei, Sweden*

12:30 - 14:00

Exhibit area

Lunch, exhibition and networking

12:45 – 13:45

Auditorium

Sponsored Lunch Symposium by Nordic Pharma

14:00 - 15:30

Auditorium

**Plenary Session 2: New (and Not-So-New) Geographies of Abortion Access:
Telemedicine, Travel, and the Global Shortage of Later Abortion Care**

Chairs: Amna Dermish, United States & Samuel Yosef, United Kingdom

- The changing landscape of inequitable access: abortion in the era of telemedicine - *Rebecca Blaylock, United Kingdom*
- Who still has to travel? Cross-border journeys, and international routes to care - *Silvia De Zordo, Spain*
Why So Few Providers? Building Sustainable D&E Services for Later Uterine Evacuation - *Patricia Lohr, United Kingdom*

15:30 - 16:00

Exhibit area

Refreshments, exhibition and networking

14:00 - 15:30

Auditorium

Plenary Session 3: Contraception Scepticism

Chairs: Janina Kaislasuo, Finland & Hildegard Mausbach, Spain

- Trends in contraceptive use in the Nordic countries
Frida Gyllenberg, Finland
- The role of social media in contraceptive decision-making
Montserrat Vallet Buisan, United Kingdom
- What's behind changing attitudes towards hormonal contraception?
 - Evidence from Austria - *Christian Fiala, Austria*
 - Insights from a scoping review of global qualitative research
Nicola Boydell, United Kingdom
- Q&A and Panel discussion

17:30 – 18:30

Auditorium

General Assembly of FIAPAC (for members only)

20:00 – 00:00

Cocktail-get-together

Restaurant Xiroi, PG. Marítim de la Nova Icària 38, Barcelona

Saturday, 3 October 2026

08:00 – 09:00

Auditorium

Free Communication Session 2 - Barriers and divides in the system

Chairs: Raina Brethouwer, The Netherlands & Martha Paynter, Canada

- Correctional officer role in prisoner access to abortion and contraception
Clare Heggie, Canada
- Abortion care barriers, experiences and preferences among transgender, gender diverse and intersex people - *Sydney Reese, United States*
- Who seeks abortion care support and where do they go? Cross-border abortion support across Europe
Lucy Wilkinson, United Kingdom & Ciara McHugh, United Kingdom
- US-state abortion laws post-Dobbs against national-level laws in 199 countries – *Lisa Remez, United States*

09:00 - 10:00

Auditorium

Panel Discussion: Abortion vs Contraception, Going beyond the (false) divide

Chair: Samuel Yosef, United Kingdom

- What rising abortion rates tell us about unmet contraceptive need
Teresa Bombas, Portugal
- Abortion is not a failure, but part of the reproductive continuum
Clare Murphy, United Kingdom
- Panel discussion with audience participation

10:00 - 10:30

Exhibit area

Refreshments, exhibition and networking

10:30 - 12:00

Auditorium

Plenary Session 4: Clinical Updates

Chair: Carolina Rivas Barrera, Spain & Margit Endler, Sweden

- Pain management for medical abortion
John Reynolds-Wright, United Kingdom
- Managing first-trimester miscarriage: results of the first global practice survey
Christian Fiala, Austria
- Abortion beyond 1st trimester - *Guillermo Ortiz, El Salvador*
- Q&A and Panel Discussion

12:00 - 13:30

Exhibit area

Lunch, exhibition and networking

12:30 – 13:15

Auditorium

Free Communication Session 3

The spectrum of training and priorities for future research

Chairs: Danielle Choucroun, Luxembourg & Edgar Dorman, United Kingdom

- Preparing future doctors for abortion-related care: a national FOI study of UK medical school teaching – *Jayne Kavanagh, United Kingdom*
- Abortion care after 24 weeks: expanding access, advancing practice
Alyssa Colwill, United States
- Identifying the top 10 research priorities for abortion care
Lucy Hocking, United Kingdom

13:30 - 15:00

Auditorium

Plenary Session 5: A regional outlook

Chairs: Sabina Bel, Spain & Sadok Amine Ben Hassine, Tunisia

- Quieroabortar.org: A state-level initiative to monitor and advance equitable access to abortion care across Spain
Jordi Baroja Benlliure, Spain and Silvia Aldevert, Spain
- Access to Abortion in the Southern mediterranean: Challenges and opportunities - *Selma Hasjri, Tunisia*
- Abortion access and barriers in Central and Eastern Europe
Cristian Furau, Romania & Ana Mitrovic, Serbia
- Q&A and Panel discussion

15:00 - 15:30

Exhibit area

Refreshments, exhibition and networking

15:30 - 17:00

Auditorium

Plenary Session 6: Global perspectives

Chairs: Angela Dawson, Australia & Susana Medina Salas, Venezuela

Panel discussion about abortion access & advocacy in the world, and contragestion across contexts, with:

- *Sheila Akinyi, Rwanda*
African Coalition for Research and Communication on Abortion (ACORCA)
- *Nandini Mazumer, India*
Asia Safe Abortion Partnership
- *Agustina Michel, Argentina*
Latin American Consortium Against Unsafe Abortion (Clacai)
- *Sadok Amine Ben Hassine, Tunisia*
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

17:00 – 17:30

Exhibit area

Closing Remarks

SPONSORED SESSION

Friday 2 October

12:45 – 13:45 **Sponsored lunch Symposium by NORDIC PHARMA**

Auditorium **Very Early Medical Abortion – why wait?**

From evidence to everyday practice

Chair: Christian Fiala, Austria

- Very Early Medical Abortion (VEMA) - *Teresa Bombas, Portugal*
- Implementing VEMA in daily practice - *Sharon Cameron, United Kingdom*

BIOGRAPHIES MAIN PROGRAM SPEAKERS

ELENA CARUSO

I am a law researcher specialised in reproductive rights. I am a Senior Research Associate at the University of Bristol Law School.

As a member of the 'Contragestive Time' Wellcome Project Discovery Award, I am working on the history of contragestives. Simultaneously, I am finalising my first monograph, *Becoming Legal* (under contract with Cambridge University Press), which will focus on the feminist movement and the legalisation of abortion in 1970s Italy.

KRISTINA GEMZELL-DANIELSSON

Kristina Gemzell Danielsson is Professor, and Head of the Department of Women's and Children's Health at Karolinska Institutet (KI), and senior consultant in Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive medicine at the Karolinska University Hospital. She is director of the WHO collaborating center for Research and Research training in Human Reproduction at KI. She is a member of the International Committee for contraceptive research (ICCR), Population Council/, and past president of the European Society of Contraception and Reproductive Health, and FIAPAC.

FATOUMATA BAH

Fatoumata Bah is the Co-Director of the Period Pills Project, where she leads strategy, programs, and research to expand access to period pills. She previously served as Research Director, expanding research on period pills, including a national study to measure awareness and interest in period pills among young people of color. She has been a member of the National Working Group on Period Pills for several years and currently coordinates the leadership committee. Earlier in her career, she held professional roles at Gynuity Health Projects and the Center for Reproductive Rights. She holds a master's in Health and International Development from the London School of Economics.

REBECCA BLAYLOCK

I am a Research Fellow at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and Research and Engagement Lead at the British Pregnancy Advisory Service. I am particularly interested in how structural and intersectional inequalities impact people's experiences of accessing abortion care, and how they can be supported to have good abortions. I draw on critical public health, epidemiology, sociology, anthropology, amongst other disciplines and epistemologies. I am currently working on my

NIHR/Wellbeing of Women doctoral fellowship which explores how the introduction of telemedicine has impacted the accessibility and equity of abortion services in England and Wales.

SILVIA DE ZORDO

Silvia De Zordo (PhD), social anthropologist, Associate Professor at the University of Barcelona. My research interests encompass reproductive governance, abortion, and social/gender inequalities in Latin America and Europe.

My doctoral dissertation (2008) examined the impact of family planning policies on the reproductive and contraceptive behaviour of working class, black women in Bahia (Brazil). As an Ellertson Fellow at Columbia University-Mailman School of Public Health-Dept. of Population and Family Health (2008-2010), I investigated health professionals' moral and religious convictions and their perceptions of legal and illegal abortion in Brazil, more specifically in Salvador da Bahia. I then continued to investigate this topic in Europe thanks to a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Grant at Goldsmiths-University of London, and a Beatriu de Pinós Postdoctoral Grant at University of Barcelona.

In the last 4 years, I have been the Principal Investigator on a research project funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation on abortion related mobilities and self-managed abortion in Europe and Latin America (REPROMOB - PID2020-112692RB-C22 - <https://afin-barcelona-uab.eu/en/projects/repromob/repromob-subproject-2/>). From 2016 to 2022 I led a European Research Council-funded project (Stg 680004) on barriers to legal abortion and abortion travel in Europe: <https://europeabortionaccessproject.org/>.

My publications include the volumes *Reproduction and Biopolitics: Ethnographies of Governance, "Irrationality" and Resistance* (ed. with Milena Marchesi), published by Routledge in 2014, which was awarded the CAR (Council on Anthropology and Reproduction) year's Most Notable Recent Collection in Anthropology and Reproduction Book Award, and *A Fragmented Landscape: Abortion Governance and Protest Logics in Europe* (ed. with Joanna Mishtal and Lorena Anton), published by Berghahn Books in 2016.

I also co-edited two Special Issues: "Re-situating Abortion: Bio-politics, Global Health and Rights in Neo-liberal Times", co-edited with Maya Unnithan and published in 2018 in *Global Public Health*, and "Demographic anxiety in the age of 'fertility' decline", co-edited with Diana Marre and Marcin Smietana and published in 2022 in *Medical Anthropology*. You can find more information about me and my publications here: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8956-6566>

PATRICIA LOHR

Dr Patricia A. Lohr is Director of Research and Innovation at the British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS), the UK's largest independent provider of abortion care, where she leads the Centre for Reproductive Research & Communication (CRRC). She is Honorary Associate Professor of Reproductive Health at University College London and Adjunct Associate Professor (Research) at Monash University.

Patricia has a longstanding interest in access to later abortion care and surgical methods. She recently helped bring together representatives from 11 countries to propose the EQUIP COST Action (European network for Quality Uterine evacuation Integration and Professional training), a newly funded four-year initiative focused on improving access to second trimester surgical uterine evacuation through research, training, and service integration.

Patricia also serves as Associate Editor of *BMJ Sexual & Reproductive Health*, Co-Chair of the British Society of Abortion Care Providers, and as an Associate Member of the FIGO Committee on Safe Abortion. She is an Honorary Fellow of the FSRH and a Fellow ad eundem of the RCOG.

FRIDA GYLLENBERG

Frida Gyllenberg is an MD, PhD and associate professor at Uppsala University. She works as a specialist in General Practice in Finland, and is a senior lecturer at the University of Helsinki. Her

research bridges clinical practice and academic epidemiology across Finland and Sweden, with focus on hormonal transitions across women's reproductive lifespan.

MONTSERRAT VALLET BUISAN

Montserrat's research sits at the intersection of reproductive biology, bioengineering, and contraceptive development. During her PhD at the University of Oxford's Nuffield Department of Women's and Reproductive Health, she investigated whether bioengineered extracellular vesicles could be used as non-invasive drug-delivery vehicles to target sperm and modulate their function. She will soon join the Technical University of Denmark, where her postdoctoral research will focus on developing reversible, non-hormonal contraceptives using AI-guided protein design. The project will use computational tools to design synthetic mini-proteins capable of binding sperm-and oocyte-specific targets that have traditionally been considered difficult to drug.

Alongside her research, Montserrat has developed a strong public-engagement profile in sexual and reproductive health. In 2022, she received funding from the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation to create a TikTok channel communicating evidence-based information about sexual and reproductive health. The project led to collaborations with La Marató de TV3, one of the world's largest televised charity events, as well as radio and television appearances and the use of her videos as educational resources in schools across Catalonia, Spain. She has also contributed to wider scientific and policy conversations, including a roundtable on women in science and women's health at the Spanish Embassy in London. More recently, she was invited as the guest speaker at the Oxford-Edinburgh Early Career Symposium on Health in Reproduction, where she discussed how limited investment in men's reproductive healthcare reinforces inequalities for women. In her latest public-engagement talk, delivered for the Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom, she discussed some of the most unusual reproductive phenomena in the animal kingdom, using humour to make the science accessible to a broad audience. Together, these experiences have given her a close view of how non-specialist audiences encounter, interpret, and discuss reproductive-health information, both online and in person. Combined with her research experience in contraception, they have also provided first-hand insight into how social media narratives shape contraceptive knowledge, concerns, and decision-making, particularly among younger users.

CHRISTIAN FIALA

Specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, General Practitioner

PhD at the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, <http://diss.kib.ki.se/2005/91-7140-458-9/>

Medical Director, Gynmed Clinic for Contraception and Abortion, Vienna and Salzburg, Austria:
www.gynmed.at

Member of the Research Group in Reproductive Health at the Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden www.reproductivehealthresearch.org

Past-president of the International Federation of Professional Abortion and Contraception Providers, FIAPAC

Founder and Director of the Museum of Contraception and Abortion, Vienna, www.muvs.org

NICOLA BOYDELL

Dr Nicola Boydell is a Lecturer in Social Science and Public Health at the Usher Institute, University of Edinburgh. A medical sociologist and health services researcher, she leads a programme of qualitative and participatory research on the design and improvement of contraception and abortion services. Her work partners with patients and people with experience of healthcare, communities, healthcare professionals and policy decision-makers to improve care.

TERESA BOMBAS

Teresa Bombas, has dedicated her professional career to improving women's reproductive health. In 1990 he graduated in Medicine at the Classical University of Lisbon, continuing his clinical career in Coimbra, where he specialized in Gynecology and Obstetrics. In 2011, she completed her Master's Degree in Sexual and Reproductive Health at the Alcalá de Henares University in Madrid. Currently, she is a Graduate Hospital Assistant in Gynecology and Obstetrics at the Obstetrics Service A of the Local Health Unit of Coimbra where she is responsible for the prior consultation of reproductive counseling. Obstetrics Coordinator at the CUF Hospital in Coimbra. She is a consultant in Reproductive Health for the General Directorate of Health (DGS) Portugal, Coordinator of the Diploma and Fellow in EBCOG/ESCRH in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Member of the Executive Committee of Women Global Health. She is member of the Scientific Committee of the European Society of Contraception and Sexual Health (ESCRH). She was President of the Portuguese Society of Contraception (SPDC) and from the European Society of Contraception and Sexual Health (ESCRH).

Collaborator as a Speaker at International and National Scientific Meetings in the field of sexual and reproductive rights and sexual and reproductive health.

Author and co-author of international scientific publications including clinical recommendations in the field of Sexual and Reproductive Health. Member of the Expert Group of the European abortion policies atlas 2025 edition.

Collaborator in clinical and training cooperation projects with Portuguese-speaking African Countries.

CLARE MURPHY

Clare Murphy is a long-standing women's health advocate and currently Senior Research Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London, where her research explores the boundaries between contraception and abortion and how they are shaped by science, policy and advocacy. She spent more than a decade at the British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS), ultimately as Chief Executive, leading the organisation during the COVID-19 pandemic and delivering significant changes to abortion and contraception policy and services. Formerly a BBC Health journalist, she was also Principal Investigator of the Wellcome-funded WRISK Project on improving risk communication to women around pregnancy. Her book *Breaking Up with Birth Control: Why Women Are Staging a Reproductive Rebellion*, will be published by Policy Press in 2027.

JOHN REYNOLDS-WRIGHT

John Reynolds-Wright is a Senior Clinical Research Fellow and Honorary Consultant in Sexual and Reproductive Health, based at the Centre for Reproductive Health within the Institute of Regeneration and Repair at the University of Edinburgh.

He leads and contributes to clinical research across abortion care, post-abortion contraception, pharmacy-delivered sexual and reproductive healthcare, and male contraception.

His expertise spans clinical trials, mixed methods health services research, and qualitative research. His work focuses on improving abortion care, including pain management during medical abortion, and advancing novel contraceptive methods, particularly for men.

He also serves as Associate Editor at *BMJ Sexual and Reproductive Health*, Evidence Co-lead for the British Society of Abortion Care Providers, a member of the College of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare Research Committee, and an expert reviewer for the WHO Human Reproduction Programme Research Project Review Panel.

GUILLERMO ORTIZ

Guillermo Antonio Ortiz Avendaño is a Gynecologist and Obstetrician specializing in high-risk pregnancies, with training at the University of El Salvador and King Drew Medical Center. He holds a Master's degree in Hospital Management and Public Health.

He currently serves as a Senior Medical Advisor in the Quality of Care Unit at Ipas, North Carolina, USA. He is also a board member of CLACAI (Latin American Consortium Against Unsafe Abortion) and is affiliated with FLASOG (Latin American Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology) and FIGO (International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics).

In 2025, he served as a member of the FIGO Safe Abortion Committee.

JORDI BAROJA BENLLIURE

Jordi Baroja Benlliure is a journalist, nurse and public health professional with a Master's degree in Public Health. He works as a Deputy Director at the Association for Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Catalonia, focusing on abortion rights, access to abortion care and the removal of barriers within healthcare systems. He served for five years as President of the Catalan Society of Public Health. He is co-creator and coordinator of QuieroAbortar, a programme providing accessible, evidence-based information and personalised support to people seeking abortion care, with a particular focus on those facing barriers within the healthcare system and complex situations, including abortions later in pregnancy. The programme combines direct support, identification and documentation of barriers to access, professional networking and political advocacy to improve abortion care and ensure the effective exercise of abortion rights.

SILVIA ALDAVERT

She is a political scientist, feminist activist and Director of L'Associació pels Drets Sexuals i Reproductius, a Catalan civil society organization with a long-standing commitment to advancing sexual and reproductive rights as human rights.

For more than 20 years, she has been actively involved in the **defence of abortion rights and access to abortion care in Catalonia and Spain**, combining feminist activism, political advocacy and engagement with public institutions. Her work has focused on identifying and challenging the legal, political, institutional and territorial barriers that limit effective access to abortion, and on promoting public policies grounded in reproductive justice and human rights.

She has contributed to research, advocacy strategies and policy processes on abortion and sexual and reproductive rights, with particular attention to **institutional violence, inequalities in access to abortion care, and the growing influence of anti-abortion and anti-gender movements**. Her work also highlights the key role of feminist organizations and civil society in monitoring abortion access, supporting rights-holders and driving legal, policy and social change.

SELMA HASJRI

Dr. Selma Hajri is a physician specialized in reproductive endocrinology and a feminist activist for sexual and reproductive rights. She has over 25 years of clinical and research experience in the field of hormonal contraception and medical abortion, and as a trainer on sexual and reproductive health and rights in Tunisia and African countries. She is the founder of the "Groupe Tawhida Ben Cheikh" a Tunisian NGO dedicated to sexual and reproductive health and rights, of which she was president from 2012 to 2016, then secretary general until 2025.

She is currently vice-president of ASFAMM (Association for Women's Health in Africa, the Maghreb, and the Middle East) in France, and executive director of MARA-Med (Movement for the Right and Access to Abortion in the Mediterranean).

CRISTIAN FURAU

Full Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Pathophysiology at Vasile Goldiș Western University of Arad, where he also serves as a PhD Supervisor at the Doctoral School of Medicine.

He is a Senior Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Arad County Emergency Clinical Hospital, with expertise in obstetrical and gynecological ultrasonography, laparoscopy, hysteroscopy, colposcopy, and healthcare management. He coordinates the Obstetrics and Gynecology Operating Theatre and the Residency Program at the university. He has participated as a principal investigator or team member in more than 25 research grants and projects.

ANA MITROVIC

Ana Mitrovic graduated from the University of Belgrade School of Medicine in 1995, obtained her PhD in 1999, and became a specialist in Gynecology and Obstetrics in 2000. In 2015, she completed her subspecialty in Fertility and Reproductive Medicine. She became a Full Professor in 2019.

Since 1999, she has worked at the University Clinic for Gynecology and Obstetrics “Narodni Front” in Belgrade, holding several leadership positions, including Head of the Day Hospital and, since 2025, Head of the Gynecology and Obstetrics Teaching Program.

She is a Board Member of the Diczfalussy Foundation and a member of several international professional organizations. She has held leadership roles in reproductive health and the Serbian Physicians' Society. She has delivered more than 100 invited scientific lectures, authored or co-authored 15 medical books, and contributed to over 160 scientific publications.

SHEILA AKINYI

Sheila Akinyi Odongo is a sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) leader with extensive experience advancing abortion rights, reproductive justice, gender equality, and evidence-informed policy and programming across Africa. She currently serves as Secretariat Director of the African Coalition for Research and Communication on Abortion (ACORCA), where she provides strategic leadership to a pan-African coalition working to strengthen abortion research, research capacity, evidence translation, and communication for policy and practice.

Her experience spans abortion information and care, programme strategy and implementation, coalition building, policy advocacy, health systems engagement, capacity strengthening, and the translation of research and evidence for diverse audiences. She has worked with regional and global organizations and networks to strengthen access to sexual and reproductive health information and services and advance rights-based approaches to abortion and reproductive health.

Sheila is also the founder of NAWIRI, a feminist, community-led organization in Kenya advancing the health, rights, safety, and well-being of adolescent girls and young women. Through NAWIRI, she established and developed the ****Senje Hotline****, a confidential, user-centred platform designed to bridge gaps in access to accurate SRHR information, abortion information and support, contraception, and care navigation. The initiative uses accessible communication channels to connect women and young people with timely, non-judgmental information and support, particularly in contexts where stigma, misinformation, and other barriers can make formal services difficult to navigate.

Across her work, Sheila is particularly interested in ****African-led approaches to abortion access, self-managed care, digital and community-based models of support, and strengthening the connection between research, policy, advocacy, and people's lived experiences****. She is committed to building partnerships and evidence that contribute to more equitable, accessible, and rights-affirming sexual and reproductive health systems across Africa.

NANDINI MAZUMDER

Nandini Mazumder is the Assistant Coordinator at the Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP).

Nandini completed her Master's in Sociology in 2008, and since then she has been working on gender, sexuality and rights issues for over 18 years. Her work is rooted in the intersectional feminist lens and socialist philosophies. She has worked with diverse groups of people and continues to work and learn from them – children, adolescents, refugees, sex workers, Women Who Use Drugs (WWUD), Women and People Living With Disabilities (W/PLWD), LGBTQIA+ people across India, regionally and globally. She has been with Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP) since December 2019 as the Assistant Coordinator. At ASAP, she works with a feminist team to co-create, build, and disseminate knowledge on feminist safe abortion rights politics. She is one of the lead trainers at the ASAP institutes and ASAP Academy, and conducts sessions on Gender, Sexuality and Patriarchy, SRHR and Human Rights, and has designed a course on Decriminalisation available on the ASAP Academy.

AGUSTINA MICHEL

Agustina Ramón Michel is Principal Researcher at the Center for State and Society Studies (CEDES) and Adjunct Professor at the University of Palermo (UP) in Buenos Aires. She graduated with honors from the Faculty of Law at the National University of Tucumán (2006) and holds an LL.M. in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas School of Law and the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (2014). She also completed postgraduate studies in women's rights at the University of Chile (2008). Agustina has coordinated and participated in research projects supported by the World Health Organization, New York University, Georgetown University, Guttmacher Institute, Human Rights Watch, among others. For nearly 20 years at CEDES she has worked in interdisciplinary teams across law, sociology, medicine and public policy experts. She cofounded REDAAS, the first network of abortion health providers in Argentina and Latin America, and currently coordinates research for CLACAI, the major Latin American abortion network. She advised the Argentine government on justice, gender, and abortion policy, contributing to the draft law on the interruption of pregnancy that was enacted by the Argentine Congress in 2020, and supported related abortion policy processes across Latin America. She is the lead researcher of the first global map of conscientious objection clauses in abortion law, is a member of Red Alas, a network of gender law professors in Latin America. Among her fellowships and awards are a Fulbright Scholarship, a Yale Law School–University of Palermo linkage fellowship, a fellowship from the Argentine National Research Council (CONICET), and a fellowship at the Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice (University of Texas). Her research focuses mainly on sexual and reproductive rights and policies, Socio-legal studies of health, Latin-American Law & Gender. Her work appears in journals such as the International Journal of Constitutional Law, Health and Human Rights Journal, Revista Género & Derecho, Reproductive Health. She is the author of four books: *La reproducción en cuestión. Investigaciones y argumentos jurídicos sobre aborto* (Eudeba, 2018); *Autonomía y Feminismos* (Didot, 2022); *Objeción de conciencia en la atención de la salud* (Siglo del Hombre and Universidad de los Andes, 2024); and *Cuando Hicimos Historia: acuerdos y desacuerdos en torno al Juicio a las Juntas* (Siglo XXI, 2025).

SADOK AMINE BEN HASSINE

Dr Sadok has been with IPPF Arab World Regional Office as SRH lead since April 2021. After obtaining his Medical Doctor diploma from the University of Sousse-Tunisia in 2017, Sadok was offered a Fulbright scholarship by the US Department of State to pursue a master's degree in public health. From 2018 to 2020, Sadok studied Health Management and Policy at the University of Florida. Right before joining IPPF, he worked for 9 months managing projects for an international consulting firm specialized in the domains of Market Access, Health economics and outcomes research. Sadok is devoted to sexual and reproductive health, and has interest in international health and humanitarian work. Sadok's career goals include working in the fields of health strategic planning, international cooperation and healthcare diplomacy.