

# Wambui Mumbi

## Immigration Practitioner-Researcher

*Affiliated with Wambui Research*

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## RESEARCH PROFILE

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I am an immigration practitioner-researcher based in Nairobi, working at the intersection of migration law, family law and the gendered economics of cross-border mobility between Kenya, the United Kingdom, the Gulf and the wider Global North. My research draws on more than five years of frontline immigration practice, including visa sponsorship, appeals, judicial review and client casework, combined with comparative doctrinal analysis of family, immigration and constitutional law across multiple jurisdictions. My current work examines intimate migration dependency, the household economics of labour migration, the history and mechanics of visa governance, deportation and family separation, and the politics of citizenship and identity documentation in Kenya. I am seeking research collaborations, travel and conference funding, and speaking opportunities that build on this practitioner-researcher perspective.

## EDUCATION

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### **Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Diplomacy**

Sept 2016 - Dec 2022

*Technical University of Kenya, Nairobi*

Coursework in global politics, diplomacy, international law, foreign policy analysis and conflict resolution.

## PUBLICATIONS & WORKING PAPERS

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### **After the Visa: Intimate Migration, Dependency and the Unequal Consequences of Transnational Family Formation**

*Working paper, 2026*

Develops the concept of intimate migration dependency and examines comparative family-law case decisions from England and Wales, Australia and Germany to analyse how migration through intimate relationships reshapes migrant women's economic, linguistic, informational and jurisdictional bargaining power.

### **Between Broker and Professional: Immigration Consultancy, Migration Expertise and the Uneven Professionalization of Mobility**

*Working paper*

A reflexive practitioner study of the absence of a formal professional or regulatory category for immigration consultants in Kenya, set against the licensed regulatory frameworks that govern the profession in Canada and Australia.

### **Escaping Poverty or Reproducing It? The Household Economics of Kenyan Women's Domestic Labour Migration to the Gulf**

*Working paper draft, In progress*

Examines the household economics underlying Kenyan women's domestic labour migration to Gulf states, and whether this migration route relieves or reproduces the poverty it is undertaken to escape.

### **The Afterlife of Deportation: Forced Return, Family Separation, Rehabilitation and the Possibility of a Second Chance**

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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### **The Visa as a Technology of Migration Governance: From Imperial Mobility to Contemporary UK and Kenya Border Control**

*International Conference on Migration, Refugees, and Global Challenges, London, United Kingdom (forthcoming)*

26-28 Feb 2027

### **Who Belongs? Citizenship, Identity Documentation and the Unequal Politics of Belonging in Kenya**

*24th IMISCOE Annual Conference, Brussels, Belgium (accepted)*

6-9 July 2027

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Immigration Consultant and Practitioner**

Apr 2019 - Present

*Millennia Immigration Consultancy (Licensed by the Data Protection Officer in Kenya), Nairobi*

- Manage end-to-end visa application processes for US, UK, Schengen, India and other destinations, including business, entrepreneur and family-based routes.
- Administer employer sponsorship licences and advise on UK Immigration Rules compliance for sponsoring organisations.
- Prepare and pursue appeals and judicial review challenges on behalf of clients.
- Verify identity and travel documentation and assess authenticity as part of client casework.
- Advise a multicultural client base, drawing on direct engagement with the practical and legal consequences of cross-border family and economic migration.

### **Intern, State Department for Immigration and Citizenship Services**

Apr 2019 - Dec 2021

*Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, Nairobi*

- Supported citizenship application processing, client service and documentation procedures.
- Gained direct exposure to government policy implementation and legal frameworks governing migration and nationality in Kenya.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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### **Government Protocol and Etiquette**

March 2026

*Kenya School of Government*

### **Finance for Non-Finance Managers**

March 2025

*Kenya School of Government*

Budgeting, financial reporting, cost control, and interpreting financial statements for organisational decision-making.

## LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

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### **Chairperson**

Oct 2024 - Present

*Pathways of Promise Kenya, Nairobi; nonprofit focused on the welfare of children of incarcerated people*