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# LORETT MARY JESUDOSS

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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With over 23 years of field and headquarters experience across more than twenty humanitarian operations in Europe, Africa, Asia (including the Middle East), I offer practical insights on the law, policy and practices affecting forcibly displaced and stateless persons.

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## WORK HISTORY

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**Protection Learning & Development Officer**, 10/2022 - 06/2025

**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Global Learning & Development Centre (GLDC)** – Budapest

- Supported the development of learning initiatives on child protection, education, mixed movements (incl. the route-based approach), and protection at sea.
- Developed learning audience needs analyses and learning interventions.
- Delivered a lecture on *Refugee Rights & Obligations* at the Int. Humanitarian Law Institute, San Remo.

**Senior Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Officer**, 03/2022 - 09/2022

**UNHCR** – Warsaw

- Co-led the newly established GBV Sub-Sector with Centrum Praw Kobiet (Women's Rights Centre) within the Refugee Coordination Forum in Poland.
- Established partnerships with women-led organizations and women refugee-led organizations to strengthen GBV programming and interventions within the country.
- Developed a draft GBV Strategy & Work Plan for the GBV Sub-Sector.

**GBV Officer**, 01/2022 - 03/2022

**UNHCR** – Tehran (Remote)

- Helped set the direction for GBV programming during the Afghan emergency response in 2022 following a desk review, interviews with key informants, and completion of the *Safe from the Start* Monitoring & Evaluation Baseline Tool.

**Learning Development Officer (GBV)**, 08/2021 - 12/2021

**UNHCR GLDC** – Budapest (Remote)

- Managed the 'Gender Equality', 'GBV Prevention', and 'GBV Response' portfolios (remote working from Bangladesh).

- With the guidance and technical support of GBV specialists from the Division of International Protection, I co-developed, revised and/or revamped scripts and storyboards for micro-learning items (animations); partially revised Level 3 of UNHCR's GBV e-learning programme targeting GBV specialists and revamped a draft learning module on GBV Prevention (Risk Mitigation, Primary, Secondary & Tertiary Prevention).

**Protection Officer (GBV & Child Protection), 10/2020 - 02/2021**

**UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia & the Pacific – Bangkok, Thailand (Remote)**

- Conducted a regional study on existing operational standards and programming on Child Protection (CP), as well as the prevention, risk mitigation and response to Gender Based Violence (GBV) in 11 UNHCR country operations within the Asia & the Pacific region.
- Identified and documented the baseline(s), achievements, challenges, evolving trends, emerging/promising practices, case studies, and proffered recommendations.
- One of the recommendations from this study gave rise to focused interventions on child marriage at the global level.

**Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Officer, 08/2019 - 08/2020**

**UNHCR – Cox's Bazar**

- Headed the GBV Unit and oversaw UNHCR's GBV programme in one of the largest refugee camps in the world.
- Chaired the (inter-agency) Men & Boys Engagement Task Team (under the aegis of the GBV Sub-Sector led by UNFPA).
- UNHCR focal point on Protection from Sexual Exploitation & Abuse (PSEA). Actively contributed to the Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector and PSEA Network.
- Member of the GBV Sub-Sector's Peer Review Team for 2020 Joint Response Plan.

**Protection Officer, 07/2013 - 06/2018**

**UNHCR – Bucharest**

- Headed the Protection Unit at the country office.
- Co-facilitated conferences/seminars on international refugee law and the European Union (EU) Asylum Acquis for judges, lawyers, and government officials (border police, immigration officers, detaining authorities, legal representatives of children), and civil society.
- Initiated and oversaw the commissioning of 'A Study on the Situation of Statelessness in Romania'.
- Co-drafted legal commentaries related to the transposition of EU directives on asylum and migration law.

**Senior Protection Officer, 10/2017 - 12/2017**

**UNHCR – Cox's Bazar**

- Emergency deployment to the refugee crisis involving Rohingya (over 680,000 new arrivals); supported UNHCR's response and coordination; co-drafted UNHCR's initial Protection Strategy; chaired the Protection Working Group's (PWG's) Referral Pathway Task Force for persons at heightened risks; served as the PWG's Gender Focal Point at the Gender in Humanitarian Action forum.

**Protection Officer, 10/2012 - 06/2013**

**UNHCR – Cox's Bazar**

- Head of the Protection Unit (including Registration and Community Services sections); Strengthened legal and physical protection interventions for a stateless refugee population (Rohingya); supported the development of UNHCR's Legal Interventions Strategy, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Multi-Year Strategy and Child Protection Multi-Year Strategy; Member of the WFP-UNHCR Joint Assessment Mission 2012.

**Field Officer (Legal), 04/2011 - 07/2012**

**UNHCR – Maungdaw, northern Rakhine State**

- Co-led the Field Unit overseeing UNHCR protection, field, and legal interventions.
- Chaired the Inter-Agency Gender Task Force for northern Rakhine State
- Supported the emergency response following the outbreak of sectarian violence in June 2012.

**Emergency Team Leader, 12/2010 - 03/2011**

**UNHCR – Aweil, Northern Bahr-el Ghazal**

- Established a Field Unit, UNHCR's programming and protection interventions. for several displaced populations before, during and after the referendum for unity/separation.
- Co-led the Protection Cluster (with the Norwegian Refugee Council).
- My findings on serious protection incidents reported along a major route used by returnees triggered negotiations on an agreement to secure safe passage by government authorities in Khartoum and Juba authorities.
- Carried out a survey on persons at risk of statelessness.

**Protection Officer, 07/2008 - 03/2011**

**UNHCR – Mbarara**

- Headed the Protection Unit and oversaw the Protection, Registration, Resettlement and Community Services' sub-units for three settlements of 60,000 people, and two Field Units at the Ugandan-Congolese border.
- Participated in cross-border meetings as well as Tripartite Meetings (Uganda/Rwanda/UNHCR) negotiating the terms and conditions for voluntary repatriation.

**Associate Field Officer, 05/2006 - 06/2008**

**UNHCR – Kasulu**

- Headed the Field & Repatriation Unit and oversaw field monitoring for 120,000 refugees from the DRC and Burundi in 4 camps.
- Oversaw voluntary repatriation activities, organized Intention-to-Return Surveys, cross-border meetings, Go & See Visits, Come & Tell Visits, and participated in Tripartite Meetings.

**Resettlement Consultant, 07/2005 - 04/2006**

**International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) – Kasulu & Kigoma**

- Prepared resettlement (RST) submissions for refugees from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo to third countries.
- Reassigned to UNHCR Sub-Office in Kigoma as the Acting Resettlement Officer.

**Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Consultant, 04/2005 - 06/2005**

**UNHCR – Yemen, Sana'a**

- Conducted legal analyses and decisions at first instance and in appeal
- Developed RSD Standard Operating Procedures for the operation.

**Resettlement Consultant, 10/2004 - 03/2005**

**ICMC – Kakuma Refugee Camp**

- Prepared resettlement submissions under the "Sudanese Vulnerable Women & Girls' Project" involving survivors of torture and sexual violence in armed conflict, and harmful traditional practices.
- Participated in a group resettlement submission for Somali -Madiban.

**Eligibility & Protection Officer, 04/2004 - 10/2004**

**International UNV, UNHCR – Mae Sot & Bangkok**

- Conducted RSD (including exclusion cases related to the commission of serious non-political crimes, war crimes, crimes against humanity) along the Thai-Myanmar border.
- Reassigned to Regional Office in Bangkok to conduct RSD on other nationalities.

**Eligibility & Protection Officer, 05/2002 - 12/2003**

**International UNV, UNHCR – Nicosia**

- Conducted RSD on asylum-seekers from notably Iran, Balkan states, the former USSR, Pakistan, etc.

**Intern, Department of International Protection – Protection Policy & Legal Advice Section, 11/2001 - 04/2002**

**UNHCR Headquarters – Geneva**

- Conducted research on refugee law including property rights and compensation.

- Provided support during the Ministerial Meeting of Member States to the 1951 Refugee Convention.
- Reported on issues of concern to UNHCR during the 58th Session of the Commission on Human Rights.

**Volunteer**, 09/2001 - 10/2001

**Cambridge Refugee Support Action Group** – Cambridge

- Provided administrative assistance and advice on UK immigration laws.

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## EDUCATION

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**Master of Law Degree**: 2nd upper hon., 04/2001

**University of Cambridge** - Cambridge, United Kingdom

**Bachelor of Law**: 2nd Upper hon., 06/1999

**University of Malaya**

**Executive Masters**: European Union Migration & Asylum Law, 2025

**Odysseus Network** - Brussels

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## TRAINING

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- Certified Leadership Coach – Destination Leadership, Toronto (Online, 2025)
- Annual Conference on European Asylum & Migration Law– Academy of European Law, Trier (Online, 2024)
- Summer Course on EU Immigration & Asylum Law and Policy – Odysseus Academic Network, Brussels (Online, 2024)
- Summer Course on European Asylum & Immigration Law - Academy of European Law, Trier (Online, 2024)
- People Management Programme (Level 2) – UNHCR & Envisia Learning (Online, 2024)
- Inter-Agency Coordination Course – UNHCR (Online, 2023)
- Women in Humanitarian Leadership Forum (Second Special Global Cohort) – UNHCR & UNLOQ (Online, 2022-2023)
- SGBV Mainstreaming Workshop– UNHCR Global Learning Centre (Cox's Bazar, 2019)
- Facilitating Protection Learning in Europe (three-month course) - UNHCR Global Learning Centre (Budapest, 2016)
- Detention and Alternatives to Detention UNHCR & Council of Europe (Budapest, 2015)
- The Legal Regime on Extradition – UNHCR Headquarters & Regional Representation for Central Europe (Webinar, 2015)
- Introduction to Asylum Law in the European Union– UNHCR Global Learning Centre (Budapest, 2013)

- Judicial Engagement in Europe– UNHCR Strasbourg & Department of the International Protection's Legal Advice Section (Copenhagen, 2015)
- Advanced Course on Dublin Regulations III– European Legal Network on Asylum (ELENA) - (Dublin, 2013)
- Workshop on Emergency Management, UNHCR & Norwegian Civil Defence (Starum, 2010)

## — OTHER PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE —

- Legal Executive at Daim & Gamany (law firm), Malaysia (Aug - Oct 2012)
- Legal Executive at Sreenevasan (law firm), Malaysia (March - May 2004)
- Legal Assistant (Litigation) at the Intellectual Property Department at Skrine (law firm) Malaysia (Mar. - Sept. 2000).
- Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya - Admission and enrolment (24 Mar.2000)
- Pupil-in-chambers at Skrine (June 1999 - Mar. 2000)
- Legal Aid Clinic, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (Aug. - Oct. 1999)