



BULAN INSTITUTE
for PEACE INNOVATIONS

Designing and Implementing Rehabilitation and Reintegration Programs for Women and Children Repatriated from Syria and Iraq: A Practical Guide for State Officials, Policy Makers, Social Workers, and Psychologists

Virtual Training, 6-7-8 June 2023

Biographies of the speakers

Samira Benz

Ms. Samira Benz has been a head of the Berlin "Returnee Coordination" since 2019 and is responsible for the reintegration and rehabilitation of ISIS-returnees on behalf of the Senate Department for the Interior and Sport. She is a P/CVE specialist and currently works as Outreach Programme Manager at Strong Cities Network. From 2017 to 2018, she worked as a counsellor for radicalised individuals and their social environments in Berlin. She also consults the UN, government institutions as well as NGO in the field of P/CVE. Samira studied Islamic Studies in Berlin and Terrorism and Political Violence in Scotland.

Anne Charbord

Ms. Anne Charbord is an international lawyer focusing on human rights and security. She is a Senior Advisor to the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and counter-terrorism. She spent seven years at the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights working on human rights and counter-terrorism issues. She worked four years in the Balkans (Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Kosovo) with the OSCE. Ms. Charbord holds a Ph.D. in international law with honours. She has published a number of books and articles on human rights law, in particular on internally displaced persons and security-related issues.

Kaan Orhon

Mr. Kaan Orhon works as a case manager at Grüner Vogel. He directly works with foreign terrorist fighters and their families returned from Iraq, Syria and Somalia. He worked in the Society for Threatened Peoples International (STPI), the second largest human rights organization in Germany between 2011 and 2015. He has been actively engaging with the Radicalization Awareness Network (RAN) of the European Commission and in various other CVE events in the US, UK, EU, Turkey and the Balkans.

Cholpon Orozbekova

Ms. Cholpon Orozbekova is a director of the Bulan Institute for Peace Innovations. Her research has been focused on religious extremism, emergence of ISIS and Al-Qaeda, and state policies to deal with returning

foreign fighters. She is the author of the book "Foreign Fighters and International Peace:Joining Global Jihad and Marching Back Home" published by Rowman&Littlefield. Before joining the Bulan Institute, she worked with UN OHCHR, ISHR, and Foundation Au Coeur des Grottes in Geneva. Cholpon worked for 17 years in international media and her analyses appeared in the Diplomat Magazine, Jamestown Foundation, RFE/RL, and IWPR. Cholpon holds three Master's degrees from Geneva-based public universities. Cholpon also lectures at the GCSP for Preventing Violent Extremism course as a guest speaker.

Gulnaz Razdykova

Ms. Gulnaz Razdykova is a PVE specialist and psychologist with extensive experience in working with post-conflict trauma. She has been actively involved in the rehabilitation and reintegration of women and children repatriated from Syria and Iraq in Kazakhstan. She launched the Zoom-Zhusan project to work online with female returnees during the Covid pandemic. Currently, she is the director of the Center for Analysis and Development of Interconfessional Relations in Kazakhstan.

Rebeka Qena

Ms. Rebeka Qena is a Program manager at Community Development Fund, a local organization in Kosovo, managing the Rehabilitation and Reintegration project (GCERF funded Program). She has over 17 years of experience of working in the development sector on programs related to minority and children rights, education, empowering and programs promoting cross regional cooperation. She has been working directly with women and children repatriated from Syria.