

PRESS RELEASE

European Leveraged Finance Association appoints three new Co-Chairs to two of its seven Initiative Committees

22 February 2023, London: The European Leveraged Finance Association (ELFA) is delighted to name Irem Sukan and Anita Isichei as the new co-chairs for the ELFA Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Committee, and Rebecca Clements as a new co-chair for the ELFA Disclosure & Transparency (D&T) Committee.

The Board of ELFA sets objectives for each year at the annual meeting in the autumn and delegates these priorities to ELFA's seven Initiative Committees to implement.

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee helps to build an inclusive and diverse workplace in the leveraged finance industry via a platform for knowledge sharing on diversity and inclusion programmes. By boosting awareness about the industry, at both schools and universities, the committee aims to foster greater diversity in recruitment and a more inclusive and flexible work-place where everyone is heard.

The flagship ELFA Career Day event in March every year is designed to widen access for individuals from diverse backgrounds and non-target universities to help them access employment in the leveraged finance market. It has attracted several applicants over the last three years of the event who are now working successfully in the industry and at ELFA. This year it will take place on 23rd March.

The Disclosure & Transparency Committee seeks to increase the effectiveness of engagement on covenant terms during the primary market offering process, to improve the quality and content of on-going reporting and ensure access to information. It also educates investors on the risks of incumbent covenant flexibility and restructuring issues.

Sabrina Fox, CEO at ELFA commented: "I want to thank Aaiza Ali and Senan Kiran who have supported the ELFA D&I Committee since its inception three years ago and have achieved so much to promote diversity and inclusion in our industry, and to Russell Taylor, the outgoing co-chair of the ELFA Disclosure & Transparency Committee who helped to spearhead several initiatives aimed at improving disclosure and transparency standards in the leveraged finance market. I would like to welcome our new co-chairs with whom I look forward to working closely as we continue to build on this great work. These voluntary roles are the life force of ELFA - ensuring that new initiatives, programmes and positive changes happen to meet the challenges and opportunities faced by all our members."

Biographies

Rebecca Clements is Senior Credit Analyst, Fixed Income at Fidelity International since 2016. Previously she spent 13 years covering corporate high yield credit in both Europe and the US in a variety of buy-side and sell-side analyst, investment and execution roles for banks/brokers, hedge funds and real money. She started her finance career in equity research and investment banking. Rebecca graduated with a BBA in Finance and Accounting from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and completed her MBA at Kellogg School of Management and became a Chartered Financial Analyst in 2006.

Anita Isichei joined MV Credit in June 2022 as Head of HR. Prior to MV Credit, Anita was based in Switzerland as an HR consultant for The Global Fund. She has spent much of her career within a variety of big and small international financial services firms including Lombard Odier Investment Managers, Capital One Bank and First Abu Dhabi Bank. Anita is a Swiss National, speaks fluent English and French and holds a degree in Business Management & Human Resources.

Irem Sukan is Senior Credit Analyst and Executive Director in the European High Yield team at JP Morgan Asset Management. She started her finance career in the Chief Credit Risk office of AIG/Pinebridge Investments in New York; and later joined the firm's Leveraged Finance team as a credit analyst in London. Previously she was a senior credit analyst at Wellington Management where she started the HY team's globalization effort in London. Irem holds an Ms. in Foreign Service with a focus on International Finance & Commerce from Georgetown University, Washington, DC; and more recently earned an Ms. in Psychology and Neuroscience of Mental Health from King's College, London.

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