Dr Olga Poiedynok

Candidate nominated by Ukraine
for election to GRETA

PhD in International Law, Associate Professor, Attorney-at-law



EDUCATION

PhD in International Law
Doctoral thesis on the rights of refugees
Completed in 2010

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv
Master's in International Law, with distinction
Completed in 2007

CIVIL SOCIETY COOPERATION

- La Strada-Ukraine
  Academic Advisory Board
- Ukrainian National Bar Association
  Gender Policy and International Law Committees
- Chair of the Public (Civil Society) Council of the State Migration Service of Ukraine

AUTHORSHIP

Co-author of materials on:

- Conflict-related sexual violence (Council of Europe, 2024; UN Women/JurFem, 2026).
- Deportation of children during armed conflicts (Council of Europe HELP, 2024).

Full CV

PROFILE

Dr Olga Poiedynok is a specialist in international human rights, migration and refugee law, with a legal practice and a record of civil society work in the same fields. Her work on displacement, children's rights and gender equality has given her direct knowledge of the circumstances in which people become vulnerable to trafficking and of the measures that national systems take, or fail to take, to protect them.

Several of her positions bear directly on the work of GRETA. Since 2021 she has chaired the Public Council of the State Migration Service of Ukraine, an advisory body of civil society representatives which monitors the administration of migration, reviews draft legislation and advises on compliance with international obligations. She has been a member of the Academic Advisory Board of La Strada-Ukraine since 2020 and Vice-Chair of the Gender Policy Committee and of the International Law Committee of the Ukrainian National Bar Association since 2019. In these capacities she has carried out independent scrutiny of public authorities while maintaining a working dialogue with them.

As a national and international expert for the Council of Europe she has prepared materials for legal practitioners. She co-authored the manual for prosecutors on working with victims of sexual violence in armed conflict and the HELP course on the deportation of children during armed conflict. She has trained judges, prosecutors and lawyers on the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights and contributed to a teaching manual on conflict-related sexual violence published by UN Women and JurFem in 2026.

Since 2025 she has advised, as a Council of Europe consultant, on Ukraine's Migration Policy Strategy, in particular on voluntary return and reintegration and on the position of children and young people within it. She has also designed training on the rights of returnees for civil society organisations and local authorities. Protection gaps arising during displacement and return, including those between different national systems, are a subject she knows from this work.

Her candidacy was put forward by **La Strada-Ukraine** and by **Dr Kateryna Levchenko, Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy of the Government of Ukraine** and a former member of GRETA (2013 to 2018).

If elected, she would serve in her individual capacity, independently and impartially. She would contribute to GRETA an understanding of legal safeguards, administrative practice and the situation of people at risk, and experience in drafting recommendations that national authorities can implement.

WORK EXPERIENCE

She has taught at university level and practised law for more than fifteen years. Her doctoral thesis concerned the rights of refugees. She is an Associate Professor at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, where she directs the Master's Programme in Public International Law. In practice she handles cases in migration and refugee law, nationality, international family law and international child abduction. She is therefore familiar both with the legislation and administrative procedures in these areas and with their consequences for the people concerned.