

## Biographies



**Assistant professor Ivana Milas Klarić, Ph. D.**, Croatian Ombudswoman for Children, teaches Family Law at the Faculty of Law in Zagreb. Her specific areas of interest are: custody, autonomy of will and medical law, especially from the point of view of protection of children and adults with disabilities. Ms Klarić has participated in many international and domestic academic and professional conferences and has published many academic and professional articles. She was a member of several working groups for the drafting of regulations and is an editorial board member of several scientific journals in the fields of law and social work. She is co-editor of the proceedings "Protecting the Best Interest of the Child" (2015). She was a member of the expert team for drafting the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016-2021).  
[milas.klaric@dijete.hr](mailto:milas.klaric@dijete.hr)



Psychoanalyst **Alain Bouregba** is the author of numerous articles on parenting and intrafamilial violence. Two of his works, *Les troubles de la parentalité (Difficulties in parenting)* and *L'enfant et son parent, l'histoire d'une empreinte (The child and his parent: A lasting impression)*, are widely distributed academic points of reference. Alain Bouregba is the president of the French organisation *La Fédération des Relais Enfants-Parents*. He was editorial director of *Les liens familiaux à l'épreuve du pénal* (The impact of imprisonment on family ties) at Eres. He co-founded the COPE network, and served as network president for seven years. Dr Bouregba gives classes at different universities, and is also a member of the National Committee on Ethics and Cancer. Earlier this year, upon the proposal of the French Ministry of Justice, the President of the Republic awarded Alain Bouregba with the status of Chevalier of the Legion of Honour for his work and commitment.  
[alain.bouregba@gmail.com](mailto:alain.bouregba@gmail.com)



**Prof. Nancy Loucks** is the Chief Executive of Families Outside, a Scottish voluntary organisation that works on behalf of families affected by imprisonment. Prior to this she worked as an Independent Criminologist, receiving her M. Phil and Ph. D. from the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cambridge, and in 2012 was appointed as Visiting Professor at the University of Strathclyde's Centre for Law, Crime and Justice. Nancy was awarded an OBE in the 2016 New Year's Honours List for services to Education and Human Rights. She is a member by invitation of the Scottish Minister's Early Years Task Force and chairs the Faith in Throughcare Steering Group, the Board of Positive Prison? Positive Futures, and is Secretary General to the Board of Children of Prisoners Europe.

[Nancy.Loucks@familiesoutside.org.uk](mailto:Nancy.Loucks@familiesoutside.org.uk)



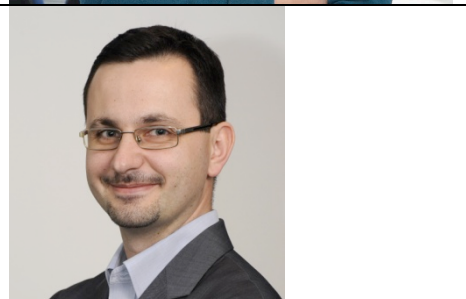


**Croatian debate society (CDS)** is a civil society organisation working with children and young people with the goal of advancing critical thinking, tolerance and understanding. Using debate and non-formal methods of education to complement the formal schooling system, CDS offers young people a chance to explore topics such as human rights, active citizenship, democracy, geopolitics, economy, ecology etc. allowing them to discuss various issues from different perspectives. Outside Croatia, CDS works on the development of debate programmes in Turkey and India, cooperating with local organisations and is part of World Debate Institute's global network of debate organisations. The young people participating in the debate are all members of the Croatian national debate team which, in 2015, won the title of world champions in the category "English as a foreign language" in Singapore. Debaters are **Tomislav Veble, Eta Krpanec, Marija Jarnjak, Luka Petrović, Tin Puljić** and **Martin Rosenzweig**.

[bojan@hdd.hr](mailto:bojan@hdd.hr)

	<p>Judge <b>Renate Winter</b> began her judicial career in 1981 in Vienna. She was international judge and president of the Special Court of Sierra Leone, and international judge in Kosovo and was president of the International Association of Youth and Family Court Judges and Magistrates. She works with international organisations, the Council of Europe, UN bodies and the European Union and provides advice to governments, in particular concerning juvenile justice and child protection, women's issues, child soldiers and organised crime.</p> <p>She has longstanding experience on EU projects on judicial reform and justice institutions in numerous countries. In 2013, she became a member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, of which she later became vice-president. She continues to advise governments and also works for IGOs and NGOs.</p> <p><a href="mailto:renatewinter@gmx.net">renatewinter@gmx.net</a></p>
	<p><b>Margaret Tuite</b> has been the European Commission coordinator for rights of the child since November 2011, in the unit responsible for Fundamental Rights and the Rights of the Child of DG Justice and Consumers. Margaret has worked for the European Commission for thirty years, fifteen of them in the Justice and Home Affairs field.</p> <p><a href="mailto:Margaret.Tuite@ec.europa.eu">Margaret.Tuite@ec.europa.eu</a></p>

	<p><b>Tonino Picula</b> is a Croatian Member of the <a href="#">European Parliament</a>. Mr. Picula was Minister of Foreign Affairs, Member of the Croatian Parliament and Mayor of the City of Velika Gorica. Following the completion of Croatian negotiations for membership in <a href="#">the EU</a>, he became Croatian Parliament Observer in the European Parliament, and in the first Croatian <a href="#">elections for the European Parliament in 2013</a> he was elected with the highest number of preferential votes. Mr Picula was Rapporteur of the General Committee on Political Affairs and Security of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and has acted as Vice-President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly since 2011. He was appointed as Special Coordinator and Leader of the OSCE election observation missions on presidential and parliamentary elections in Moldova (2010), Kazakhstan (2011), Russia (2012), Georgia (2012) and Armenia (2013). He is a sociologist by profession. <a href="mailto:tonino.picula@europarl.europa.eu">tonino.picula@europarl.europa.eu</a></p>
	<p><b>Valentina Otmačić, M.Sc.</b>, has acted as Head of the UNICEF Office for Croatia since 2014. She obtained a Master's degree in the area of peace, conflict and human rights at the Peace and Conflict Research institute in Granada and in the area of conflict transformation at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya in Barcelona. From 2010 to 2013, she worked as a human rights advocacy coordinator at Amnesty International in Croatia. She has gained broad international experience working for the UN and non-governmental organisations in Tanzania, Burundi, Lebanon and Colombia on the protection and promotion of human and children's rights. She is the author of the handbook "Conflict as a Challenge: Enhancing Children's Capacities of Constructive Conflict Transformation", used in schools in Lebanon today. <a href="mailto:votmacic@unicef.org">votmacic@unicef.org</a></p>

	<p><b>Lora Vidović</b> graduated from the Faculty of Law in Zagreb and obtained a Master's degree with the thesis “Ombudsman for Children” following post-graduate studies of Civil Law at the Faculty of Law in Zagreb. She took over the duty of the Ombudsman on 1 March 2013, after Parliament appointed her Commissioner in charge of the promotion and protection of human rights and freedoms for a term of eight years. Prior to being appointed Ombudsman, she worked as the Head of the UNICEF Office in Croatia, Deputy Ombudsman for Children and Human Rights Officer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She has been working in the field of human rights protection and promotion throughout her working career, as well as on establishing highest international human rights standards within the legal system of the Republic of Croatia. She has participated in numerous international seminars, conferences and meetings related to human rights and democratisation. In March 2016, she was elected Chair of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), for a three-year term.</p> <p><a href="mailto:lora.vidovic@ombudsman.hr">lora.vidovic@ombudsman.hr</a></p>
	<p><b>Bruna Profaca, Ph.D.</b>, is a clinical psychologist at the Child Protection Center of Zagreb, an institution specialising in work with traumatised children (including abused and neglected children) and their families. The focus of her interest in her clinical work with children and families as well as her professional and academic work is on stress, trauma, loss and crisis at during childhood, parental stress and parenting, treatment work, emotional difficulties during childhood, children and parent counselling. As an external associate, Ms Profaca teaches at several faculties (the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Social Work Study Centre of the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Teacher Education) at the University of Zagreb and participates in the training of professionals working with children in the healthcare system, education, social welfare, judiciary and the civil society fields in Croatia and abroad.</p> <p><a href="mailto:bruna.profaca@poliklinika-djeca.hr">bruna.profaca@poliklinika-djeca.hr</a></p>
	<p><b>Igor Kanižaj, Ph.D.</b>, is Assistant Professor at the University of Zagreb, Department of Journalism in the Faculty of Political Science and Vice-Dean for Science and International Relations. Within the Department of Journalism he holds courses in <i>Print Media</i>, <i>Media and Diversity</i>, <i>Media and Violence</i>, <i>Newsroom</i>. Since 2012, he has been teaching the course “<i>Media and Children</i>” as part of the Ph.D programme “Information and Communication Science” in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb. He is lecturer at the Military Diplomatic School, of the Ministry of Defence, and host lecturer at the Croatian Defence Academy “Ban Josip Jelačić”. He has been executive editor of <i>Media Studies</i> journal since 2010. He is also Vice-President of the Association for Communication and Media Culture (DKMK.hr, and <a href="http://djecamedija.org">djecamedija.org</a>) and has experience as a communication expert in several EU-funded IPA and CARDS projects. He has also participated in several</p>



international research projects. He is co-author of the first public opinion research on Media Literacy in Croatia. He is also one of the authors of UNESCO Paris Declaration on Media and Information Literacy in the Digital Era, 2014. [ikanizaj@fpzg.hr](mailto:ikanizaj@fpzg.hr)

**Lana Ciboci** is a Ph.D. candidate at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb. Since 2014, she has worked at the Edward Bernays College of Communication Management. Lana is also a lecturer at the Faculty of Teacher Education and at the Centre for Croatian Studies, University of Zagreb. She is one of the authors of the first public opinion study on Media Literacy in Croatia. She is a member of the Croatian team of the EU Kids Online Project and the Digital International Media Literacy eBook Project (DIMLE). She is Vice-President of the Association for Communication and Media Culture, within which the Children of the Media project was implemented. [лана\\_ciboci@yahoo.com](mailto:лана_ciboci@yahoo.com)




**Ivana Zanze** is the Executive Director of RODA - Parents in Action, a Croatian non-profit organisation, and directs RODA's projects working with children whose parents are in prison. In addition to being Executive Director, Ivana also participates in activities that provide support to pregnant women and parents as well as in advocacy efforts.

Since 2014, Ivana has been implementing the project MA#ME - Empowering Female Prisoners for Parenting and Inclusion on the Labour Market at the Požega Women's Penitentiary. She created the social innovation "Bars are not barriers" – the development of social enterprises in prisons, which was a semi-finalist in the 2015 European Social Innovation Competition. The products made in the project have also been recognised by the Croatian Designers' Association. Currently, she is implementing the Reading Programme for Prisoners and Children with imprisoned fathers with the Croatian Reading Association in three Croatian prisons, Lepoglava, Požega and Glina. [ivana.zanze@gmail.com](mailto:ivana.zanze@gmail.com)

#### **About RODA**

RODA is an acronym for Roditelji u akciji, or Parents in Action. It was founded in 2001 and is active across Croatia through a developed network of projects and activities that are carried out by the organisation's more than 250 volunteer members as well as employees (8) who support all the projects and programmes. Members are located throughout Croatia and include a number of Croatian expatriates who live in other parts of the world. From its foundation to the present day, RODA has influenced positive changes in public opinion as well as changes within institutions, through its projects and programmes, ad-hoc activities and lobbying for parental and children's rights: the creation of infrastructure and legal frameworks for changing outdated practices. RODA is an important stakeholder in the areas of rights to adequate maternal leave compensation and right to maternal leave, medically assisted conception, pregnancy and improving birthing conditions, breastfeeding promotion, education and counselling, education and support for parents and future parents and child traffic safety. RODA is

	<p>a centre where pregnant women, new mothers and parents can receive information about the areas the organisation is active in, as well as a forum for experiences, suggestions and complaints.</p>
	<p><b>Jurica Pačelat</b> earned a BA degree in Psychology from the Study of Psychology in Centre for Croatian Studies, University of Zagreb and will complete MA studies in upcoming months. He has been involved with the Youth Organisation Status:M since 2008, working as a volunteer on violence-prevention campaigns, participating in educational work, promoting positive masculinities and gender equality aspects of the programme Young Men Initiative of CARE International; since 2011, he has taken on the post of educator and project assistant. He has worked as a counsellor in the Psychological Center TESA, also in Zagreb. Jurica is running education programmes with young men within the system of Centers of Social Welfare in Zagreb and Čakovec, in the Penitentiary in Glina and the Turopolje Correctional Institute. He is also an educator and supervisor in the project MenCare in Međimurje, working on engaging fathers and future fathers in childcare. <a href="mailto:jurica.pacelat@status-m.hr">jurica.pacelat@status-m.hr</a></p> <p><b>About Status: M</b></p> <p>Youth Organisation Status: M has been working with young men on violence prevention, gender equality and promotion of positive masculinities and healthy lifestyles since 2010. Currently the number of beneficiaries of its work through the programme Young Men Initiative (Budi muško Klub – Be a Man Club), campaigns and workshops based on Manual M (Manual for working with young men) count several thousand throughout Croatia. Status: M is currently implementing the second year phase of its three-year programme “Be a man, change the world – prevention of institutionalisation of adolescents and capacity-building of social welfare centres, correctional institutions and civil society organisations for working with young men”. The programme involves two areas of activities: group workshops with young men with parallel individual counselling; and capacity-building of professionals working with young men through the online course 'Young Men Initiative'. The programme is run in several Centers of Social Welfare in Croatia, Turopolje Correctional Institute, the Penitentiary in Glina and in the Roma communities of Kozari Putevi in Zagreb and Kuršanec in Međimurje. It is supported by the Ministry of Social Policies and Youth of Republic of Croatia and run in partnership with the Ministry of Justice. To date, the programme has involved 120 young men in workshops and 70 participants in an online course. The programme is recognised as a corrective educational measure for young men by the Ministry of Justice. Status: M is also actively implementing the campaign SUPERTATA (SUPERDAD) through the project “MenCare – engaging men in achieving gender equality in Međimurje County”. The methodology of Status: M is based on Manual M (Manual for working with young men), primarily implemented in working with men in prison systems; and Manual P (Manual for working with young and future fathers), primarily</p>

	<p>implemented in Međimurje.</p>
 	<p><b>Andy Keen-Downs</b> has been Chief Executive of Pact since 2005, steering the charity through a period of great change and growth. He has worked in the voluntary sector for much of his working life, and was previously Deputy Director at Gingerbread, the charity supporting one parent families, prior to which he held fundraising and development posts with the National Childbirth Trust and Centrepoin. Andy's first job with a charity was as one of a team of three staff, running The Gatehouse Project in the Hulme and Moss side area of Manchester during the late 1980s, which involved supporting adults with literacy issues. This followed a dramatic career change from his previous role with Reuters in the City of London, where he worked in the European Marketing and UK Sales teams. Andy qualified as a secondary school teacher at the University of Surrey following a degree in English and Theology at the University of Kent. His other qualifications include being arrested as a juvenile offender for vandalism, and the experience of imprisonment of both friends and relatives.</p> <p><a href="mailto:PA@prisonadvice.org.uk">PA@prisonadvice.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Katherine Copperthwaite</b> MSc (Oxon), BA Hons (Oxon) is the Children and Young People's Advocate for Pact. She is leading their new Comic Relief and Pilgrim Trust funded project "Hear Our Voice" which aims to improve practice for children affected by familial imprisonment. She previously worked in legal and policy research, including on Action for Children's campaign to reform the criminal law on child abuse and a project concerning young offenders' capacity to stand trial. She also has experience of working for her local authority in child protection law. Katherine has an undergraduate degree in Law and a master's degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice, both from the University of Oxford.</p> <p><a href="mailto:Katherine.Copperthwaite@prisonadvice.org.uk">Katherine.Copperthwaite@prisonadvice.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>About PACT</b></p> <p>Pact is a national charity which supports people affected by imprisonment. We provide practical and emotional support to prisoners' children and families, and to prisoners themselves.</p>


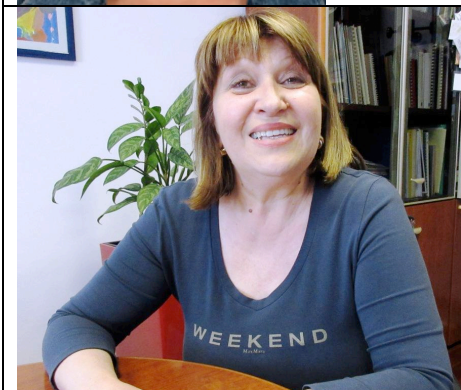




**Rachel Brett** (LLM in International Human Rights Law with Distinction, University of Essex, UK), was Representative (Human Rights & Refugees) at the Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva, from 1993 to 2014. During this time she worked on a range of human rights, child rights, and refugee issues, including helping to put the issue of children of prisoners onto the UN agenda - both the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and the UN Human Rights Council. She was involved with the EU FP7-funded COPING project - Children of Prisoners: Interventions and mitigations to strengthen mental health. She was involved in the development of the UN Rules on the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules) and the revised UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules), and has researched, written and published widely on a various human rights and child rights topics.  
[rbrett@bluewin.ch](mailto:rbrett@bluewin.ch)



**Renata Šoher** is Head of the Treatment Service of the Prison System Directorate of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia. She worked as a psychologist in the correctional facility Lipovica, Popovača, was a Sisak Prison Governor and acted as Head of the Department for Psychosocial Support to Prison System Officers of the Central Office of the Prison System Directorate. She received specialised training for work with alcoholics, PTSD sufferers, and the implementation of alternative sanctions and integrative psychotherapy at the Fritz Perls institute in Düsseldorf. Ms Šoher is external associate of the Faculty of Law of the University of Zagreb and University of Zagreb Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences.  
[Renata.Soher@uzs.pravosudje.hr](mailto:Renata.Soher@uzs.pravosudje.hr)

	<p><b>Anita Matijević</b>, a youth police officer, is a chief police inspector in the Juvenile Delinquency and Crimes against Family and Children Department of the Police Administration. She conducted crime investigations in connection with criminal sexual exploitation and abuse of children. Ms Matijević is also the author and a co-author of professional articles and publications and she has participated in domestic and international conferences and professional gatherings on crimes against children and family violence. She is a member of working groups whose work focuses on the suppression and prevention of violence in the family and child protection. She teaches students of social work and psychology at the faculties of the University of Zagreb about police work in the area of sexual abuse of children and other forms of youth abuse and juvenile delinquency. She participates in education, professional training and training of police officers in the area of juvenile delinquency and crime against youth and the family. She is a certified educator for conducting interviews with child victims based on the principles of obtaining the best evidence. <a href="mailto:amatijevic@mup.hr">amatijevic@mup.hr</a></p>
	<p><b>Ljubica Pezo Štirmer</b> is a senior judicial advisor at the Zagreb County Court, working in the Centre for the Execution of Prison Sentences. Prior to this position, she worked at the same court as a judicial advisor in the Department of Investigating Judges. She was also a volunteer at the Zagreb Municipal Court and she worked as a trainee, judicial advisor and Deputy Municipal State Attorney of Zagreb and Samobor. She worked as an attorney at Štirmer Law Firm, often representing mothers with under-age children in criminal procedures.</p>



**Attila Juhász** is an elected member of the Council of Europe Council for Penological Co-operation (PC-CP). He graduated as teacher of English and Physical Education and received his MA in the Hungarian University of Sports and Sports Sciences. He has been working as the Governor of the Heves County Penitentiary Institute since 2007. He introduced the “Storybook Mums” programme in Hungary, which won several national and international awards, and started the “Prison for the City” programme. He is involved in the composition of the new Hungarian Law on the Execution of Sentences and worked as a Consultant in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.  
[juhasz.attila@bv.gov.hu](mailto:juhasz.attila@bv.gov.hu)



**Maja Gabelica Šupljika, M. Sc. in psychology**, is a Deputy Ombudsperson for Children. Since 2006, Ms Gabelica Šupljika has been involved in work with children whose parents are in conflict with the law and has been a member of *Children of Prisoners Europe* since 2009. She has spoken about raising awareness about vulnerability and needs of these groups of children at several national and international conferences, and in the past few years has delivered lectures to pre-school institutions staff, teachers, journalists, police officers and psychology students about the needs and rights of those children and the European standards for their protection. She is the editor of the proceedings *The Rights of Children of Incarcerated Parents* and the editor of the Croatian issue of the COPE manual *Children of Imprisoned Parents, European Perspectives on Good Practice*. Ms Gabelica Šupljika is external associate of the Department for Psychology of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb and the Faculty of Kinesiology. She was a member of the expert team for drafting the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016-2021).  
[gabelica@dijete.hr](mailto:gabelica@dijete.hr)



**Lucy Gampell** is the President of Children of Prisoners Europe (COPE) and a UK expert on the needs of children and families of prisoners. From 1993-2008 she was the Director of the NGO Action for Prisoners' Families, working closely with HM Prison Service and the Ministry of Justice to influence policy and improve services for prisoners' families.

Lucy Gampell is an Independent Member of the Parole Board for England and Wales. In 2010 she received the Honour of Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) from Her Majesty the Queen. [lgampell@gmail.com](mailto:lgampell@gmail.com)