


# GIOVANNA LAURO, DPhil, MA

Washington, DC – 

## LANGUAGES

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Italian (native), English (advanced), French (advanced), Spanish (advanced), Portuguese (intermediate)

## EDUCATION

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**University of Oxford** **Oxford, UK / 2008-2012**

*DPhil, Politics* - Doctoral Thesis on European Policies on Gender Equality and Harmful Traditional Practices.

**The Johns Hopkins University** **Washington, DC / 2004-2006**

**School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) / Bloomberg School of Public Health**

*Master of Arts, International Relations, Economics and Public Health* - Graduated with Distinction.

**Sciences PO Paris** **Paris, France / 2003-2004**

*Grant-funded dissertation research on European immigration policies.*

**Università degli Studi di Bologna** **Forlì, Italy / 1999-2004**

*Bachelor of Arts, International Relations and Diplomacy, specialized in International Economics* - 110 /110.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Equimundo (fka Promundo)** **Washington, DC / Sept 2013 – Present**

*Deputy CEO (01/2023 – Present)*

*Vice President of Research and Programs (01/2017 – 12/2022)*

*Deputy Director of International Programs (09/2013 – 12/2016)*

- Managing, directing and fundraising for Equimundo's research and program portfolio, totalling over USD10MM.
- Advising the President & CEO, including on the design of the grant-making strategy of the Caring Masculinity Fund (USD15MM).
- Leading Programs & Research team across 3 continents in providing technical assistance and capacity building to partners in Africa, the Americas, Europe and South Asia on gender-transformative approaches to promote gender equality.
- Leading the [Global Boyhood Initiative](#), the first ever platform to promote healthy boyhood globally.
- Identifying and cultivating funding and partnership opportunities, maintaining donor relationships with multi- and bi-lateral, foundation, private sector funders – including SIDA, GAC, UK Aid, MinBuza, MacArthur Foundation, Ford Foundation, UN Women, UNFPA, Unilever and other leading stakeholders.
- Working with Equimundo's financial staff to ensure adequate financial reporting, planning and oversight.
- Member of the Executive Team, overseeing the development and implementation of strategic and annual operational plans and budgets for Programs and Research, and representing Equimundo at Board of Directors meetings and at high-level international conferences and events.
- Collaborating with partner NGOs, academic institutions, governments and UN agencies to achieve impact at scale through vertical and horizontal scaling up strategies.
- Organizing and facilitating roundtables, workshops and public events with experts, donors and activists.

**Options Consultancy Services Ltd** **London, UK / March 2012 – Aug 2013**

*Maternal and Newborn Health Advocacy Advisor*

- Designed and evaluated advocacy campaigns and digital strategies on maternal and newborn health for *Evidence for Action* (E4A), an evidence-based program to reduce maternal and newborn mortality across six African countries (Ethiopia, Nigeria, Malawi, Tanzania, Sierra Leone and Ghana).
- Provided programme management as well as technical support and inputs to E4A in Sierra Leone.

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- Represented E4A at advisory board-level meetings, international conferences and technical workshops.
- Developed reports, publications, policy frameworks, guidelines and ran training workshops.

## London School of Economics

London, UK / May 2009 – Feb 2012

*Deputy Managing Editor*

- Worked with the Executive Editors on the development and implementation of strategic, editorial, and communications initiatives for a fully refereed scholarly journal on issues of race, ethnicity, and nationalism.

## Plan International

Bangkok, Thailand / August – Nov 2010

*Consultant, Asia Child Marriage Initiative*

- Member of a team of international experts conducting research on several Plan programs in multiple countries to inform better program design as well as marketing, communications, advocacy and fundraising efforts based on proven best practices.
- Provided technical guidance to selected Plan's country offices on program quality assurance, data and evidence development (including trainings on how to measure change in gender norms).

## United Nations Foundation

Washington, DC / March 2006 – Sept 2008

*Associate Director, Women and Population Program (08/2007 – 09/2008)*

*Program Officer, Women and Population Program (03/2006 – 07/2007)*

- Managed a portfolio of over 100 grants (totalling \$43MM) in support of empowering women and girls.
- Undertook strategic planning, grant making and monitoring, coalition building and partnership development; represented the UN Foundation at technical meetings and international conferences.
- Member of Senior Staff Team supporting the strategic development and implementation of the *Girl Up* campaign and the *Coalition for Adolescent Girls*, a global effort focused on adolescent girls.
- Served as liaison between the Foundation and the UN Interagency Task Force on Adolescent Girls, the Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health Donor Group, and the Coalition's partners (6 UN agencies and over 20 leading international NGOs and North-American foundations).
- Contributed to creating new initiatives with public and private sector organizations under the aegis of the Coalition, including fundraising activities targeting individuals, corporate and foundation partners.
- Coordinated the development of *Girls Count*, the first of a series of reports on adolescent girls.
- Provided technical expertise, research, and writing support, including drafting documents for Board of Director level meetings and approving project proposals from UN agencies and NGO partners.

## The Hunger Project

Washington, DC / Sept 2005 – Sept 2006

*Policy Liaison*

- Acted as the primary point person for organizing and implementing The Hunger Project's advocacy and outreach strategy in Washington, DC.
- Worked with Senior Management to develop resource development strategies and fundraising activities.

## UNICEF Armenia

Yerevan, Armenia / May 2005 – Aug 2005

*Consultant*

- Led the design and implementation of an external evaluation of two UNICEF-funded projects promoting youth-friendly services targeting adolescent girls.

## SELECTED AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Harvard Executive Program on Implementation Research and Practice for Early Childhood Development (2019).
- Visiting Fellow at Center for Men and Masculinities Studies, Dhaka (2016-2019).
- Board Member at MenEngage Global Alliance, Washington DC (2016-2017).
- Board Member at Living Peace Institute, Goma (2015-2020).

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Washington, DC [REDACTED]

- Visiting Fellow at Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Sciences PO, Paris (2010-2011).
- Fellow at Somerville College, University of Oxford (2009-2010).
- Linacre College, Research Scholarship for Doctoral Thesis, University of Oxford (2009-2010).

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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- Rialet, J., Greene, M. E., & Lauro, G. (2022). *Boyhood and Child, Early, and Forced Marriages and Unions: An evidence review*. Washington, D.C.: Equimundo and New York: UNFPA.
- DeLong SM, Brooks MI, Aliou S, Lundgren R, Corneliess C, Johns NE, et al. (2020) Married very young adolescent girls in Niger at greatest risk of lifetime male partner reproductive coercion and sexual violence. *PLoS ONE* 15(4): e0231392.
- Paul J. Fleming, Holly Shakya, Madeline Farron, Mohamad I. Brooks, Giovanna Lauro, Ruti G. Levtov, Sabrina C. Boyce, Sani Aliou & Jay G. Silverman (2019) Knowledge, attitudes, and practices related to family planning and gender equity among husbands of adolescent girls in Niger, *Global Public Health*.
- Caroline Ferraz Ignacio, Danielle Araújo, Edmund Ruge, Linda Cerdeira, Liz Cosmelli, Victoria Page, Beniamino Cislighi, Giovanna Lauro, Ana Maria Buller (2019) Community Perceptions of Transactional Sex with Children and Adolescent Girls, a Qualitative Study in Favelas of Rio de Janeiro, *Global Public Health*.
- Taylor, A.Y., Murphy-Graham, E. Lauro, G., "Conceptualizing Controlling Behaviors in Adolescent and Youth Intimate Partner Relationships", *Partner Abuse*, Volume 10, Number 2, 2019.
- Spindler, E., Perlman, D., Chaibou, S., Silverman, J., Carter, N., Boyce, S., Levtov, R., Vlahovicova, K., & Lauro, G. (2019). Child marriage, fertility, and family planning in Niger: Results from a study inspired by the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES). Washington, DC: Promundo-US.
- Taylor, A.Y., Lauro, G., Murphy-Graham, E., Pacheco, T., Pacheco Montoya, D., Araujo, D., "Namoro and Noviazgo: Teen Relationship Violence in Brazil and Honduras". Rio de Janeiro and Washington DC: Instituto Promundo & Promundo-US. 2017.
- Jane Kato-Wallace, Gary Barker, Leyla Sharafi, Luis Mora, Giovanna Lauro, « Adolescent Boys and Young Men: Engaging Them as Supporters of Gender Equality and Health and Understanding their Vulnerabilities », Promundo & UNFPA, 2016.
- Taylor, A.Y., Lauro, G., Segundo, M., Greene, M.E. "She goes with me in my boat." *Child and Adolescent Marriage in Brazil. Results from Mixed-Methods Research*. Rio de Janeiro and Washington DC: Instituto Promundo & Promundo-US. July 2015.
- Greene, Margaret E., Stephanie Perlson, Alice Taylor and Giovanna Lauro. 2015. *Engaging Men and Boys to Address the Practice of Child Marriage*. Washington, DC: GreeneWorks.

## VOLUNTEERING

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- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for abused and neglected children since 2022.