

# DR. KATHARINE DERDERIAN

+32 473 577 119

katharine\_derderian@hotmail.com

@kderderian1

## **Relevant Professional Experience:**

### **Amnesty International**

09/2013 - Present

Senior Executive Officer, EU Foreign Policy (Africa, Asia, Americas)

Brussels, Belgium

- Engage with EU and member state decision-makers to promote and protect human rights in their foreign policy in Africa, Asia and the Americas (key countries China, India, Burundi, Ethiopia, Sudan, Cuba, Colombia) and on specific thematic issues (e.g. human rights defenders, torture)
- Act as Amnesty's key representative at EU level, bringing analysis and recommendations to relevant decision-makers and develop strategies to influence EU policies and practices
- Collaborate closely with colleagues in Amnesty sections and regional offices, HRDs, activists and researchers
- Monitor and analyse EU and member state external action in Africa, Asia and the Americas to inform Amnesty research and advocacy strategies
- Provide EU and member state policy makers with strategic and timely input through policy papers, advocacy documents, letters and op-eds
- Pro-actively expand and maintain Amnesty networks throughout the European institutions, member state capitals and third countries, in collaboration with colleagues in sections and regional offices

### **Key2advance**

08/2013 - Present

#### **Career Advisor**

Brussels, Belgium

- Conduct individual career advice sessions with Master's students interested in careers in humanitarian aid or human rights, at University of Kent/Brussels School of International Studies, United Nations University (Maastricht) and College of Europe (Natolin)
- Mentor students to identify career goals, review application documents and plan their next steps
- Provide regular workshops to MA students introducing them to the fields of human rights and humanitarianism

### **Médecins sans Frontières, Operational Centre Brussels (OCB)**

11/2020 - Present

#### **Elected member and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the board**

Brussels, Belgium

- Take active part and represent the OCB association, remaining accountable to members, OCB beneficiaries and donors
- Take final responsibility for all actions executed in the name of OCB, including actions delegated to the general director and/or the executive
- As Vice President, set OCB board agendas; lead board meetings and/or represent OCB board externally as required
- Member of security, motions, human resources committees, working group on racism and discrimination
- Approve annual budgets and strategic orientation documents, and follow up on decisions and motions passed at General Assemblies
- Monitor the implementation of MSF principles, Charter and the Chantilly statements
- Maintain sound and updated knowledge of both relevant international debates as well as particular contexts; exchanging with board members, association members, office staff, and international members of MSF

### **Médecins sans Frontières**

03/2005 - 08/2013

#### **Humanitarian Advisor/Policy Issues - Analysis & Advocacy Unit**

Brussels, Belgium

- Provided *ad hoc* and long-term context analysis and support to field and headquarters-level advocacy on conflict/emergency contexts, including Sudan/South Sudan, DRC and the Sahel in 2013
- Developed MSF positioning on aid policies through field-based studies, advocacy and internal/external debate
- Collaborated closely with MSF operations and communications departments, while contributing to MSF networking with key academic, NGO and political counterparts
- Conducted 16 field missions to 11 countries for analysis, operational work, advocacy

### **Médecins sans Frontières**

01/2003-11/2004

#### **Deputy Head of Mission**

Luanda, Angola

- Acted as focal point for information flow and operational reporting between field, capital, Brussels headquarters and the international MSF network
- Engaged in monitoring and analysing humanitarian and political developments, advocacy, representation, interim project coordination and exploratory missions
- Acted as project coordinator as needed by operations

- Monitored resettlement and return of demobilized, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returning refugees, drafting a briefing paper for MSF advocacy
- Wrote a book documenting and analysing MSF intervention in Kuito, Angola 1989-2002

### **Other Professional Experience:**

Médecins sans Frontières Context Analyst	04/2002 - 07/2002 Monrovia and Bong County, Liberia
Médecins sans Frontières Officer, Programme Department	01/2001 - 03/2002 Berlin, Germany
The German Marshall Fund of the United States Fellowship Coordinator	09/1998 - 03/2001 Berlin, Germany
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Postdoctoral Researcher	05/1998 - 11/1998 Berlin, Germany

### **Education:**

Princeton University	Ph.D. Classics	1998
Princeton University	MA Classics	1995
University of Virginia	BA Classics & English	1992

### **Continued Professional Training:**

Amnesty International	Core research methodology	2019
Amnesty International	Policing and human rights	2017
Amnesty International	Strengthening Crisis and Tactical Campaigning	2016
Key2Advance	Impact in Public Speaking	2013
Harvard University	Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research (HPCR): Advanced Principles of Humanitarian Law & Policy; International Law and Humanitarian Access; Human Rights in Times of Conflict	2008
Oxford University	Summer School in Forced Migration Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford University	2004
Harvard University School of Public Health	Intensive Course in Health and Human Rights	2001

### **Languages:**

English	Native proficiency
German	Fluent (oral, reading, & writing)
French	Fluent (oral & reading), working proficiency (writing)
Portuguese	Moderate proficiency (oral and reading), working proficiency (writing)
Dutch	High level proficiency (reading), basic proficiency (oral & writing)
Armenian	High level proficiency (oral), basic proficiency (reading & writing)
Turkish:	Basic knowledge
Ancient Greek, Latin	High proficiency (reading)