

BIOGRAPHY – DR MARCEL VAN DER WATT

Dr Marcel van der Watt has 18 years of operational, research, and consulting experience in combating the interspersing realities of human trafficking with organised crime, corruption, gender-based violence, and sexual offences. He is an ex-member of the South African Police Service (SAPS), where he worked as a hostage negotiator and investigator attached to the Hawks (DPCI) and Sexual Offences (FCS) Unit. His operational and research work in human trafficking combating efforts has garnered international recognition. Most recently, he was conferred the 2020 Influential Scholar Award at the 17th Annual International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference (US). His areas of expertise include Organised Crime, Human Trafficking, Expert court testimony on issues related to control methods, *modus operandi*, and sentencing in human trafficking matters.