



**Stephanie  
Acker  
Houseman**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Stephanie is a local and federal leader specialising in improving outcomes for some of America's most vulnerable populations. Currently, Stephanie is one of the principals in the City of Boston's efforts to end homelessness. Prior to that she served in the United States Department of Health and Human Services, focusing on solutions and programme assessments to the American refugee crisis.

She has conceived and built more than a dozen programmes, built citywide partnerships to innovate service delivery, and co-founded 'Soccer Nights', a national programme that unites communities across lines of difference.

Stephanie holds a Bachelor in Social Work from Gordon College and a Master in Public Administration from Harvard University Kennedy School of Government and was a United States Presidential Management Fellow. At the EUI School of Transnational Governance she will develop a roadmap of transnational policy and practice solutions to close the refugee resettlement gap.





**Faycal  
Ait  
Abdellouhab**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Faycal is an experienced professional with several years of work experience at the Ministry of Finance of Algeria. He worked as a Senior Tax Inspector and Tax and Accounting Auditor for the Algerian Tax Authorities.

Faycal has a rich academic background. He holds a bachelor's degree in Economics, a postgraduate diploma in Public Finance and a university diploma in European Integration. In 2015, he graduated from the prestigious College of Europe, Natolin Campus in Poland where he completed his Master in European Interdisciplinary Studies.

At international level, he was selected in 2011 to join an international group of tax experts for a research on tax reform in Algeria, in the framework of EU-Algeria Association Agreement. Faycal accounts many participations in seminars and trainings, held by international Organisations (IMF, European Union) relating to fiscal and tax policies, european affairs and international relations.





**Laura  
Alonso**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Laura has an extensive and unique cross-sector career in government, Congress and the NGO sector for almost two decades.

She was the head of the Anticorruption Office (AO) in Argentina, 2018 Co-Chair of the G20 Anticorruption Working Group, Member of the Argentine Congress and Executive Director of the national chapter of Transparency International.

She has been awarded several fellowships (British Chevening, Eisenhower, Draper Hills at Stanford, Reagan-Fascell at the NED, Yale World Fellow). She has been a consultant for the World Bank, the NDI and the Corporación Andina de Fomento.





**Samuel  
Weniga  
Anuga**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Samuel has over five years of working experience in International climate policy. His main areas of interest include cross-national governance, political economy, international negotiations, and low carbon development.

Samuel has worked with the Institute for Environmental Economics and World Trade (IUEW-Germany), International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT-Colombia), and the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) on climate policy. Samuel contributes as a technical expert for the UNFCCC and a member of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on the Livestock Environmental Impact Assessment Programme (LEAP) for the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Currently, Samuel is exploring cross-national political and climate change mitigation policies that can enhance the transition of low carbon development strategies in Africa. He aspires to be a low-carbon development expert to help drive change in the continent of Africa.





**Ucha  
Asvajanishvili**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Ucha works as an associate at the leading Georgian law firm - BGI Legal. His primary practice areas include legal research, human rights, anti-corruption, and anti-money laundering law.

In 2014-2021 Ucha worked as a senior legal advisor (research and analysis) at the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. His areas of expertise covered legal research and drafting, cybersecurity, anti-corruption, and anti-money laundering policy.

In 2017 Ucha served as a Legal Consultant for the Council of Europe's European Committee on Legal Cooperation (CDCJ), advising the General Prosecutor's Office of Kazakhstan on development of anti-corruption and criminal justice policy.

His professional experience also includes working as a legal researcher at Free University of Tbilisi (Georgia), where he taught legal research methods to LL.B. students.

Ucha holds a master's degree (LL.M.) in European Economic Law from Stockholm University (Sweden).





**Florencia  
Caro  
Sacchetti**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Florencia is a researcher and practitioner with broad experience in policy issues related to gender equality, social protection and labour markets. Her work focuses on promoting social inclusion and human rights in her country and beyond through the implementation of evidence-based policies that are people-centred.

She currently serves as coordinator of the Social Protection Programme at the Centre for the Implementation of Public Policies promoting Equity and Growth (CIPPEC), a think tank based in Argentina. She is also involved in the T20 and W20 networks, the official engagement groups delivering policy recommendations to G20 leaders.

Florencia holds a Master of Science in Development Studies (LSE, UK) and a degree in Economics (Torcuato di Tella University, Argentina). She is a member of Global Shapers. Among other distinctions, she was selected as a Young Global Changer by the Global Solutions Initiative.





**Iftach  
Cohen**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 22**

Iftach is an international lawyer. In 2009, he co-founded a law firm specialised in Israeli Supreme Court litigation of human rights matters, such as targeted killings, the siege on and war crimes in Gaza, the Israeli settlements and the deportation of human rights defenders.

He co-founded We Are Refugees, an NGO that provided pro-bono legal representation to detained asylum seekers, and co-litigated the 'Anti-Infiltration Law' case, a landmark ruling that led to the release of 1,500 detained asylum seekers. In Italy, he initiated and directed an innovative legal project in Sicily, which provided access to rights and legal information to asylum seekers in the region.

Served as a member of an international team of experts on behalf of EASO, sitting in the Territorial Commission for the Recognition of International Protection of Rome. He is currently directing a legal team and managing the civil project at front-LEX.





**Francesca  
De Chiara**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Francesca is a researcher and project leader at Fondazione Bruno Kessler, where she is working on developing and promoting data sharing at the institutional and community level. The latest projects focus on analysing the impact, the social and economic value of open data, the reuse of the public sector information.

As fellow at the GovLab at New York University (NYU,) she led the joint project Open Data 200 Italy. Francesca holds a PhD in Sociology and Social Research. She has been research fellow in development sociology at Cornell University and visiting doctoral researcher at the Warwick Business School.

Active in the Open Knowledge Foundation, Francesca coordinated and designed three editions of the Civic Tech School; training sessions, hackathons, and data challenges for local and national governments. She has been involved in the OpenCoesione initiative and the Open Government Partnership Italian National Action Plan. She is the vice president of 'Monithon', independently developed initiative to promote the civic monitoring of government spending.





**Asya  
El-Meehy**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Asya El-Meehy brings advisory policy experience and scholarly expertise in the areas of social policy-making, remittances, conflict prevention, decentralisation and local governance in the Middle East.

With nearly 15 years of field experience, she has served in several capacities at the United Nations including governance officer on Iraq, chief of technical cooperation, as well as first governance officer on Syria at United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). In these capacities, she led research, facilitated dialogue, advised governments, and managed programs.

Asya received her PhD from University of Toronto in Comparative Politics, her Master from McGill University in Political Science. She is recipient of prestigious grants from International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Social Science Research Council (SSRC), Ford Foundation and the Andrew Mellon Foundation. Her work has appeared in academic journals, edited books, UN policy papers and technical reports.





**Emma  
Gibbs**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Emma is a socio-environmental consultant at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), where she promotes policy change through sustainable forest management at national and regional levels.

Emma has over seven years' experience across NGOs, the private sector, research bodies, and academic institutes promoting social change, capacity-building, and policy reform. Emma holds a master's degree in Environment, Politics and Development from SOAS University of London (UK), and a bachelor's degree in International Relations and Anthropology from Oxford Brookes University (UK).

As a Policy Leader Fellow, Emma will be examining the role of forest, education, and health policies in mainstreaming the contributions of forests and trees to human health, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.





**Teona  
Giuashvili**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Teona Giuashvili is a Georgian diplomat with over eleven years of experience. She has worked on multilateral diplomacy and conflict resolution as deputy and then acting director of the Department of International Organisations at the MFA.

As deputy head of the Mission of Georgia to the EU, she has focused on political and security dialogues, the conclusion of the Association Agreement and the visa liberalisation action plan. From Brussels she moved to Paris and served as chargée d'affaires and deputy ambassador of Georgia to France.

Teona holds a PhD in Political Science from Sciences Po, Paris, as well as various master's degrees in European Studies and International Relations from Sciences Po, the University Panthéon-Assas Paris II and Tbilisi State University. As a PhD exchange scholar, she has spent an academic year at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in the U.S. She speaks Georgian, English, French, Russian and Italian.





**Pralok  
Gupta**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Pralok is Associate Professor at Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi. He had served in state civil services and Industrial finance corporation of India. He hold the Fintech and Regulatory Innovation certificate from University of Cambridge.

He has been engaged in policy making by government of India on trade and macroeconomic issues. A member of India's negotiating team for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership agreement for E-commerce and Trade in Services, also appointed as expert member of various task forces and committees of the government and industry associations in India.

He has delivered training to the delegates from developing and least developed countries, including high level delegations from Ethiopia, Mongolia, Myanmar and Afghanistan. He has been associated with research projects for international organisations. At the EUI School of Transnational Governance, he proposes to work on e-commerce/digital platforms.





**Jaroslaw  
Gwisdak**

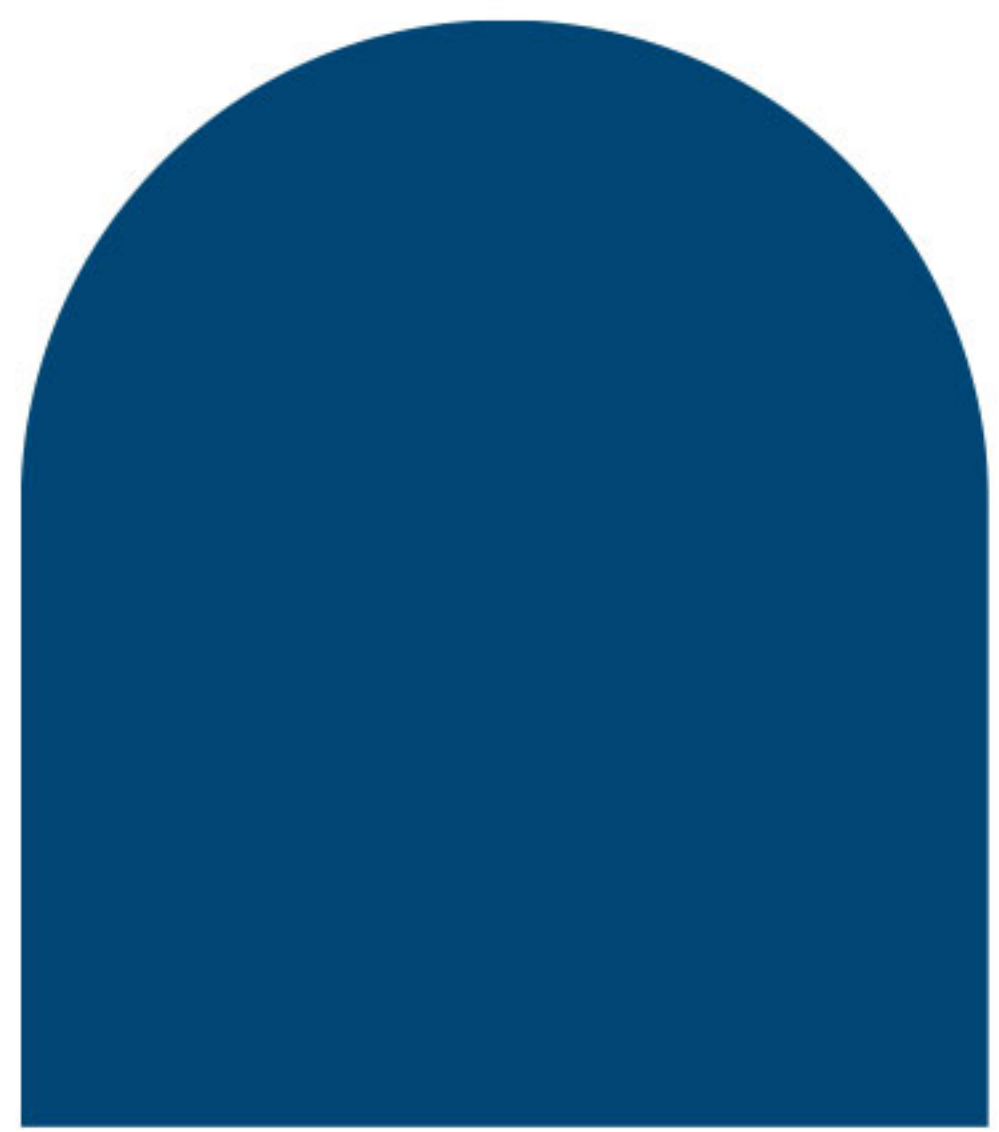
### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Jaroslaw is a Polish lawyer, activist, former judge, mediator, advocate for efficient and friendly institutions of public life, mediation and social innovation. He is member of the Institute for Law and Society Management Board. Jaroslaw also acts as a legal columnist for the oldest Polish daily newspaper and is an EU expert for Ukrainian judicial reform.

Jaroslaw is the winner of the main prize of the "Citizen's Judge of the Year 2015" awarded by the CourtWatch Poland Foundation. Awarded by the daily Dziennik Zachodni with the distinction 'Personality of the Year' (2017) in recognition of promoting knowledge about law in the Polish society. He is co-founder and initiator of the 2016 Judiciary Day (#DWS16) in almost 30 courts in Poland. Jaroslaw appeared at the Academy of Fine Arts at the biggest Polish rock festival 'Przystanek Woodstock' in 2017.

Jaroslaw is lecturer at WSB Academy in Dąbrowa Górnicza and SWPS University in Warsaw. He loves pop culture, hard rock and Mediterranean cuisine.





**Mustafa  
Haid**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Mustafa Haid is a Syrian human rights and accountability advocate who has organised several international campaigns for justice in Syria.

At present, Mustafa is a board member of the Dawlaty Foundation, a Syrian non-profit foundation that works with nonviolent activists on capacity building, democratic transition and transitional justice in Syria.

Mustafa worked as a consultant for Human Rights Watch, the UN Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide and the Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect from 2011 to 2012.

Mustafa works now on media development as a senior advisor with the International Media Support. He holds a master's degree in conflict resolution from King's College London.





**Kashimana  
Amanda  
Ivo**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Kashimana Amanda is a political ecologist from Nigeria with academic backgrounds in environmental biology, geographic information systems, climatology, and geosciences. She specialises in climate and land use nexus and changes, analysing agriculture and forestry land-use conflicts, economics, and policies in West Africa.

Kashimana Amanda has worked for varied periods in the private sector, NGOs and development corporation holding designations such as intern, landscape analyst, conservation officer, climate change projects officer, and environmental management consultant. Kashimana Amanda is now a co-founder of Biomes Conservation Limited, a consulting firm in Nigeria, working with governments, development agencies, and communities to improve policies for better livelihoods in Nigeria.

She is rounding up her doctoral research on land-use conflicts in relation to development objectives in Nigeria and intends to be a Policy Analyst.





**Umar  
Kabanda**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Umar is a policy researcher and analyst. He is the Founding Director of Kalube Consults Limited and currently engaged as a research associate by the Economic Policy Research Centre in Makerere University.

In the African Union Scientific, Technical and Research Commission based in Nigeria, Kabanda is engaged on an ad-hoc basis as an advisory working group member to study the Impact of Covid-19 in Africa.

Previously, Kabanda worked as a coordinating officer for strengthening good governance and policy implementation among African Union member states; capacity development officer in the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development in Uganda and as an assistant researcher in the USAID Project on Refugee Resettlement in Uganda.

He has a PhD and Master in Governance and Regional Integration, PGD in Human Rights and a bachelor's degree in Community Psychology.





**Liljana  
Kaci**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Liljana Kaci is a policy and legal expert with over 10 years of experience. Her work in Government in Albania, France and with several organisations (Council of Europe, European Union and UN) centred on governance, anti-corruption, anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism with a focus on enhancing the European cooperation in criminal matters. She has a proven record in implementing multi-national and large-scale projects in cooperation with governmental stakeholders and civil society organisations.

Liljana has an inter-disciplinary education (law, political sciences and economy) while being specialised in EU Governance and European Single Market. Her project at the EUI School of Transnational Governance aims at providing policy solutions for parliaments and developing monitoring tools for civil society organisations through digital platforms to enhance the good governance and sustainable development. Other research interests include the intersection between governance and geopolitics.





**Biba  
Jasmine  
Kaur**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Biba Jasmine is a Nehru-Fulbright Fellow with a major in sustainable development and conservation biology from the University of Maryland, College Park (USA). Biba currently works as a UNDP-India Consultant for the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

She bagged a scholarship to study environmental governance at the University of Geneva. Biba through her writing has explored various facets of ecological systems and is passionate about understanding existing science communication, policy, diversity, and outreach initiatives being scouted to ensure science reaches common man's parlance.

She has authored several articles for both national and international magazines; and presented her work at fora such as UNDP-Bangkok, Smithsonian Conservation Institute Virginia, National American Museum, New York among others. She was one of the chosen UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Youth Ambassador (2017).





**Isuri  
Yasasmin  
Kaviratne**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Isuri Yasasmin Kaviratne is an award-winning journalist and activist from Sri Lanka with over 14 years of work experience covering the war and other socio-political issues in Sri Lanka. She was awarded the Young Reporter of the Year in 2008 and Best Feature Writer of the Year in 2016 by the Sri Lanka Press Institute and the Editors' Guild of Sri Lanka.

She is currently working with Amnesty International regional office in South Asia on human rights violations related to the protection of human rights defenders in Afghanistan, rights of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, and enforced disappearances in Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Isuri Yasasmin holds a master's degree in Conflict Displacement and Human Security at the University of East London. Her other academic interests include journalism and international relations for which she has academic qualifications from India and Sri Lanka.





**Caroline  
Jepchumba  
Kibii**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Caroline is an environmental sustainability professional, volunteer and researcher working in academia and the development sector with a bias on natural resource management and building climate resilience.

Caroline holds a master's degree in environmental planning and management, a bachelor's degree in environmental science and a diploma in project management. She is actively writing and publishing articles and blog stories on environment and development. Through her work in conservation, Caroline has been recognised among Top100 Young African Conservation Leaders 2021.

Previously, she worked on a CGIAR research programme on climate change agriculture and food security.





**Claudia  
Maffettone**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Claudia is the Track II Mediation Programme Manager at Search for Common Ground. She has led over 35 dialogue initiatives in support of US-Iran and US-Russian relations, the Syrian peace process, demining in Libya, and of broader inclusion in peace processes.

She is an advocate for the advancement of the practice of mediation and leads an international consortium to support African insider mediators and their engagement in high-level peace processes. She is an experienced mediator, trained at the US Institute of Peace, PATRIR, Harvard Law School, and the New York City Bar, and a member of the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network.

Claudia holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Diplomacy from the Università degli Studi di Napoli 'L'Orientale', in Italy, and a Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution from the University of Bradford in the UK, where is studied as a Rotary Peace Fellow.





**Akash  
Malhotra**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Akash Malhotra is an economist and an experienced policy researcher with a demonstrated history of working on diverse projects. He specialises in international political economy and development, with a special focus on illicit financial flows and conflict economics.

Akash is affiliated with UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network as a Local Pathways Fellow. He has published research articles in reputed journals on a range of topics including Indian Household Finance, application of machine learning in economic policymaking, and sports analytics. His writings on various aspects of economic policy have appeared as op-eds in leading media outlets.

Akash holds a master's degree in Economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University, and an integrated bachelor's and master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Bombay.





**Manjusha  
Mukherjee**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Manjusha is an environmental specialist from India, who has been working in different domains of sustainable development for over a decade now. She has a demonstrated history of leadership in policy research and advocacy across various Indian think-tanks in areas of climate adaptation and mitigation, waste and sustainability, and education for sustainable development.

She has spearheaded ground breaking work on battery waste management, microplastics pollution, and district climate mitigation action plans, all of which are likely to influence evolving policies. She has several publications to her credit including journal articles, research reports, and policy briefs.

She possesses an Master of Science in Environment Sciences (Calcutta University) and is a doctoral candidate (PhD thesis submitted on health impact of pollution in Kolkata) at Jadavpur University, India. Besides, she is also passionate nature traveler, reader and Indian classical dancer.





**Lian  
Najabi**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Lian is an international public speaker and the first Arab-Israeli Rhodes Scholar. She is the founder of two social startups promoting employment and financial literacy among Arab women: 'Peaceful Infusions' and 'Manara Resources'.

Lian has recently completed her Master of Public Policy at the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford, where she also completed a Master of Science in Comparative Social Policy. She is determined and passionate about empowering Arab women to achieve economic independence, raising awareness to issues pertinent to minorities, and acting as an advocate for those with invisible illnesses and different abilities.

Lian was featured at the 2016 Forbes 30 under 30 summit in Israel for her leadership role within the Arab community and served in the US Senate as a Lantos Fellow in 2017.





**Nduta  
Njenga**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Nduta is an energy advisor at the Ministry of Water, Irrigation & Energy, State Department of Energy (Ethiopia), Consultant at W & Co. (Kenya) and Director at the African Energy and Minerals Management Initiative (AEMI, Uganda).

She is qualified to practice in Kenya (2012 call) with over nine years of post-qualification experience working in the public sector (government) in the areas of energy and extractives policy, legal and regulatory formulation, implementation and management, and climate change through the lens of Sub-Saharan Africa development.

She is the holder of a post-graduate LLM in Energy Law and Policy from CEPMLP, University of Dundee (UK), is a member of a number of professional associations and is a featured author in several international publications.





Etim  
Offiong

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Etim Offiong is a scientific officer at the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in English (ARCSSTE-E), Nigeria.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Electronic and Electrical Engineering from Obafemi Awolowo University (Nigeria), a Master in Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) from Politecnico di Torino (Italy), and a Master in International Science and Technology Policy from George Washington University (USA). He is also an alumnus of the International Space University (ISU), France.

Etim participated in the development of the African Space Policy and Strategy, as well as the validation of the ECOWAS Space Science and Geomatics Strategy. At the EUI School of Transnational Governance, Etim will examine how space activities are governed within the European Union (EU), and EU's approach to global space governance.





Rilito  
Pleitner  
Povea

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Rilito has over 15 years international management experience at an operational, strategic and policy level. He is head of biodiversity at the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Norway, where he leads a team working to conserve and restore nature.

Prior to joining WWF, Rilito held senior roles in international humanitarian organisations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Norwegian Refugee Council. He has also been global head of social responsibility at Trafigura, a major commodity trader, where he developed first-hand experience on sustainability strategies and materiality risk in commodity value chains.

Rilito holds an MBA from IMD business school, a Master of Science in Public Policy and Management from SOAS, Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies from University of Exeter and a diploma in Business Sustainability Management from the University of Cambridge. He is UK born to Colombian and German parents and is a Norwegian citizen.





**Boshko  
Stankovski**

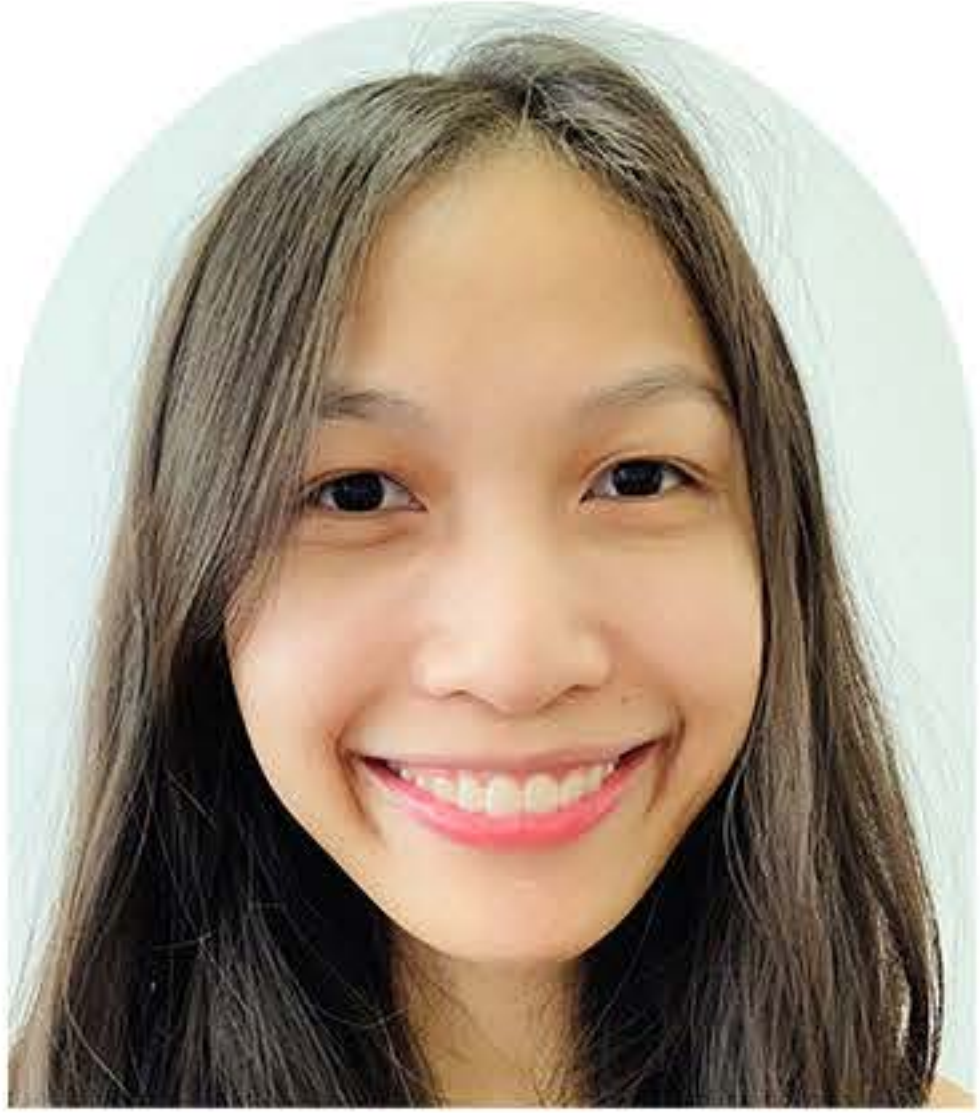
### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Boshko researches international law and international politics with particular focus on peacemaking and peacebuilding, particularly negotiation and conflict resolution, democratisation and good governance, human rights and youth.

His PhD dissertation at the University of Cambridge focuses on peace agreements on self-determination and secession disputes. He holds a Master of Philosophy in International Relations from the University of Cambridge. He is a former PfP Fellow at the NATO Defense College, Rome (2020). He also held fellowships at the University of Graz (2019-2020); Harvard Law School (2014-2015); Sydney Law School (2012); and Indiana University, Bloomington (2010).

He has been commissioned as an expert consultant for respected international institutions and organisations. He is a member of the Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR) within the Joint Initiative on Youth by the European Commission and the Council of Europe.





**Anna  
Patricia  
Valerio**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Anna Patricia has nine years of experience as an analyst, writer, and editor in international development, ESG investing, and media in the Philippines, Hungary, and Romania. Her work in these fields has a common theme: using research to communicate complex ideas to a wider audience. Her published work has been cited in reports by the UN, the World Bank, and the OECD, among other institutions.

As an analyst for ISS ESG, Patricia prompted companies involved in corruption investigations about their remediation mechanisms and framed corporate tax avoidance as a human rights issue. She has also written about trade misinvoicing for Devex.

In 2020, Patricia graduated with distinction from the Erasmus Mundus Master of Arts Programme in Public Policy at the Central European University and the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals. She also has degrees from the University of the Philippines and the Ateneo de Manila University.





**Lucia  
Velasco**

### **Policy Leader Fellows 2021 - 2022**

Lucia is an economist and policy practitioner. She runs the National Observatory for Tech and Society from the Spanish Government.

Lucia has been a senior advisor at the Prime Minister's Office focusing on technology, digital agenda, future of work and gender, as well as chief of staff of the recently created Secretary of State for Digital and Artificial Intelligence under the Vice-presidency of Economic Affairs

She also serves at the European Commission as an independent expert at the high-level group of the future of work; Eurofound independent expert; Policy advisor to the Technequality consortium; EU Advisory Board of the Innovative Public Services Observatory; G20 Digital Economy Task Force; OECD Going Digital II Steering Group; Council of Europe CAHA - Ad hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence.