



Tabeth Lynn Masengu

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ABOUT ME

Senior human rights lawyer and development practitioner with 15+ years of experience translating legal frameworks into effective, context-driven advocacy strategies across Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa. Proven expertise in EU institutional advocacy, multi-stakeholder engagement, workshop facilitation, and policy research for international organisations, including the Council of Europe, UN agencies, and bilateral donors.

Unique Value Proposition: I combine rigorous legal analysis with deep contextual understanding to design advocacy and capacity-building interventions that work in real-world political, economic, and cultural environments. I have extensive research and publication experience, and I am an expert at facilitating difficult conversations across diverse stakeholders and translating complex policy issues into actionable strategies.

WORK EXPERIENCE

EU-CORD – BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

DIRECTOR OF ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING – 2024/12/01 – CURRENT

- Leading advocacy engagement with the EU Parliament and Commission for a network of 25 European development NGOs.
- Lobbying across political groups to build cross-party support on development cooperation, humanitarian policy, and human rights.
- Coordinating strategic advocacy campaigns on intersectional issues: climate crisis, the role of FBOs, education inequality, disability inclusion and humanitarian action.
- Facilitating member organisations in amplifying country-specific messages on EU policy platforms.
- Building and maintaining strategic partnerships with EU officials, civil society networks, and international stakeholders.

EU-CORD – BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

ADVOCACY COORDINATOR – 2021/07/01 – 2024/11/30

- Coordinated network-wide advocacy strategy towards EU institutions, successfully influencing Parliamentary Own Initiative Reports.
- Developed and implemented advocacy campaigns reaching EU decision-makers across development, humanitarian, and rights-based policy areas.
- Provided advocacy training and strengthened the capacity of member organisations and their partners.
- Produced policy briefs and strategic communications for EU institutional engagement.
- Represented the network at high-level EU policy forums and facilitated member engagement with EU officials.
- Managed partnerships with international NGOs and civil society networks across Europe and globally.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE – STRASBOURG, FRANCE

SCIENTIFIC EXPERT, EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE – 2020/09/08 – 2022/02/28

- Conducted a comprehensive study on gender equality in the judiciary across 47 Council of Europe member states.
- Designed and administered qualitative research reaching judicial authorities across Europe
- Produced a Research report with policy recommendations adopted by CEPEJ for member states' implementation.
- Presented findings to the Council of Europe working groups and provided technical guidance on judicial reform.

ELECTORAL SUPPORT TRAINER – 2021/04/03 – 2021/06/30

- Designed and delivered nationwide training for Zambia's Electoral Commission on conflict management and crisis response
- Implemented capacity-building programs across multiple provinces, 120 electoral officials
- Developed training modules on conflict-sensitive electoral processes and evaluated effectiveness
- Provided technical assistance to participants and coordinated with international stakeholders.

 EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE – FLORENCE, ITALY

EXTERNAL COLLABORATOR FOR THE GLOBALCIT PROGRAMME – 2020/10/06 – 2021/03/04

- Conducted research and updated information on Malawi's citizenship legislation.
- Prepared a comprehensive country report on Malawi's citizenship laws.
- Monitored and communicated any changes in Malawi's citizenship policies to the GLOBALCIT team.

 UNIVERSITY OF GHENT – GHENT, BELGIUM

PHD FELLOW – 2017/09/05 – 2020/05/17

- Conducted research on judicial reform and gender diversity in the judiciary.
- Organised and facilitated the inaugural Gender and Judging Experts international seminar
- Co-edited a special issue of the International Journal of the Legal Profession (2020) on gender and judging
- Collaborated with international researchers on comparative judicial studies across Africa and Europe.
- Published two peer-reviewed articles and a third co-authored book chapter.

 UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN – CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

SENIOR RESEARCHER – 2012/03/03 – 2019/06/15

- Led a gender equality research project focusing on judicial governance across Southern, East, and West Africa.
- Coordinated regional research initiatives and facilitated 40+ multi-stakeholder workshops in 15+ countries
- Managed donor-funded projects from the Norwegian Embassy, USAID, UNODC, GIZ, Open Society Foundation, and Ford.
- Built strategic partnerships with civil society organisations and judicial institutions across 8+ African countries.
- Led Women's Pioneer Program and regional leadership, capacity-building initiative for women law students and judicial officers.
- Guest lectured for the London School of Economics, the UCT Human Rights Summer School, and various postgraduate programs.

● **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

2016/02/09 – 2020/05/20 Ghent and Cape Town, Belgium

DOCTOR OF LAWS AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY University of Ghent and University of Cape Town

Website www.ugent.be and www.uct.ac.za | Field of study Law | Level in EQF EQF level 8

2010/09/05 – 2012/08/30 London, United Kingdom

MASTER OF LAWS IN HUMAN RIGHTS The London School of Economics and Political Science

Website www.lse.ac.uk | Field of study Law | Level in EQF EQF level 7

2003/02/05 – 2006/12/18 Grahamstown, South Africa

BACHELOR OF LAWS Rhodes University

Website www.ru.ac.za | Field of study Law | Level in EQF EQF level 6

● **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Mother tongue(s): **ENGLISH**

Other language(s): **DUTCH B2**

- **SKILLS**

Policy Analysis | Institutional Lobbying | Stakeholder Engagement | Academic Research | Gender Policy | Development Policy | Strategic Communication | Coalition Building | Political Lobbying

- **CERTIFICATIONS**

The High Court of South Africa, 2010/08/06

Admission to Practice of Law as an Attorney

Mode of learning: Blended