

**WHITE PAPER**  
**"FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**  
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**MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE**  
*(in alphabetical order)*

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*Sarah Berger Richardson is an Assistant Professor at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law (Civil law section) where she teaches civil liability, administrative law and food law. She is President of the Canadian Association of Food Law and Policy and a member of the Law Society of Ontario. Her research focuses on the regulation of the agri-food sector, with a particular emphasis on farmed animals and the meat processing industry. She holds a Doctor of Civil Law from McGill University. In 2018-2019, she was a visiting fellow at the Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University. She completed her Masters of Law (LL.M) at Tel Aviv University, where she was a research fellow at the Manna Center in Food Safety and Security. Previously, she served as a law clerk at the Supreme Court of Israel and the Canada Agricultural Review Tribunal.*

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*Adriana Bessa is a lawyer and researcher in international human rights, environmental law and cultural heritage law. She earned her PhD at the European University Institute in 2013 with a thesis entitled "Traditional Local Communities in International Law". Between 2015 and 2020, Adriana was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Geneva*

*Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights. She is a guest lecturer in international human law at the Université Catholique de Lille (2015-) and in global biodiversity governance and traditional knowledge protection at the Universidad de Alicante (2014-). Adriana closely followed the process of negotiation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants at the Human Rights Council (2014-2018). Her main research lines focus on the rights of traditional local communities, the rights of peasants, the right to food and food sustainability.*

**BIN Li**, Professor of International Law, Beijing Law School Normal University

*Bin Li got his Bachelor and Master degrees in law from Nankai University (Tianjin, China), and has the diploma of Doctor of Law from the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (France) and currently is Professor, Vice-Dean of the Law School of Beijing Normal University (China). Bin Li was research fellow of the Nantes Institute for Advanced Studies (2011-2012). His doctoral thesis deals with the protection of property right in China. The main research themes cover land tenure, private property and social inequality, relationship between property and responsibility. His ongoing research projects focus on such topics as the transformation of Chinese law on private property, the interaction between Chinese law and international law, globalization and the development of international law, comparative study on legal cultures, etc. Bin Li was Research Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study of Nantes (France) in 2011-2012. He teaches in the field of international law, in particular, public international law, human rights, international economic law, and legal aspect of transnational business transactions. Recent book-publications include: (2014). *La Justice en Version Originale: comparaison du procès civil en France, en Amérique et en Chine* (English Title: *Comparing Civil Procedures: France, China and the United States*, with Antoine Garapon, Stéphanie Balme and Daniel Schimmel), Ebook, LexisNexis, Paris; (2013). *Droit chinois des affaires* (in collaboration with Robert Guillaume, Lu Jianping), Larcier, Brussels ; (2011). *Légitimité, légalité et effectivité : la protection de la propriété en Chine (tome 1)*, l'Harmattan, Paris ; (2011) *Entre droit humain et droit du commerce : La protection de la propriété en Chine (tome 2)*, l'Harmattan, Paris.*

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*Lecturer at AgroParisTech (Univ. Paris-Saclay), he is specialised in agri-food law (rural law and food law). Trained at the Faculty of Law of Nantes (France) and Mainz (Germany), he defended his doctoral thesis entitled *Les évolutions du droit rural et le développement durable* (The evolution of rural law and sustainable development) within the framework of the European research programme Lascaux on law and food safety. Today he is a member of the Lascaux Centre for Transitions (CELT)*

*Within the Institut de Recherche Juridique de la Sorbonne (IRJS), his research activities focus on the law applicable to the agri-food sector, from rural law to consumer law and special food law. He is co-director of the law course of the ALISÉE specialised Master in Food and Environmental Health Risk Management and of the law courses at AgroParisTech. He is also a lecturer at the Sorbonne Law School, at the Agro Institute and at ONIRIS.*

*He also participated in the INRAE collective expertise on the quality of food of animal origin*

(2018-2020) (<https://www.inrae.fr/actualites/qualite-aliments-dorigine-animale-conditions-production-transformation>).

**Marie CUQ**, PhD - International Law, UNHCR Judge-Assessor at the French Court of Asylum.

*Marie Cuq has a PhD in public law and is qualified to be a Senior Lecturer in France. At the end of 2016, she defended her thesis at the University of Paris Nanterre under the supervision of Professor Mathias Forteau on the topic of access to food in international law. She currently teaches at the Catholic University of Lille, on the Issy-les-Moulineaux campus, and serves as a HCR Judge-Assessor at the National Court of Asylum. She has previously taught and conducted research at the Universities of Normandy (2017-2019) and Paris Nanterre (2010-2016), and has provided expertise to NGOs and the United Nations on food, land and humanitarian issues (ACF 2017; ISLP New York 2014-15; Special Rapporteur on the right to food, 2012-13).*

**Miguel A. MARTIN LOPEZ**, Professor of International Public Law and International Relations at the University of Seville Member of the Steering Team of the Spanish Right to Food Observatory.

*Miguel Ángel Martín López holds a doctorate in international law and is a professor of Public International Law at the University of Seville. He is a member of the steering committee of the Observatory of the Right to Food (Spain) and of the Lascaux Center for Transitions (France). He has received several research awards on agricultural and food law issues from Casa África, FAO Mexico and the Generalitat de Catalunya. He participated in the creation of the Chair of Hunger and Poverty Studies at the University of Cordoba in 2005 and has done research at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva and Paris.*

*He is the author of five monographs on general international law, treaty law, popular sovereignty and international law, agriculture and the right of peoples, as well as more than thirty book chapters and articles in scientific journals.*

*He also has extensive experience in higher education in various Spanish and international universities in Europe, Africa and America (including the University of Nantes, Brasilia, Tangiers, Bamako, Pinar del Rio, Mekelle, Spanish Diplomatic School, UOC).*

*He is also a technician of international cooperation of the Diputación de Córdoba, where he has developed activities for almost fifteen years, with projects in Latin America, Maghreb and Sub-Saharan Africa.*

**Bassam MIRZA**, Lawyer at the Paris and Beirut Bars, international arbitration.

*Bassam Mirza is a lawyer at the Paris and the Beirut Bars and regularly acts as arbitrator. He is a member of the “Comité français de l’arbitrage”. He was a previous lecturer in civil law at the Faculty of Law of Saint-Joseph University in Beirut and*

*regularly speaks in international arbitration conferences. Bassam represents Lebanon on the ICSID's panel of conciliators. He is fluent in English, French and Arabic. He practiced international arbitration and litigation in Paris for more than seven years within international law firms (Magic Circle law firm Linklaters LLP and French law firm Gide Loyrette Nouel). He then went back to his home country, Lebanon, where he headed the international arbitration practice group of a leading middle-eastern law firm based in Beirut. After that, he founded PKM avocats a boutique law firm specialized in international arbitration. He is recognized by "Who's who Legal Arbitration - Future Leaders" as "emerging as one of Asia's foremost arbitration experts" and as "excellent adviser throughout the different steps of an international arbitration process". Bassam holds a post-graduate degree in International Law from the University of Paris II Panthéon-Assas as well as a post-graduate degree in Litigation, Arbitration and ADR from the same university.*

**Leonardo Fabio PASTORINO**, Prof. Derecho Agrario, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, President of the World Union of University Agrarians (WUA).

*Leonardo Fabio Pastorino is Professor of Agrarian Law at the Faculty of Legal and Social Sciences of La Plata National University. He is president of the World Union of Agrarian Law. He completed his PhD in Law at La Plata Nacional University and his PhD in Political Sciences at Sant'Anna School of Advances Studies. He also teaches Legislation of Renewable Natural Resources at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of La Plata National University. He is author of five books and coordinator of of another 8 books more. His fields of study and publications refer to agrarian law, food law, and environmental law, and he has written about the WTO rules concerning these issues.*

**Fabrice RIEM** is Professor (private law) at the University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour (E2S-UPPA).

*Fabrice Riem was deputy Director of the College of European and International Studies, in charge of research and innovation, at the UPPA, he is Deputy Director of the Centre for European Documentation and Research (CDRE) and Coordinator of the Lascaux Center for Transitions (CELT).*

*Specialized in economic law, his work focuses on competition law, market law and the common agricultural policy. In 2020, he was laureate of the E2S-UPPA Scientific Challenge project call (<https://organisation.univ-pau.fr/fr/grands-projets/le-label-i-site-avec-le-projet-e2s.html>) to deploy the CELT research project on food security, natural resources and basic needs of populations.*

**Uchenna Felicia UGWU**, (Ph.D), Consultant, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

*Dr. Uchenna Felicia Ugwu is a lawyer and academic researcher, holding a PhD in International Intellectual Property (IP) Law and Development from the Faculty of Law of the University of Ottawa, Canada. Her research focuses on international IP law and development; data protection and ICT laws, agriculture and food security, and regional*

*IP treaties in Africa. It analyzes the provisions for patents, plant breeder's rights and plant variety protection in multilateral, continental and regional IP trade agreements, to explore whether these provisions advance or compromise food security and women's development in developing countries. Her skill in helping developing countries develop IP regulations that integrate their domestic development interests is reflected by the fact that in 2019 she was employed as an Expert Consultant providing technical assistance to the Government of Vietnam on implementing the CPTPP, and in 2020 prepared a White Paper for the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Geneva on 'Utilizing Digital Technology to Advance Production by Female Smallholder Farmers in Africa'. She has published several articles in peer reviewed journals based on her research. She is currently working as a Consultant with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and has worked as a Post-Doctoral Researcher with the Faculty of Law of the University of Ottawa (2020-2021).*

*Dr. Ugwu's research is on the cutting-edge of new research into data protection and digital technology in developing countries. This area of the law is still quite new and the legal and policy frameworks necessary are still being built. Thus, Dr. Ugwu's research provides important guidelines to governments and policy makers of developing countries on designing intellectual property and data regulations that implement multilateral agreements, without compromising their domestic development and public interest goals. Dr. Ugwu's research also provides needed context specific frameworks for IP regulation aimed at enhancing the ability of female smallholder farmers to utilize digital technology for agricultural productivity.*

**Sylvestre YAMTHIEU**, (Ph. D.), *Legal Consultant in the food and agriculture sector.*

*Sylvestre YAMTHIEU, (Ph. D.), Legal Consultant in the food and agriculture sector, is an expert for various international organizations. He provides support in legal research and drafting of legal texts (laws, regulations, etc.) in areas related to food security, sustainable agriculture and natural resource management, among others. He is a graduate of the University of Nantes, France, where he obtained a PhD in private law, specializing in food security and intellectual property rights. He was a researcher at the European Research Program - Lascaux - on food security in the world (2011- 2013), and assistant professor of law at the University of Perpignan (2016-2018). He is the author of the book "Access to food and industrial property law" and numerous articles in the field of food safety, food safety and intellectual property rights.*