EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD SOCIETY OF VICTIMOLOGY





My name is Samuel Musisiva. I hold a master's degree in clinical psychology. I am a PhD candidate at the University of Liège in Belgium. I am passionate about providing psychological support to girls and women who are survivors of sexual violence in the context of conflict, and since 2012 I have been working in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo alongside Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr Denis Mukwege in South Kivu. My research focuses on sexual violence in the context of conflict, its impact on survivors, the interdisciplinary approach to care, adaptation, resilience and change in the context of crisis, in particular through the 'One Stop Center' model. I am also affiliated to two centres of expertise in psychology: CRIPE (Centre de Recherche et d'Intervention en Psychologie et en Éducation) and CEDM (Centre d'excellence Denis Mukwege) at ULPGL and UEA university.

My role as a member of the WSV Executive Committee

I am one of the co-opted members of the executive committee of the World Society of Victimology.

What inspires you to work for victims' rights?

Gender inequalities, exacerbated by socio-cultural practices, myths and magical beliefs surrounding the female body in a context of conflict, particularly in the DRC, go well beyond the limits of what is tolerable. All too often, the victim is ignored by her own family and by the State throughout the process of reparation for the crimes committed, which can lead to revictimisation. However, the multiple consequences they suffer as victims make it essential for them to be listened to attentively, to be assured of security, to have their freedom of choice respected and, above all, to be supported so that they can move from the status of victim to that of survivor, in an approach based on humanism and holism. It is this conviction that drives our commitment to the field of victimology and guides our actions on a daily basis.

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