

Independent Experts Group on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism (IEG)

The IEG was formed in November 2018 to act as an independent advisory body on child protection in travel and tourism, facilitating further implementation of the [Global Study recommendations](#) and the [Call for Action](#) from the first International Summit on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. All members of the IEG serve in their personal capacity.



Members of the IEG in 2020:

- Ms Natalie Volin Lehr, Chair, Independent Experts Group on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism, Senior Director, Corporate Affairs, CARLSON
- Ms Helen Marano, President, Vice Chair of the Independent Experts Group on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism; President, Marano Perspectives and Special Advisor, World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC)
- Mr Ernie Allen, founder and former CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children and Sexual Violence against Children
- Ms Lauren Aste, Chief Legal Officer & General Counsel, CARLSON
- Ms Marilyn Carlson Nelson, former Chair and CEO of CARLSON
- Mr Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Chairperson of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, and former Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Ms Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, former Netherlands National Rapporteur on Trafficking of Human Beings and Sexual Violence against Children
- Ms Sandra Howard, former Vice Minister of Tourism, Government of Colombia and former Chair of UNWTO General Assembly
- Ms Virginia Messina, Managing Director, World Travel & Tourism Council
- Mr Jorge Morandeira, former GARA Coordinator, the Regional Action Group of the Americas for the prevention of sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism (Grupo de Acción Regional de Las Américas – GARA)
- Mr Isra Sunthornvu, former Secretary General, ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)

Former members:

In 2016-2018, the IEG served as the High-Level Task Force on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism, read more [here](#). ECPAT would like to recognize the key contribution of former members:

- Ms Milena Grillo, Executive Director of Fundación Paniamor, Costa Rica
- Dr. Najat Maalla M'jid, Chair of the IEG, former UN Special Rapporteur on the Sale on Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
- Dr. Taleb Rifai, former Secretary General, UNWTO
- Mrs Wang Ping, the Chair of the China Chamber of Tourism, the Vice Chair of the Global Tourism Forum and the Chair of the Committee of Tourism Cooperation for China-Africa