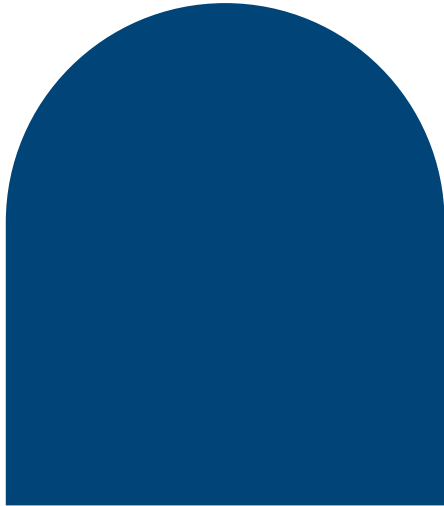


POLICY LEADER FELLOWS 2022-2023





Armando Armas

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 31 January 2023

Armando Armas is a Venezuelan human rights and pro-democracy activist. He was elected as member of parliament in 2015 with the largest turnout of ballots in the history of his district. He served as the chairman of the foreign affairs committee (2020), Vice Chairman of the Interior and Homeland Committee (2019) and Vice Chairman of the Defence and Security Committee (2016-2018). Armas is the founder of the Parliamentarians for Global Action Venezuelan group, and he is part of the organisation's international council. Due to political persecution, Armas had to leave his country and request political asylum in Italy where he now lives in exile. He is one of the foremost vocal advocates for the political representation of the Venezuelan diaspora and the implementation of innovation and technology to improve democratic practices.

Armando holds a Law degree from Universidad Catolica Andres Bello (2004) and two masters degrees; one in comparative politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science (2007) and the other in international development and policy from the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago (2021). Armas is a Draper-Hills fellow from the Center of Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law at Stanford University (2009) and also completed a program in negotiation and leadership (PON) at Harvard Law School (2019).



Mariana Barchuk-Halyk

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Mariana Barchuk-Halyk holds a Master's degree in Philology, Polish and Ukrainian languages and Literature and a Bachelor's Degree in Constitutional Law and State Development. In 2012, she obtained her PhD in Philology from the Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, Ukraine. She also holds a Master's Degree in Cultural Studies focusing on Central Europe and the Balkans from the East European Studies Department of Warsaw University in Poland.

Since 2004, she has actively served as a social volunteer and, since 2015, also as a rescuer of the Malteser Relief Service of Ukraine in Ivano-Frankivsk. Since 2018, Mariana has worked as a lecturer at the Faculty of Letters at the Istanbul University, Turkey. She is a certified translator from/into Polish and Ukrainian languages. Her fellowship work topic is "Language conflicts as an implicit side of the political conflicts", a topic on which she has worked since 2017 in collaboration with the Nordic Summer University.



Dorien Braam

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 31 January 2023

Dorien Braam has a multidisciplinary background in international development and humanitarian emergency research, planning and response, providing strategic policy and programming advice as the Director of Praxis Labs. She has extensive international professional experience working with the United Nations, Netherlands Government, the International Federation of the Red Cross/ Red Crescent Societies and non-profit organizations across Asia, Africa and Europe, focusing on migration, protection, resilience and One Health.

In 2018, she was awarded the Gates Cambridge Scholarship to pursue her PhD research with the Disease Dynamics Unit at the University of Cambridge on the political and socio-economic causes and impact of zoonoses - diseases transmitted between animals and humans - in displaced populations. As a Policy Leader Fellow at EUI, she will work towards implementing its conclusions and recommendations, through a collaborative global network of key stakeholders focusing on climate change, forced migration and infectious disease, addressing the most pressing global challenges of our time.

Dorien holds Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from Delft University of Technology, and a Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Edinburgh. She is currently affiliated with the Centre of Governance & Human Rights at the University of Cambridge, and the Center for Global Resilience and Security at Norwich University.



Sarah Cruz

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Sarah Cruz has been with the Philippine government since 2005, having served as a Foreign Service Officer at the Department of Foreign Affairs and now as a Senior State Solicitor at the Office of the Solicitor General.

As a government lawyer, Sarah has been involved in various international commercial and investment arbitration cases and has received intensive training in these areas from the International Law Institute, The Hague Academy of International Law, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, and Singapore International Arbitration Academy. Sarah was part of the very first all-Filipino legal team that successfully defended a landmark international commercial arbitration case for the Republic of the Philippines. She is also a delegate to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law's Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform.

Her participation in the Working Group has spurred her interest in human rights reform in the international investment treaty system, which is also the topic of her Fellowship study. Sarah holds a Dual Master's Degree in Public Policy from University of Tokyo and Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, Germany, as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy and a Juris Doctor from Ateneo de Manila University.



Zselyke Csaky

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Zselyke Csaky is a human rights professional with 10 years of experience, most recently as Research Director for Europe, Media, and Democracy at Freedom House. She was the founder and lead of a research initiative that looks at the relationship between media and democracy and has overseen Nations in Transit, Freedom House's annual survey of democracy from Central Europe to Central Asia.

She has written extensively on democratic governance and media freedoms, with comments and writings appearing in the New York Times, the Washington Post, Foreign Policy, and Politico Europe, among others. Prior to joining Freedom House, she served as researcher at Amnesty International, the International Service for Human Rights, and the European Parliament. As Policy Leader Fellow, she will be looking at the relationship between subscription and membership models and public interest journalism.



James Drummond

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

James Drummond is an international public policy professional with extensive experience working with countries around the world on reforms to improve public policy making and public governance. Most recently, he served as a Policy Analyst in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Regulatory Policy Division, where he supported OECD member and partner countries to design, implement and evaluate regulatory policy reforms, as well as develop forward looking and innovative ways to conduct better public policy that focused on the use of behavioural insights (BI). James has co-authored several landmark publications on BI, as well as worked with over a dozen countries with a focus on the Southeast Asian and Middle East and North African regions.

James' fellowship will expand on his most recent work, which focuses on BI applied to public organisations. His paper *Behavioural Insights and Regulatory Governance: Opportunities and Challenges* mapped the ways BI can be applied to the institutions, tools and processes of policy making to support better policy outcomes. He will build off the findings of this paper by developing a behavioural economics critique of the regulatory economics principles that forms the foundation to many of these policy making tools.

A Canadian national, James holds Master's degrees from the University of Toronto (Public Policy) and Carleton University (Political Science), and a Bachelor's from the University of Ottawa (Political Science).



Tamar Gabay

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Tamar Gabay is a humanitarian and development professional with over 12 years of experience acquired in country/regional offices and headquarters of International Non-Governmental Organisations and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, collaborating with United Nations agencies, donors and partners. She worked and lived in several countries in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, supporting emergency responses and development programmes. She focuses on bringing quality aspects into programmes while adapting technical solutions to achievable results. She is inspired by working with communities and influencing positive change by implementing inclusive and accountable programmes, ensuring those affected by decisions can meaningfully participate.

She holds a MSc in International Public Policy from the University College of London, where she focused on International Human Rights Law, International Law and conflict resolution. Through the Policy Leader Fellowship at the EUI she is working on participatory Monitoring and Evaluation approaches for assessing the impact of humanitarian aid on people's quality of life and wellbeing, and on a community-led advocacy toolkit, aimed at supporting people to engage with decision makers and influence change to increase their resilience and adapt to climate change.



Michael Gyekye

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Michael Adu Gyekye is a Right To Information Officer with the Department of Urban Roads in Accra, Ghana. He is mainly responsible for assisting both his organisation and members of the general public to comply with Ghana's Right To Information Act, 2019 (ACT 989), in processing, and making, requests for information, respectively. Examining the implementation of Ghana's access to information policy in the context of comparative experiences elsewhere, and drawing lessons for enhanced access to information regimes, especially across the developing world, is the theme of his fellowship.

Michael is a graduate of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (BA Political Studies). He has contributed to diverse international and youth development and governance programmes and for a through write-ups, panel discussions, and service in executive roles.



Ani Hovhannisyan

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Ani Hovhannisyan is the co-founder and manager of the Hetq Media Factory project implemented by the Investigative Journalists NGO in Armenia. The project teaches about 30 journalists a year in investigative journalism, fact-checking, data journalism, and multimedia storytelling. Since 2009, Ani has worked at Investigative Journalists NGO (Hetq.am) as a multimedia and data journalist and project manager. Her articles influenced decision-making processes and led to the initiation of administrative and legal proceedings. She established a data journalism team to create a database of Armenian politically exposed people's wealth.

In 2016, Ani was awarded a highly prestigious Fulbright scholarship and completed her second Master's in journalism at West Virginia University. Through the Policy Leader Fellowship, Ani will create a fact-checking portal where the fact-checkers from Eastern Partnership Countries can connect, communicate and share tools and resources.



Sema Merve Is

Fellowship period: :1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Sema Merve Is is a migration specialist from Turkey who is passionate about strengthening the protection mechanisms and resilience of displaced populations worldwide. As an NGO practitioner with 9+ years of expertise in designing and implementing development and humanitarian projects, she has worked for the refugee support programs overseeing projects co-funded by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and other international development agencies. She is a former Professional Fellow of the U.S. Department of State that she also worked for Massachusetts Organization for Refugees and Immigrants.

She holds two Master's degrees in Cultural Studies from the Sabancı University, Turkey and Public Policy with a specialization in Governance from the Central European University (CEU), Austria. Her research interests focus on the intersections of refugee policies, transnational cooperation between the EU and Turkey, and the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on refugees. During her fellowship, she will produce a policy report titled "Rethinking Refugee Policies for the post-COVID-19 Era".



Aleksei Karnaukhov

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Aleksei Karnaukhov is an investigator and political analyst with eight years of experience in anti-corruption and public integrity. He works as Director of the Anti-Corruption Policy Center of the Russian United Democratic Party Yabloko. His work focuses on developing alternative public policy for institutional reforms in Russia, including international initiatives, and devising programmes to overcome systemic corruption. He also organises investigations to expose cartels, corrupt officials, and their illicit assets.

Aleksei earned a master's in law from the Higher School of Economics in Moscow and a bachelor's in law with honours from Orel State University. He attended courses in public policy and administration at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University (USA) and successfully completed an internship at Integrity Vice Presidency of the World Bank on a Hubert Humphrey Fellowship.

His work topic at EUI is to analyse the transparency of information about the owners of high-value property in the European Union and develop an initiative for the disclosure of such owners or ultimate beneficiaries. The aim of the project is to develop existing mechanisms against money laundering and corruption by authoritarian regimes.



Petra Krylova

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Petra Krylova has more than 15 years of experience in international development with a particular focus on the construction and use of composite indices for policy-making. In her role as Global Research Director at the Social Progress Imperative she oversees the construction of the Global Social Progress Index and supports the development of locally relevant indices in countries around the world. In her previous position at the Center for Global Development she worked as Policy Analyst on the Commitment to Development Index and Policy Coherence for Development.

For a number of years, Petra taught at the Department of Development Studies, Palacky University, and was actively engaged with many NGOs, including serving as a member of the Board of the Czech national platform of development NGOs. She holds an MA (Hons) in International Development Studies. Petra is passionate about using data to provide insights for policy making and advancing progress for women and girls globally. During her time as Policy Leader Fellow, she will explore how women's participation in governance and leadership improves society's wellbeing.



Karolina Leakovic

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Karolina Leakovic is an accomplished organizer and activist in democracy development and gender equality. She currently serves as SDP Croatia International Secretary. As Member of Parliament, she was engaged in various initiatives aiming at social and gender justice in Croatia and beyond. Karolina started her career as a journalist, and moved into politics where started creating and implementing technology-driven solutions for a members oriented political party. In collaboration with a number of international actors in the field of democracy development, she was engaged in various initiatives in South East Europe. Passionate about social change and role of media, she enrolled in a PhD course in sociology at University of Zagreb, with political economy of media production and journalists' identity construction as focus of her interest. Fellowship work-plan is focused on professional status of journalists in relation to media freedom and pluralism in Europe.



Elizabeth Maloba

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Elizabeth Maloba is an International Cooperation Advisor with over twenty years experience creating spaces where collaboration can take place – via face-to-face, online, and hybrid formats. She works in cross-sectoral, trans-professional, multistakeholder settings. She supports critical stakeholders to work together to discern mutual values, develop strategies to address shared challenges, and promote common goals and motivate desired outcomes. This empowers them to achieve shifts in processes, practices and systems. Her experience includes providing development cooperation advisory services to address social and economic development challenges and deliver impact; providing training, facilitation and moderation services; designing and delivering training and coaching programmes that enable early-stage entrepreneurs to translate ideas into businesses; and entrepreneurship as a co-founder and owner-manager of 5 enterprises.

Since 2016 she has been a member of the Global Diplomacy Lab, a platform for exploring a new and more inclusive diplomacy that goes beyond traditional politics. As a Policy Leader Fellow at EUI, focused on exploring emerging transnational collaboration trends and forums in Africa with the aim of discovering their potential impact on global governance frameworks.

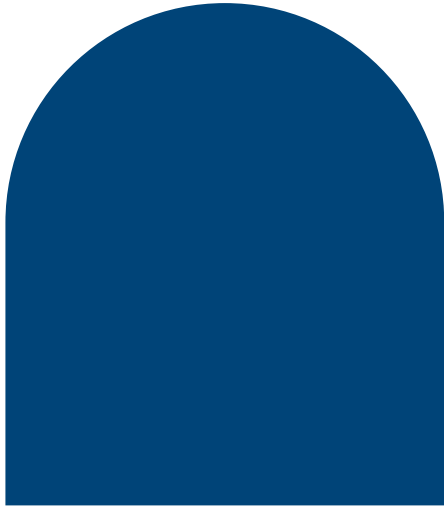


Chawapiwa Masole

Fellowship period: 1 February 2023 – 30 June 2023

Chawapiwa Chawa Masole is an international development policy expert with vast experience in the field of governance. She is a lawyer, Chartered Governance & Company Secretary, and a Policy Analyst by profession, with contributions across the public sector, international organizations and private sector. She has a proven record in public policy, drafting & reviewing legislation, international project management, governance advisory and transnational policy negotiations. Ms. Masole is currently the Managing Director of Masole & Company Consultants, a specialized international development firm. She is an influential advocate who has spoken on platforms across Africa, the EU and the USA on various development issues. Ms. Masole has been part of a phenomenal team that trained dozens of Botswana judicial officers (i.e., judges and magistrates) on inclusive justice and has been influential in the review of the national disaster management policy with international organizations such as the Botswana Red Cross and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

She has a unique blend of academia, with an LLB from the University of Botswana, an LLM in Economic Regulation and a Postgraduate Diploma in International Business from the University of London; and completing a Master of Research and Public Policy with the University of Botswana. As a Policy Leader Fellow, she will be working on the relationship between transnational policy networks and the EU in disaster response, competition and energy sectors.



Charles Owusu

Fellowship period: 1 February 2023 – 30 June 2023

Charles Kofi Owusu has over 10 years of practical work experience in climate policy research and advocacy working in partnership with state and non-state actors as well as international organisations such as the UNEP, World Bank, DfID, IRENA and AfDB. Charles has worked on over 30 low-carbon development research projects and policy innovations. His interest includes cross-national governance, clean energy transition, political economy and low-carbon development. Currently, Charles is exploring the impact of cross-national environmental policies and the role of political institutions on energy transition in OECD and sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries. He aspires to be a sustainability and clean energy transition expert to help drive change in Sub-Saharan Africa. As a Policy Leader Fellow, he will be examining the drivers of clean energy transition by analyzing multiple dimensions of factors, including socio-economic aspects, political institutions and environmental policies using a panel of OECD and non-OECD/sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries.



Vandalark Patricks

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 31 January 2023

Vandalark Patricks is a Human Rights Defender from Liberia, West Africa with experience in human rights protection, policy advocacy, youth development, empowerment, and grooming of emerging leaders in Liberia and across Africa to ignite change in society. He is a Harvard Kennedy School of Government graduate, and an Edward S. Mason Fellow where he obtained a Master of Public Administration, MPA, and a Graduate Certificate in Public Policy and Management.

Vandalark has significant work experience in his home country, Liberia, and worldwide for the past 15 years, explicitly dealing with systemic corruption, human rights abuse, poverty, and social inequalities. Vandalark serves as a role model for many young people in Liberia. He has continued to mobilize grassroots institutions, and develop their capacities to become productive citizens in Liberia. He has been physically and psychologically tortured, jailed, and indicated for his social justice activism. Vandalark is the Founder and Executive Director of Campaigners for Change International and will focus on “Reforming Public Policies for Effective Governance in Liberia” during the Policy Leader Fellowship.



Daiva Repeckaitė

Fellowship period: 1 February 2023 – 30 June 2023

Daiva Repečkaitė is an investigative journalist covering politics, health and environment. Her and her colleagues' investigation into the use of EU biodiversity funds in an environmentally disruptive project was nominated for Prix Europa 2022. Daiva's work has appeared in EUObserver, Foreign Policy, Financial Times, Politico Europe and other international media and has been supported by competitive grants from the Japan Foundation, Journalismfund.eu, and IJ4EU.

She co-founded The Inoculation podcast, which analyses vaccine hesitancy around Europe. As a Policy Leader Fellow, she will research the impact of anti-vaccination movements on political systems in Italy and other European countries. She will also look into how anti-vaccination movements and their allies engage with pro-Kremlin propaganda around Russia's invasion of Ukraine.



Denisse Rodriguez Olivari

Fellowship period: 1 February 2023 – 30 June 2023

Denisse Rodriguez Olivari is a PhD candidate at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin funded by the German Academic Exchange Service. She holds a master's in International Development with a specialisation in Politics and Governance from the University of Manchester. She is also a Hansard Research Scholar. She obtained an undergraduate degree (bachelor and licenciatura) in Political Science (with studies in Law) from the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru. Her career has spanned over a decade in teaching, policy, research and consultancy in political science, international development and law.

She has worked and studied in Peru, France, the UK, and Germany and is fluent in English, Spanish, French, Italian, and Portuguese, with a working knowledge of German. Her commentaries have been featured by international media outlets such as BBC News, Deutsche Welle, Financial Times, and others. She is also deeply committed to promoting diversity and inclusion. As a young woman from the 'Global South', she serves as a mentor and founded the NGO Voceras to close the gender gap in Peruvian media. Rodriguez Olivari received an Alumni Volunteer of the Year (University of Manchester) for this project. As a Policy Leader Fellow, she will focus on the role of the law and courts in anti-corruption efforts, particularly in transnational cooperation and the use of non-prosecutorial mechanisms to fight corruption.



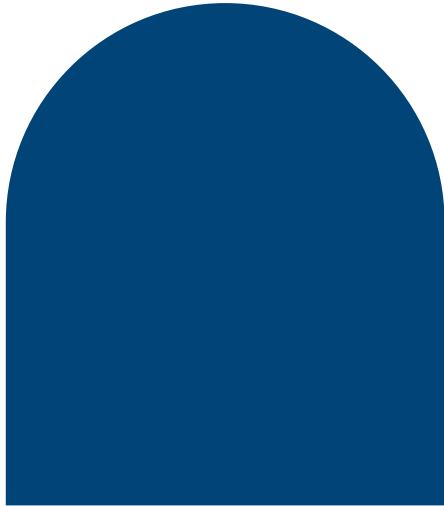
Alejandro Saez Reale

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 31 January 2023

Alejandro Saez Reale is a researcher and urban practitioner and currently serves as Coordinator of the Cities Programme at CIPPEC, a public policy think-tank based in Argentina. He holds a degree in engineering, a Master degree in Public Policy and is a Master degree candidate in Urban Planning and Management. He has over eight years' experience across private, public and think-tank sectors and currently focuses on issues related to urban planning and management, public space, climate change adaptation and urban policies.

Recently, he has been working on topics related to metropolitan governance, urban resilience and local disaster risk management, public space during COVID-19, nature-based solutions and green infrastructure planning.

At the EUI School of Transnational Governance, he seeks to assess increasing urban heat and explore proven solutions against this phenomenon. He aspires to develop himself into a heat-management and adaptation expert to mainstream heat policies and other climate change solutions related to public space, green infrastructure, urban planning and urban management throughout Argentina and Latin America.



Zhanna Sagyndykova

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Zhanna Sagyndykova is an education policy specialist with more than twenty years of professional experience in education and education policy. Zhanna received her Ed.M. degree from Harvard University, and a doctorate degree (DPA) from the University of Plymouth where she was specializing in monitoring and evaluation of education reforms. Zhanna's professional and research interests include education policy analysis, good governance and accountability, international education policy. She participated in development of state programs and strategic documents for the Government and the Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan. Zhanna launched a number of initiatives in education: the first in Kazakhstani media weekly column devoted to education issues in the country, the first national project "Monitoring and Evaluation of Education Reforms," the Education Research Annual Grant, the "Education Policy Analysis Center" project. Zhanna's current major professional goal is to introduce monitoring and evaluation to education policy development and implementation in Kazakhstan.



Nadeen Sousou

Fellowship period: 1 February 2023 – 30 June 2023

Nadeen Sousou is a development specialist currently working as a consultant at the World Bank Group as a Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund officer with a focus on economic growth reforms. Nadeen is also the country representative to MiCT in Jordan – a German NGO, working on programs focused on capacity building for journalists in the MENA region. Prior to that, Nadeen worked as a policy officer for USAID leading several policy issues such as supporting Home-based business reform, investor journey, and innovation policies. Nadeen is passionate about ensuring women's, youth, and marginalized communities' rights presence in governmental policy reforms.

Nadeen's responsibilities and areas of management include designing policy reform that is accessible and inclusive to all players on a national and regional level, creating partnerships to eliminate duplication, streamlining operational efficiency, ensuring the circulation of resources amongst beneficiaries, and transforming the management of adversities via collaboration between social, political, and economic players. Nadeen has a master's degree from the University of Potsdam in Public Management with a focus on Global Public Policies as a DAAD scholar, prior to that a bachelor's degree in Public Administration with a focus on Public Policy from the American University of Beirut. She is fluent in Arabic, English, and beginner in German. As a Policy Leader Fellow, she will research the opportunities for Ease of doing business in Jordan and its effect on economic growth.



Carla Vitantonio

Fellowship period: 1 September 2022 – 30 June 2023

Carla Vitantonio is a humanitarian professional, author and policy advisor. In the past 10 years, she worked with governmental and non-governmental organizations in North Korea, China, Myanmar, Thailand and Cuba. She supported the update of the North Korea Disability Law, the ratification in North Korea of the UN Convention for the rights of persons with disabilities (2014 and 2016), the revision of the Inter Agency Standing Committee guidelines on Gender Based Violence in humanitarian settings (2018). From 2016 to 2018 she cochaired the Myanmar Victims Assistance working group, coordinating national and international actors working to uphold the rights of persons surviving landmines. Carla's long-term interests - and the topic of her workplan as a Policy Leader Fellow - are intersectional feminism and the relation between neo-colonialism and the aid industry.

She is the author of two books, *Pyongyang Blues* (2019) and *Myanmar Swing* (2021), speaking about humanitarian assistance, and the impact of patriarchy and postcolonialism on aid. *Pyongyang blues* became in 2020 a podcast mentioned among the 35 best Italian podcasts. In 2022 Carla received the honor of Cavaliere all'Ordine della Stella d'Italia from the President of the Republic of Italy, for her action in humanitarian settings and her work as an author.



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