

## **Merle Haruoja**

Ms. Haruoja is a human rights lawyer and the NGO activist more than 20 years. M.Haruoja is the founder of the Estonian Child Welfare Union in 1988 and the Estonian Institute for Human Rights in 1992, the Estonian Chamber of Disabled People in 1993. M. Haruoja the founder of the BSNGONW Estonian Foundation and Member of the Council, Member of the Estonian UNESCO National Committee, Estonian Union of Lay Judges Member of the Board, the Estonian Civic Teacher's Society, the Estonian Civil Defence NGO Member of the Council.

She is the author of numerous human rights articles and human rights teaching materials. She is the lecturer of human rights subject at the different Estonian Universities and schools. 2008 –2010 M.Haruoja was involved with the Fundamental Rights Agency FRALEX project senior legal expert, since 2011 as FCW COM 2011 Lot 1 Partner. M.Haruoja is the country expert at the policy and legal expertise in the field of human rights and human rights law. At FRA and Milieu she has been involved in several projects related to EU human rights law and policy. She has been part and managed complex multi-country legal and policy analysis on a human rights (including civil, criminal, antidiscrimination etc) law for the European Institutions including Estonian legal space conformity checking projects of EU Directives and international law. M.Haruoja was the member of working group for drafting the new Estonian child Protection Act.

Merle Haruoja has an LLM in Estonia from the 1981, University of Tartu.