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Dr. Liina Voutilainen (PhD) leads the Preparedness team within the Health Threat Prevention Unit at the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. She played a key role in the cross-sectoral response to the H5N1 avian influenza threat during extensive outbreaks in Finnish fur farms in 2023, where several hundred people were exposed. Her current work focuses on advancing preparedness and response strategies for emerging infectious diseases and strengthening health threat prevention in international partnerships.

Previously, while working for the Finnish Defence Forces, Dr Voutilainen coordinated a One Health capacity-building initiative in Tanzania aimed at strengthening early detection of biothreat pathogens at the livestock-wildlife interface. She earned her PhD in 2013 from the University of Helsinki and has published 38 research papers on vector-borne and zoonotic diseases. She lives with her daughter and, in her free time, enjoys arts, cycling, and swimming.