
CHRISTINA ZAMPAS, J.D.

Geneva, Switzerland

+41 76 793 53 30 christina@zampas.org

I am an international human rights lawyer with expertise on sexual and reproductive health and rights. I have 25 years of experience leading groundbreaking advocacy on public health and human rights standard development and accountability at the UN and regional human rights systems and at the national level. I am also doing work at the intersection of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

EXPERIENCE

Consultant, UNFPA (ongoing)

Support in-country roll out of UNFPA's Support Tool on a Human Rights Based Approach to Family Planning Programming, including supporting the development of in country and regional workshops assessing FP policies and programmes and developing action plans for implementation of identified priority areas of work.

Amnesty International, UK (2022-23)

Led field research and drafting of a detailed [report](#) on the status of implementation of Northern Ireland's abortion law. Interviewed 60 stakeholders, drafted questions, researched law and policy, drafted report and recommendations.

Associate Director of Global Advocacy, Center for Reproductive Rights, Geneva, Switzerland (2019-2022)

Directed the organization's advocacy work at the UN in Geneva, with UN Special Procedures, UN treaty bodies (including litigation) UN agencies; Human Rights Adviser, Guideline Development Group on [WHO's Abortion Care Guideline \(2022\)](#); led the integration of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) into the organization's work, including through developing and drafting a [technical paper](#) on sexual and reproductive health under IHL; peer reviewer for forthcoming updated [ICRC commentary](#) on Geneva Convention IV, on the rights of civilians in armed conflict.

Reproductive and Sexual Health Law Fellow International Reproductive and Sexual Health Law Program, Faculty of Law, Univ. of Toronto (remote, 2015-current)

Provided expert [oral testimony](#) before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on international and European human rights standards on forced sterilization (2016, case of [I.V. v. Bolivia](#)); provided expert [oral testimony](#) before the Irish Parliament Joint Committee on the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution, as they pursued constitutional reform in the context of abortion (October 2018).

International Commission of Jurists (2017-2019), Senior Consultant

Co-led the development and supported the drafting of the [8 March Principles](#)—a set of legal principles setting out a human rights-based approach to criminal laws penalizing conduct associated with sex, reproduction, drug use, HIV, homelessness and poverty. Researched the harmful human rights impact of unjustified criminalization of individuals and entire communities. Supported global consultations and garnered endorsement by lawyers from around the world and

Consultancies with UN agencies (2012-2013, 2015-2018, current)

OHCHR: [Researched and drafted report on gender stereotyping by the judiciary](#); drafted memorandum for the CEDAW Committee on gender stereotyping; drafted briefing paper on the Maputo Protocol and adolescent health.

Developed and ran a workshop for abortion rights activists and lawyers from around the world on sharing strategies for abortion law reform (2023)

UNAIDS: Senior Gender Equality Adviser (interim staff post 2016); Supported the development of a UNAIDS advocacy strategy towards zero discrimination in health care, Researched and drafted [Joint UN Statement on Eliminating Discrimination in Health Care Settings](#) (2017).

UNFPA: Strategized, researched and drafted human rights aspects of UNFPA's 2013 [State of the World Population report](#), focusing on adolescent pregnancy; developed, researched and drafted '[A Guide in Support of National Human Rights Institutions: Country Assessments and National Inquiries on Human Rights in the Context of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Well-being](#)' (2014, and updated in 2019 after supporting the conceptualization and implementation of a global best practices workshop with NHRIs and UNFPA country offices); **UNFPA Georgia:** Led a team of consultants to support the national human rights institution (NHRI) in Georgia to conduct a Country

Assessment and National Inquiry on the 'Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Georgia' with a focus on marginalized populations; conceptualized and implemented the framework for the assessment and qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, conducted a training workshops for team of data collectors, drafted [the report](#), issued recommendations and [presented findings to stakeholders and the media](#) (2017-2018); Similar work with the Human Rights Commission of **Sierra Leone** (2023-current)

UNFPA Bosnia and Herzegovina: Supporting the Ombudsmen's Office in conducting a [National Inquiry on sexual and reproductive health in BiH](#), including developing methodologies on quantitative and qualitative data collection and leading a methodology workshop for data collectors (2019); **UNFPA Turkmenistan:** [Developed and led workshop with Turkmenistan government officials in preparation for the forthcoming review by the CEDAW](#) (2018).

WHO: Conducted a quality review of research on abortion laws, policies and regulations from across the world for [WHO's Global Abortion Policies Database](#) (2015); drafted UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women [report to the UN General Assembly on mistreatment and violence against women during childbirth](#) (2019); researched, drafted and presented the UN multi-agency statement on informed consent and involuntary sterilization, [Eliminating forced, coercive and otherwise involuntary sterilization](#) (2014).

Amnesty International (International Secretariat) Senior Legal Adviser, Law and Policy Programme (2013-2015)

Led the development of proposed policy positions and the application of law in the context of sexual and reproductive rights, non-discrimination, LGBTI and freedom of expression issues; researched and drafted amicus briefs, law reform submissions and other documents to international, regional and national human rights bodies and courts; developed and conducted field research missions documenting human rights abuses and drafted reports which led to significant law reform; represented Amnesty International in meetings with senior government and inter-governmental officials and in major media outlets.

Practitioner-in-Residence and Lecturer, University of Miami School of Law, Human Rights Clinic (2011-2012)

Co-taught human rights clinic course and supervised 12 students on numerous projects, including supporting the drafting of a report for the UN Independent Expert on Haiti on UN member state deportation of Haitian nationals.

Regional Director for Europe, Center for Reproductive Rights (2001-2011)

Directed and managed the Center's work in using international and regional human rights norms to promote and protect substantive and procedural rights related to sexual and reproductive health in Central and Eastern Europe; led advocacy, fact finding missions, strategic litigation and trainings at the national, UN, and European regional level; co-founded the Women's Human Rights Training Institute; litigated groundbreaking cases at the European Court of Human Rights; member of the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Women's Health Committee, developing health care competencies for medical doctors.

Visiting Lecturer for Open Society Institute-Budapest and Yale University at four Russian university law faculties: Ekaterinburg, Nizny Novgorod, Samara, and Saratov (1996-1997)

Taught Public International Law; researched and developed syllabi, course materials and class projects; identified and facilitated opportunities for students to receive educational training abroad; participated in international and regional conferences; secured positions for future visiting lecturers.

EDUCATION

Syracuse University Law School, USA, J.D., 1994 (licensed to practice law in the state of New York); Douglass College, Rutgers University, USA, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1989.

LANGUAGES

English (native); Greek (intermediate); Swedish (intermediate); Spanish and French (beginner)

CITIZENSHIP

Sweden and United States. Permanent resident of Switzerland

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Christina Zampas, Rebecca Brown and Onyema Afulukwe, *Interpreting International Humanitarian Law to Guarantee Abortion and other Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Armed Conflict*, Health and Human Rights Journal, Harvard University Press (June 2024)

Caron R. Kim, Antonella Lavelanet, Bela Ganatra, on behalf of the Abortion Care Guideline Development Group, *Enabling access to quality abortion care: WHO's Abortion Care guideline*, The Lancet (March 2022).

Human Rights and Gender Stereotypes in Childbirth, chapter in *Women's Birthing Bodies and the Law: Unauthorized Intimate Examinations, Power and Vulnerability*, Pickles, C. and Herring, J. eds., Hart Publishing (2020).

Co-authored with Amin, O’Hanlon, Bjerregaard, Mehrtash, Khosla, and Tunçalp. Operationalizing a Human Rights-Based Approach to Address Mistreatment against Women during Childbirth, *Health and Human Rights* (2020) Jun;22(1):251-264.

Co-authored with Veronica Birga, Luisa Cabal, and Lucinda O’Hanlon, *Criminal law and the risk of harm: a commentary on the impact of criminal laws on sexual and reproductive health, sexual conduct and key populations*, *Reproductive Health Matters* (December 2018).

Co-authored with Rajat Kholsa, et. al. *International Human Rights and the Mistreatment of Women during Childbirth*, *Health and Human Rights Journal*, Harvard University Press (November 2016).

Legal and Political Discourses on Women’s Right to Abortion, chapter in *A Fragmented Landscape: Abortion Governance and Protest Logics in Europe*, Berghahn Books: Oxford and New York (2016).

Co-authored with Adriana Lamačková, *Forced and Coerced Sterilization of Women in Europe*, *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics* 114 (2011) 163-166.

Co-authored with Jaime M. Gher, *Abortion as a Human Right—International and Regional Standards*, *Human Rights Law Review*, Oxford University Press 8:2 (2008); reprinted in Spanish in *Aborto y Justicia Reproductiva*, Paola Bergallo ed., Editores del Puerto, Argentina (2011).

Co-authored with Rhonda Copelon, et al., *Human Rights Begin at Birth: International Law and the Claim of Fetal Rights*, *Reproductive Health Matters* 13[26] (2005).