

## Short Biographies of the Authors

### ALI KEMAL TEKIN

Dr. Ali Kemal Tekin is a Professor at Western Norway University of Applied Sciences. He is an international expert in the field of Early Childhood Education (ECE). He holds Masters and Ph.D. degrees from The Pennsylvania State University. He is an active researcher and has numerous publications and conference appearances and keynote speeches at international level over 30 countries. His research interests include family involvement, program development, early bilingual education, assessment & evaluation in ECE, motivation, and efficacy of ECE teachers, ECE development and policy, and play. He also serves international organizations such as UNESCO and NAEYC. Dr. Tekin is the former Editor-in-Chief of International Journal of Early Childhood (IJEC) - the official publication of the World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEP). Dr. Tekin is also a strong advocate for Child Rights.

### LAURENT GABRIEL NDIJUYE

Dr. Laurent Gabriel Ndjuyeye is a former Postdoctoral Fellow at the Kindergarten Knowledge Centre for Systemic Research on Diversity and Sustainable Futures, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences and current Assistant Professor at United Arab Emirates University (UAEU). He is doing research on immigrants and refugee children and families' development, learning and experiences. Specifically, Laurent has extensive research experiences in the fields of early childhood education in Emergencies (EiE), and Equity and social justice in ECEC from the Global South. He is a recipient of numerous international academic awards and grants including the Patrice L. Engle Dissertation Grant, by the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) - United States of America; and the University Postgraduate Fellowship (UPF), by the Hong Kong Foundation of the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong - China. He is also an Honorary Fellow at the University of Western Australia in Perth – Australia and was a Fellow at the Global TIES for Children, New York University – United States of America.

