Tanya Ward has been a human rights campaigner, researcher, educator and media commentator for over 25 years. She has served as Chief Executive of the Children’s Rights Alliance since 2011 and was Deputy Director at the Irish Council for Civil Liberties for eight years. She has an LLM in International Human Rights Law from Queen University Belfast. She has delivered human rights training to a range of public bodies and has lectured widely on human rights including: on the University College Dublin’s Masters in Equality Studies, Trinity College Dublin’s Masters on Ethnic and Racial Studies, the Law Society of Ireland’s Human Rights Certificate and at the Nottingham Human Rights Summer School.

Tanya was elected as President of Eurochild in May 2025 for a three-year term. She is also currently a member of Ireland’s Just Transition Commission, National Advisory Council for Children and Young People and the Department of Education’s Senior Cycle Programme Board. Tanya was Chair of the National Advisory Council for Children and Young People from 2018-2022. She has also served as a Vice President of Eurochild and Vice President of the FIDH and has served on the boards of Mental Health Reform, Stand Up for Children and the Law Centre for Children and Young People. She was awarded with the Excellence in Charity Leadership Ireland’s Charity Leadership Awards in 2024.