



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Briefing

Participant Biographies

Haiti: Options for Improving Human Rights and Security

Panel I



Vélina Élysée Charlier is a feminist and a political activist. She is member of Nou Pap Dòmi - a Haitian CSO that advocates for social justice, anticorruption, anti-impunity, and accountable governance. NPD is among the organizations that launched the Petrocaribe challenge anti-corruption movement, which rallied hundreds of thousands of Haitians to call for accountability for Haiti's largest corruption scandal. A defender of human rights, through her political involvement, she wants to encourage Haitians, especially young people, to get involved to do politics differently. Alongside NPD, she recently launched the project Sitwayen Pa Dòmi promoting Youth Participation through Civic Education and Engagement in Haiti.

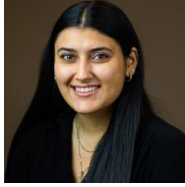


Corinne Paul is the Senior Policy Advisor for Civil and Political Rights at American Jewish World Service, where she works in partnership with grassroots organizations around the world on issues related to human rights. Prior to joining AJWS, she worked to advance foreign policy priorities in the U.S. Senate and for a large international NGO. Corinne has also worked at a nonprofit organization within Haiti. She currently serves as Board President of Write to Be, an organization that supports women and girls in Les Cayes, Haiti.



Isabelle Clérié is a Haitian anthropologist and transitional justice expert whose work is focused on claiming local narratives by leveraging the power and assets of communities in Haiti. From 2017 to 2019, she worked with the UN's Office of the High Commission for Human Rights to lead an entirely civil society led process to design Haiti's first national strategy for confronting past crimes and impunity. In 2024, she designed a context appropriate, multi-stakeholder national dialogue process and continuously engages with actors across all of Haiti's civil society. Isabelle is a board member and advisor to several nonprofits, and writes a column entitled Repairing Development for Proximate Press.

Moderator



Karla Rios is a Latin American Affairs Analyst at the Congressional Research Service (CRS), a non-partisan research agency located in the Library of Congress that serves Members of Congress, their committees, and staff. Ms. Rios joined CRS in September 2022, and her work focuses on Guatemala, Nicaragua, and the Caribbean, including Haiti.