



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

DISENGAGING VIOLENT EXTREMISTS

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BIOGRAPHIES

PANELISTS (In alphabetical order)

Mr. Nnamdi Obasi is Crisis Group's Nigeria Senior Adviser. He first worked with Crisis Group as Nigeria Senior Analyst from 2006 to 2010, then returned to the organization in 2013. Working under Crisis Group's West Africa Project, he currently leads Crisis Group's research, policy prescriptions and advocacy in Nigeria.

Before joining Crisis Group in 2006, he was Senior Research Fellow and later Head of Department of Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Affairs at the Centre for Strategic Studies and Research, National Defence College, Abuja. Between 1984 and 1994, he worked as a journalist on the editorial board of Concord Newspapers in Lagos, then the largest-selling newspaper in sub-Saharan Africa.

He earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Demography and Social Statistics from Obafemi Awolowo University (formerly University of Ife) in Nigeria. He also holds a Certificate in Facilitation of Peacekeeping Training from Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana.

Mr. Obasi has authored two books: *Ethnic Militias, Vigilantes and Separatist Groups in Nigeria* (2002) and *Small Arms Proliferation and Disarmament in West Africa* (2002). He has also contributed to several books and peer-reviewed publications on conflicts, peace operations, small arms and organized crime in West Africa. He is frequently interviewed by Nigerian and international media, and regularly consulted by international organizations working on Nigeria.

Ms. Martine Zeuthen is an independent researcher and Associate Fellow in the Terrorism and Conflict programme at RUSI. Currently based in Kenya she focusses on extremism and radicalisation, countering violent extremism (CVE), programme management and research methodology. She is a Danish anthropologist (MSc) and is studying for a PhD in Crime and Security Studies at University College London.

Ms. Zeuthen is currently working on CVE research projects globally and in the Horn of Africa region, including as an example providing quality assurance on the CVE arm of a UK funded police reform programme as well as recently completed a systematic literature review for the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, focussing on rehabilitation. Martine is also leading the M&E

and research supporting a disengagement programme in Mogadishu, and working with the International Organization for Migration on new CVE initiatives and research in Iraq.

Prior to becoming an independent researcher, Ms. Zeuthen set up and managed the RUSI Kenya. She has over the six years enhanced the RUSI portfolio and provided quality assurance on a number of projects, including the EU funded STRIVE Horn of Africa and STRIVE II programme looking at preventing violent extremism in Kenya.

MODERATOR

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 Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco; and a B.A. in English literature from Ibn Tofail University in Kenitra, Morocco.