



International Fair Trial Day

2022 International Fair Trial Day Conference and Ebru Timtik Award Ceremony

Focus Country Egypt, Online and In-Person Event

17, 18 June 2022, Palermo/Italy

Biographies of the Participants

The 2022 Ebru Timtik Award Jury

[Aida Seif El-Dawla](#)

Born in 1954 into a politically active family, Aida Seif El-Dawla became a political activist herself while at university in the 1970s. It was the beginning of her fight against injustice and human rights abuses, leading to the foundation of the New Woman Research Center in 1984.

Aida has since been a leading defender of women's rights, combating female genital mutilation and violence against women.

As a psychiatrist, she and some of her colleagues started to document abuses and torture committed by Egyptian police. In 1993, they established the El Nadeem Center for the Psychological Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence. The center provides psychological, medical and legal support to torture victims and their families, but also to women subject to any kind of violence.

Besides combating torture and other human rights abuses, Aida has continuously expressed her political opinions openly, denouncing Egypt's police and challenging former President Mubarak and his regime. This meant participating in protests, going on a one-week hunger strike in 1999 and protesting in the streets again in January 2011. As a member of the Egyptian Front for Defence Defense of Egypt Protesters, she documented the abuses committed by police and army during and after the 18-day revolution.

[Gerhard Reissner:](#)

Born 1954 Vienna, Austria, Gerhard Reissner is a doctor iuris who studied law and sociology at Universities of Vienna and Munich. He sat as a judge from 1982 until 2019 with his last position being the President of a first instance court in Vienna.

Judge Reissner is the former President of European Association of Judges, President of International Association of Judges (IAJ) between 2012 and 2014 and President of the Council of Europe's Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE) during which he contributed to the drafting 23 Opinions of the Council.

He has taken part in numerous expert missions, training programs and roundtables organized by the Council of Europe or of IAJ in several countries like Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine. He took part in the projects carried out by the Council of Europe European Commission for the efficiency of justice (CEPEJ).

Judge Reissner acted as an expert of the Venice Commission's missions regarding opinions on specific legislations in Armenia, and Ukraine. He delivered trainings as an expert on Rule of Law organized by the European Judicial training Network (EJTN). He took part in missions held by IAJ to Albania, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Colombia, Egypt, Hungary, Morocco, Serbia, Slovakia and Turkey. He is currently the Honorary President of IAJ and Representative of IAJ at the UN in Vienna.

[Monica Ruocco:](#)

Professor Monica Ruocco is a full Professor of Arabic Language and Literature at the Asia, Africa and Mediterranean Department of the Oriental University of Naples. She holds several other important academic positions at different academic institutions across Italy and beyond.

She acted as the President of the European Association for the Modern Arabic Literature (EURAMAL) and of the Italian Society of Middle East Studies (SeSaMO). Her academic interests range from narrative to theatrical production of the countries of the Near East and the Maghreb to Arabic contemporary literature and drama and her numerous essays are published in Italy and abroad. She published numerous articles, essays and books reflecting to her field of interest.

[Suzanne Adely](#)

Suzanne Adely is a labor and community organizer and human rights attorney who has worked in New York, Chicago, Egypt, India and other locations on a spectrum of labor and human rights initiatives. A graduate of CUNY School of Law, she joined the Food Chain Workers Alliance (FCWA) in 2017 and supports several of their organizing and policy initiatives. FCWA is a coalition of 33 worker-based organizations organizing at the frontlines of the food supply chain in the U.S. and Canada. She is the founder of the Global Worker Solidarity Network, a social media site that has facilitated bottom-up support for worker campaigns around the globe. She is the co-chair of the International Labor Justice Working Group and International Committee of the National Lawyers Guild, bureau member of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers and a long time Arab-American community organizer.

[Şebnem Korur Fincancı](#)

Şebnem Korur Fincancı, MD is one of Turkey's leading human rights activists and an internationally-recognized forensic expert. Former President of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey, Turkey's largest human rights organization (together with the Human Rights Association as the founding organization), and currently Chair of the Turkish Medical Association Dr. Fincancı is one of the authors of the Istanbul Protocol, the international standard for forensic investigation and documentation of torture. She was the head of Istanbul University's forensic medical department until she was forced from the position because of her support for human rights and academic freedom. She is one of the founders of the Turkish Penal Code association.

Dr. Fincancı has received numerous awards, including the Hessian Peace Prize in 2018 and the Hrant Dink Award in 2014. She has served on the board of the Forensic Medical Experts Association, the Istanbul Medical Chamber, the Turkish Medical Association, and the Human Rights Advisory Board of the Prime Ministry. She was honored at the 2017 PHR gala, where she received the Physicians for Human Rights Award.

Dr. Fincancı graduated from the Cerrahpaşa Faculty of Medicine at Istanbul University in 1983 and finalized her specialization training at the Forensic Medical Institute in 1987. She received her

associate professorship at Istanbul University in 1990, her professorship in 1996, and was promoted to the head of the department in 1997. In 1999, she established the first forensic medical outpatient clinic in Turkey. Dr. Fincancı has also studied classical archaeology at Istanbul University.

The 2022 Ebru Timtik Award Artist

Fatma Bucak:

Fatma Bucak, born in 1984 in Turkey, lives and works between London and Istanbul. She studied Philosophy at Istanbul University and History of Art and Etching in Italy at the Albertina Academy of Fine Arts, before completing her MA in Photography at the Royal College of Art, London. Bucak's practices in performance, photography, sound, and video center on political identity, cultural and gender norms, and landscape as a space of historical renegotiation. Investigating the fragility, tension and irreversibility of history, the power of testimony and memory in her practice she often questions traditional forms of history-making.

Her solo exhibitions include *So as to find the strength to see*, Merz Foundation, Torino and GAM - Galleria d'Arte Moderna Sant'Anna, Palermo, Italy; *An obscure sentiment lurking at the edge of my conscious*, Pi Artworks, Istanbul, Turkey, (2018); *Damascus Rose*, Harpe 45, Lausanne, Switzerland; *Sticks and Stones*, Pi Artworks London, UK (2017); *And men turned their faces from there*, Brown University David Winton Bell Gallery, USA; *Suggested place for you to see it*, Pori Art Museum, Finland (2016); *Nothing is in its own place*, Alberto Peola Gallery, Turin, Italy (2015); *Over a line, darkly*, Artpace, San Antonio, Texas, USA (2015); *I must say a word about fear*, Castello di Rivoli, Museum of Contemporary Art, Turin, Italy (2014); *Yet an Other Story About the Fall*, ARTER, Istanbul, Turkey (2013) and duo exhibitions include *A Colossus on Clay Feet*, The Italian Cultural Institute of New York (2019). Major group exhibitions and screenings include: Green Art Gallery, Dubai; Casa Victor Hugo, Havana (2018); GIBCA – Goteborg International Biennial for Contemporary Art; Meeting Points 8: Both sides of the curtain – Mophradat, Beirut Art Center (2017); International Festival of Non- Fiction Film and Media, MoMA, New York, USA; Jewish Museum, NY, USA (2015); Art in General Screening Programme, NY (2014); Bloomberg New Contemporaries 13, ICA, London, Spike Island, Bristol, UK (2013) and 54th Venice Biennale - Tese di San Cristoforo, Italy (2011). Selected awards and art residencies include Premio New York – ISCP (2019); La Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris (2017); Artpace San Antonio, Texas (2015); Townhouse International Art Residency, Cairo (2014); Illy Present Future Award, Italy (2013).

Video Message

Mary Lawlor:

Ms. Mary Lawlor took up the mandate of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defender on 1 May 2020, following the Human Rights Council [decision 43/115](#).

Ms. Lawlor is currently an Adjunct Professor of Business and Human Rights in the Centre for Social Innovation (CSI), School of Business, Trinity College Dublin. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the School of Business.

She has worked extensively with and on the situation of human rights defenders. In 2001 she founded *Front Line Defenders - the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders* to concentrate on human rights defenders at risk. As Executive Director from 2001-2016, Ms. Lawlor represented Front Line Defenders and had a key role in its development.

Ms. Lawlor was previously the Director of the Irish Section of Amnesty International from 1988 to 2000, became a Board member in 1975 and was elected Chair from 1983 to 1987. She has a BA in Philosophy and postgraduate degrees in Montessori Teaching and Personnel Management.

Ms. Lawlor is on the Advisory Board of the Centre for Ethics in Public Life, School of Philosophy, University College Dublin.

Keynote Speech

Prof Philippa Webb:

Professor Philippa Webb is Professor of Public International Law at King's College London and a barrister at Twenty Essex chambers. She is a specialist in public international law and represents states, companies, organisations and individuals in domestic and international courts, including the International Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights and the UK Supreme Court. She has been described as "the foremost expert on state immunity" and is a leading scholar on international dispute settlement and human rights (including the right to a fair trial, freedom of expression, and the prohibition of genocide and modern slavery). She is the founding co-director of the King's Centre on International Governance and Dispute Resolution and a member of the Public International Law Advisory Panel of the British Institute of International & Comparative Law.

Professor Webb has held positions in the Presidency of the International Court of Justice, the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court and in United Nations Headquarters. Her publications include [The Right to a Fair Trial in International Law](#) (OUP 2020, with A Clooney) and [Oppenheim's International Law: United Nations](#) (2017, with R Higgins, D Akande, S Sivakumaran and J Sloan), both of which have been awarded the American Society of International Law's Certificate of Merit. Her treatise, [The Law of State Immunity](#) (2015, with H Fox) has been cited by leading courts around the world.

Contributors of the 2022 International Fair Trial Day Conference

Antonello Armetta:

Antonello Armetta is a lawyer practicing in Italy and specializing in civil law. He is the Chair of the Palermo Bar Association which is the organization hosting the 2022 International Fair Trial Day in Palermo.

Antonio Mazzeo:

Antonio Mazzeo is a peace-researcher and journalist extensively working on the themes of peace, militarization, the environment, human rights, and the fight against mafia crime. He received the "G. Bassani Award - Italia Nostra 2010" (*Premio G. Bassani – Italia Nostra 2010*) for journalism. In October 2020, he was awarded by the Disarmament Archive with the "Golden Dove for Peace" (*Colomba d'oro per la Pace*) as recognition "for having interpreted for years of journalism and writing as a mission to defend human rights and denounce injustices".

Bahey eldin Hassan:

Bahey eldin Hassan is the Director of the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS), an independent regional non-governmental organization founded in 1993 to promote respect for the principles of human rights and democracy in the Arab region. CIHRS produces analysis on the difficulties of applying international human rights law and disseminating human rights culture in the Arab region and conducts advocacy in national, regional and international human rights mechanisms and contribute to the capacity building of Arab Human rights NGO's.

Mr. Hassan is also a member of the Board of the EuroMed Human Rights Foundation, member of the Advisory Board of Middle East Watch and is a lecturer on human rights and democracy in the Arab region. He is the editor in chief of several books, including the CIHRS Annual Reports on the Human Rights in the Arab Region and contributed to several books that were published in Europe and US.

human rights defender, Director of the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies

[Michele Calantropo:](#)

Michele Calantropo is a supreme courts' lawyer and he is a council member at Palermo Bar Association. He is also the head of the International Relationships and Human Rights Commission at the Palermo Bar. He is also the president of the International Relationships Commission in National Bar Council of Italy. He is also a member of Human Rights Commission at Federation del Barreaux d'Europe. He teaches at the Palermo University regularly and has several publications in legal magazines and books.

[Barbara Spinelli:](#)

Barbara Spinelli is Co-President of ELDH and a human rights lawyer, banned from Turkey for her activities as international observer. Co-president of the European Association of Lawyers for Democracy & World Human Rights. Member of the Bologna Bar Council' Human Rights Committee and of the Commission for Relations in Mediterranean Area of the Italian Bar Council (CNF). Femicide expert for UN. Awards: SEN Prize for standing out in defense of women's right, CNF medal of merit for her activities as international observer.

[Patrick Zaki:](#)

Patrick George Zaki is a postgraduate student at the University of Bologna, Italy, who has been detained in Egypt on 7 February 2020. Zaki is pursuing an Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree in Women and Gender Studies at the University of Bologna. He also conducts research and advocacy on gender issues and human rights for the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), a human rights organization based in Cairo. On 9 December 2021, Zaki was released from prison. The charges against him have not been dropped yet.

[Edmond Claude Frety:](#)

Edmond-Claude Frety has been practicing law at the Paris Bar Association since 2001, mainly in criminal law including business criminal law for the defense of natural and legal persons. He also practices in intellectual property law and press law. Edmond-Claude Frety is a member of the Council of the Order (2019-2021) and former First Secretary of the Conference. He is the member of the Human Rights Commission of the Paris Bar Association and Secretary General of the International Observatory for Lawyers in Danger.

[Francesca Restifo:](#)

Francesca Restifo is Senior Human Rights Lawyer and Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) for the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI). Previously she worked at the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), initially based in Central America, serving as Senior Americas Legal Expert in UNHCR's Regional Legal Unit, later as Advisor in the Executive Office of the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, on the Global Compact on Refugees. Prior to that, she was the Deputy Executive Director and International Advocacy Director of an International Human Rights NGO, based in Geneva. She has also worked as Human Rights Advisor at the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT).

From 2003 until 2007, Francesca Restifo served as Legal Advisor at the EU European Parliament's Committees on Civil Liberties (LIBE) and on the Sub-Committee on Human Rights (DROIT). She was also legal advisor in the European Parliament's Committee of the Inquiry on Extraordinary

Renditions (TDIP Committee). She owns a Master Degree in Law at the University “La Sapienza” (Rome, Italy), and a LLM in Law and Economics at the University of Rotterdam (Netherlands). She studied Law at the Universities of Hamburg (Germany) and Vienna (Austria). She also owns a specialization in Human Rights, International and European Law obtained at the KULeuven University (Belgium).

Giuseppe Acconcia:

Giuseppe Acconcia is an award-winning journalist and researcher focusing on the Middle East; researcher at the University of Padova, visiting scholar at the University of California (UCLA), teaching assistant at Bocconi, and a lecturer at the Cattolica University in Milan (Aseri). His research interests focus on youth and social movements, Iranian domestic politics, and the state and transformation in the Middle East. He is the author of *The Great Iran* (Exorma, 2016), *Egypt. Military Democracy* (Exorma, 2014) and *The Egyptian Spring* (Infinito, 2012). He publishes in *Il Mulino*, *The International Spectator*, the *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace* (Sada) and *Palgrave*.

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC:

Helena Kennedy is one of Britain's most distinguished lawyers. She has spent her professional life giving voice to those who have least power within the system, championing civil liberties and promoting human rights.

She has used many public platforms – including the House of Lords, to which she was elevated in 1997 – to argue with passion, wit and humanity for social justice. She has also written and broadcast on a wide range of issues, from medical negligence to terrorism to the rights of women and children.

Jacqueline Scott:

Jacqueline Scott is a co-founder of FortneyScott, where her diverse practice focuses on business, international, and workplace matters. She counsels U.S. and foreign-based clients on complying with U.S. workplace and tax laws and assists U.S. employers in expanding outside the U.S. She regularly advises clients on workplace investigations, executive compensation and related tax and employment issues; Service Contract and Davis Bacon audits and related matters; worker classification issues; and compliance with the wage and hour requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act and related state laws.

Ms. Scott is a frequent lecturer on issues of international labor and employment law, including, expatriate and secondment agreements, overtime, minimum wage, data privacy, worker classification status, international tax, and human rights. She holds key leadership positions in international professional organizations, including, serving as Vice President of the Union Internationale des Avocats (International Association of Lawyers or UIA). UIA is an international association of lawyers committed to the protection of human rights, including worker's rights and the defense of their universal nature, including, specifically, the defense of lawyers' human rights in protecting the human rights of others. Ms. Scott also serves as Director General of the Institute for the Rule of Law (IROL), and has served as a member of the ITC Pro-Bono Committee on International Model Contracts for Exporting SME's.

Mahienour el-Massrey:

Mahienour El-Massry is an Egyptian human rights lawyer known for her activism and work to promote judicial independence and prisoners' rights by organising peaceful protests, raising awareness through social media, and organising support for political prisoners in the form of solidarity events and fundraising bail for prisoners. She has supported and defended prisoners even when she was imprisoned herself.

Mahienour's activism includes a broad scale of human rights work. She has been a tireless activist for victims of political violence, and her solidarity has often served to raise protestors' morale. She has spent long nights guarding Syrian refugees in police stations to ensure they are not tortured or deported; worked to locate missing people lost in the country's security labyrinth; and defended those protested during Egypt's uprising 12 years ago.

Saïd Benarbia:

Saïd Benarbia leads the ICJ research, advocacy and litigation work in the MENA region. For the past 18 years, he has designed and implemented strategic initiatives on the applicability of international humanitarian and human rights laws during armed conflicts, justice and rule of law reform, accountability for serious crimes under international law, women's access to justice, combating impunity for sexual and gender-based violence, and human rights and counter-terrorism measures. Saïd has investigated, researched and authored numerous reports and articles on the above-mentioned topics, and is an expert in the areas of criminal justice reform, transitional justice, constitutional reform, detention and fair trial rights and counter-terrorism and the rule of law.

Saïd has previously served as a Legal Officer, Legal Adviser and Senior Legal Adviser for the ICJ MENA programme. Prior to joining the ICJ, Saïd worked for the International Law and Legal Department of the International Organization for Migration. Saïd holds a degree in International Law from Fez University, Morocco, an LLM in Public Law from the Bourgogne University, France, and an LLM in European Law and Studies from the University of Geneva, Switzerland.

Tony Fisher:

Senior partner, Fisher Jones Greenwood Solicitors, Tony Fisher has over 40 years' experience in private legal practice and is the head of the commercial department. Tony has been listed as a leading practitioner for corporate and commercial work in both the Legal500 and the Chambers directories for a number of years. He has an MBA in Legal Practice and is a member of various trade and business organisations including the [Institute of Directors](#) and the International Division of the [Law Society](#). In January 2018 he was awarded the [Modern Law Lifetime Achievement Award](#) for his work in the legal profession and in October 2018 he was [awarded an honorary doctorate](#) by the [University of Essex](#) at the University Centre Colchester.

Aside from his commercial work, Tony also undertakes international and domestic human rights work and has appeared as an advocate in the European Court of Human Rights on many occasions. He is also [Fellow of the Human Rights Centre at the University of Essex](#) and is [a member of the Human Rights Committee of the Law Society of England and Wales](#). He also sits on the Council of the Law Society as the representative for the Essex constituency and on the International Committee, which oversees the international work of the Law Society.

In March 2022 he was appointed as the UK member of a new Committee of Experts on the Protection of Lawyers at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. The Committee's job is to draft a new instrument on the protection of the rights of lawyers in Europe over the next two years.