



PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE
SECURITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS:
SUPPORTING GRANTEE SAFETY
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BIOGRAPHIES OF PARTICIPANTS

Sarah Abelow, Program Associate, The Overbrook Foundation

Sarah Abelow has been working at The Overbrook Foundation since 2011. In her current role, she assists with the human rights grantmaking and other administrative tasks at the Foundation. In particular, she has worked with Foundation Staff and outside consultants to analyze and administer Overbrook's reproductive justice, domestic media reform and Latin America human rights defenders portfolios. She has recently returned to her native New York City after attending Pomona College where she studied History and French, and worked with several local non-profit organizations.

Evelyn Arce, Executive Director, International Funders for Indigenous Peoples

Evelyn Arce, of Chibcha descent (Colombian-American) has been leading International Funders for Indigenous Peoples (IFIP) since 2002. Prior to IFIP, Arce was a communications consultant for the Iewirokwas Program, a Native American midwifery program and coordinated the American Indian Millennium Conference held at Cornell University in 2001. She was also a high school teacher of science, horticulture, and independent living for seven years. Arce was chosen to participate in the Donella Meadows Fellowship Leadership program, a systems think tank on creating sustainable ways to effectively make long-term changes through leadership. Arce obtained her Master's degree in Teaching at Cornell University with a concentration in Agriculture and Adult Education.

Emilienne De León Aulina, Executive Director, International Network of Women's Funds

Born in Paris with a Spanish and Mexican anarchist heritage, Emilienne has over 20 years of experience working as a supporter and consultant of local and international human rights and women's rights organizations. From 2000-2009 she served as the Executive Director of the Mexican Women's Fund: Semillas. As the Executive Director of Semillas, Emilienne contributed to a very significant growth of the fundraising and grant making of this organization and to the establishment of its endowment. Her most outstanding achievement was to promote a culture of philanthropy in Mexico and to contribute to the founding of a local network of both individual (Red MIM) and corporate donors. Emilienne has served in various local and international Boards during her career, including INWF's Board as a Co-Chair from 2005-2007. She also served in the Boards of: Movimiento Ciudadano por la Democracia (1998-2005), Women's Funding Network (2001-2008), and REMISOC (2010).

Holly Bartling, Program Officer, General Service Foundation

Holly Bartling is Program Officer for Reproductive Justice and Human Rights and Economic Justice at the General Service Foundation. She has been at General Service Foundation since 2005, and is responsible for the foundation's reproductive justice grantmaking, as well as grantmaking to support organizations working on labor and economic rights issues in Mexico. Prior to that, she spent five years as Director of the Human Rights Advocates Program at Columbia University, an intensive residence-based four month training program for fifteen human rights activists from the United States and developing countries. She also coordinated a Central America-based training program for human rights activists at the Washington Office on Latin America. She has held consultancies in Peru with the International Planned Parenthood Federation and in El Salvador with the United Nations Development Program. Bartling holds a Master's degree in International Affairs from Columbia University, where she focused on human rights, and a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Stanford University.

Caroline Brac de la Perrière, Executive Director, Mediterranean Women's Fund

Caroline Sakina Brac de la Perrière is Executive Director and Founding Member of the Mediterranean Women's Fund. She has been part of the Algerian women's movement since its beginnings in the late 1980s. She has worked in France in the international coordination office of the solidarity network Women under Muslim law; in 1995 as Coordinator for North African countries and from 1996 to 1999 as Director of the international coordination office. Since then she founded, with Turkish, French, Algerian and Spanish women's rights activists, the association New Ways – an International Alliance for social innovation whose aim is to create a shared network of information and experiences. She has experience in several other women's organizations and networks in the Mediterranean region including 20 Years Barakat, Collectif Maghreb Egalité, and Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim societies. She is also a historian and a trained psychologist.

Lesley Carson, Director, International Human Rights Program, Wellspring Advisors

Lesley Carson is Director of the International Human Rights Program of Wellspring Advisors, LLC. Wellspring coordinates grant making that advances human rights and social and economic justice. The program focuses on protection of human rights defenders, human rights in the global economy, accountability and disability rights. Before joining Wellspring in 2007, Carson was an independent consultant working with human rights groups including Human Rights First, the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team, Columbia University Center for the Study of Human Rights, and the Center for Economic and Social Rights. For six years, she served as Founding Director of Forefront, a training and advocacy network of frontline human rights defenders in thirty countries who had received the Reebok Human Rights Award. She also spent time in Washington, working for Senator Patrick Leahy on the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee and lobbying for Amnesty International-USA. Carson specialized in Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs while earning a Master of International Affairs degree at Columbia, and has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard.

Eleanor Douglas, Executive Director, Urgent Action Fund of Latin America (Colombia)

Eleanor Douglas is the Executive Director of the Urgent Action Fund of Latin America, having established the organization at the end of 2009. Previous to this, she was the President for five years of the Board of Directors UAF-USA. She was born in Canada and received Colombian citizenship several years ago, and has an undergraduate degree in Social Sciences, a degree in Education, and a Masters Certificate in Peace and Conflict Studies. She came to feminism through the route of political activism during the 1980's and 1990's in Colombia, and has worked with many women's and feminist organizations in the region since that time.

Marta Drury, Director, The Heart and Hand Fund

Marta Drury is the director of The Heart and Hand Fund, which funds women's groups working for peace and equity in the Balkans. She is also in her fourth year as a board member of the Urgent Action Fund. Marta has been an advisor to Global Fund for Women and to International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) and on the international panel of Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice. Marta was a founding member of Women Donors Network (WDN), a founding donor of Urgent Action Fund and an active member of the trafficking circle of Global Fund for Women. Since her first visit to The Women's Building in San Francisco in 1986, she has been an enthusiastic supporter, with six years on the board and a number of years on various committees including serving as the chair of the development committee, chair of the capital campaign and chair of the 25th anniversary gala. In 2005, Marta was nominated as one of the 1000 Women for Peace for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Maryam Elahi, Director, International Women's Program, Open Society Foundations

Maryam Elahi joined Open Society Foundations (OSF) in 2007 as Director of the International Women's Program. Prior to OSF, Elahi was Founding Director of the Human Rights Program at Trinity College - the first undergraduate human rights program in the U.S. During her ten years there, she developed the program, taught and established academic human rights programs in Cape Town, Santiago, Trinidad, and Hong Kong. Elahi served as Advocacy Director for Amnesty International for the Middle East, North Africa and Europe from 1990-1997. She is a member of the International Human Rights Committee of the American Bar Association and has served on numerous boards including the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, Center for Justice and Accountability and AI's Policy Board. She has written and lectured on a wide-range of human rights issues and has led numerous missions for human rights organizations. She is a graduate of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Boston College Law School and Williams College. Elahi is a member of the District of Columbia and Massachusetts Bar Associations.

Amalia E. Fischer, Co-Founder and Executive Coordinator, Elas - Fundo de Investimento Social (Rio de Janeiro)

Amalia E. Fischer P. lives in Brazil and is of Mexican-Nicaraguan heritage. A feminist activist, Fischer is the Co-Founder and Executive Coordinator of Elas – Fundo de Investimento Social (Rio de Janeiro). Elas raises awareness of women's contributions to society and women's human rights while changing

patterns of traditional philanthropic giving. Fischer is working to modernize the culture of philanthropy and social investment in Brazil, with the goal of transforming people's handout mentality by delving into a deeper understanding about the importance of investing in diversity and transforming gender relations. Fischer was a professor with the Faculty of Political Science at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México for 20 years. She is Co-Founder of The International Network of Women's Funds and was a member of its Executive Committee from 2003-2006. Fischer is also an Ashoka and Synergos Fellow and a member of the Board of Urgent Action Fund USA and Chair of the Board of Urgent Action Fund Latin America. Fischer has a PhD in Communication and Culture.

Laura Garcia, Executive Director, Semillas (Mexico)

Laura Garcia joined the Semillas team in June 2010 as Head of Analysis and Institutional Strengthening. She has developed this new area of the organization to strengthen planning and work strategies to enhance Semillas' impact as a women's fund. Before working at Semillas, Garcia was a human rights advisor to the Mexican Foreign Ministry. She has collaborated with various civil society organizations, such as the International Center for Transitional Justice and the International Council on Security and Development (ICOS), on projects which focused on human rights, transitional justice and Latin American drug policies. In 2006, she took part in the presidential campaign of Patricia Mercado, with whom she then worked at the Alternative Voice Foundation (Fundación Voz Alternativa). The following year, she worked at the International Criminal Court in The Hague on the first case in its history. Over the years, Garcia has created strong links with universities in Mexico and in Europe to promote academic activities related to international criminal law. She has taught international relations at the Tecnológico de Monterrey and has taken part in various workshops and talks about international conflict resolution, human rights and justice procedures in Latin America. Garcia has published articles in Mexican journals about transitional justice, human rights and gender. She forms part of the National Network of Women Human Rights Defenders. Garcia earned a Master's degree in International Peace and Security at King's College, London and graduated from the Colegio de México in Mexico City with a Bachelor's degree in International Relations.

Terry Greenblatt, Consultant, Anonymous Family Foundation

Terry Greenblatt is a consultant for international social justice initiatives and funders. She is the past Executive Director and CEO of Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights. She has previously served as Executive Director of Bat Shalom and Kol Halsha in Jerusalem, and as the founding "Activist in Residence" for the Global Fund for Women in San Francisco. She also sits as a Trustee of the Sarvodaya Gandhi International Trust in India.

Medina Haeri, Programme Associate, Oak Foundation

Medina Haeri joined Oak Foundation as Programme Associate for the Issues Affecting Women Programme in 2010. Prior to joining Oak Foundation, Haeri worked with the Women and War unit of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) where she helped to mainstream the needs, vulnerabilities, and capacities of women affected by armed conflict into the operational activities of the ICRC. She also has experience working with Karen refugees on the Thai/Burma border with the

International Rescue Committee in order to gain a better understanding of the specific experiences of women during the refugee and resettlement processes. She holds a Master's degree in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

Quinn Hazel, Program Assistant, MacArthur Foundation

Quinn Hazel is the Program Assistant for the Human Rights and International Justice and Migration Programs in the International Programs at the MacArthur Foundation. Working closely with MacArthur's field offices in Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia, she is responsible for processing letters of inquiry and proposals submitted to those areas, and coordinates the review process for organizations being considered for approval. Joining the Foundation in 1998, Hazel was the Executive Secretary to the Senior Program Officer in the Access to Economic Opportunity area of the Program on Human and Community Development. She has worked as Program Assistant within International Programs since 2000. Hazel holds a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service, with a concentration in Asian Studies, from Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service, and a Master's in Education (Bilingual-Bicultural Education) from the DePaul University School of Education. She speaks Spanish and Mandarin Chinese.

Annie Hillar, Learning and Evaluation Specialist, Mama Cash

Annie Hillar is Learning and Evaluation Specialist at Mama Cash. Her role is to develop planning, monitoring and assessment tools for organization-wide learning, effectiveness, decision-making and accountability. From 2008 to 2012, Hillar was Director of Programmes at Mama Cash, overseeing the grantmaking team and a budget that grew from 2.5 million euros to 5.3 million euros within four years. Hillar has also worked as a consultant to various foundations, local women's NGOs and women's funds in Central and Eastern Europe in strategic fundraising and evaluation. She held a number of programmatic positions at the Global Fund for Women over a period of six years. Her responsibilities included Interim Programme Team Co-Leader, and Senior Programme Officer for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Middle East and North Africa. She holds a Master of Arts in Social Anthropology from Central European University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Romance Languages from the University of Chicago.

Michael Hirschhorn, Executive Director, International Human Rights Funders Group; President, Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation

Prior to directing IHRFG, Michael was Executive Director of the Coro New York Leadership Center from 2003-2008. Earlier, from 1995-2001, he served as Executive Director of the Literacy Assistance Center in New York City. He was an Assistant to the Chancellor of the NYC Public Schools and a Visiting Non-Profit Executive at Yale's School of Management. Michael serves as President of the trustees of the Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation, and also serves on the boards of several rights-related and educational non-profit organizations. Michael received his BA from Yale University in 1981 and his MBA & MSW from Columbia University in 1989. He has served on IHRFG's steering committee since 2002.

James Logan, Programme Officer, Oak Foundation

James Logan joined the Oak Foundation in January 2009. He focuses on the areas of ending impunity, promoting new technologies for human rights activists, and combating abuses arising during counter-terrorism operations in the United Kingdom and Europe. Prior to Oak, Logan was a Turkey specialist at Amnesty International's International Secretariat. There he conducted research and led campaigns to prevent torture and other gross abuses and hold those responsible to account, as well as on a range of other issues including policing reform and the protection of human rights defenders. He has also worked as an external advisor to companies, conducting impact assessments and developing management systems related to human rights issues. A Turkish speaker, Logan has lived in London, Moscow, Oslo, Istanbul and Washington DC. He holds a Master of Laws in Public International Law with Distinction from the University of London and a first degree in Turkish and Arabic from Oxford University.

Andrea Lynch, Program Officer, Foundation for a Just Society

Andrea Lynch is the program officer at the Foundation for a Just Society (FJS), where she oversees FJS's programming to advance the human rights of women and girls in the United States and globally. Andrea has over ten years' experience as a staff member, consultant and researcher for a range of international, national and local nongovernmental organizations focused on women's and young people's rights, health, empowerment and participation. She has served as a staff member and consultant for the Emerging Markets Foundation (EMpower), the International Women's Health Coalition, and the Nicaraguan feminist NGO Puntos de Encuentro, among others. Andrea holds an MA in Participation, Power and Social Change from the Institute of Development Studies (UK).

Philip McManus, Latin America Program Officer, Appleton Foundation

Philip McManus is Latin America Program Officer for the Appleton Foundation, a private grant-making foundation based in Santa Cruz, CA. He is also: board chair of IF, a social change non-profit based in Watsonville, CA; co-chair of Forging Alliances South and North (ForAL; www.for-al.org), a bridge-building project between US funders and social movement groups in Latin America and the Caribbean; co-founder and past president (1995-2002) of SIPAZ (International Service for Peace), an international coalition formed to support the peace process in Chiapas, Mexico; editor of *Relentless Persistence: Nonviolent Action in Latin America* (New Society Publishers). For 20+ years he was chair of the U.S. Fellowship of Reconciliation Task Force on Latin America and the Caribbean. Since 1983, his career has been devoted to promoting peace and justice in Latin America. He has traveled extensively in the region, including leading group trips, and he has lived and worked in Mexico, Nicaragua and Ecuador.

Mercedes Morales Fernandez, Chief of the Donor and External Relations Section (DEXREL), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Mercedes Morales has been a Spanish lawyer since 1982. She joined the United Nations in 1994, working on individual complaints. From 2000-2009, she held various positions with the Human Rights Treaty Branch, Secretary of the Migrant Workers Committee, of the Subcommittee on the prevention of Torture and the Committee against Torture. During that time she was seconded to the Division for the

Advancement for Women to assist in the setting up of a Unit to work on the individual communications submitted under the Optional Protocol to CEDAW. She was responsible for project and programme management in the Human Rights Treaty Branch from 2000-2005. She was Secretary of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture from 2003 to 2009 and was Chief of the Petitions Section in 2010 and 2011.

Wanja Muguongo, Executive Director, UHAI-The East African Sexual Health and Rights Initiative

Wanja is a feminist and a firm believer in human rights and social justice. She manages the only African activist- owned and -led LGBTI and sex worker rights fund on a continent where homosexuality is illegal and punishable by jail sentence in 36 countries, where transactional sex is largely illegal, and where the rights of transgender and intersex people are routinely violated. UHAI-The East African Sexual Health and Rights Initiative makes grants and runs capacity-building and mentorship programs for LGBTI and sex worker organizations across East Africa. Wanja's mission is to nurture grassroots activism around sexuality, identity, and rights in Africa, moving society toward equality and non-discrimination. She previously worked for a variety of NGOs in East Africa, India, and Pakistan, where she managed community development projects.

Elaine Nonneman, Channel Foundation, Trustee

An active supporter of women's rights since the 70s, Elaine Nonneman has been a feminist her entire life. She was raised in a very conservative and patriarchal environment, yet from an early age she reacted against racial and gender injustice and believed in labor and earth rights. Today, as Trustee of Channel Foundation, she seeks to support the efforts and aspirations of women to overcome the oppression of laws, customs, attitudes and economic barriers that prevent them from fulfilling their human potential. The privilege and opportunity to meet global human rights defenders through partner organizations, as well as on her own, is a driver and inspiration to continue her work. Being part of a progressive women's network is also a way to gain knowledge and participate in a wide range of political actions. Her domestic interests center around cooperatives, other forms of democratic ownership, localization, and community wealth-building.

N. Ordoover, Program Director, Funders for LGBTQ Issues

N. Ordoover joined Funders for LGBTQ Issues as Program Director in February 2010. Over the years Ordoover has worked in a variety of settings on HIV/AIDS, immigration, detention, and criminal justice policy and on racial and economic justice, gender equity, legal, welfare, housing, labor, reproductive rights, and LGBTQ issues. In 2006, Ordoover founded the Coalition to Lift the Bar, an alliance of LGBT, human rights, immigrant justice and HIV/AIDS organizations dedicated to overturning the policy that barred HIV-positive people from entering the U.S. as travelers or immigrants, and which denied immigrants already in the U.S. any type of legal status. Ordoover's book, *American Eugenics: Race, Queer Anatomy, and the Science of Nationalism*, focuses on the convergence of medical, judicial, and public policy discourses that left marginalized communities and populations (immigrants, people of color, poor women, LGBTQ people, people living with HIV/AIDS and people receiving state assistance) vulnerable to

eugenics for the better part of the twentieth century and explores the ways in which this legacy continues to inform economic and health care policies. Ordoval earned a doctorate in Ethnic Studies at the University of California at Berkeley, studying with some of the country's foremost scholars of race and politics. In early 2004, she concluded a Rockefeller Residency Fellowship (post-doc) at Columbia University's Program for the Study of Sexuality, Gender, Health, and Human Rights.

Borislav Petranov, Senior Adviser, Open Society Foundations

Borislav Petranov is currently working on criminal justice, specifically rights of defendants and legal aid, at the Human Rights Initiative of Open Society Foundations. After working in the global litigation NGO, INTERIGHTS, for close to ten years, Petranov worked from 2003-2008 as Program Officer for Human Rights and Justice in the Moscow office of the Ford Foundation. From 2008-2010, Petranov was Program Director of Civil and Political Rights of the Sigrid Rausing Trust in London, with a large portfolio of grants for protections of defenders. From 2010-2011 he did a study for the Ford Foundation on protection systems for human rights defenders (unpublished). He is a graduate of the Essex Human Rights program and was a research fellow on freedom and religion at Oxford.

Christine Reeves, Senior Field Associate, National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy

Christine Reeves is a senior field associate at the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (NCRP) in Washington, D.C. She began at NCRP in 2009, and she continues to present high-impact strategies, research, and initiatives to funders, who serve marginalized communities across the United States and around the globe. Reeves serves as Vice-Chair of the Washington, D.C. chapter of Emerging Practitioners in Philanthropy, and she served a one-year term as a grantmaker for the Funding Exchange Network. Also, she is a blog contributor for *Keeping a Close Eye*, and she is a published author for *Responsive Philanthropy*. Reeves earned a Master's degree in Public Policy from Duke University's Terry Sanford School of Public Policy and graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude from Emory University.

Peter Schattner, Independent Philanthropist

Peter Schattner is a retired scientist who has been involved in social change work, as a volunteer and donor, his entire adult life. He is especially motivated by human rights and immigrant rights issues. He was a donor to the Funding Exchange Network of Social Justice Funds and its member funds almost since their inception in the 1970's and was on the Grant Making Panel of the Vanguard Public Foundation in the 1980's. More recently he served on the Grant Making Panel of the Funding Exchange and has been an active donor with RESIST, the Peace Development Fund, and the Global Fund For Women.

Lucia Carrasco Scherer, Program Officer, International Network of Women's Funds

For the past 6 years Lucía has worked with local and international human rights and women's rights organizations. In 2008 the project she co-authored, ProjectArte, was awarded the National second prize of the Défi Jeune (France) to the best project for social development and international cooperation by the Ministère de la Jeunesse et du Sport, Région Centre. Before joining the INWF, Lucía worked with the Gender Studies Program of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (PUEG-UNAM), InventArte

(France), the Leadership Institute for Women Simone de Beauvoir (ILSB, Mexico) and the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID). She holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology (Rennes 2, France) and a Masters Degree in Law and Gender, public policy against discrimination (UAB, Spain). She has certificate courses in NGO's management and fundraising; Graphic Design; and City & Gender (urban planning from a feminist perspective).

Katie Skartvedt, Program Officer, Wellspring Advisors

Katie Skartvedt is Wellspring Advisors' Program Officer for the Strengthening Civic Space Program focused in East Africa and has also worked for its Children's Rights and Emergencies and Crises Programs. Prior to joining Wellspring, she served as a consultant to the division of basic education at the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, helping to coordinate education programs in Madagascar, Sudan, and other countries. In 2003, she was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to Mauritius, where she worked at the Mauritius Ministry of Foreign Affairs, conducted independent research, and taught at a non-formal school. Skartvedt graduated summa cum laude from Washington University in Saint Louis.

Shana Swiss, Advisor, Soldori Fund

Shana Swiss is a public health physician and director of Women's Rights International (WRI), a project of the Tides Center. For the past 20 years she has worked with women and girls living in countries undergoing conflict or state-sponsored violence including the former Yugoslavia, Liberia, Haiti, Sri Lanka and indigenous communities in the U.S. WRI works with local groups to develop participatory methods to document the impact of political and ethnic violence on women and girls and advocate for policies that improve their lives. WRI supports programs by local groups that use storytelling, radio, and community media to address violence against women. Ethical and safety considerations are in the forefront of WRI's work. We have developed tools, such as data security and monitoring plans, for promoting ethical relationships between local, national, and international organizations that collect or have access to human rights data and other sensitive information.

Katrin Wilde, Executive Director, Channel Foundation

Katrin Wilde, Executive Director of the Channel Foundation, guides its grantmaking, advocacy, and collaboration in order to support and promote leadership in women's human rights around the globe. She serves on the Board of EDGE Funders Alliance and the Philanthropy Committee of the Global Fund for Women. She is a Co-founder of the Pacific Northwest Global Donors Conference, advises the Center for Human Rights at the University of Washington, and has served on the Grantmaking Committees of the Women's Funding Alliance and Social Justice Fund Northwest. She has done research for UNDP Nepal, the Women's Rights Division of Human Rights Watch, and the International Rescue Committee. Previously, she worked as a journalist in Thailand. She received her master's degree in International Affairs from Columbia University.

Katherine Zavala, Program Manager, Grassroots Alliances, IDEX

Katherine Zavala has been with IDEX since 2005 specializing in social justice grantmaking and building

alliances in issues such as food justice, climate change and women's empowerment. Zavala travels regularly to Guatemala, Mexico and South Africa as part of IDEX site visits and selection of grantees. She is passionate about bridging global learnings from IDEX Partners with local US-based organizations and supports spaces for exchanges of experiences and information. Zavala is a member of ELLA Learning Alliance on Human Rights and the Steering Committee for Building a U.S.-Africa Coalition in Support of Agro-ecological Policies and Practices project. She has been co-chair for the Latin American Funders Working Group for IHRFG since 2010. Her most illuminating experience was volunteering with an indigenous women-led organization in Guatemala for 5 months, supporting their economic development programs. Zavala earned a Master's degree in International Relations from San Francisco State University in 2005.