



Make
Mothers
Matter

MMM CSW68 event
Let's change the narrative: Invest in mothers
Speakers' bios



Emese Dömösi

Director of the Board, Mothers centers International Network for Empowerment (MINE)

Emese Dömösi stands at the forefront of feminine awakening, passionately advocating for women's empowerment and community development across the globe. Her dedication to nurturing and guiding grass-roots women and mother groups shines through her extensive career as a non-formal educator, community leader, mentor, and senior trainer.

With a profound commitment to fostering positive change, Emese's work spans international project management and community leadership, focusing on critical issues such as women's rights, grass-roots mothering communities, sexual education, female entrepreneurship, care work, and conscious aging. Her expertise in social project management and network development among women-related NGOs has made a significant impact on the landscape of women's community development.

As the Director of the board at the Mother Centers International Network for Empowerment "MINE" (minemothercenters.org), Emese plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of mother centers worldwide. Her visionary leadership has been instrumental in promoting the mission of MINE, driving forward initiatives that empower mothers and create sustainable community support systems.

In addition to her role at MINE, Emese is the founder and chair of the Mother Nature Association, a Hungarian mothers' community enterprise (anyatermeszet.hu). This initiative reflects her unwavering commitment to building strong, supportive networks for mothers, fostering environments where mothers can thrive both personally and professionally.

Emese Dömösi is not just a speaker; she is a change-maker, a beacon of inspiration, and a true advocate for women's empowerment. Join us in welcoming her as she shares her invaluable insights and experiences, inspiring us all to contribute to the feminine awakening and empowerment in our world today.

[LinkedIn Profil](#)



Farah Arabe

Founder & President, itotheN Consulting; Co-President, Harvard Kennedy School Women's Network

Farah Arabe is a passionate advocate for the transformative potential of early childhood environments for sustainable and inclusive global development. With more than 10 years of international experience in economic policy, strategy consulting, and global development programs, she has successfully led

multidisciplinary and cross-cultural social impact initiatives in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors globally.

After five years of full-time parenting, in 2019, she founded itotheN, a New York-based, international development consulting firm that focuses exclusively on the early formation of the human mind and heart as a catalyst for global change. She works with families, schools, the private sector, governments, and civil society around the world to promote positive childhood experiences and relationships that foster long-term resilience, better mental and physical health, academic achievement, economic productivity and equity, more responsible citizenship, human connection, and, overall, more prosperous societies.

She also co-leads the Harvard Kennedy School Women's Network and serves on the advisory board of the Global Mental Health Action Network.

As a Hispanic founder, board member and mother of two, Farah is a frequent and bilingual speaker and writer on topics related to infant, child and parental mental health, early relationships for global development, motherhood for global development, the care economy and multicultural identities.

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Misty Heggeness

Associate Professor, School of Public Affairs and Administration, University of Kansas

Misty L. Heggeness is co-director of the Kansas Population Center, an associate professor in the School of Public Affairs and Administration, and an associate research scientist in the Institute for Policy & Social Research at the University of Kansas.

She previously worked for 12 years in the federal government where her last position was as a principal research economist and senior advisor to the U.S. Census Bureau. She also held positions as a career researcher at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Her expertise is in program evaluation, high-skilled workforce, poverty and inequality, and she is a leading national expert on gender and the economy. Her research has been highlighted in *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *NPR*, *The Economist*, and *Science*, and her upcoming book titled *SWIFTYNOMICS: Women in Today's Economy* will be published in 2025 (University of California Press).

Dr. Heggeness is also the recipient of a U.S. Department of Commerce Bronze Medal for her work leading analytical teams to respond to the administration's request to add a citizenship question to the 2020 Census and the recipient of an NIH Honors Award for her work analyzing the scientific workforce to help improve NIH policies. Through a roughly \$800,000 grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Dr. Heggeness is currently building a dashboard of economic statistics on the care economy to better inform policy and decision-makers on the economics of care and caregiving.

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Michelle Davis
Tax Principal, Deloitte

Michelle Davis is a Principal in the Boston office of Deloitte Tax LLP and has over twenty years of public accounting experience. Michelle specializes in serving multinational corporate clients in the life sciences, technology and manufacturing industries. Michelle has significant experience performing strategic tax reviews and helping clients navigate substantial organizational changes, including mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, and restructurings. Michelle is also the lead tax principal for some of Boston's most prominent audit clients and many multinational companies throughout her career.

Michelle is passionate about the advancement of Women and has held several DEI and Talent leadership roles throughout her career. Michelle currently co-leads the Women & Allies Community for the Deloitte U.S. firm.

Michelle received her B.A. from Marywood College, a J.D. from Boston College Law School and an M.B.A. from Boston College Carroll Graduate School of Management. She is also a member of the American, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Bar Associations.

Michelle is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Boston and serves on the Board of the Wellesley Education Foundation.

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Afaf Abounouadar
Executive Director, Make Mothers Matter

Afaf is a social entrepreneur that led a major grass roots association, the Sanady Foundation, in Morocco, with a focus on education. This entailed working closely with children and parents, to reinforce education as an enabling tool for development. A former consultant, Afaf worked on various social topics such as inequalities and poverty.

As a Moroccan woman and a mother, her social and cultural experiences have shaped her understanding of the current gender challenges facing women worldwide. She believes we must prove the statisticians wrong: that 268 years to close the economic gender gap is unsustainable.

Afaf has an MBA in non-profit. She lives with her son in Paris, travelling between Paris and Brussels for MMM.