

**-Christina Zampas, Reproductive and Sexual Health Law Fellow
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Christina Zampas is an international human rights lawyer with 30 years experience managing projects on law reform, litigation and training. Her scholarship and advocacy focus on UN and regional human rights law, particularly on sexual and reproductive rights.

Christina has conducted advocacy at UN and regional human rights bodies and in national parliaments and ministries. She has advocated for development of standards and law and policy reform on issues ranging from the decriminalization of abortion, same sex conduct, and sex work, to gender based violence, contraception, human rights during childbirth, comprehensive sexuality education, legal gender identity, and the rights of marginalized populations. She has led major research missions documenting human rights violations related to abortion, forced sterilization, and sex work, and has managed the publication of such findings. Recently, she has also conducted research on the relationship between International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law in the context of reproductive health care.

Christina was the Human Rights Adviser to [WHO's Abortion Care Guideline](#) Development Group (2019-2022) and currently services as a peer reviewer to The [International Committee of the Red Cross' forthcoming updated commentary on Geneva Convention IV](#) on the protection of civilians during war. Christina provided expert [oral testimony](#) before the Irish Parliament Joint Committee on the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution, as they pursued constitutional reform in the context of abortion (October 2018).

Christina has litigated groundbreaking cases before the European Court of Human Rights on numerous issues, including, denial of access to lawful abortion, prenatal health information, and on the forced sterilization of Roma women and has filed amicus briefs in cases concerning sexual orientation and gender identity. She has also filed a collective complaint challenging discriminatory and non-evidence-based sexuality education programs in Croatian schools under the European Social Charter. She has also been involved in cases before the Inter-American Commission and the Inter-American Court on Human Rights regarding unlawful deportation of Haitians from the United States, as well as lack of due diligence by law enforcement in a domestic violence case against the United States. She provided oral expert legal testimony to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the case of [I.V. v Bolivia](#), the Inter-American Court's first case regarding forced sterilization, and its first case on informed consent in health care. Christina is the co-founder of the Women's Human Rights Training Institute (WHRTI), in Bulgaria, the first training program for lawyers from Central and Eastern Europe on using international and regional human rights mechanisms to seek redress for violations of women's rights. She has lectured widely and made presentations before policy and academic institutions around the globe.

Christina worked at Amnesty International HQ as Senior Legal Advisor, the Center for Reproductive Rights as Regional Director for Europe, and later as Associate Director of Global Advocacy. She also worked at Parliamentarians for Global Action as Project Director for its work in West African parliaments. She was a Practitioner-in Residence at University of Miami Law School Human Rights Clinic and a Visiting Lecturer in Russian university law faculties with Yale University and Open Society Foundations. She has done consultancy work for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNAIDS, UNFPA and the World Health Organization.

Christina holds a B.A. in political science from Douglas College, Rutgers University and a J.D. from Syracuse University College of Law and is licensed to practice law in New York. She has authored numerous publications, including:

- Caron R. Kim, Antonella Lavelanet, Bela Ganatra, on behalf of the Abortion Care Guideline Development Group, *Enabling access to quality abortion care: WHO's Abortion Care guideline*, The Lancet (March 2022).
- Human Rights and Gender Stereotypes in Childbirth, chapter in *Women's Birthing Bodies and the Law: Unauthorized Intimate Examinations, Power and Vulnerability*, Pickles, C. and Herring, J. eds., Hart Publishing (2020).
- Co-authored with Amin, O'Hanlon, Bjerregaard, Mehrdash, Khosla, and Tunçalp. Operationalizing a Human Rights-Based Approach to Address Mistreatment against Women during Childbirth, *Health and Human Rights* (2020) Jun;22(1):251-264.
- Co-authored with Rajat Kholsa, et. al. *International Human Rights and the Mistreatment of Women during Childbirth*, *Health and Human Rights Journal*, Harvard University Press (November 2016).
- *Legal and Political Discourses on Women's Right to Abortion*, chapter in *A Fragmented Landscape: Abortion Governance and Protest Logics in Europe*, Berghahn Books: Oxford and New York (2016).
- "Conscientious Objection to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services: International Human Rights Standards and European Law and Practice," *European Journal of Health Law* 19 (2012) (with Ximena Andión-Ibañez) <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22916532>
- Co-authored with Adriana Lamačková, *Forced and Coerced Sterilization of Women in Europe*, *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics* 114 (2011) 163-166. http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2027937
- Co-authored with Jaime M. Gher, *Abortion as a Human Right—International and Regional Standards*, *Human Rights Law Review*, Oxford University Press 8:2 (2008); reprinted in Spanish in *Aborto y Justicia Reproductiva*, Paola Bergallo ed., Editores del Puerto, Argentina (2011). <http://hrlr.oxfordjournals.org/content/8/2/249.abstract>
- Co-authored with Rhonda Copelon, et al., *Human Rights Begin at Birth: International Law and the Claim of Fetal Rights*, *Reproductive Health Matters* 13[26] (2005). [http://www.rhm-elsevier.com/article/S0968-8080\(05\)26218-3/abstract](http://www.rhm-elsevier.com/article/S0968-8080(05)26218-3/abstract)

Last updated, January 2024.