



## **Lea Baroudi**

### **MARCH LEBANON- CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MEDIATOR- MBE**

Lea Baroudi is a founding Member and Director of MARCH since 2012, a Lebanese non-profit organization focusing on sectarian conflict resolution, sustainable peace building including the women peace and security agenda. She is a certified professional mediator, member of the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network, and a member of the UN Global Alliance of Regional Women Mediator Networks, which she participated in launching during the

74th UN General Assembly in New York, and where she was one of the main speakers.

Lea has experience in mediating sectarian conflicts and fostering peace among marginalized communities and has initiated and worked actively on peace-building projects that use art, culture, women inclusion and economic development to resolve conflict and counter radicalization among youth participating in sectarian violence in marginalized areas of Lebanon, particularly in Tripoli and Beirut. Stemming from a strong believe in public sector and civil society partnerships, she has launched in 2018 a civil military cooperation initiative working closely with the Lebanese Armed Forces to appease tensions, shift the perception of the local communities and re-establish trust, respect, understanding and communication with the Lebanese army.

She has also co-lead several in depth research papers and policy recommendations on fundamental security and human rights issues in Lebanon, such as political violence, radicalization and statelessness.

In 2016, she was granted the Reagan-Fascell Fellowship at the National Endowment for Democracy during which she researched ways to develop unconventional methods in peacebuilding and conflict resolution. In January 2019, she spoke at the UN Security Council Arria Formula meeting titled “What’s next for Women, Peace and Security in Middle East and North Africa: The Potential of National Action Plans”. In 2019 she was also awarded an MBE (Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by Her Majesty the Queen for services to peacebuilding and civic rights in Lebanon.

Lea also holds a Masters of Science in Management from HEC Paris, a BBA from the American University of Beirut and has 5 years’ experience in management consulting focusing on strategy and operations.