

Irina-Maria Ionita

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PROFILE

Early-career professional with a proactive attitude and experience in policy support, project coordination, and stakeholder engagement. I have strong analytical and communication skills, and I am looking to contribute to impact-driven initiatives within an international setting.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

European Commission

March 2026 – Present

Bluebook Trainee, Directorate General for Justice and Consumers

- Reviewed terms of reference, factual summary reports and interim reports in line with the Better Regulation Toolbox
- Supported the coordinated a DG-wide screening exercise of expert groups, collecting inputs from across the DG
- Assisted in managing access-to-documents requests
- Coordinated inputs from across the DG for mid-term and annual reporting, refining contributions to ensure consistent, and high-quality deliverables

La Strada International (LSI)

2024 – 2026

Researcher | March 2025 – February 2026

- Improved the annual data collection across 26 NGOs by redesigning the survey, creating a timeline and standardising the data gathering process
- Led a working group on the development of National Referral Mechanisms for victims of human trafficking across EU Member States
- Managed the implementation of a multi-partner project on [combating human trafficking for labour exploitation](#) by tracking the budget and ensuring timely submission of deliverables

Event Coordinator | July – September 2025

- Organised the [annual General Assembly](#) (40+ participants): managed logistics, budgeting and on-site coordination
- Co-organised a high-level event at the Polish Ministry of Interior
- Wrote the activity and donor reports

Research Intern | April 2024 – February 2025

- Conducted mixed-methods research (surveys and interviews) with 10 NGOs to inform policy recommendations on victim identification and protection.
- Co-authored 2 case assessment reports on regional anti-trafficking responses
- Developed a policy brief on the identification of victims of human trafficking, synthesising legal and policy findings into clear recommendations

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Customer Service Representative

2022 – 2024

- Managed high-volume inbound client inquiries and resolved customer concerns
- Addressed complaints and worked towards conflict resolution together with the clients

REPRESENTATION

Represented La Strada International at the **UNODC Regional Expert Group Meeting on Forced Criminality (2025)**, where I presented the findings of the Non-Punishment report with a focus on forced criminality cases

EDUCATION

Beijing International Chinese College

February – June 2025

- HSK 3 Chinese language course and cultural immersion programme

University of Amsterdam

- **BSc in Psychology**, Social Psychology major

2020 – 2025

Thesis: *Stereotype Content Model and Prejudice Confrontation*

- **LL.M. in European and Public International Law**

2022 – 2025

Thesis: *On Regulating Lethal Autonomous Weapons – Towards a Pan-European Approach?*

- **Summer School** on Introduction into Sexuality Studies

June – July 2022

- **BA in European Studies**, majors in European Law and Eastern European Studies

2019 – 2022

Thesis: *A Discourse Analysis on the Application of the Temporary Protection Directive*

TRAINING

EU Policymaking Hub

- *Strategic Planning and Programming*
- *Negotiating in Trialogues and Ordinary Legislative Procedure*
- *Briefing Skills for Policy Officers*

SKILLS

Organisational Skills:

- *Strong planning and coordination skills:* ensuring the timely delivery of high-quality outputs for the Trafficked en Route project
- *Strategic planning:* developed the annual communication strategy for 2025 for LSI

Social and Interpersonal Skills:

- *Ability to tailor communication materials to target audiences and institutional priorities:* part of the communication campaign of Trafficked en Route project
- *Team engagement and cross-team cooperation:* worked across 3 different teams within Unit H1 of DG JUST
- *Conflict mediation and de-escalation:* mediated conflicts between clients and contractors

Quantitative and Qualitative Research and Analysis

- *Data analysis & visualisations in SPSS, JASP, Excel*
- *Conducting structured and semi-structured interviews*
- *Survey design in Microsoft Forms & Google Forms*

Knowledge of Commission Tools: Decide, GoPro, Sysper, Ease, Ares

LANGUAGES

- Romanian | native
- English | full professional proficiency (C2)
- French | limited working proficiency (B1)
- Italian | limited working proficiency (B1)
- Mandarin Chinese | limited working proficiency (B1)

PUBLICATIONS

- [Trafficking in Human Beings - Statistics and Trends \(2024\)](#)
- [Assisting Displaced Persons from Ukraine](#)
- [Trafficking in Human Beings – Statistics and Trends \(2023\)](#)
- [Assessment of the Principle of Non-Punishment](#)

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Volunteering Work: De Regenboog Group, Fundatia Principesa Margareta
- Designed a course on the accessibility of universities for other-abled persons
- Student ambassador

REFERENCES

- Suzanne Hoff, *International Coordinator of LSI*: sh@lastradainternational.org
- Sebastian Jakubiec, *Policy Analyst*: sebastian.JAKUBIEC@ec.europa.eu