ENHANCING SECURITY-JUSTICE COORDINATION TO COUNTER TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

February 9 – March 3, 2021
VIRTUAL ACADEMIC PROGRAM

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.

Dr. Luka Kuol is the Dean of Academic Affairs, in which capacity he directs the Africa Center’s academic programs, linking them with Center’s Research, Outreach, and Alumni initiatives. In addition, he is the faculty lead of three academic programs: National Security Strategy Development, Managing Security Resources, and Emerging Security Sector Leaders. His work
focuses on national security strategy, security sector budgets, social contracts, food security and resilience, and the security-development-governance nexus.

Dr. Kuol is also a Global Fellow at the Peace Research Institute Oslo, a Fellow at the Rift Valley Institute, and an Associate Professor of Economics (on leave) at the University of Juba in South Sudan. He also sits on the editorial board of the Disasters Journal, published by the Overseas Development Institute.

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 Bachelor of Science 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 in the United Kingdom.

Dr. Catherine Lena Kelly is Associate Professor of Justice and Rule of Law. She is responsible for overseeing the Africa Center’s portfolio on justice, rule of law, and governance and integrating these considerations into academic programming, research, and outreach. Her work focuses on citizen security, party politics and democratization, the rule of law and stabilization, and transnational organized crime.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Kelly was an advisor at the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, where her work took her to Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. She designed and taught courses on contemporary Africa and democracy as a postdoctoral fellow at Washington University in St. Louis. At the State Department’s Foreign Service Institute, Dr. Kelly taught the West Africa course and co-taught the governance and religion modules in the Area Studies course. She has been awarded numerous fellowships and grants, including a Fulbright Fellowship, a Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Public Fellowship, a West Africa Research Association grant, several Harvard University grants, and two U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowship for the Wolof language and doctoral research in Senegal. Her work has been published extensively in policy and academic journals.

Dr. Kelly holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in government from Harvard University, a Graduate Certificate in international politics (Europe, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding) from the Université Libre de Bruxelles, and a B.A. summa cum laude from Washington University in St. Louis.
FACILITATORS (in alphabetical order)

Dr. Nate Allen is Assistant Professor of African Security Studies at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. Prior to that, Dr. Allen was the Policy Advisor at the U.S. Institute of Peace, where he served as full-time expert advising the work of congressionally-mandated, bipartisan Task Force on Extremism in Fragile States. His expertise includes counterterrorism, civil-military relations, transitional politics and U.S. security cooperation and engagement. Allen’s research has work published or forthcoming in a range of journals including Democratization, The Washington Quarterly, Orbis, and International Negotiation, and has published policy-oriented pieces War on the Rocks, The Washington Post, and Foreign Affairs. Prior to the joining the U.S. Institute of Peace, Dr. Allen served as Rosenthal Fellow at the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, and worked for the Foreign Affairs and Armed Services Committees of the U.S. House of Representatives. During the summer of 2016, he was a Bridging the Gap Policy Engagement Fellow. In the summer of 2018, Dr. Allen received his PhD in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. He holds a BA from Swarthmore College and an MPA from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School.

Dr. Anouar Boukhars is professor of counterterrorism and countering violent extremism, at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. Dr. Boukhars works closely with African government and nongovernmental security sector leaders on developing and implementing activities and programs relating to counterterrorism and countering violent extremism. His research focuses on the dynamics of radicalization and violent extremism in Africa.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Boukhars 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. He has served on several advisory boards and committees on the Sahel and North Africa, including at the African Peacebuilding Network at the Social Science Research Council. From August 2015 to July 2017, Dr. Boukhars served at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as lead facilitator of its flagship program, the Executive Masters in Managing Peace and Security in Africa. His research has been published in numerous leading policy publications and academic journals. He routinely conducts fieldwork in Africa and consults frequently for the African Union, World Bank, United Nations, U.S. State Department, and European governments.

Dr. Boukhars holds a Ph.D. in international studies from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia; an M.A. in applied humanities from Al Akhaweyn University in Ifrane, Morocco; and a B.A. in English literature from Ibn Tofail University in Kenitra, Morocco.

Dr. Martha Mutisi is Senior Programme Officer at International Development Research Centre (IDRC) at the Regional Office for Sub-Saharan Africa (ROSSA), in Nairobi, Kenya. Her role is to support and undertake evidence-based research that helps citizens and public authorities address the sources of violent conflict, insecurity, fragility and poor governance, while acknowledging the imperative for a gender-transformative approach to solutions.
Previously, she was the Manager of the Interventions Department at ACCORD. In this position, Martha coordinated strategic and operational plans of the department, apart from providing substantive and technical inputs. Dr. Martha Mutisi provided oversight towards activities within Peacebuilding, Peacemaking, Peacekeeping and Training Units as well as within ACCORD’s Country Programmes. Furthermore, she had worked in various capacities and with many organisations on critical issues at the intersections of peace, conflict and development. Her assignments included working with the University for Peace (UPEACE, Africa Program), the University of Zimbabwe-Center for Defence Studies, the Open Society Initiative of Southern Africa (OSISA), the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy (IMTD), among others. Martha’s areas of research interests include Peace Agreements, Gender and Peace Processes, Security Sector Reform, Endogenous Methods for Conflict Resolution, Institutions of Peacemaking, Democratisation and Transitional justice.

‘Kemi Okenyodo is the Executive Director of the Rule of Law and Empowerment Initiative also known as Partners West Africa Nigeria (PWAN), a non-governmental organization dedicated to enhancing citizens’ participation and improving security governance in Nigeria and West Africa broadly.

She was the Team Lead of the Policing Component of the Security Justice Reform Program supported by the UK Government Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) where she provides technical, strategic and programmatic leadership for the Nigeria Policing Programme (NPP), a program working with policing providers, government and civil society for accountable policing services in Nigeria, and where applicable programme partners. From August 2015 to December 2016 she provided support to the Head- West Africa Conflict Security & Stabilization Unit on Transition from Military Operations to a Stabilized Community Policing Approach in the North East. She has also previously served as the Team Lead of the Component Intervention Program ‘Police Accountability’ of the Justice 4 All (J4A) Program- a justice sector programme, funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and implemented by the British Council.

Kemi has over 15 years’ experience in justice / security sector and governance issues in Nigeria and West Africa, and NGO management. She is particularly interested in police accountability, citizens engagement with security institutions, evolution of non-state actors and their contributions to improving public safety and security environment, gender and policing, criminal justice system reforms- in particular judicial reforms and legal defence of indigent persons, mainstreaming women’s participation both in security and governance issues and election security management.

She is a graduate of the Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, a member of the Nigeria Bar Association, the Africa Security Sector Network and an alumni of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) and the Secretary General of the Nigeria Chapter Alumni Chapter.

Brigadier General (Ret.) Gaseikanngwe Ace Peke holds a Bachelor of science degree from the University of Botswana Lesotho and Swaziland and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Auburn University, Montgomery USA. In the BDF, he served in various capacities ranging from an aircraft engineer to Assistant Chief of Staff of personnel. In addition, he served in the Office of the President as a Coordinator for the Botswana National Security Strategy Review
Project from September 2007 to March 2011. In 2011, he joined the African Public Policy &
Research Institute in Pretoria, South Africa as a part time consultant in charge of the Security
Sector Reform & Governance Program.

Captain Joaquim Pacheco Santos, as senior Portuguese representative, serves as a liaison
between the Africa Center and the Portuguese 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.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Captain Joaquim Pacheco Santos served as executive assistant
and adviser of the Angola Naval Academy Commander in Luanda. From 2015 to 2017, he was
the Commander of the Marine’s School, 2015-17, and in 2017 served as Deputy Commander of
the Portuguese Marine Corps. Additionally, Captain Joaquim Pacheco Santos served as Cadet
Corps Commander at the Portuguese Naval Academy from 2010 to 2013; Head of the
Psychology Department at the Naval Academy between 2005 and 2010; and Lecturer on
Organizational Behavior at the Naval Academy from 2005 to 2010. Captain Santos was the Head
of the Department of Organizational Behavior and Leadership Training from 2002 to 2005, and
Commander of the Landing Craft Unit, at the Marines Corps, from 1999 to 2002

Captain Santos holds a PhD in Management and Organizational Behavior (2015) from the
Superior Institute of Work and Enterprise Sciences (I.S.C.T.E) in Lisbon, and a master’s degree
in Organizational Behavior (2002) from the Superior Institute of Applied Psychology (I.S.P.A) in
Lisbon. Captain Santos was an Invited Lecturer on Leadership, Motivation and
Corporate/Business Ethics at the ISCTE-IUL, University at Lisbon, from 2005 to 2019. He had
published numerous scientific papers in the field of the team leadership development and
training.

Ms. Oury Traoré, from Mali, is an International Consultant in Peace and Security. Her areas of
expertise include: Process Facilitation, Training, Evaluation, Gender, Organizational
Development (OD), Civil Society, Coaching, Policy Formulation, Leadership, etc. Ms. Traoré’s
clients comprise of the African Union (AU), the Economic Communities of West African States
(ECOWAS), the European Union (EU), the United Nations (UN), Peace Support Operations
(PSOs) Training Institutions in Africa, the African Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS), GIZ (The
German Development Cooperation), the Swedish Development Cooperation (Sida), other major
Development Partners, International NGOs, African CSOs, etc. While she works mainly on
peace and security issues in Africa, her focus is on the West African region. She regularly
facilitates at high-level seminars and speaks at global meetings. Prior to working as an
international consultant, Ms. Traoré worked as the Executive Director of Partners West Africa in
Senegal; the Regional Program Manager of the West Africa Network for Peace Building
(WANEP) in Ghana; the Senior Legal Officer of the Institute for Human Rights and
Development in Africa (IHRDA) in the Gambia; and the Program Associate for the Women’s
Rights Advocacy Program (WRAP) at the International Human Rights Law Group (IHRLG) in
Washington, D.C.. She worked in most post-conflict countries throughout Africa, also in
Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Yemen, etc. She is currently serving as the Chair of the
Board of Directors of Greenpeace Africa (GPAf) and a Trustee of Greenpeace International
(GPI). Ms. Traoré has published extensively and her publications include articles, a book,
compendiums, book chapters, etc. She has an M.A. in Human Rights and Democratization from
EUIC, Italy/Austria; a second M.A. in Sustainable International Development (SID) from Brandeis University, MA-USA; and a B.A. in Sociology from Berea College, KY-USA. She is fluent in English, French, Bambara, Malinké and Dioula.

PANELISTS (In alphabetical order)

Mr. Marcel Ayité Baglo has served as the Director General of the Beninese Agency for Integrated Border Management (ABeGIEF) since 2012. He is also assistant professor of the universities and consultant to the World Bank. Dr. Baglo previously served as the Director General of the Beninese Agency for the Environment (ABE) from 1995 to 2006, Director General of the Administration of the Territory (DGAT) from 2006 to 2008, and Permanent Secretary of the National Border Commission from 2008 to 2012. In the latter position, he coordinated the development of the National Border Development Policy (PNDEF) in 2011 and its implementation through the securing of border areas, the improvement of the living conditions of border populations and the promotion of cross-border cooperation. Expert of the United Nations Center for Counter-Terrorism, Dr. Baglo has been Chairman of the Board of the West African Border Management Exchange and Coordination Platform (PECoGEF) since 2015. Dr. Baglo has also contributed to numerous capacity-building sessions on the prevention of violent extremism, and earned a Doctor in Ecology at Paul Sabatier University of Toulouse 3 in France.

Dr. Abdourahmane Dieng is Head of the Regional Security Division at the ECOWAS Commission. He has over 15 years of experience working in the ECOWAS Commission. From September 2008 to the present, he has been Permanent Secretary of the West African Police Chiefs’ Committee, and before that he was a Programme Officer on Small Arms (2005-2008). He is cumulatively the Head of Maritime Safety & Security, Counterterrorism, Security Sector and Defense Reform, and Fight against Transnational Organized Crime; as well as Coordinator of the ECOWAS Committee of Chiefs of Security/Intelligence Services and focal point for the Gulf of Guinea Inter-Regional Network (GOGIN), West Africa Police Information System (WAPIS), and Support to West African Integrated Maritime Security (SWAIMS). Previously, he was Legal Adviser for the Ministry of Armed Forces of Senegal and Director of Training at the Gendarmerie School. He holds a Ph.D. Political Science, and other postgraduate degrees on Law, Strategy and Security Studies from the University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar, Senegal, and the Nasarawa State University of Keffi (NSUK), Nigeria.

Mr. Serigne Assane Dramé is a Senegalese judge. He served successively as a Sitting Judge, an Investigating Judge, Chief Judge, Adviser to the Court of Appeal, and President of the Indictment Chamber of the Court of Appeal of Saint-Louis. He was Secretary General of the Senegalese National Human Rights Institution and the Senegalese Human Rights Commission before joining the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as an adviser on legislative reform as part of the project to support the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan on illicit drug trafficking, organized crime related to it, and drug abuse in West Africa. He assisted several States in conducting assessments of legislative and institutional frameworks to combat drug trafficking, organized crime, and assisted and led legislative reform processes. He also worked on the development and validation of integrated national plans against drug trafficking and transnational organized crime in various West African countries.
He has been a member of several advisory bodies, a member of the Senegalese National Governance Commission, and led human rights associations. He was a member of the Technical Committee for Revisions of Discriminatory Texts against Women and was the Coordinator of the National Observatory for the Respect for Human Rights in the Extractive Sector.

Mr. Dramé is an expert consultant in mineral resources and human rights. As such, he co-authored the book “Exploitation minière et droits de l’homme au Sénégal”. He also authored OXFAM’s study "Étude comparative entre la Directive minière de la CEDEAO et les codes miniers des pays de l’Afrique de l’Ouest révisés depuis 2009”. He is a senior consultant for UNODC Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime.

He is a lecturer at the universities of Assane Seck in Ziguinchor and ISDD (Institut supérieur de droit de Dakar) of the Catholic University of West Africa (UCAO). In addition, he is Head of Counter-Terrorism, Transnational Organized Crime and Migration Issues at the Timbuktu Institute Research Centre. He has expert knowledge of the African judicial system and strong experience in consulting and adult education.

Mr. Martin Ewi is Technical Coordinator of the ENACT (Enhancing Africa’s Response to Transnational Organized Crime) Project at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in Pretoria, South Africa. In this capacity, he conducts research and analysis; coordinates and manages the five regional organised crime observatories in Africa; monitors trends, issues recommendations, and provides training and technical assistance. Previously, he served as a senior researcher at the ISS on terrorism, counter-terrorism, radicalization, and violent extremism in Africa. Prior to joining the ISS in 2010, Martin also served as Political Affairs Officer at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague and as the officer in charge of the African Union strategic security unit and counter-terrorism analysis.

Mr. Charles Togarepi Goredema is an independent senior research consultant with a recent focus on the intersections between urbanization and criminal governance. He is the founding Director of Informed Solutions to Economic Crime in Africa, a consultancy which collects, collates and analyses information relevant to mitigating the incidence and impact of cross border economic crime in Africa. He led a team which conducted research into, and provided capacity support to combat organised crime in Africa while he was with the Institute for Security Studies. His work then covered southern Africa, but has since extended beyond the sub-region to track the major routes and trends of illicit asset transfers affecting African economies. Charles has assisted international institutions such as the African Development Bank, the African Legal Support Facility and the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA) to develop (or monitor the implementation of) strategic plans targeting illicit financial flows. He is also a member of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime network of experts.

He has previously worked on projects within the Trans-national Threats & International Crimes division at ISS-Africa. A lawyer by training, Charles’ career includes a stint in the prosecution of economic crime. He subsequently lectured in Criminal Justice in Zimbabwe and South Africa, while undertaking research and managing research projects in criminal justice. After joining the ISS in August 2000, Charles focused on studying emerging forms of transnational organised crime and money laundering. Most of his recent work focuses on the challenges of preventing
and regulating money laundering in Eastern and Southern Africa. He has shared his findings with policy-designing institutions, regulators, law enforcement practitioners and civil society in these sub-regions and beyond at seminars, workshops and conferences. Some of his findings have been published, and can be accessed through the website of the ISS.

Charles is a lawyer by profession, holding qualifications from the University of Zimbabwe and the University of London.

Mrs. Biola Shotunde fwc is the Associate Director, Intelligence and Investigation & CTR Analysis at the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU), Abuja. She has about 23-years cognate working experience across private and the public sectors respectively. She is a foundation staff of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU). Prior to her current position, she was head of Strategic Intelligence Analysis Department and head of Capital Market & Insurance Operations Analysis Department respectively. The NFIU is the central repository of all financial intelligence related to the combat of corruption, money laundering, terrorism, trafficking in persons, narcotics and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in Nigeria. The NFIU has statutory mandate to receive, analyze and disseminate intelligence to all relevant stakeholders within the Nigerian national security system comprising of all security, intelligence and law enforcement community and engages with other national FIUs of about 182 countries through active exchange of intelligence.

Mrs. Shotunde is a 2-time recipient of the U. S Department of Defense IMET Awards to National Defense University, and National Intelligence University (DIA) Washington Dc respectively.

Mrs. Shotunde holds a Masters Degree in Strategic Security Studies from the National Defense University, Washington Dc in 2015. She also obtained the U.S War College (Postgraduate) Diploma in National Security Strategy and Counter Terrorism in 2015. She holds an Advanced Certificate in Strategic Intelligence Leadership from the National Intelligence University, Washington Dc in 2016. Biola also holds a Masters degree in Policy Analysis & Administration (Agric) from the University of Ibadan - Nigeria in 2007 having previously earned HND in Accountancy (Upper Credit) in 1997 from the Federal Polytechnic Bida in Niger State, Nigeria.