



# AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

## BORDER GOVERNANCE APPROACHES TO COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

### BIOGRAPHIES

**Webinar 1: Natural Resource Crimes and Border Governance in Africa**  
**January 20, 2022**

### PANELISTS

#### **Dr. Oluwole Ojewale**

**Dr. Oluwole Ojewale** is the ENACT Regional Organised Crime Observatory Coordinator at the Institute for Security Studies in Dakar, Senegal. He leads on improving the evidence-based knowledge and analysis on Transnational Organized Crime (TOC), and its impact on governance, development, and state fragility in Central Africa. His research and policy interests span TOC, urban governance, security, conflict, and resilience in Africa. His ongoing studies focus on arms trafficking, oil smuggling, counterfeiting, timber trafficking, TOC threats assessment, illegal fishing, mining, and illicit trading of strategic minerals in Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Gabon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Mali, and Nigeria. He co-authored *Urbanization and Crime in Nigeria* (Palgrave, 2019).

#### **Dr. Ifesinachi Okafor-Yarwood**

**Dr. Okafor-Yarwood** is a lecturer at the University of St Andrews whose research to date has generated critical insights around the blue economy, environmental justice, human security, maritime governance, and security. She brings a critical lens to the concept of sustainable development in relation to the management of marine and other natural resources and challenges the dominant assumptions on the areas of security, environmental justice, and maritime governance. Her multidisciplinary research combines empirical (indigenous epistemologies), doctrinal, historical, and theoretical analysis to investigate the complexities that shape environmental justice, maritime and natural resource governance and security in Africa.

#### **Brigadier General (Ret.) Gaseikannngwe Ace Peke**

Brigadier General (Ret.) Gaseikannngwe 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. From 2011 to 2017 he worked as a part time

consultant in charge of the Security Sector Reform & Governance Program for the Africa Public Policy and Research Institute in Pretoria, South Africa

## MODERATOR

### **Dr. Catherine Lena Kelly**

**Dr. Catherine Lena Kelly** is an associate professor 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 transnational organized crime. She is also a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

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, both in book form and 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.