

## **JEAN M. GERAN, Ph.D.**

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### **KEY QUALIFICATIONS**

*Effective leader and policymaker* with over 30 years of experience in international affairs and a comprehensive academic and operational background in policy formulation, implementation and impact analysis; *proven strategic thinker and visionary* whose areas of expertise include human rights, child protection, trafficking in persons, refugees, migration, governance and women's wellbeing; *highly skilled* at policy and program design, integration of human rights into development programming, managing interagency coordination, designing advocacy campaigns, speaking and teaching on human rights and child protection issues, translating research to practice and building partnerships and creative collaboration across sectors and organizations to serve vulnerable populations including in challenging post-conflict environments.

### **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

#### **UPPER HOUSE**

Madison, WI

#### **THE STEPHEN AND LAUREL BROWN FOUNDATION**

2023-Present

#### **Senior Advisor for Programs and Public Engagement**

*Serves as advisor to the directors of three of Upper House's five core initiatives – Upper House Fellows Program, Upper House Commons, and The Lumen Center – in the context of the Foundation's broader mission to deepen transformative experiences of Christian thinking, being, and doing.*

- Co-created and taught a third core track on service and leadership called *Serving the Common Good*, serves on the UH Fellows Program leadership team, advises on its long-term strategic vision, and is a mentor for students.
- Serves on the UH Commons Council, generates specific program ideas, leads programs, and advises on its long-term strategic vision and partnerships.
- Serves on The Lumen Center's alignment team to provide advice on its long-term strategic vision and steps needed to achieve it, especially as it relates to applied research and integration with other Foundation programs.
- Builds and maintains relationships with the Foundation's multiple constituencies and partners with a special focus on the justice and society pathway and public sector engagement.

#### **4W-WOMEN, WELLBEING, WISCONSIN AND THE WORLD UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**

Madison, WI

2014-Present

#### **Director for Human Rights, Child Protection and Global Policy**

*Founding member of the leadership circle for a women's wellbeing initiative at UW-Madison called Women, Wellbeing, Wisconsin and the World (4W) and Director for Engagement of its pillar project, Social Transformations to End Exploitation and Trafficking for Sex (STREETS).*

- Contributed to the design of 4W and co-led the drafting of an initial proposal for STREETS that succeeded in attracting three major gifts to the university.
- Designed and organized two STREETS of Hope Fora bringing together researchers, practitioners, and survivors to discuss improved practice and measurement of wellbeing.
- Forged STREETS partnerships in East and Southeast Asia, Europe, Africa and with international organizations and universities based in Washington, DC and around the US.
- Participated in the working groups on data/research and screening/identification for the WI Anti-Trafficking Task Force and collaborated with the WI Anti-Human Trafficking Consortium.

- Presented or spoke on behalf of STREETS at several conferences, meetings, and think tank events including at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC.
- Orchestrated the placement and promotion of several high-profile indoor/outdoor art exhibits by ArtWorks for Freedom to raise awareness of human trafficking in Madison, Racine, and Beloit.
- Designed and implemented a new website for STREETS that incorporates art and graphic illustrations for our three action areas of research, education and engagement.
- Conceptualized and launched a new series of online webinars and closed group conversations called Two-Way STREETS that address pressing topics related to sex trafficking; tripled the size of the network of individuals following STREETS.
- Co-taught a virtual study abroad course on sex trafficking in Spain, Morocco and Nigeria.
- Developed a new undergraduate course for the School of Human Ecology as an introduction to human trafficking, both domestic and transnational, and succeeded in getting it approved as a permanent addition to the UW curriculum.

**INTERNATIONAL DIVISION**  
**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**  
**Visiting Distinguished Lecturer**

Madison, WI  
 2018-Spring

*Developed and taught a new undergraduate course on human rights advocacy in East and Southeast Asia for the International Studies Major-Global Security Track*

- Created and taught a syllabus that built student understanding of how to protect human dignity amid emerging human rights challenges in Asia including human trafficking, religious freedom, statelessness, child protection, democracy, and the rule of law.
- Arranged student interaction - both online and in-person - with a range of human rights actors including representatives from academia, NGOs, think tanks, media, private sector, government, and international organizations.

**EACH INC.**  
**Founder and President**  
 2010-2018

Madison, WI

*Founded a non-profit that developed technology solutions to facilitate child protection work globally. The tools combined web-based data management and mobile technologies to assist child protection workers in making best interest determinations, tracking individual case histories and finding permanent solutions for each child, especially those living outside of family care.*

- Established a 501 c3 tax-exempt organization to provide innovative technology and build capacity in the child protection sector globally.
- Chaired one of four working groups (kinship care, guardianship, and adoption) focused on six African countries for The Way Forward Project convened by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute.
- Created a demo of new case management and data aggregation/mapping technology to help childcare practitioners securely record a child's key data and protect each child's right to identity, nationality, family, and privacy.
- Confirmed high demand for these products and services and identified partners in Wisconsin and seven countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America needing new mobile technologies.
- Helped secure a large grant from USAID for partner organization to build capacity of the child protection system in Guatemala.

**SAGAMORE INSTITUTE**

Indianapolis, IN

**Senior Fellow**

2013-2017

*Served as a senior fellow at this heartland research, consulting and impact investing institute focused on implementing solutions to society's biggest problems through policy innovation, business solutions and citizen engagement.*

- Launched a research portfolio aimed at the care and protection of vulnerable children in the developing world.
- Led a project aimed at developing innovative technology solutions to data management challenges around the security and well-being of abandoned and orphaned children globally.

**LEGATUM INSTITUTE**

London, UK

**Senior Fellow**

2008-2010

*Member of the senior leadership team that launched this global research, policy and advocacy institute focused on promoting prosperity, liberty, human dignity, and development globally. Specific areas of focus included child protection, women's empowerment, human trafficking, and new philanthropy.*

- Launched a strategic initiative called the EACH Campaign advocating better family-based care for separated children globally; produced three short advocacy films and advised on legislation and policy efforts in the U.S. and U.K. related to children's issues.
- Attended the Twentieth Pan-American Child Congress in September 2009 as an official member of the U.S. delegation.
- Supported global youth advocacy efforts around film and social media to end the recruitment of child soldiers; organized a London forum on current trends in philanthropy for the next generation.
- Hosted several child protection advocacy events in London, including a conference called 'Stepping up the fight: combatting demand for human trafficking' and a US-UK government exchange between members of parliament, the US Congress, and a private sector delegation; accompanied the delegation to Ethiopia to promote better family-based care.

**POLICY PLANNING STAFF, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
US DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Washington, DC

2006-2008

**Staff Member for Global Issues**

*Responsible for policy planning, advising and development related to human rights, trafficking in persons, international organizations, unaccompanied minor refugees, child protection and family strengthening, women's empowerment, democracy and governance, education, and migration.*

- Conceptualized and built interagency consensus around a new public-private partnership for the Secretary on child protection, family support and permanent placement for orphans and vulnerable children to improve government social protection capacity globally.
- Provided interagency leadership and extensive diplomatic outreach to launch a new multilateral initiative at the OECD called the Partnership for Democratic Governance.
- Integrated democracy, human rights, governance, and protection issues into U.S. foreign assistance reform efforts.
- Developed policy solutions and recommendations on refugee resettlement and migration.
- Wrote a conceptual human rights-based framework for the Secretary's Global Internet Freedom Task Force that is the basis for the successful outreach and monitoring effort of the GIFT.

**ELLIOTT SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

Washington, DC  
2007

**Adjunct Professor**

*Designed and taught an applied course on international human rights advocacy.*

- Prepared 39 undergraduates who produced and presented impressive country-based human rights advocacy strategies that were reviewed and praised by State Department officials.
- Arranged student interaction with the full range of human rights actors including representatives from the U.S. government, Congress, NGOs, think tanks, media, the private sector and the U.N.

**OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS REFORM  
US DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Washington, DC  
2005

**Advisor on United Nations Reform**

*Responsible for developing and promoting US objectives for United Nations (UN) reform.*

- Developed and modified US reform priorities related to UN management, human rights, peace building, terrorism, and development.
- Conducted diplomatic outreach to build member state support for reform priorities.
- Conceptualized and assisted in the creation of the new UN Democracy Fund that was successfully launched by President Bush at the UN General Assembly.

**DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

Washington, DC  
2004-2005

**Director for Democracy and Human Rights**

*Responsible for implementing the President's democracy and human rights agenda through policy formulation and briefing, event planning, program implementation and inter-agency coordination.*

- Developed, coordinated, implemented, and monitored policy objectives on democracy, human rights, women's empowerment, and social issues for the President and National Security Advisor.
- Designed interagency strategies for human rights negotiations with China and Vietnam that achieved tangible progress with high-profile prisoner releases and other improvements.
- Led the interagency process and diplomatic outreach with UNESCO to launch the education and literacy component of the Broader Middle East and North Africa (BMENA) G8 initiative.
- Managed the interagency process to obtain US priorities at the 2005 session of the UN Commission on Human Rights by passing four resolutions co-sponsored by the US.
- Facilitated the passage of a declaration banning human cloning at the UN General Assembly.
- Promoted women's empowerment and democracy by proposing and managing events focused on women's rights and freedom for the President, First Lady, and Secretary of State.

**BUREAU OF DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND LABOR  
US DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Washington, DC  
2001-2004

**Foreign Affairs Officer**

*Responsible for implementing US human rights and democracy policy through policy formulation, program management, multilateral negotiations, inter-agency coordination and public representation.*

- Formulated and implemented policies, programs, and strategies to advance human rights, including women and children's rights, in Asia.
- Monitored human rights and migration trends in Southeast Asia and the Korean Peninsula.
- Prepared substantive content for the China and Vietnam Human Rights Dialogues that led to responses from the Governments including prisoner releases and religious freedom improvements
- Strengthened US human rights policy on North Korea and increased attention to the plight of North Korean refugees and migrants in China.

- Proposed and managed programs to promote human rights and democracy in Asia. Evaluated program effectiveness and funding levels.
- Conducted social scientific research and documented the rape of displaced ethnic minority women and girls by the Burmese military.
- Assessed the situation of child soldiers and former child soldiers in Burma and Thailand.
- Monitored conditions for migrant workers and advocated for improved health, education, and labor policy on the Thai-Burma border.
- Negotiated resolution language at the UN General Assembly and the UN Commission on Human Rights.

**BUREAU OF POPULATION, REFUGEES AND MIGRATION  
US DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Kuwait and Iraq  
2003

**Abuse Prevention Officer**

*Helped create a new abuse prevention unit responsible for monitoring human rights and protection issues as part of the US Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) in Iraq.*

- Monitored and reported on human rights issues including police security, protection of vulnerable populations, transitional justice initiatives, documentation, and mass graves in Southern Iraq.
- Incorporated protection into humanitarian assistance programs' design including education, democracy promotion, child protection and food distribution.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERNATIONAL  
Disaster Response Analyst**

Central America  
2001

*Researched and wrote a case study analysis of a regional disaster response effort in Central America for a large development organization that provides housing solutions to the poor and displaced.*

- Analyzed program activities and impact to provide strategic direction for integrating disaster response into global development programs of a complex international organization.
- Supported efforts of local Habitat chapters and other grass-roots organizations to integrate disaster response and preparedness with long-term development programs in six countries.

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
Research Assistant**

Madison, WI  
1996-2000

*Supported the development of state policy on program evaluation for the state extension service of Wisconsin and managed a research project on economic change in rural Southeast Asia.*

- Compiled and presented a manual on strategic planning for public agencies and co-authored one on evaluating collaborative initiatives widely cited in evaluation literature.
- Supervised a team of graduate students to conduct social research in Northern Thailand and made policy recommendations for addressing the needs of rural households coping with crisis.

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)  
Researcher**

Zambia  
1995

*Advised on the design of programs to promote public participation, particularly of rural women, through an evaluation of the People's Participation Project.*

- Advocated for improved women's rights in the design of agricultural programs by conducting field research on how group formation affected access to rural services for women farmers.

**THE WORLD BANK  
Research Consultant**

Washington, DC  
1994

*Contributed to a global research project on rural development, fiscal systems, and decentralization.*

- Conducted a study of fiscal systems supporting agricultural extension worldwide.

**FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY INTERNATIONAL**  
**Program Administrator**

Thailand and Laos  
1990-1993

*Responsible for the management of programs for an international relief and development organization.*

- Oversaw rural community development projects; wrote proposals, progress reports and plans.

**EDUCATION**

**PHD IN DEVELOPMENT, SOCIOLOGY AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES** Madison, WI  
University of Wisconsin-Madison 2001

Awards: Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships – Thai (1997-2001)

**MS IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** Lansing, MI  
Michigan State University 1995

Awards: Graduate Office Fellowship (1996); Outstanding MS Scholar (1995); Global Young Scholars Grant (1995); Graduate Affairs Recruiting Fellowship (1993)

**BSBA IN INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT** Washington, DC  
Georgetown University 1989

**SELECTED SPEAKING AND PUBLICATIONS**

(2022) “What is Justice for Survivors of Human Trafficking?” Plenary Session at the Women and Gender Studies Consortium spring conference *Centering Resistance: Imaginings of a New Feminist Future*.

(2021) “Fully Free in the USA: Promoting Wellbeing for Survivors with Criminal Records.” Session 003 of the Two-Way STREETS online conversation series with Shamere Mackenzie and Jessica Emerson.

(2021) “Not Invisible: Real Advocacy for Native American Survivors of Human Trafficking.” Session 002 of the Two-Way STREETS online conversation series with Chris Stark and Sheila Lamb.

(2020) Bintliff, A., DiPrete Brown, L., Vollinger, L., Alonso, A. & Geran, J. “Policies and Services for Survivors of Sex Trafficking: A Report of the 4W STREETS of Hope Fora at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, July 2015 – September 2018.” UNESCO Working Paper Series 004-04-2020. 4W Initiative, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

(2019) “Hope Together: Collaboration to Confront Human Trafficking and Injustice,” TED Talk for TEDx UW-Madison, February 23, 2019.

(2016) “Juvenile Life Information Exchange Network (JULIEnet): A Data and Technology Collaborative to End Child Trafficking,” Panelist at Combating Child Trafficking and Supporting Survivors through Strategic Development, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC.

(2016) “Human Dignity in Concrete Terms: Measuring Impact and Wellbeing for Human Trafficking Survivors,” Co-sponsored conference and presented at Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

(2016) “Developing Wellbeing and Empowerment Indicators for the Aftercare of Human Trafficking Survivors” Presented with Amy Bintliff at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln’s Annual Human Trafficking Conference, Lincoln, NE.

(2014) “Right to Identity: Child Abandonment, Trafficking, Migration and Protection,” Sofa Lecture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.

(2011) “Section 3: Permanency - Kinship, Guardianship, Domestic and International Adoption” Chaired and drafted the report for an expert working group as part of The Way Forward Project convened by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, Addis Ababa and Washington, DC.

(2010) “Building a Strong Foundation for Children and Families of Haiti,” Panelist at a convening of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, Washington, DC.

(2009) “Global Crisis Effects on the Prevention of Human Trafficking in Developed Countries,” Presentation at the 9<sup>th</sup> Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference hosted by the OSCE, Vienna.

(2009) “Crimes against Children: The Need for Greater Human Rights Advocacy in Asia,” Seminar at Waseda University, Tokyo.

(2009) “No Hugs for the Thugs in Burma,” The American, American Enterprise Institute’s online magazine.

(2008) "International Cooperation for Long-Term Care and Permanency," Panel Presentation at the Conference on Protection of Unaccompanied and Separated Children, George Mason University.  
(2001) "Charting the Water: Habitat for Humanity International's Response to Hurricanes Mitch and Georges," Case Study, Habitat for Humanity International in Central America.  
(2001) "Coping with Crisis: Social Capital and the Resilience of Rural Livelihoods in Northern Thailand," Doctoral Thesis, University of Wisconsin.  
(1998) "Evaluating Collaboratives: Reaching the Potential," University of Wisconsin Extension.  
(1996) "The Effect of Group Formation on Rural Women's Access to Services in Western Province, Zambia," FAO Sustainable Development Dimensions Internet Publication.

### **LANGUAGES**

Thai, good (speaking), fair (reading); Lao, fair (speaking); Spanish, fair (speaking)

### **ADDITIONAL AWARDS**

US Department of State Superior Honor Award for the Children and Families Initiative and the Partnership for Democratic Governance (2007); University of Wisconsin-Madison, Distinguished Young Alumni Award (2006); US Department of State Superior Honor Award for support in Iraq (November 2003); US Department of State Superior Honor Award for documenting human rights violations of the Burmese military (December 2003); American Association for the Advancement of Science Diplomacy Fellowship (2001-2003)