

PROTECTION, JUSTICE, POWER: HAITIAN WOMEN LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST GBV

Join VIRTUALLY for a powerful and timely conversation among some of Haiti's leading grassroots organizers and advocates for survivors of sexual violence based in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Panelists will share their experiences and discuss survivors' needs; barriers to safety, justice, and essential care; and strategies for meaningful change on the ground. Both virtual and in-person attendees will have the opportunity to engage directly through a moderated Q&A session.

The event will be held in Kreyòl with interpretation into English

In-Person attendance is possible for those in Port-au-Prince, Haiti



MARCH 19, 2026
10:30AM – 12:00PM



VIRTUAL
PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI
#3 2ème impasse Lavaud Lalue



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&
GET INVOLVED

PANELISTS



ABIGAIL DEROLIAN
DIRECTOR ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AT
NÈGÈS MAWON



**KATTIA DORESTANT
LEFRUY**
ATTORNEY AND CO-DIRECTOR OF THE
BUREAU DES AVOCATS INTERNATIONAUX



**ROSY AUGUSTE
DUCÉNA**
PROGRAM DIRECTOR
FOR THE NATIONAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
DEFENSE NETWORK



NANCY VILCÉ
PRESIDENT OF AFADETH
AND FORMER ELECTED
OFFICIAL

MODERATOR



**RUTH MAGDALA
MARCELIN**
PROGRAM
COORDINATOR FOR THE
HAITIAN WOMEN'S
COLLECTIVE



Panelist Abigail Derolien is a feminist activist and human rights advocate, and currently serves as Director on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) at the Haitian feminist organization NÈGÈS MAWON, which has been supporting survivors, engaging in policy advocacy, and advancing social transformation since 2015. Me Derolien holds a law degree from the University of the Dr. Aristide Foundation (UNIFA) and is a licensed attorney admitted to the Mirebalais Bar. She has worked directly with survivors of GBV for approximately seven years, providing comprehensive support and legal assistance to help secure justice and reparations, especially for victims of sexual and domestic abuse.

Panelist Kattia Dorestant Lefruy is a Haitian human rights lawyer and activist dedicated to advancing women's rights in Haiti through legal advocacy. She has been a lawyer with human rights law office the Bureau des Avocats Internationaux (BAI) since 2018 and presently serves as its co-director. In these roles, Me Lefruy represents survivors of GBV, providing legal accompaniment to women and girls who are marginalized within Haiti's justice system; shapes the BAI's legal strategy; and contributes to advancing its mission of promoting social justice, accountability, and human rights in Haiti.

Panelist Rosy Auguste Ducéna is a Haitian human rights lawyer and member of the Port-au-Prince Bar, with over two decades of experience defending human rights and advancing accountability and the rule of law in Haiti. As Program Director at the National Human Rights Defense Network (RNDDH), Me Ducéna analyses issues related to human rights, humanitarian crises, and electoral processes; monitors state institutions; documents human rights violations; coordinates human rights trainings; and supports victims through strategic litigation and advocacy. Since 2018, Me Ducéna has investigated massacres and armed attacks involving rape and sexual violence against women and girls in Haiti, advocating for their recognition as state crimes and crimes against humanity before international bodies. She also serves on the Advisory Board of the feminist organization NÈGÈS MAWON and as president of the platform Together Against Corruption (ECC).

Panelist Nancy Vilcé is a leader in the Pétion-Ville commune and a community organizer who has been working for over 15 years in underprivileged areas to improve conditions for the most vulnerable families. She is a committed, dynamic, and popular political activist, respected for her fight for the recognition of women's rights, social justice, and economic solidarity. She is President of the Association of Thomassin Determined Women (AFADETH), which brings together nearly 3,000 women of peasant origin from the commune of Pétion-Ville; and a member of the Thomassin Prominent Leaders Association. Ms. Vilcé was elected CASEC member for the 1st communal section of Montagne Noire from 2005 to 2015, and served as campaign manager for Deputy Jerry Tardieu and then as head of his Pétion-Ville office during his term in the Haiti Chamber of Deputies. She is currently the Deputy Coordinator for political party Mouvement EN AVANT, and hopes to run for mayor of Pétion-Ville in the next municipal elections.

Moderator Ruth Magdala Marcelin is a Haitian feminist and activist deeply committed to the promotion and defense of human rights, particularly those of girls and women. She works closely with feminist organizations across the country on issues of GBV, gender justice, women's rights and, more recently, feminist philanthropy approaches aimed at empowering local movements. She is the Program Coordinator with the Haitian Women's Collective (HWC), where she supports the implementation of capacity-building, advocacy, and community mobilization initiatives, and is a member of the Technical Advisory Group on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (PSEAH), where she contributes to efforts to prevent sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment within humanitarian and development spaces.