



### **Introduction of the Executive Director-elect, Ali Al-Nasani**

It is an honor and a pleasure for me that the board of EIRENE has chosen me to be the successor to Dr. Anthea Bethge. As a long-time human rights activist, I am convinced that respect for human rights is the indispensable basis for peace and, conversely, peace is the prerequisite for the protection of human rights. Throughout my work for human rights, I mainly focused on support for and cooperation with refugees, women's rights, protection of minorities, land rights, the fight against impunity and the death penalty.

At a time when war has once again arrived in Europe, demands for rearmament are presented as having no alternative. Many conflicts and crises outside Europe no longer appear in the German media. Therefore, the voices of peace must remain audible. EIRENE is one such voice together with the German and international peace movement.

What I particularly like about EIRENE is its focus on Europe and its local peace work. Because the promotion of peace begins in our own homes, in our own community. Only those who carry peace within themselves can carry it outwards. This also includes commitment to and with diversity in an ever-changing society.

In recent years, EIRENE has embarked on the path of critically questioning its own structures and working methods in terms of racism and colonialism. This process has certainly not always been easy. But EIRENE has gained a positive reputation within the German development cooperation community and is regarded as a positive example for this critical process. And I myself am ready to further develop this process in close cooperation with all stakeholders at EIRENE.

I am very much looking forward to contributing my experience and my expertise to EIRENE's work and kindly ask the Annual General Meeting to confirm my mandate in accordance with the board's proposal.

**Short vita:**

Born and raised in Bonn

Studies in Bonn, Cologne und Berlin

1998 – 2007 Assistant to Green Members of German Parliament and European Parliament

2007 – 2009 Desk Officer for International Communication and Advocacy, Amnesty International

2010 – 2013 Assistant to Member of European Parliament

2013 – Human Rights journalist in Nepal

2014-2020 – Country Director of Heinrich Böll Foundation in Cambodia

2020-2023 – Country Director of Raoul Wallenberg Institute in Cambodia