



Permanent Mission of the
Argentine Republic
United Nations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship



United Nations

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Get to know the speakers:



William T. Smith

Chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing

William T. Smith, Ph.D., the newly-elected Chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing, is President/Chief Executive Officer of Aging in America, Inc. Dr. Smith has been in the field of social work since 1971 with the last forty-eight years dedicated to the field of gerontology. Nationally recognized as an expert on gerontological issue, Dr. Smith was formerly the Executive Director St. Cabrini Nursing Home in Dobbs Ferry, New York for thirteen years. He has also been an Assistant Professor of Public Health Administration at

Pace University, and an Adjunct Professor in the School of Social Services at Fordham University. Dr. Smith, whose doctorate in Social Work with a concentration in Gerontology is from Fordham University, has also earned a Master's in Social Work in Administration/Case Work from Hunter College and a Bachelor of Science in Family and Child Welfare Services from the University of Wisconsin. He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, the Gerontological Society of America, and the American College of Health Care Administrators. He served as a member of the Federal Advisory Committee on the Future of VA Long Term Care. He was a member of the Board of Directors and Past Chair of LeadingAge in Washington, D.C. and currently serves as their liaison to the United Nations. He now Chairs the Board of Directors of Cardinal McCloskey Community Services and continues to serve as a long-standing board member of the Westchester Public and Private Partnership.



Arjanita (Ariana) Elezaj

Chair of the UNIDOP 2024 Programme Sub-Committee in the NGO Committee on Ageing in New York

Arjanita (Ariana) Elezaj is a former journalist and community activist with 30+ years of experience in program development, advocacy, diversity and inclusion, and community building. Ariana's expertise includes human rights, women's and children's rights, geriatric care, and nonprofit leadership. She is a pioneer of innovating new programming for New York City older adult centers and Albanian-American women's organizations. At the United Nations, Ariana serves on the board of directors for the NGO Committee on Ageing,

as well as the NGO Committee on Human Rights, and has been an active member for many years of the Women's Guild Secretarial Chapter. She is a member of the International Federation of

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Settlement Houses and Neighborhood Centers, a global organization with full ECOSOC consultative status. For several years she has been a board member of the Albanian American Women's Organization "Motrat Qiriazhi," which is one of the oldest organizations serving Albanian Women in the U.S. as well as a Board Member of the Community Research Fellowship Training Program at NYU School of Global Public Health. She is a former journalist of the People's Voice Newspaper, based in Tirana, Albania and continues her freelance writing in the U.S. highlighting issues that impact the Albanian-American community, as well as the NYC population she serves. Currently, Ariana works at the New York City Department for the Aging in the position of Director of Direct Services after serving for several years as deputy Director of Older Adult Services at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, a Settlement House serving New Yorkers in need. Ariana is a public speaker and through her charitable work she continues to work with Albanian American organizations based in New York to empower people to run for political positions and build community relationships. Ariana is a researcher providing support on a groundbreaking study addressing intimate partner relationship experiences amongst Albanian Women in the US. Ariana holds a *Master of Public Policy Administration (MPA)* degree from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, a bachelor's degree from Tirana State University in Economics and Business Reporting, as well as certificates in NonProfit Leadership from Baruch College and Empowered Aging from Columbia Law School Advocacy Institute. She is a fellow of New York University's Center for Anti-Racism, Social Justice and Public Health. Ariana resides in Manhattan with her two children and mother, and through her activism and charitable work, she continues the legacy of her late husband Deda. Along with Christopher Hanway she is co-chairing United Nations International Day of Older Persons (UNIDOP 2024)



Christopher Hanway

**Co-Chair of the UNIDOP 2024 Programme Sub-Committee in the
NGO Committee on Ageing in New York**

Since 2014, Christopher Hanway has served as the Executive Director of Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement, a community-based social service organization in Long Island City, Queens that serves thousands of public housing residents and their families per year, including hundreds of older adults. Prior to that, he was the organization's Director of Development & Communications for five years. Mr. Hanway has over 23 years of professional experience in the not-for-profit sector, most notably at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center, the Institute for Classical Architecture, and the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. He received his B.A. from Hunter College of the City University of New York and his Masters in Public Administration from Baruch College, where he now serves as Adjunct Instructor. He sits on several boards, including United Neighborhood Houses of New York, the Chhaya Community Development Corporation and the International

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Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers, a worldwide organization with full ECOSOC status. Mr. Hanway is the immediate past Chair of the NGO Committee on Migration, which advocates at the United Nations and other international organizations on behalf of migrants, refugees and asylees worldwide and serves on the Executive Committee of the NGO Committee on Aging in New York. In addition to serving as Chair of this year's UNIDOP, he is now the Chair of the NGO Committee on Aging's Global Alliances subcommittee, Chris has a particular interest in connecting the work of local, place-based non-profits like Riis Settlement with international social justice and solidarity movements. A lifelong New Yorker, Chris resides in Manhattan with his partner and 10-year old son.



Guy Bernard Ryder

Under-Secretary-General for Policy, Executive Office of the Secretary-General

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres announced on 7 October 2022 the appointment of Guy Ryder of the United Kingdom as Under-Secretary-General for Policy in his Executive Office. He will succeed Volker Türk of Austria who has been appointed as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Mr. Ryder was most recently Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva after serving two successive terms since October 2012. He first joined the ILO in 1998 as Director of the Bureau for Workers' Activities and from 1999, served as Director of the Office of the Director-General. Mr. Ryder started his professional career in 1981 as an assistant at the International Department of the Trades Union Congress in London. From 1985, he held the position of Secretary of the Industry Trade Section of the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical, Professional and Technical Employees (FIET) in Geneva. In 1988, he became Assistant Director and – from 1993 - Director of the Geneva office of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). In 2002, he was appointed General Secretary of the ICFTU and was elected as the first General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) when it was created in 2006. He returned to the ILO in 2010 as Executive Director, responsible for international labour standards and fundamental principles and rights at work. Mr. Ryder studied Social and Political Sciences at the University of Cambridge and Latin American Studies at the University of Liverpool. He speaks English, French and Spanish.

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H.E. Mr. Bob Rae

**Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations,
President of the Economic and Social Council**

Bob Rae is the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in New York. He has served in this post since August 4, 2020. Since assuming this role has been active in all aspects of the work of the UN, culminating in his election to the Presidency of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for 2024-25, the second Canadian to assume this role, and joins Lester Pearson (President of the General Assembly 1952-53) and George Davidson (ECOSOC 1958-59) as Canadians elected in their personal capacity to preside over UN Charter bodies. Mr. Rae served as Premier of Ontario from 1990 to 1995, and interim Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada from 2011 to 2013. He was elected to federal and provincial parliaments eleven times between 1978 and 2013. He has been honoured by the alumni of both bodies for his distinguished service. Mr. Rae received his Honours B.A. in Modern History from the University of Toronto, an M.Phil in Politics as a Rhodes Scholar at Balliol College in Oxford University, and graduated from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law in 1977. He was a Lecturer in the Faculty of Business (1976-77) and also served as assistant to the Canadian General Counsel of the United Steelworkers from 1975 to 1977. He was called to the Bar of Ontario in February in 1980 and was named a Queen's Counsel in 1984. Mr. Rae has worked with three law firms, Sack Charney Goldblatt and Mitchell (1977-1982), Goodmans LLP (1996-2007), and Olthuis Kleer Townshend LLP (2014-2020), each drawing on his skills as a scholar, an advocate, a mentor and a mediator. Among other notable assignments, Mr. Rae led the restructuring of the Canadian Red Cross, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and chaired the board of the Royal Conservatory of Music. He also wrote "Lessons to be Learned" on the Air India bombing, and "Ontario a Leader in Learning" - a study of the Ontario higher education system. He was also named to the Security and Intelligence Review Committee by then Prime Minister Chrétien. He served as the Chief Negotiator for the nine First Nations that are members of the Matawa Tribal Council in Northern Ontario between 2013 and 2018. UNCLASSIFIED | NON CLASSIFIÉ Mr. Rae's return to Parliament for the constituency of Toronto Centre in 2008 led to his appointment as Foreign Affairs spokesman for his party, and to his election as interim Leader in 2011. From 1996 to 1999 and between 2013 and 2020, he taught law, politics, public policy at the University of Toronto, and was a partner and senior counsel to the law firm OKT LLP, specializing in indigenous law and constitutional issues. Mr. Rae is a Fellow of the Forum of Federations (an organization he co-founded in the 1990's), Massey College, the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, and the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy.

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H.E. Mr. Ricardo Ernesto Lagorio
Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations

During the period from 2017 to 2020, Ambassador Ricardo Lagorio held the position of Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Argentina to the Russian Federation, concurrently representing the country in Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. Previously, he represented Argentina to the Governing Council of the Community of Democracies from 2015 to 2017. Likewise, he served as the Director of Planning for Foreign Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and Worship of the Argentine Republic. From 2011 to 2015, he was

Attached to the Secretariat of Foreign Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and Worship of the Argentine Republic. Earlier roles include serving as the Executive Secretary of the National Commission for the Commemoration of the Bicentennial of Argentine Independence from 2009 to 2010, and acting as an advisor on Foreign Policy to the Vice Presidency of the Republic of Argentina from 2003 to 2007. Ambassador Lagorio served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Argentina in the United States of America from 2000 to 2003, and worked as the Director of International Environmental Agreements at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and Worship from 1998 to 2000. Between 1993 and 1996, he was Sub-secretary of Policy and Strategy at the Ministry of Defense of the Argentine Republic. He also served in the Cabinet of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic from 1990 to 1992. He held the positions of Vice President and President of the Committee of 33, the Committee on Peacekeeping Operations of the UN, and was Secretary, Vice President, and President of the United Nations Committee on Information during the period from 1982 to 1989. From 1980 to 1982, he was part of the Cabinet of the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic.



H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez Ojeda
Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations, Chair of the Group of Friends of Older Persons in New York

Ambassador Narvaez has recently been appointed as Vice-Chair of the ECOSOC. Before this latest appointment, Ms. Narváez was the Officer-in-Charge at the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in Guatemala, from February to May 2022. She also served as Socio-Political Adviser at the UN-Women Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, from October 2021

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to February 2022, and Regional Adviser for Governance and Political Participation in the same office, from 2018 to 2020. Between 2016 and 2018, Ms. Narváez was Minister Secretary General of Government, and she served as a Presidential Adviser from 2014 to 2016. From 2012 until 2014, she was a Latin America and Caribbean Section Program Specialist at UN-Women, based in New York. Following the eruption of the Chaitén Volcano in Chile in May 2008, Ms. Narváez served as the delegate of then-President Michelle Bachelet to the Chaitén Volcano Emergency, from 2008 to 2009. She has also held a number of other Government positions. Ms. Narváez earned a master's degree in Latin American Studies from Georgetown University in the United States; a master's degree in economics and regional management from the Universidad Austral de Chile; and a degree in psychology from the Universidad Nacional Andrés Bello, also in Chile.



H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Alwasil

Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations

H.E. Ambassador Abdulaziz Alwasil assumed the role of Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations Headquarters in New York in July 2022, following his tenure as Ambassador & Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva since November 2016. Prior to joining the diplomatic service, Ambassador Alwasil held diverse positions in both the public and private sectors. His career commenced as a college lecturer in Riyadh and an assistant lecturer in the United States of America. In 1999, Ambassador Alwasil embarked on his diplomatic journey, focusing extensively on multilateral and human rights affairs. He served as Deputy Head of Mission at Saudi Arabia's Embassy in London for over three years and undertook assignments in Australia, London, and Geneva. Ambassador Alwasil has an extensive educational background, holding a PhD in International Relations, a Master's Degree in Political Science, and a Bachelor's Degree in Arabic language and literature.



Beth R. Finkel

State Director AARP New York

As State Director of AARP New York, Beth R. Finkel leads the most visible and successful organization in the state advocating for New York's 50-plus population. During her tenure as State Director, AARP's powerful lobbying efforts on behalf of its over 2.3 million New York members and their families have led to historic NYS reforms including passage of the Secure Choice Savings Program, CARE Act, Assisted Living Protections, Anti-Predatory Lending, Paid Family Leave, Affordable Housing and

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Right to Counsel legislation, Master Plan for Aging, numerous bills on Kincare and – since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic – groundbreaking state legislation to improve nursing home conditions, ban utility shutoffs, allow for universal absentee voting, and expand access to on-line food ordering and delivery through the SNAP program. Beth conceived of and launched Disrupt Disparities, the first holistic approach to confronting inequities in Health, Economic Security and Livable Communities impacting various 50-plus populations. This initiative has now become an AARP-wide enterprise. Prior to her appointment as State Director, Beth was the Director of Engagement for AARP New York. Through her years at AARP New York, she led and developed the statewide *Kincare Coalition* and New York's *Older Adults Hunger Stakeholders Coalition*. She convened the first Older Adults Hunger Summit to find solutions to barriers to food insecurity. She also co-created the *NYS Medicare Savings Program Taskforce*, a consortium of government, public policymakers and advocates that worked to break down obstacles to enrollment of low-income Medicare beneficiaries to this group of benefits. Beth is on the NYS Secure Choice Board, which oversees implementation of the Secure Choice Savings Program, and she serves on The NYS Food Policy Workgroup, The Women and Finance Taskforce, The NYS Rx Affordability Board and the NYC Age Friendly Commission. A native New Yorker, Beth holds a Master of Social Work from Yeshiva University in Community Organizing and a Bachelor of Science from American University in Business Administration.



Lorraine A. Cortés-Vázquez

**Commissioner, New York City Department for the Aging
CUNY Trustee**

Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez was appointed as Commissioner to the Department for the Aging in March 2022. As Commissioner, Cortés-Vázquez has worked to create equity and increase diversity around the older adult centers across the city, she also implemented the first of its kind Aging Cabinet for Older New Yorkers to unify city agencies to work together and tackle the problems affecting older adults. She continues to work to advance the NYC Aging mission to eliminate ageism, ensure the dignity and quality of life of older adults and support caregivers as she did with the previous administration under former Mayor Bill de Blasio. Before being appointed to Commissioner, Lorraine served as Senior Advisor to de Blasio in the Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. Prior to serving in the Mayor's Office, Cortés-Vázquez was Senior Vice President of Corporate Relations and Government Affairs at EmblemHealth, where she was responsible for EmblemHealth's relationships with key government, community and industry stakeholders, better positioning EmblemHealth for new growth opportunities. Cortés-Vázquez was also the Executive Vice President for Multicultural Markets and Engagement at the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) where she developed a comprehensive 5-year strategic plan. At AARP,

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she ensured that the interests of multicultural age 50-plus audiences were integrated into everything AARP does, with the goal of increasing multicultural presence among AARP membership and increasing AARP’s involvement in those communities. Before joining AARP, Cortés-Vázquez was New York State’s 65th Secretary of State, and the first Hispanic appointee to serve in that role. She also served as Vice President of Government and Public Affairs at Cablevision Systems Corporation. She brought to this position a distinguished career in the nonprofit, government and corporate sectors that extends more than 30 years. From 1998 to 2004, Cortés-Vázquez served as President of the Hispanic Federation. She has extensive experience creating community partnerships to leverage civic participation and increasing the visibility of educational initiatives. In the early 1990s, she served as Executive Director of ASPIRA of New York. Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez obtained her undergraduate degree from Hunter College and earned a master’s degree from New York University’s Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. She is a Toll Fellow and has earned certificates from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and Columbia University’s School Professional Studies.



Michael Hodin

CEO, Global Coalition on Aging & Managing Partner, High Lantern Group

Michael W. Hodin, Ph.D. is CEO of the Global Coalition on Aging, Managing Partner at High Lantern Group, and a Fellow at Oxford University’s Harris Manchester College. He has spoken internationally on ageing, including at G20, APEC, Davos, and the World Knowledge Forum. From 1976-80, Mike was Legislative Assistant to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. He was a senior executive at Pfizer, Inc. for 30 years, where he created and led International Public Affairs and Public Policy operations. Mike holds a BA, cum laude, Cornell University, M.Sc. from The London School of Economics, and M.Phil and Ph.D. from Columbia University.



Tom Chiodo

Executive Producer, Special Projects, National Program Development WETA/PBS

Tom Chiodo is the executive producer of Special Projects National Productions for WETA (Washington Educational Telecommunications Association), the flagship PBS station in Washington DC. WETA develops primetime documentary films and original digital content, accompanied by national impact and engagement campaigns, across 330+ PBS stations in more than 150 markets. Recent public media projects: *Ken Burns presents Hiding in Plain Sight: Youth Mental Illness*, a film by Erik Ewers and

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Christopher Loren Ewers (2022); Emmy-nominated documentary *Ken Burns presents The Gene: An Intimate History* (2020); *Rethinking High School* with Soledad O’Brien Town Hall at Howard University (2016); DuPont Columbia Award & Emmy-nominated documentary *Cancer: The Emperor of All Maladies* (2015). Current documentary projects in development/production: *Caregiving*; *Hiding in Plain Sight: Adult Mental Illness*; *Remote Chance: Health Care in Rural America*; *Defeating Dementia*; and *Mighty Real: Out and Proud in America*. Thirty years’ experience in the media, communications, television and entertainment industry. Former SVP Development Entertainment Industry Foundation creating programs and funding for national initiatives in health care, volunteerism, childhood hunger and education. Tom has held senior positions at Rubenstein Associates, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Massachusetts Department of Public Health & State Office for Children. Former clients: HBO; AMC; TIME, Inc.; Wenner Media; Talk Miramax Books; Columbia University; Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Major League Baseball; Dance Theater of Harlem; The Apollo Theatre; Al Roker Entertainment, Inc.; The Tony Awards; Tribeca Film Festival; ABC’s Good Morning America; Stand Up to Cancer; and Chances for Children. Board memberships: Fenway Community Health Center (Boston), Professional Performing Arts High School (NYC), Heart Gallery New York. Tom is a published playwright, and co-author of “Home Care for Respirator Dependent Children” New England Journal of Medicine. National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences judge for the 44th Annual News & Documentary Emmy Awards.



Josh Carter
CEO of the VEO-IBD Foundation

Josh Carter is the fourth grandchild of United States President Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. Josh is the CEO of the VEO-IBD Foundation, the first and only organization dedicated to parents and caregivers of children with Very Early Onset Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Josh is a small business owner, and he is the writer, producer, and host of the Unchanging Principles Podcast, where he talks about his life in a Presidential family and the American values taught to him by

his grandparents. Josh is also the spokesman for the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers, where he advocates improving the support and services available to family caregivers. Josh lives in Atlanta with his wife Sarah, his two boys Charlie and Jonathan, and his cocker spaniel Copper.

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Wendy Naugle
Editor-in-Chief, PEOPLE Magazine

Wendy Naugle is the Editor in Chief of PEOPLE, one of the world’s most successful media brands. PEOPLE reaches more than 135 million people across multiple platforms, and this year celebrates its 50th anniversary. Naugle has helped destigmatize mental health issues through PEOPLE’s multi-year campaign titled Let’s Talk About It: Mental Health Solutions, an initiative to encourage readers to have vital conversations about their mental health and share proven solutions on these complex issues. She is also launching a caregiving initiative, highlighting the unique issues facing our audience as they care for family members in the face of health and life pressures.

Under her leadership PEOPLE has been recognized as AdWeek’s Hottest in Design/Photography, continuing the legacy of PEOPLE’s iconic photography as well as being honored by the GLAAD Media Awards and the Webby Awards. Her contributions to the brand have garnered extensive media coverage and recognition, and she’s appeared on The Drew Barrymore Show, TODAY, The Talk, Access Hollywood and more. Prior to joining PEOPLE, Naugle was executive editor at Glamour, leading editorial content and its Women of the Year Awards and Women of the Year Summit. Her stories on subjects ranging from breast implants to health insurance to reproductive rights won two National Magazine Awards for Personal Service and a National Press Club Consumer Journalism Award, among other honors.



Chris Sharp
Artist of the UNIDOP Commemorative Stamp Set

Chris Sharp is an award-winning New York City based illustrator specializing in images for advertising, design, publishing and editorial clients. He began his career after graduating from Parsons School of Design in 1987. Previous clients have included Johnson & Johnson, Procter & Gamble, Norwegian Olympic

Committee, The New York Times, UNICEF and The Washington Post and currently a sustainability project with That Gorilla Brand. www.instachrissharp.com

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Amal Abou Rafeh

Chief of the Programme on Ageing Section, UN DESA

Amal Abou Rafeh serves as the Chief of the Programme on Ageing Section at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in New York. In this role, she oversees the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, including coordinating the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. Amal served on the Secretariat of the General Assembly Open-ended Working Group on

Ageing from 2018 to 2024 and is currently a member of the Steering Group for the Titchfield City Group on Ageing-related Statistics and Age-disaggregated Data. She facilitates the work of the United Nations Inter-Agency Group on Ageing as its permanent co-Chair and contributes to the "Duties to the Future" Inter-Agency Group, which examines the concepts of future generations and intergenerational equity within the United Nations system. Since joining the United Nations in 2001, Amal has worked in social policy, sustainable development, and demography. Her notable roles include serving on the Secretariats of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002) and the High-level Meeting on Youth (2011). Beyond the United Nations, she was a member of the World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Healthy Ageing and Longevity from 2020 to 2021. Prior to her United Nations career, Amal lectured on the social and demographic data analysis at the American University of Beirut.

Amal's contributions have been recognized with the 2022 Rosalie Wolf Memorial Award from the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. She holds a Master of Science in Population Studies from the American University of Beirut and has received the prestigious Penrose Award. Originally from Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Amal is a proud mother to a son.



Edward Morgan

**Principal Statistician, Demography, Population
Statistics Directorate Office for National Statistics, United
Kingdom**

Edward Morgan is a Demographer working at the Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom. He is the International Lead for Demography in the Population Statistics Directorate, most recently leading on capability building projects in Southern Africa and delivering the final report for Titchfield City Group of Ageing. Edward has several years of experience working across mortality statistics, population

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projections and census and is passionate about Science Communication. Edward has degrees from University of St Andrews, London School of Economics and European Doctoral School of Demography.



John Wilmoth

Director, Population Division, UN DESA

Mr. John Wilmoth has been Director of the United Nations Population Division, within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, since 2013. From March 2023 until August 2024, he also served as the Officer-in-Charge (Acting Director) of the Division for Inclusive Social Development. He worked previously for the Population Division as Chief of the Mortality Section from 2005 to 2007. He began his career in 1990 by teaching and conducting research at the University of California, Berkeley. Mr. Wilmoth was Professor at UC Berkeley through 2014 and is now Professor Emeritus in Berkeley's Department of Demography. He is the author or co-author of more than 50 scientific papers on various aspects of population dynamics. From 2009 to 2012, he was engaged as a consultant by the World Health Organization and the World Bank to lead the development of new maternal mortality estimates for the global monitoring of the Millennium Development Goals. He has also served on several expert panels convened by the U.S. Government or National Academy of Sciences.



Peter Lloyd-Sherlock

**Professor in Social Policy and International Development,
Northumbria University, United Kingdom**

Peter Lloyd-Sherlock is Professor of Gerontology and Global Health at the University of Northumbria, United Kingdom. He has held positions at World Health Organization and the UK Department of International Development. Peter was a member of the Lancet Commission on COVID-19: Task Force on Humanitarian Relief, Social Protection and Vulnerable Groups.

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Shereen Hussein

Professor of Health and Social Care Policy, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Founder and Director, Middle East and North Africa Research on Healthy Ageing (MENARAH) Network, United Kingdom

Shereen Hussein is a Professor of Health and Social Care Policy at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK, with a background in medical demography, statistics, and computer science. She is internationally recognised for her expertise in ageing and long-term care and advises governments and international organisations. In 2022, she was appointed as a health and social care specialist advisor to the UK House of Lords, and in 2024, she joined the WHO's Technical Advisory Group for the Commission on Social Connection. Shereen leads the Care∞Track consortium and the MENARAH Network, advancing the ageing and long-term care agenda in low and middle-income countries.



Elizabeth Helzner

Associate Professor and Interim Chair in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, State University of New York Downstate Health Sciences University, School of Public Health and The Brooklyn Initiative to Develop Geriatrics Education

Elizabeth Helzner, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor and Interim Chair in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She received a Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the University of Pittsburgh, and subsequently held postdoctoral fellowships in Aging Epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh, and in Neuroepidemiology at Columbia University's Gertrude Sergievsky Center. Elizabeth Helzner is a chronic disease epidemiologist who specializes in the study age-related conditions. Her primary research focus is age-related hearing loss (presbycusis). She has explored many potential contributors to hearing loss in older age, including diabetes, bone density, vascular health, and demographic, genetic, behavioral, and environmental factors. She has also studied the influence of presbycusis on cognition and cognitive decline, mortality, psychological health, and physical function. In addition to her work in hearing loss, Elizabeth Helzner has conducted epidemiologic studies on the natural history of Alzheimer's disease, including examinations of post-diagnosis survival and correlates of cognitive decline among patients with AD. Her collaborative projects with the departments of Neurology, Oncology, Geriatric Psychiatry, and Occupational Therapy at SUNY Downstate, have focused on projects related to pre-hospital stroke diagnosis, the

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epidemiology of multiple myeloma, the influence of hearing loss on mental state in elders, and community-based programming for people living with Parkinson’s Disease. A new area of interest for Elizabeth Helzner is the association between dietary patterns and chronic disease, particularly the role that plant-based nutrition can play in the prevention and treatment of common health conditions in the community.



Kahir Lalji

**Provincial Director, Government Relations & Programs,
United Way British Columbia & Vice-President
International Longevity Centre Canada**

Kahir Lalji is the Provincial Director, Government Relations & Programs with the United Way British Columbia – working with communities in BC’s North, Interior, Lower Mainland and Central & Northern Vancouver Island. Inspired by caring for his grandparents, Kahir dedicated the last 15+ years of his life in the Provincial, National and International NGO space intentional in supporting the quality of life of equity-seeking groups—always attempting to ensure the representation of traditionally underserved populations. Kahir is a Gerontologist with a Masters of Gerontology from Simon Fraser University, and also has a fellowship in developmental leadership and evaluation. He serves as the Vice Chair on the Board of Directors for HelpAge Canada, Vice President of International Longevity Centre-Canada, and a member of the Board of Directors for BC Alzheimers Society. Kahir also serves as the Country Lead for Seniors for the Ismaili Community. Kahir is the past President of the Board of Directors for British Columbia Original Minds Association and a past Board Member of BC211.



Masumi Ono

Chief of Social Inclusion and Participation Branch, UN DESA

As Chief of the Social Inclusion and Participation Branch (SIPB) in the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs, Masumi leads a dedicated team of specialists on issues related to older persons, youth, persons with disabilities and family. Her 25 years of UN experience include supporting the development of Sustainable Development Goals from the Secretary-General’s office, mobilizing high-level advocacy work on education finance, preparing reports for the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on cross-sectoral themes such as gender, poverty eradication and UN system coherence, and managing trade facilitation programmes in the Asia Pacific region. Before joining the UN through the National Competitive Exam (YPP), she worked in Finance having obtained an MBA and BA (Economics) both from Cornell University (USA).

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About the *Caregiving* Documentary

Caregiving is a two-hour primetime documentary series presented by WETA, the flagship PBS station in Washington, D.C, and executive produced by Lea Pictures (Bradley Cooper & Weston Middleton) and WETA (John F. Wilson and Tom Chiodo), in association with Ark Media. The series will be accompanied by two hours of original digital content on public media's Well Beings platform (WellBeings.org), and a robust national outreach, education, and engagement campaign. *Caregiving* will premiere on 330+ PBS stations across the United States in Spring 2025. Original short form digital content will be released biweekly, beginning with IDOP, through the broadcast premiere. The *Caregiving* national outreach, education, and engagement campaign is officially launched with this event at the United Nations. The *Caregiving* documentary will also be licensed internationally beginning in Spring 2025.

The series will examine caregiving from multiple perspectives: the creation and evolution of the care system; the social dynamics that shape our approach to caregiving today and the future possibilities; the lives of caregivers and their relationships with those in their care; the interpersonal challenges and triumphs, job-related and economic pressures, health and mental health outcomes for caregivers; and the broader societal context in which caregiving operates on the margins yet affects everyone. Above all, *Caregiving* will reveal the state — and the stakes — of care in America, with implications globally, during an unprecedented moment in which there is an opportunity to transform the caregiving system into one that works for us all.

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