# Fernando Del Lopez

*Professional Sustainability/Human Rights Specialist*

I was born and raised in Madrid and have been living in London since 2012. I got married in 2011, but we have been together since 2003. We don't have children; we thought of adopting when we were in Madrid. We have five wonderful nieces and nephews. I have an older sister, and my mom and dad are both alive and live in Madrid

I studied Political Science, focusing on International Relations and Latin American affairs. I need to admit that one of the courses I enjoyed the most was Feminist Theory. This could be one of the topics we can chat about.

Then I did a Master's Degree in International Development. For around 10 ten years, I worked for ActionAid Spain as Head of Africa and Asia Programs, which took me to work in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, Mozambique, Bangladesh, Nepal, India and Vietnam. After these years, I realized that poverty went beyond not having money or other material means; it was a violation of human rights. So I took a career break to go back to school to deepen my knowledge about human rights. I did a second Master's Degree in Human Rights Law at SOAS, School of Oriental and African Studies - University of London. My courses were International Protection of Human Rights, Human Rights in the Developing World and Human Rights of Women. My dissertation in law was about human rights violations on account of sexual orientation. Then I worked as a magazine's Human Rights and Sustainability Editor and have consulted in Mexico, Jordan, Malaysia, Spain and the UK around sustainability strategy and reporting and human rights due diligence.

Now I am the Global Human Rights Manager of a big company. My job is to lead the human rights agenda and drive the achievement of our agreed-upon human rights ambitions. One of my main focuses is raising awareness about companies' responsibility to respect human rights, ensure the working conditions of 26,000 employees are good, and we do not engage or contribute to child labor and modern slavery.

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