EMERGING SECURITY SECTOR LEADERS SEMINAR

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BIOGRAPHIES

LEADERSHIP

Ms. Kate Almquist Knopf has served as director of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, an academic institution within the U.S. Department of Defense, since July 2014. Established by the U.S. Congress for the study of security issues relating to Africa, the Center serves as a forum for bilateral and multilateral research, communication, and the exchange of ideas. It aims to be an objective source of strategic analysis on contemporary and over-the-horizon security issues for African security sector professionals, policymakers, scholars, media, and civil society, as well as international partners.

Ms. Knopf has spent most of her career focused on the intersection of security and development in Africa. From 2001 to 2009, she held several senior positions at the U.S. Agency for International Development, including as assistant administrator for Africa, Sudan mission director, deputy assistant administrator for Africa, and special assistant and senior policy advisor to the administrator. Ms. Knopf has also been a senior advisor for the Crisis Management Initiative, a conflict mediation organization founded by former Finnish President and Nobel Laureate Martti Ahtisaari, and a visiting policy fellow at the Center for Global Development. Prior to federal service, she was chief of staff for the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and for the Executive Office for Administration and Finance of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She began her career at World Vision, an international nongovernmental organization.

Ms. Knopf holds an M.A. in international relations with concentrations in African studies and conflict management from Johns Hopkins University’s Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC, and a B.A. in international relations from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD.

Col. (Ret.) Daniel Hampton is Chief of Staff and Professor of Practice for Security Studies at ACSS. Col. Hampton brings more than 20 years of experience developing and implementing U.S. defense policy and strategy in Africa. As professor of practice in security studies, he oversees curriculum and program management in the areas of defense institution building, national security strategy, and civil-military cooperation.

During the course of his 30-year military career, Col. Hampton served as the U.S. senior defense official to South Africa and defense attaché to Malawi, Lesotho, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe.
Additionally, he was a senior policy adviser to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the Horn of Africa region.

Col. Hampton holds an M.A. in African studies from the University of Illinois; an M.A. in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, PA; and a B.A. in history from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC.

Dr. Raymond Gilpin is the Academic Dean at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. As the dean of academic affairs, Dr. Raymond Gilpin provides leadership on all academic matters at the Africa Center and directs the design, development, and implementation of the Center’s programs. His research interests include Africa’s security challenges, the intersection of energy and security, resource management and conflict dynamics, financial management in Africa’s security sector, and public-private partnerships and peace. Dr. Gilpin is a regular blogger and featured media commentator on African affairs, U.S.-Africa policy, energy and security, and the economic dimensions of peace.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, he was the director of the Center for Sustainable Economies at the United States Institute of Peace, where he also chaired the taskforce on business and peace, managed the web-based International Network for Economics and Conflict, and taught courses on economics and conflict at the USIP Academy. Dr. Gilpin has also served as academic chair for defense economics at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, director for international programs at Intellibridge Corporation (now part of Eurasia Group), senior economist at the African Development Bank Group, research director at the Central Bank of Sierra Leone, and economist at the World Bank.

Dr. Gilpin holds a doctorate in development economics from Cambridge University in the United Kingdom and an executive certificate in international finance and capital markets from Georgetown University.

Dr. Joseph Siegle is the Director of Research at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. In this capacity, he directs the Center’s research program with the aim of generating practical, evidence-based policy analysis that can contribute to addressing on-going and over-the-horizon security challenges in Africa. Dr. Siegle also oversees the Center’s Fellows program that aims to enrich understanding of Africa’s strategic and security priorities by providing an international platform for African scholars and analysts. Prior to joining the Center, Dr. Siegle has served in a variety of scholar and practitioner roles. He was the Douglas Dillon Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, a Senior Research Scholar at the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland (CISSM), a Senior Advisor for Democratic Governance at the international consulting firm, DAI, a Country Director with the international NGO, World Vision, and a Peace Corps Volunteer in Liberia. He has worked in some 40 countries around the world including numerous conflict-affected contexts in Western, Southern, and Eastern Africa. Dr. Siegle’s research focuses on Africa-wide security challenges and trends; the linkages between political governance, development, and security; post-conflict reconstruction and the stabilization strategies for fragile states; redressing the natural resource curse; and strengthening institutions of accountability. He has published widely in leading journals and newspapers and is co-author of The Democracy Advantage: How Democracies Promote Prosperity and Peace.
Dr. Siegle earned his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland’s School of Public Policy (International Security and Economic Policy) and holds an M.A. in Agricultural Economics (African food security) from Michigan State University.

Dr. Shannon Smith serves as a professor of practice and director of engagement at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. In this capacity, she leads the Africa Center’s efforts to develop its alumni network and to engage the broader policy community focused on African security issues. Her areas of expertise include U.S.-Africa policy, East Africa, global health and development policy, and the role of Congress in foreign relations.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Smith served as deputy assistant secretary of state for Africa, where she oversaw U.S.-East Africa policy (and previously Southern Africa) and spearheaded Africa Bureau efforts on Sudan and South Sudan, global health, and the environment. She led diplomatic missions, developed bilateral and multilateral policies, engaged with key interlocutors, and represented the State Department in a variety of national and international forums, including before Congress.

Dr. Smith spent a number of years on Capitol Hill, where she was the senior policy adviser for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Africa for global health, peacekeeping, and conflict issues. She also served as the national security adviser for the assistant majority leader of the Senate. As a Senate staffer, she shepherded successful legislation on HIV/AIDS, war crimes, and global climate change, among other issues. She is a summa cum laude graduate of Texas A&M University and holds a Ph.D. from Cornell University where she was a Mellon Fellow in the Humanities.

Lieutenant Colonel Jean-Baptiste Matton serves as a liaison between the Africa Center and the French Ministry of Defense, coordinating exchanges on security-related Africa policy and scholarship. He also serves as a facilitator and speaker at Africa Center academic programs. LtC Matton also serves as the French liaison officer in the Transregional Threat Coordination Cell for the Joint Staff at the Pentagon in charge of the estimates, strategy, and plans section. LtC Matton specializes in military coalition and peacekeeping operations in Africa, the Balkans, and Afghanistan and has substantial experience in training and team management under challenging conditions.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, LtC Matton served as executive assistant to the head of the Department of International Military Affairs at the Joint Staff College in Paris. From 2014 to 2016, he was the chief of operations for the 28th Intel Battalion in Issoire, France, which included a six-month deployment to Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger. Additionally, LtC Matton has served as a J3 staff officer deployed to the Kapisa Valley in Afghanistan, company commander at Saint-Maixent-l’Ecole, company commander of a Marine Corps regiment in French Guyana, and platoon leader at the Military Academy of Saint-Cyr and at Agen. He served tours in the former Yugoslavia in 2001 and Kosovo in 2003 under NATO command.

LtC Matton holds a degree in economics from the Sorbonne University in Paris, an M.A. in international affairs from Saint-Cyr, an M.A. in strategy and international affairs from the Joint Staff College in Paris, and an M.A. in international affairs from the American University of Paris.
FACILITATORS

Dr. Anouar Boukhars is the counter terrorism / countering violent extremism professor at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. Prior to this, he was a nonresident fellow in the Middle East Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and an associate professor of international relations at McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland.

Boukhars is author of Politics in Morocco: executive monarchy and enlightened authoritarianism (Routledge, 2010) and co-editor of Perilous Desert: Sources of Saharan Insecurity (with Frederic Wehrey, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2013) and Perspectives on Western Sahara: myths, nationalisms and geopolitics (with Jacques Roussellier, forthcoming, 2013). He has published extensively in a large number of journals and leading newspapers, including Journal of Conflict Studies, International Political Science Review, European Security, and CTC Sentinel.

Dr. Mathurin (Matt) Hounnikpo is an adjunct professor of practice at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, as well as the former strategic planning advisor to the Strategic Governance Initiative in Mali. His work focuses on democratic security sector governance and reform, the design and development of national security strategies, and democratic governance.

Until July 2013, Dr. Hounnikpo was the academic chair of civil-military relations at the Africa Center, overseeing curriculum and program development in the area of civil-military relations, focusing on Africa’s military history, democratic civil control of the security sector, and issues of accountability, transparency, and good governance. Dr. Hounnikpo also assisted the government of Côte d’Ivoire in implementing security sector reforms, and he has held various teaching positions in both the United States and Benin. Dr. Hounnikpo holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Paris VIII in Saint-Denis, France, and a Ph.D. in international studies from the University of Denver.

Dr. Luka Kuol is professor of practice for security studies at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. Dr. Kuol supervises curriculum and program planning and specializes in national security strategy development, the security-development nexus, and security sector reforms. He is currently conducting research on the links between migration, food security, conflicts and youth in Africa; the link between military expenditure, military professionalism, human security, development and conflict in Africa; and the devolution of the security-development nexus to the national level in Africa. Dr. Kuol is a global fellow at Peace Research Institute Oslo and a fellow at Rift Valley Institute. He is also South Sudan Alumni Ambassador of the Institute of Development Studies in the United Kingdom.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Kuol served as director of the Centre for Peace and Development Studies and associate professor of economics at the College of Social and Economic Studies at the University of Juba in South Sudan. He was also on the teaching staff of the Faculty of Economics and Rural Development at the University of Gezira in Sudan. He was a fellow at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard Kennedy School and a visiting fellow at the Institute of Development Studies in the United Kingdom. He served as Minister of Presidential Affairs for the Government of Southern Sudan and as National Minister of Cabinet Affairs for the
Republic of Sudan. He has also worked as a senior economist for the World Bank in Southern Sudan.

He received his BSc with honors from the Faculty of Economics and Social Studies at the University of Khartoum, an M.A. in Economics, an M.B.A. from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, and a Ph.D. from the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex. He is a co-editor of a book entitled “The Struggle for South Sudan: Challenges of Security and State Formation”.

Ms. Michelle Ndiaye is currently the Director of the Africa Peace and Security Programme at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS), a joint programme with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the German Cooperation (GIZ), and also Head of the Tana Forum Secretariat.

Her expertise covers defense and security, peace and security, democratic and local governance, post-conflict and community recovery, sustainable development, environmental issues, transitional justice, communication for development, corporate responsibility and global reporting, institution building, and large-scale multi-donor programme management. She is an external reviewer for the African Affairs Journal (Oxford Journals), Africa Insight Journal (HRSC), and South African Journal of International Affairs. She also sits on the Programme Committee of Security and the Rule of Law in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings at the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research and is a member of the Atlantic Dialogues Advisory Board (AD-AB) at the Policy Center for the New South, Morocco and of The Africa Center for Economic Transformation (ACET).

Michelle Ndiaye is also an adjunct faculty member at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, working on issues surrounding African security sector leadership, security cooperation and national security strategies. Before joining IPSS, Ms. Ndiaye was the Managing Director of the Mandela Institute for Development Studies and headed several African and international organizations, including as Executive Director of Greenpeace Africa, CEO of the African Institute for Corporate Citizenship, and Founder and Manager of Africa Projects for Akena Research and Consulting. She started her career as a program officer at the African Institute for Democracy, a UNDP project based in Dakar, Senegal.

Ms. Ndiaye holds a BA in political science from Quebec University in Montreal, Canada, an MA in public law and a post-graduate degree (DEA) from University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal. She is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Leipzig, Germany. She was listed in the New African Magazine as one of the top 100 Most Influential Africans of 2018.

Dr. Emile Ouedraogo (Ret. Burkina Faso Army Colonel) is an Independent International Consultant. He works on issues related to security in general, and on the African security sector reform and governance in particular. In this capacity, he was involved in more than 20 activities and events with the Washington DC-based National Defense University (NDU/USA) Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) and is currently working with US AFRICOM (United States), Partners for Democratic Change (United States), the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Germany), Friedrich Erbet Stiftung (FES, Germany), the ECOWAS Parliament and the Association of
European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA, European Union). He is a Member of the African Security Sector Network (ASSN) and founding President of the Fondation pour la Sécurité du Citoyen au Burkina Faso (Burkina Faso Citizen’s Security Foundation – FOSEC). Dr Ouedraogo left Burkina Faso Army active duty in 2012, after thirty (30) years of service. He served as Aide to the Prime Minister, Commanding Officer, Chief Military Intelligence Division at the Army General Staff before being appointed Minister of Security of Burkina Faso from 2008 to 2011. As a Minister of Security, he initiated and developed a Homeland Security Strategy for Burkina Faso and operationalized the concept of community policing and community participation in the management of security issues.

Dr. Ouedraogo was also a parliamentarian in the National Assembly of Burkina Faso and ECOWAS Parliament where he sat on the Political Affairs, Peace, Defense and Security Committees. In this capacity, he carried out informative and investigative missions in most ECOWAS countries and is therefore fully conversant with security issues which affect the subregion.

Dr. Ouedraogo earned a PhD with honors from the Center for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies, Paris, France on “Security Sector Reform and Governance in the ECOWAS Region: Issues and Prospects” (CEDS, 2011-2014) and published a research paper with the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS/NDU/Washington DC) in July 2014 entitled « Advancing Military Professionalism in Africa ». He conducted two surveys in 2016, including “Security Dialog in the Sahel-Sahara Region (FES, Germany) and “The State of Intelligence Services in West Africa: A Case Study on Burkina Faso” (FKA, Germany).

Mr. Antonio Pinheiro is a retired Army Colonel with an extensive background on African Security and Development matters. He served as Director of the African Security Cooperation Division in his last position at the Portuguese Ministry of Defense. From Jan 2007 to July 2010 he was the first Senior Portuguese Representative at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, in Washington D.C.

He also worked for several years at the National Defense Institute, in Lisbon, as an associate for African security issues. He is a founding member of the CPLP’s Standing Committee on Defense and Security. He graduated from the Portuguese Military Academy in Social Military Sciences (79-84). He holds numerous courses on African Studies, Peace Support Operations, State-Building, Public Management, etc. He is proficient in English and French.

Hon. Brownie J. Samukai, Jr., served as Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Liberia for 12 years (2006 – 2018) under H.E. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf. As Minister, he led efforts to rebuild from scratch, a new Armed Forces of Liberia that was professionally trained, regimented, disciplined, accountable and subservient to civilian rule. Between 2001 and 2004, Mr. Samukai served as Deputy Minister of Defense for Operations, where he formulated appropriate strategies to reestablish civilian control of the Armed Forces of Liberia, and coordinated the Interim Government’s security/military assistance to the Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) against insurgents.
He has served in high level portfolios within the Liberian Government including Deputy Minister for Administration at the Ministry of State for Presidential Affairs (1995 – 1997); Director (or IGP) of Liberia National Police (1994-1995) during the civil conflict, where he spearheaded efforts to restore public confidence in law enforcement, initiated institutional and structural reforms and strengthened community policing and countering related armed violence. Minister Samukai is a 1986 graduate of the United States Defense Language Institute in San Antonio, Texas, and a graduate of the U.S. Army Quartermaster Officer Basic Course at Fort Lee, Virginia (Class 86-10, Outstanding Achievement Award). Hon. Samukai is a Fulbright Scholar with a Master of Science Degree (1990) in Applied Economics from The American University in Washington, DC. He obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics (Class of 1984) from the University of Liberia. He is a graduate of the Economics Institute (Class of 1988) at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado USA.

Dr. Shannon Smith - please refer to his bio above.

Ms. Oury Traoré, from Mali, is an International Senior Consultant in Peace and Security. Ms. Traoré’s clients include the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS), the European Union (EU), the United Nations (UN), Peace Support Operations (PSOs) Training Institutions in Africa, the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS), and other major partners.

Ms. Traoré conducted the first ever evaluation of the Civilian Component of the ECOWAS Standby Force (ESF) at the level of ECOWAS Political Affairs Peace and Security (PAPS) and l’Ecole de Maintien de la Paix (EMP) for the Human Security Department (HSD) of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. She also drafted the Doctrine of the ECOWAS Standby Force (ESF) and conducted the first two evaluations of the African Union (AU) Mediation Project for the Finland Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). She drafted the Roadmap for the Policy Framework of the Civilian Component of the ECOWAS Standby Force (ESF); she integrated Gender issues into the draft report of the ECOWAS Security Sector Governance Policy Framework. Ms. Traoré also carried-out the assessment of eleven (11) Peace Support Operations (PSOs) Training Institutions in West Africa for the European Union (EU) and taught at the Executive MA Program of the Institute of Peace and Security Studies (IPSS), among numerous other accomplishments.

Ms. Traoré was formerly the Executive Director of Partners West Africa, and was also the Regional Program Manager of the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP - Ghana). She also worked as the Senior Program Officer at the Institute of Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHRDA - Gambia) and the Program Associate for the Women’s Rights Program of Global Rights (Washington DC). Ms. Traoré has also worked with CSOs in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, and Yemen. Ms. Traoré holds a M.A. in Sustainable International Development (SID) from the Heller School of Social Policy at Brandeis University (MA, USA); a M.A. in Human Rights and Democratization from the European Inter-University (EUIC) based in Venice, Italy; and a B.A. in Sociology from Berea College (KY, USA). In 2011, Ms. Traoré published a book on Women’s Leadership in Rural Mali entitled: “Women Who Will Not Wait”. She contributed a Chapter on ECOWAS Conflict prevention mechanism and mass atrocities in

**SPEAKERS** (in alphabetical order)

**General (Ret.) Martin Luther Agwai** has a long and distinguished military career and is dedicated to peace and security in Africa. Since his commissioning in 1972 and before retiring from the Nigerian Armed Forces in December 2009, he held several staff and command positions both in Nigeria and abroad, culminating in his promotion to four-star rank and appointment as Chief of Defense Staff in June 2006. He served as Deputy Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, where he made his mark with the introduction of the ‘Hot Spot’ that assisted the Mission greatly during the Disarmament, Demobilization and Re-integration (DDR). He was Deputy Military Adviser at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and Chief of Army Staff of the Nigerian Army. General Agwai was the last Force Commander of the African Union Mission in Sudan, and the first Force Commander of the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, on transfer of authority on 31 December 2006. General Agwai is a graduate of the National Defense University, Washington D.C. In 2003, he became a holder of the prestigious Nigerian National Award – the Commander of the Order of the Federal Republic (CFR), and in June 2010 at Lisbon, Portugal, the Africa Center for Strategic Studies awarded him the 2010 Visionary Award, for his achievement in peace and security in Africa. He is currently the Pro-Chancellor of Bingham University Karu, Nassarawa State, Nigeria.

**Mr. Tendai Laxton Biti** is a Zimbabwean politician who served as Zimbabwe's Minister of Finance from 2009 to 2013. During his tenure he was named the 2011 best Finance Minister in Africa by Euromoney Emerging Markets for stabilising and setting the Zimbabwean economy on a growth trajectory. He is currently the Deputy National Chairperson of the MDC, before this Biti had served as Secretary General from 2006 to 2014 during this period he led the drafting of the MDC’s policy documents including RESTART, Jobs Upliftment Investment Capital and Ecology (JUICE) and the Agenda for Real Transformation (ART). In the run up to the 2018 election he was appointed Chairperson of the MDC Alliance’s Policy Committee and led the drafting of alliance documents including the Plan and Environment for A Credible Election (PEACE) and the Sustainable and Modernisation Agenda for Real Transformation (SMART) an economic blue print of the MDC. He is a Member of Parliament for Harare East and the Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee. He enrolled in the University of Zimbabwe law school as a freshman in 1986. In 1988 and 1989, Biti was Secretary General of the University of Zimbabwe Student Representative Council, which led student protests against government censorship in academia. After law school, he joined the Law firm Honey and Blackenberg, where he became the youngest partner by the age of 26. He was arrested in 2007 with many others, including then MDC leader, the late Dr Morgan Tsvangirai, after a prayer rally in the Harare township of Highfield. He was also arrested and charged with treason in 2008. After the 2018 election he was also arrested for arguing that Nelson Chamisa had won the election.

On 16 June 2007, Biti and Welshman met with Justice Minister Patrick Chinamasa and Labor Minister Nicholas Goche, in Pretoria, South Africa. South African President Thabo Mbeki,
appointed by the Southern African Development Community, presided over the negotiations which sought to end sanctions on Zimbabwe top ZANU-PF leaders or top government officials. They later negotiated the Global Political Agreement (GPA) which resulted in the formation of a Government of National Unity (GNU) and the writing of Zimbabwe’s New Constitution. On 20 November 2013, Tendai Biti formed a new law firm Tendai Biti Law. The firm specializes in international finance law as well as domestic constitutional issues. He has led a fight for asserting constitutional rights in Zimbabwe resulting in landmark Constitutional judgements including the outlawing of child marriages, corporal punishment and imprisonment to life without parole. He has had teaching visits to Chicago and Cornell Universities where he has lectured at the Mawanyane Institute on the death penalty. He is a Visiting Fellow at the Center for Global Development. While at CGD, he has worked on issues around fragile states, debt management, and re-engagement with the international financial institutions and economic recovery.

Dr. Anouar Boukhars– please refer to his bio above.

Mr. Benjamin D. Crockett serves as associate dean of academic affairs and professor of practice. He partners with military and civilian stakeholders to maximize academic program effectiveness and explore feasible solutions to Africa’s security challenges. His areas of expertise include security cooperation, political-military affairs, national security strategy, and peace support operations. Prior to joining the Africa Center, Mr. Crockett was the principal advisor at the U.S. State Department for the African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership, a peace operations capacity building program for six African countries. Mr. Crockett concluded a 27-year career in the U.S. Army in 2015, retiring as a colonel. He served for over 20 years as a regional specialist in Middle East and African affairs, advancing U.S. defense strategy and security cooperation. His final assignment was as the regional director for East and Southern Africa in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, directing U.S. defense policy and relations with 15 countries and the African Union. Mr. Crockett’s military career also included positions on the Joint Staff and at the Defense Intelligence Agency. His overseas assignments included tours at the U.S. embassies in Egypt, Lebanon, Burkina Faso, and Sudan, the latter two as defense attaché. He began military service with postings in South Korea and Germany, and a deployment to Operation Desert Storm. He also deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom. Mr. Crockett holds an M.A. from Princeton University in Near East studies and a B.A. from the University of California in Political Science. His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal and the Bronze Star Medal among other military awards and decorations.

Mr. Mvemba Phezo Dizolele is a writer, foreign policy analyst, and independent journalist. He is the Peter J. Duignan Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution. He is the author of the forthcoming biography: Mobutu: the Rise and Fall of the Leopard King (Random House UK). His analyses have been published in the Journal of Democracy, New York Times, Newsweek International, International Herald Tribune, Foreign Policy.com, Foreign Affairs.com, The New Republic, Forbes.com, St Louis Post-Dispatch and other outlets. A frequent commentator on African affairs, he has been a guest analyst on PBS' NewsHour with Jim Lehrer and Foreign Exchange with Fareed Zakaria, NPR's Tell Me More, On Point and the Diane Rehm Show, the BBC World News Update, Al Jazeera’s The Stream, NewsHour and Inside Story, and the Voice of America. Dizolele has testified before various subcommittees of the two chambers of the United States Congress. He has also testified before the United Nations Security Council. He
was a grantee of the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting and covered the 2006 historic elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo. With the Pulitzer Center, he produced Congo’s Bloody Coltan, a documentary report on the relationship between the Congo conflict and the scramble for mineral resources. He served as an election monitor with the Carter Center in Congo in 2006 and 2011. He was also embedded with United Nations peacekeepers in Congo’s Ituri district and South Kivu province as a reporter. He holds an International Master of Business Administration and a Master of Public Policy from the University of Chicago. He graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and French from Southern Utah University. Dizolele is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He is fluent in French, Norwegian, Spanish, Swahili, Kikongo and Lingala, and is proficient in Danish and Swedish.

Ms. Amanda J. Dory joined the National War College faculty in 2017. She is a career member of the Senior Executive Service. From 2012-2017 she served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). She served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy from 2008-2011 and as the Principal Director for Policy Planning in OSD. In both capacities her responsibilities included strategy development, force planning scenarios, and long-term trends analysis. She has worked on multiple Quadrennial Defense Reviews (QDRs), to include as the chief of staff to lead implementation of QDR execution roadmaps for Building Partner Capacity and Irregular Warfare in 2007-2008. In addition to strategic and Africa regional assignments, Amanda has also served in OSD’s Homeland Defense office as the director for planning and integration. In 2002, she was selected as a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow and conducted an independent research project based at the Center for Strategic and International Studies on civil security.

Amanda received the Presidential Rank Award in 2010 and 2015 as well as awards for exceptional and meritorious civilian service. She is an alumna of Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and received a master’s degree with concentrations in international economics and African studies from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Dr. Raymond Gilpin – please refer to his bio above.

Dr. Mathurin (Matt) Houngnikpo – please refer to his bio above.

Dr. Brandon Kendhammer is a political science professor and Director of the International Development Studies Program at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, researching and teaching about religious and ethnic politics in West Africa (and particularly Nigeria). His book, Muslims Talking Politics: Islam, Democracy, and Law in Northern Nigeria (University of Chicago Press, 2016) explores how popular demands for the expansion of Islamic law emerge in new Muslim-majority democracies, as well as the nature of Islamic revivalism in northern Nigeria before and after the Boko Haram crisis. He has been interviewed on-air by the BBC World Service and published in the Washington Post, and provides briefings and analysis on political and religious affairs in Nigeria for numerous governmental agencies. Currently, he is co-authoring a short history of the Boko Haram insurgency and its impact on northern Nigerian politics, society, and culture.
Dr. Luka Biong Deng Kuol – please refer to his bio above.

Lieutenant Colonel Jean-Baptiste Matton – please refer to his bio above.

Dr. Greg Mills heads the Johannesburg-based Brenthurst Foundation, established in 2005 by the Oppenheimer family to strengthen African economic performance. He holds degrees from the Universities of Cape Town and Lancaster and was the National Director of the SA Institute of International Affairs from 1996-2005. He has directed numerous reform projects in African presidencies (including for example with the governments of Rwanda, Nigeria, Ghana, Lesotho, Zambia, Kenya, Liberia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique), sat on the Danish Africa Commission and on the African Development Bank’s high-level panel on fragile states, and served four deployments to Afghanistan with ISAF as the commander’s advisor. A member of the advisory board of the Royal United Services Institute, he is the author of the best-selling books Why Africa Is Poor and (with Jeffrey Herbst) Africa’s Third Liberation, and most recently, together with Brenthurst’s chairman President Olusegun Obasanjo Making Africa Work: A Handbook for Economic Success. He finished a second stint as a visiting fellow at Cambridge University in August 2018, during which time he complete Democracy Works: Rewiring Politics for Africa’s Advantage, again co-authored inter alia with President Obasanjo, which was published in January 2019.

Dr. Monde Muyangwa currently serves as the Director of the Africa Program at the Woodrow Wilson Center. Prior to this, she served as Academic Dean at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies from 2002 to 2013. In this capacity, she oversaw all curriculum and programs for the Africa Center, including in the areas of Security Studies, Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Threats, Civil-Military Relations, Defense Economics and Resource Management, and Conflict Management. From 2000 to 2003, she served as Professor of Civil Military Relations at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. From 1997 to 2000, Monde worked as Director of Research and then Vice President for Research and Policy at the National Summit on Africa. In these capacities, she was responsible for developing and overseeing the organization’s programs, research, and publications aimed at enhancing U.S.-Africa relations. Her work at the Summit culminated in a national summit on Africa, attended by President Clinton and more than 8000 people. The Summit resulted in the development and publication of The National Policy Plan of Action for US-Africa Relations in the 21st Century, a set of recommendations for improving and strengthening US-Africa relations. From 1996-1997, Monde worked as Director of International Education Programs at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Monde possesses an extensive background in African studies and in U.S.-Africa relations. Over the years, she has served as a consultant on African governance, security, development, and culture; she has also participated in and contributed to a number of Africa-related programs including serving on the editorial review board of the Countering Terrorism Exchange Journal, and the editorial board of African Security. She also previously served on the Advisory Council of the Ibrahim Index of African Governance, a project of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation. Monde has also worked as a development and gender consultant, and has worked on a wide range of development projects in southern Africa in the areas of education, housing, health, and nutrition.
She has co-authored, with Margaret Vogt, a publication for the International Peace Academy titled *An Assessment of the Organization of African Unity’s Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution*. Monde holds a Ph.D. in International Relations and a BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from the University of Oxford, as well as a BA in Public Administration and Economics from the University of Zambia. She was a Rhodes Scholar, a Wingate Scholar, and the University of Zambia Valedictory Speaker for her graduation class.

**Ms. Michelle Ndiaye** - please refer to her bio above.

**Dr. Emile Ouedraogo (Ret. Burkina Faso Army Colonel)** - please refer to his bio above.

**Mr. Antonio Pinheiro** - please refer to his bio above.

**Hon. Brownie J. Samukai, Jr.** – please refer to his bio above.

**Ambassador David Shinn** has been an adjunct professor in the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University since 2001. He previously served for 37 years in the U.S. foreign service with assignments at embassies in Lebanon, Kenya, Tanzania, Mauritania, Cameroon, and Sudan. He served as ambassador to Burkina Faso from 1987 to 1990 and ambassador to Ethiopia from 1996 to 1999. His assignments at the State Department in Washington included assistant desk officer for Ethiopia and desk officer for Somalia and Djibouti, desk officer for Tanzania and Uganda, State Department Coordinator for Somalia during the international intervention in 1993, and director of East African and Horn of African affairs from 1993 to 1996. Ambassador Shinn speaks around the world on African issues and comments frequently on al-Jazeera, Voice of America, BBC, China Central Television, and Radio France Internationale. He serves on the board or as an adviser to a half dozen non-governmental organizations, most of them linked to Africa. He has a PhD in political science from George Washington University. He is the co-author of *China and Africa: A Century of Engagement* (2012) and *Historical Dictionary of Ethiopia* (2013). He recently published a book dealing with the Gülen Movement in Africa.

**Dr. Joseph Siegle**-- please refer to his bio above.

**Ms. Yun Sun** is co-Director of the East Asia Program and Director of the China Program at the Stimson Center. Yun Sun is co-Director of the East Asia Program and Director of the China Program at the Stimson Center. Her expertise is in Chinese foreign policy, U.S.-China relations and China’s relations with neighboring countries and authoritarian regimes.

From 2011 to early 2014, she was a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution, jointly appointed by the Foreign Policy Program and the Global Development Program, where she focused on Chinese national security decision-making processes and China-Africa relations. From 2008 to 2011, Yun was the China Analyst for the International Crisis Group based in Beijing, specializing on China’s foreign policy towards conflict countries and the developing world. Prior to ICG, she worked on U.S.-Asia relations in Washington, DC for five years. Yun earned her master's degree in international policy and practice from George Washington University, as well as an MA in Asia Pacific studies and a BA in international relations from Foreign Affairs College in Beijing.
**Dr. Stephen Watts** is a senior political scientist and associate director for the Defense and Political Sciences Department at the RAND Corporation. His research has focused on irregular warfare (insurgency and counter-insurgency, stability and peace operations), security sector assistance, coalition diplomacy, political development in the wake of civil wars, and long-term conflict trends. Watts received his Ph.D. in government from Cornell University, where he was awarded the Esman Prize for best dissertation in government, and has held research fellowships at Harvard University's Belfer Center and the Brookings Institution. He is the lead author of nearly a dozen RAND studies and has published articles in such journals as The Washington Quarterly, Parameters, and Joint Force Quarterly. Prior to beginning his doctoral studies, Watts served as a foreign affairs officer responsible for peacekeeping planning for the Balkans in the State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, where he was twice awarded a Superior Honor Award for his work. He has held short-term assignments at the State Department's Office of Policy Planning, U.S. Embassy Sarajevo, and Combined Forces Special Operations Component Command–Afghanistan

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**Captain Brian Wilson**, U.S. Navy (Retired) is the Deputy Director of the U.S. Global Maritime Operational Threat Response Coordination Center (GMCC). The GMCC coordinates the U.S. Government’s interagency response to maritime threats, including drug trafficking, migrant smuggling, and piracy. The GMCC is a Department of Homeland Security office within the U.S. Coast Guard and operates as the primary U.S. coordination center for the Maritime Operational Threat Response Plan of the U.S. President’s Maritime Security Policy.

Captain Wilson served on active duty in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps for 21 years, retiring in the rank of Captain. Navy assignments included serving as Staff Judge Advocate for the aircraft carrier USS KITTY HAWK and commands in Bahrain, Japan, and McMurdo Station, Antarctica (Operation DEEP FREEZE). His Pentagon postings included serving as Oceans Policy Advisor in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Associate Deputy General Counsel in the Department of Defense’s Office of General Counsel, and on the Joint Staff.
Captain Wilson has written numerous articles and book chapters on the interagency and maritime security, with his work appearing in Harvard International Review, Foreign Policy, Columbia Journal of International Affairs, and Stanford Journal of International Law, among others. He is a visiting professor at the U.S. Naval Academy, where he teaches a class on maritime security and the law of the sea. A graduate of Florida State University (Bachelor of Science), Captain Wilson also earned degrees at University of Florida (Juris Doctorate), George Washington University (Master of Laws), and U.S. Naval War College (Master of Arts).