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Curriculum Vitae

Key areas of experience

Legal practice

since 1984 in different functions (lawyer, mediator, researcher, author, policy advisor, board member, and professor), legal environments (law firm, ministries, parliament, professional association, university and institutes) and regional contexts (Europe, Asia, Islamic countries).

5 years experience with family and victim-offender mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution. Experienced in law drafting (author of five major laws).

Legal expert to the German Bundestag (Federal Parliament) and the Hessischer Landtag (Parliament of Hesse).

Management and leadership

20 years of management and leadership experience as owner of a law firm (1984-1991), head of a government department (1991-1995), office manager in parliament (1995-1996) and staff supervisor (since 1984), director of a research institute (2000-2002), research director, team-leader (2002-2004, 2005, 2007), event manager and political activist (since 1976).

Research

more than 20 years experience in designing and conducting social research

Teaching and training

more than 30 years experience in designing training curricula and conducting trainings; 10 years of academic teaching, of which 2 years in culturally diverse environments.

Writing and editing

author of academic and non-academic books and articles; laws and reports; editor of a women's magazine (1979-1982) and co-founder and editor of a law review (since 1983).

Speaker

at national and international conferences on legal issues and violence against women

Facilitation

experience in facilitating meetings, workshops, trainings and conferences

Organizational development

consultant on organizational and management development

Volunteer work

engaged in volunteer work for developing countries since 1975; involved in the women's movement and working with women's organisations, temporarily in leading positions as member of the board of the women's lawyers association (2000-2002), mainly on women's rights and protection issues.

International experience

volunteer for *terre des hommes* in Sangli/India (1977-1978);

member of various expert and working groups on European level.

2 years work experience with the German Development Cooperation (GTZ) in Cambodia and Afghanistan;

Studies at Oxford University, UK (2004), and

visiting professor at the International Islamic University in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2006)

Project responsible person for a DAAD funded subject related academic partnership with National University of Malaysia (UKM) and Kabul University on social rights, social justice and social policies, including a yearly summer school in Sidhbari, India (2012 – 2014).

Employment history

- 2012 – present* Programme Manager of the Bachelor in Social Work :*transnational*
Achievements:
Fundraising with the German Exchange Service (2012)
Accreditation of the program with AHPGS (2013)
- 2007 – 2010* Programme Manager of the Bachelor in Social Work
Achievements:
Developing an organizational set-up
Implementing the Qualification Framework (QR-SozArb 5.1)
- July – September 2007* Team-leader of the GTZ-Gender Mainstreaming Project, Kabul Afghanistan (seconded)
Achievements:
Set-up of the project for second phase
Several public events
Trainings on gender analysis and budgeting
Preparation of the Women’s minister’s visit to Germany
- June – Sept 2006* Visiting professor at the International Islamic University, Faculty of law, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Achievements:
Public lectures on the German legal system;
Case study on liability of CEOs under German and Islamic cooperation law;
Comparative studies on legal reasoning under German and Islamic law
- March 1996 – present* Professor at Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, Department of Social Work, subject area: law (criminal law, criminology, international human rights and legal mechanisms against discrimination, gender based violence)
Achievements:
Establishment of Joint Center for Women’s Studies
Several studies and publications on violence against women, victim-offender-mediation and immigration and anti-discrimination law
Peer counseling project for foreign students
- Jan 2005 – Dec 2005* Management consultant to the GTZ – Gender Mainstreaming/Gender budgeting project in Kabul, Afghanistan involving the following ministries: Ministry of Women’s Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Ministry of Martyrs and Disabled, and the Civil Service Commission.
Achievements:
Concept and policy paper on the restructuring of the Ministry of Women’s Affairs to facilitate gender mainstreaming
Trainings on budget assessment from a gender perspective
- July 2002 – Jan 2004* Team leader of the German Development Cooperation Project: ‘Promotion of Women’s Rights’ and Legal Advisor to the Ministry of Women and Veteran’s Affairs, Phnom Penh, Cambodia [seconded]
Achievements:
Consultation on draft legislation to prevent domestic violence and trafficking
Indicators for the Cambodian Millennium Development Goals to eliminate violence against women [model indicators for BMZ and several Asian States]
Opening of training center for social workers and counselors
Dormitory for female students at the Royal School for Judges
- Aug 1995 – Feb 1996* Research assistant for the Social Democratic parliamentary group’s working party on legal policy
Achievements:
Inclusion of marital rape in the criminal law

- May 1991 – July 1995* Head of Department at the Ministry of Women, Employment, Health and Social Services in Saarland
Achievements:
 Reform of the abortion law, draft law on financial support to poor women
 Break of time limitations in cases of sexual violence against minors
 Draft state law to promote women in the civil service
- Oct 1984 – Oct 1990* Researcher at the Hamburg Institute of Social Research
Achievements:
 Publication of research paper and several articles on homicide
- Sep 1984 – May 1991* Practicing lawyer (own practice) in Saarbrücken
Achievements:
 Establishment of integrated counseling office for women

Continuing education and further trainings (*certified*)

- 2006 – 2008* Advanced studies: Economics for Lawyers, Fernuniversität Hagen
- 2005 – 2006* Organizational development, Neues Lernen, Köln
- 2004* International Human Rights, Oxford University
- 1999 – 2000* Mediation, Fernuniversität Hagen
- 1997* Nonprofit Management, University Fribourg/Switzerland
- 1984* Entrepreneurship, Chamber for Industry and Commerce, Saarbrücken

University education

- 17 August 1994* Doctoral thesis at Bremen University (*summa cum laude*)
 Topic: Men and women as perpetrators and victims of homicide offences.
 A study of gender-specific differences using convictions for murder and manslaughter from the point of view of forensic reconstructions.
- 1981 – 1984* Legal training under articles at the *Oberlandesgericht* (regional court of appeals) in Zweibrücken and at the *Kammergericht* (Berlin Court of Appeal). Second State Examination in Law on 5 April 1984.
- 1975 – 1984* Law, political economy and sociology at Saarland University and Free University, Berlin. First State Examination in Law on 12 March 1981.

Miscellaneous

Positions

- 2001 – 2003* Director General of the Joint Centre for Women's Studies of the Colleges of Higher Education in Hesse
- 1996 – 2002* Chairwoman of the Criminal Law Commission of the Deutscher Juristinnenbund (German Women Lawyers Association) and member of the board of directors
- 1992–1995* Member of the (Saarland) regional examination office for lawyers and Head of the expert group on voluntary castration and other methods of treatment [position of judge]
- 1981–1982* Member of the General Students' Committee of Saarland University (spokeswoman on women's affairs)

Editorial

- 1983 – 2002* Co-editor and editor of the feminist legal journal STREIT

1979 – 1982

Co-editor and editor of the 'Saarbrücker Frauenzeitung'

Research fellowships

Member of expert groups under the EU-Daphne Program [Violence against women] and the EU-STOP Program [Counter Trafficking]

Legal expert in several parliamentary hearings at the Deutscher Bundestag and the Hessischer Landtag

Memberships

Founding member of the European Women Lawyers Association (EWLA)

Founding member of the Federal Study Group of University Law Lecturers at Colleges/Departments of Social Studies (BAGHR)

Languages

German (mother tongue), English (written and spoken), French (written and spoken), Italian (basic)

