

DR. WIDAD AKREYI

Global Icon of Peace | Humanitarian | Author | International Health Expert
Founder, Defend International

OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY (PRESS KIT)

Dr. Widad Akreyi is a multiple award-winning international humanitarian, acclaimed author, international health expert, and global women's empowerment advocate. As a citizen of the world dedicated to universal human rights, she has spent decades advocating on the front lines of global crises and lobbying for milestone treaties at the United Nations. As the founder of the global organization Defend International, her strategic expertise has earned her a place among the world's most respected brokers of peace. She has spent her life tracking and documenting human rights violations, fighting against armed gender-based violence, and mitigating the devastating impacts of man-made conflicts on humans and the environment.

UN Advocacy & Frontline Humanitarian Milestones

Accredited as an expert observer at major United Nations meetings and international conferences, Dr. Widad successfully lobbied between 2006 and 2013 for the adoption of three historic UN agreements, including the milestone declaration on the use of rape as a weapon of war in conflict zones.

In 2014, she spearheaded massive global rescue and justice campaigns—including Save Kobane, Save Christians, Save Yazidis, and Save Humanity. Her exceptional, fearless activism was instrumental in protecting millions of endangered civilians and liberating thousands of enslaved women and children in conflict regions.

International Awards & Academic Distinctions

Dr. Widad's life mission underscores the significance of every facet of human well-being. She holds a PhD in Public Health and Epidemiology, as well as a Master's degree in Genetics, and serves as an expert peer reviewer for high-profile medical literature.

Her remarkable global contributions have been recognized with numerous prestigious world honors, including:

- **2020:** Honored as Woman of the Year for her visionary achievements.
- **2025 & 2024:** Awarded dual certificates of academic excellence from Oxford University Press for her outstanding service as a medical reviewer for its esteemed journals.

- **2018:** Received the International Woman Harmony Award in Europe for defending human rights.
- **2017:** Awarded the prestigious Pacem in Terris (Peace on Earth) Peace and Freedom Award, joining historic recipients like Martin Luther King Jr. and Mother Teresa.
- **2017:** Presented the Davenport Mayor Medal, becoming the first Pacem in Terris honouree to receive this official mayoral decoration.
- **2014:** Awarded the International Pfeffer Peace Award for her global efforts supporting peace and justice.

Dr. Widad Akreyi continues her vital work as an author and independent global advocate, donating 100% of her personal literary royalties directly back to international humanitarian causes and frontline health initiatives.

CONTACT & MEDIA INQUIRIES

For press requests, speaking invitations, or diplomatic correspondence, please visit the official website:

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