



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

EMERGING SECURITY SECTOR LEADERS SEMINAR ACADEMIC PROGRAM BIOGRAPHIES

Leadership

Ms. Amanda Dory is the Director of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, located at the National Defense University in Washington, DC. Prior to this appointment, she held the position of Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs. Ms. Dory is a career member of the Senior Executive Service.

Ms. Dory has served in multiple leadership roles in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy, including Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, and acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Plans and Posture. She also served on the National War College faculty and as associate dean for outreach.

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.

Colonel (retired) Daniel Hampton brings more than 25 years of experience developing and implementing U.S. defense policy and strategy in Africa. As professor of practice in security studies, he oversees curriculum development and program management in the areas of institutional capacity building and civil-military cooperation.

During the course of a 30-year military career, Colonel (retired) Hampton held several postings on the African continent to include the United States Senior Defense Official to the Republic of South Africa and U.S. Defense Attaché to the countries of Eswatini, Malawi, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe. He also served as a policy adviser to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the Horn of Africa region. As part of the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan, Colonel Hampton commanded the Regional Support Command-South responsible for the institutional training, equipping, and resourcing of all Afghan Army and Afghan Police forces in southern Afghanistan.

Colonel (retired) Hampton is a graduate of the United States Army Command and Staff College, the Zimbabwe Staff College, and the Defense Language Institute (French). He holds a Masters in African Studies from the University of Illinois, a Masters in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College, and a B.A. in History from Wake Forest University.

As Academic Dean, **Dr. Assis Malaquias** oversees curriculum and program development at the Africa Center. This includes lines of effort in Advancing Military Professionalism; Countering

Transnational Organized Crime; Countering Violent Extremism and Countering Terrorism; Cyber Domain Awareness, Cybersecurity, and Information/Disinformation; Maritime Safety and Security; National Security Strategy Development; Peace Support Operations and Crisis Response; and Rule of Law and Security Sector Governance.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Malaquias served as Professor and Chair in the Department of Global Studies and Maritime Affairs at the California State University Maritime Academy. Dr. Malaquias' previous positions include: Professor and Chair of Defense Economics and Resource Management at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies; Associate Dean of International and Intercultural Studies and Professor of Government at St. Lawrence University; Extraordinary Associate Professor of Political Studies at the University of Western Cape in South Africa; and a Visiting Professor at Stellenbosch University in South Africa.

Dr. Malaquias holds an M.A. in economics and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Dalhousie University, Canada.

Keynote

H.E. Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma was democratically elected for two consecutive terms from 2007 - 2018. During his tenure, he implemented far-reaching democratic reforms, which resulted in the remarkable transformation of Sierra Leone.

His legacy for the people of Sierra Leone includes, but is not limited to, the consolidation of peace, a massive rebuilding of roads, pipe-borne water, and energy infrastructure, all of which were severely destroyed during the 11 years of civil war. Owing to his peacebuilding and peace consolidation efforts, the UN described Sierra Leone as a storehouse of lessons on post conflict reconstruction. President Koroma was then decorated with the UN Peace Beret by then U.N. Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon. Not surprising that by 2018, when he was leaving office, Sierra Leone was ranked as the third most peaceful country in Africa.

Throughout his tenure, President Koroma demonstrated a strong and unifying leadership in rebuilding his country, fighting corruption, strengthening democratic good governance, and in improving economic stability, which attracted international attention and commendation. His efforts resulted in Sierra Leone becoming the fastest growing economy in Africa in 2014 before the outbreak of the deadly Ebola epidemic. Also, under his leadership between 2010-2017, Sierra Leone was recognized by several international benchmarks including the Mo Ibrahim Good Governance Index, as one of the most reformed countries in Africa. In July 2015, at his African Union address, President Barack Obama stated that Sierra Leone was one of the countries in Africa where democracy had taken root.

On the international stage, he chaired the African Union Committee of Ten for the Reform of The United Nations, which advocates for Africa to have two permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council and for more African representation at the United Nations. During his tenure, President Koroma chaired the AU Peace Council for three consecutive years and led the efforts to brokering peace in Cote D'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, and The Gambia. In April 2018, President Koroma completed his second and final term in adherence to the constitutional limit and conducted peaceful democratic multi-tier elections. He burnished his democratic credentials

when, despite contestation of the results, he gracefully handed over power to the opposition, after the electoral commission declared it winner of the polls.

Since leaving Office in 2018, Former President Koroma has dedicated his post-presidency advocating for issues that are fundamental to peace, democracy, the environment, women, and youth empowerment. He has led seven Election Observation Missions to Namibia, Zambia, Togo, Benin, The Gambia, Kenya, and Nigeria under the auspices of the African Union (AU) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); and one to Somaliland by invitation of the South African based Brenthurst Foundation. Frequently referred to as the “*Apostle of Peace*”, he has received multiple distinguished recognitions including one by the President of Zambia, ‘Order of the Eagle of Zambia’ 1st division for the promotion of Democracy and Good Governance, from the United States Black Legislative Caucus for his legacy in upholding Democratic principles and maintaining the hard-earned Peace in Sierra Leone, the African Bar Association Award for Promoting Good Governance, Democracy, and the Rule of Law while in Office.

Facilitators

CAPT Paulo Afonso is the Senior Portuguese Representative at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. For the last 35 years, he has been working in the Portuguese Navy as a navy officer and has participated in several Military Cooperation with Africa Nations: Technical Advisor at the Portuguese Maritime Project at the Angola Navy Academy and at the Portuguese Military Project at the Mozambique Military Academy, among others.

Before joining the Africa Center, he was technical director of the General Directorate of the Portuguese Maritime Authority, managing different contents related to Maritime Security and Safety for two years.

Captain Paulo Afonso has a master’s degree in Organizational Behavior from the Applied Psychology Institute, Lisbon. He has concluded the Naval War College Course. He’s the author of three leadership books, *Leadership Process: the key elements* (2nd edition, 2010); *Leadership Dilemmas* (2011); *Why do leaders fail?* (2018).

Dr. Nathaniel Allen is an Assistant Professor for Security Studies, responsible for overseeing the Africa Center’s academic programming on cybersecurity and peace support operations and integrating these considerations into the Center’s research and outreach. His work focuses on cyber issues, emerging technology, civil-military relations, and regional security partnerships across Africa.

Prior to the joining the Africa Center, Dr. Allen was a policy advisor at the U.S. Institute of Peace Task Force on Extremism in Fragile States. He has also worked at the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, for the Foreign Affairs and the Armed Services Committees of the U.S. House of Representatives, and with NORC at the University of Chicago’s International Projects Department. Dr. Allen’s research has been published in leading policy journals and newspapers. He has received fellowships from American University, the Robertson Family Foundation, and the U.S. Institute of Peace, where he was a 2016-2017 Williams Jennings Randolph Peace Scholar. He is a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Dr. Allen holds a Ph.D. in international relations and African studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, an M.A. in development studies from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School, and a B.A. in political science from Swarthmore College.

Dr. Joel Amegboh is an Assistant Professor for African Security Studies, responsible for overseeing the Africa Center's academic programming on National Security Strategy Development and Youth, Peace, and Security and integrating these considerations into the Center's research and outreach.

Prior to joining the Africa Center for Security Studies, Dr. Amegboh worked for several agencies and departments under the United Nations. These include the Educational Outreach Division of the Department of Public Information (DPI) and the Mali Integrated Operational Team, located in the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. His research interests include advocacy for, and paradigm shifts in peacebuilding in Africa, terrorism and counterterrorism efforts, human security, security-development-governance nexus, and the role of youth in peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

Dr. Amegboh holds a Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University, an M.A. in Global Development and Peace Studies, and a B.A. in International Political Economy and Diplomacy from the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut.

Dr. Anneli Botha is an independent consultant on radicalisation, deradicalisation, reintegration and terrorism in Africa and worked on several projects with different UN agencies, including the UNODC and previously in the UNDP's *Journey to Extremism in Africa: Drivers, Incentives and the Tipping Point for Recruitment* project. In addition to research and policy advice, she has been at the forefront in developing and delivering capacity building initiatives to criminal justice actors on preventing and countering violent extremism and terrorism in especially Eastern Africa. Between 2017 and 2022 she was associated with the Department of Political Studies and Governance at the University of the Free State in South Africa. During the period 2003 to 2016, she worked as a senior researcher on terrorism at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in Pretoria, South Africa. Anneli has travelled extensively throughout Africa where she conducted research on terrorism and delivered specialized training on various aspects of the threat of terrorism, extremism, radicalisation and counterterrorism to law enforcement and criminal justice officials on the continent.

Prior to her position at the ISS, she served in the South African Police Service (SAPS) for 10 years (1993-2003). She was a founding member of the Religious Extremism and Terrorism Desk at Crime Intelligence Head Office and served in the Rapid Reaction Unit and the Special Task Force on Urban Terror in the West Cape. At the end of her police career, she provided strategic support to the Head of South Africa's Crime Intelligence Unit.

Anneli holds a Magister Artium degree from Rand Afrikaans University in Political Studies ('98) and Philosophiae Doctor from the Department of Political Studies and

Governance at the University of the Free State ('14). Her MA thesis was titled *People against Gangsterism and Drugs (PAGAD): A Study of Structures, Activities and Initial Government Reactions*. Her PhD thesis was titled: *Radicalisation to Commit Terrorism from a Political Socialisation Perspective in Kenya and Uganda* that won the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI) Award for the "Best PhD Thesis on Terrorism and Counterterrorism" in 2015. Additionally, she is a graduate of the University of Pretoria, Political Science ('91) and International Politics ('92).

Dr. Anouar Boukhars is Professor of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism with the Africa Center for Strategic Studies and 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.

Dr. Catherine Lena Kelly is Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Justice and Rule of Law, and faculty lead for the Africa Center's portfolios on rule of law/security sector governance, as well as countering transnational organized crime. 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 eighteen

months of 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.

Dr. Martha Mutisi is an academic and a practitioner with more than 15 years of experience working at the intersection between peace, security, conflict resolution, governance, and development. Currently a Senior Programme Officer in the Democracy and Inclusive Governance (DIG) Programme, with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), her role is to support and undertake evidence-based research and political analysis 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, Mutisi briefly worked with UN Women (Zimbabwe) as a Senior Programme Specialist on Gender, Peace, and Security. Before then, Mutisi was a Senior Researcher and Manager of the Interventions Department at ACCORD, where she coordinated strategic and operational plans of the department, apart from providing substantive and technical inputs. Dr. Mutisi provided oversight towards activities within Peacebuilding, Peacemaking, Peacekeeping and Training Units as well as within ACCORD's Country Programmes. Mutisi has also worked as a Consultant and Advisor, and with many multilateral organizations organisations, including the European Union (EU); United Nations, the African Union (AU); the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Intergovernmental authority on Development (IGAD), the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA and the East African Community (EAC); and the East African Standby Force (EASF). Martha's areas of research interests include Mediation Processes; Security Sector Reform; Democratisation and Governance Reform in Transitional justice and Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development.

Dr. Mutisi was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship (2006-2010) and the Josh Weston Fellowship (2008-2010). She graduated with a PhD in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University (USA), a Masters in Peace and Governance from Africa University and a Masters in Sociology and Anthropology from the University of Zimbabwe. She co-edited a book titled, *"Deconstructing Women, Peace and Security: A Critical Review of Approaches to Gender and Women's Empowerment"* (HRSC Press, 2016).

Dr. Émile Ouédraogo is an adjunct professor of practice at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, specializing in issues related to national security strategy development and security sector reform and governance. Since 2007, he has worked with the Africa Center on more than 60 activities as a speaker, facilitator, and author. He also works with UN, AU, ECOWAS, Just Future (Netherlands), Partners Global (USA), Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Germany), Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Germany). He is a member of the Executive committee of the African Security Sector Network and founding President of the « Fondation pour la Sécurité du Citoyen » of Burkina Faso (FOSEC).

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Ouédraogo completed a six-month mission with the African Union in 2017 as a security sector reform and governance expert for Madagascar. He is currently Senior Expert consultant for the UN in Mali and also international expert in DRC for the Dutch project “Just Future”. As Minister of Security of Burkina Faso from 2008 to 2011, he initiated and developed a Homeland Security Strategy and operationalized the concept of community policing and community participation in the management of security issues.

After 32 years of service with the Burkina Faso Army, he retired from active duty in 2012 as a Colonel, having served in positions including Aide de Camp to the Prime Minister, Support Regiment Commanding Officer, Infantry Commando Regiment Commanding Officer and Chief of the Military Intelligence. Dr. Ouédraogo was a parliamentarian in the National Assembly of Burkina Faso and the 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 of ECOWAS’ 15 countries.

He earned a Ph.D. from the Center for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies in Paris, France, on security sector reform and governance in the ECOWAS Region and a Master’s Degree in Strategic Studies from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria.

Panelists

Mr. Edmund Akoto Bamfo is a Security Analyst, Political Scientist, and Project Manager. He is the Founder and Executive Director of the Center for Security Policy and Research (CSPR), he spearheads various initiatives that advance peace, security, and research in Africa.

Edmund brings a wealth of experience as a youth leader and activist, with an impressive track record spanning over a decade. Notably, Edmund served as the Political and Social Affairs Officer at the All Africa Students Union (AASU), where he played a pivotal role in addressing key political and social issues affecting students across the continent. His dedication and expertise led to his appointment as the Chief Technical Officer, further solidifying his impact within the organization. Additionally, he was the first International Affairs Director of the National Association of Nigerian Postgraduate Students where he led initiatives aimed at promoting cross-cultural exchange and empowering Nigerian postgraduate students on the global stage.

Prior to his work at AASU, Edmund served as the Projects and Communications Manager at the Adom Foundation Ghana, a community-based NGO focused on child-centred initiatives. He also gained valuable experience as a Research Assistant for the Centre for Business Development, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, KNUST.

Edmund is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of South Africa and holds a Master of Arts degree in Conflict, Peace, and Security from the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Political Studies from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.

His leadership capabilities are evidenced by his roles as Deputy Speaker of the Parliamentary Council and President of the College of Art and Social Science Students' Council at KNUST. In his role as Chief Justice for the Ghana Union of Professional Students, Edmund played a vital role in upholding justice and ensuring the fair and efficient functioning of the organization. In recognition of his dedication to volunteering and advocacy, he received the Kwame Nkrumah Exemplary Leadership Appreciation Honour for Volunteering and Advocacy from the West Africa Students Union Parliament. Edmund is also the Chief of Bureau, Africa at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)'s Journal on World Affairs.

Edmund's commitment to understanding social systems and improving them drives his work. With his extensive background in security analysis, political science, and project management, he is dedicated to leaving a positive impact on every organization he engages with.

Dr. Dorina Bekoe is a research staff member with the Africa program at the Institute for Defense Analyses. Previously, she was an associate professor of conflict prevention, mitigation, and resolution at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. Dr. Bekoe's areas of expertise include Africa's political development, conflict resolution and peacebuilding, peace agreements, electoral violence, and institutional reform. She is the editor of *Voting in Fear: Electoral Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa* (2012). Dr. Bekoe has also worked at the United States Institute for Peace and International Peace Institute. She received a B.A. in economics from Franklin and Marshall College, an M.S. in public policy from Carnegie Mellon University, and a Ph.D. in public policy from Harvard University.

Ms. Chidi Blyden is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs.

Ms. Blyden is an expert and socio-cultural advisor on Africa's conflicts, security, and development issues. She comes to the role with policy, national security, and practitioner experience from her career in government, academia, and non-profit sectors. Her work focuses on the impact of culture in developing policy and community-centric approaches to security challenges in African nations, underscoring the role of women and youth in peace and security. Ms. Blyden served in the Obama Administration as the Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs from 2013-2017. She managed several functional and regional responsibilities including U.S.- Africa defense policy for East and Central Africa, served as the Africa Peacekeeping Advisor to the Stability and Humanitarian Affairs office, and was the department's lead on the President's Africa Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership (APRRP) initiative. She has received several awards for her time in public service, including the Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service.

Ms. Blyden began her career in security studies at the National Defense University's Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) as the Senior Academic Research Associate and Academic Operations Coordinator. From 2007-2013 she contributed to the academic curriculum and led the execution of over 30 programs on counterterrorism, defense economics, conflict management, security studies, and civil-military relations for Africa's security sector professionals. She was the first Africa Director at the Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC) where she led the design and implementation of culture-specific training for the Nigerian Armed Forces on civilian harm.

Ms. Blyden recently served in Congress on the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) Policy Team, advising on Africa and South America's defense equities. She is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University, in the Security Studies Program. She is a graduate of Texas A&M University (BSc, Sociology) and the Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University (MSc, Conflict, Analysis, and Resolution) and serves on the Leadership Council for Memunatu Magazine, a nonprofit social enterprise that promotes literacy, leadership, and empowerment for teen girls in Africa and the diaspora.

Ms. Cynthia Chigwenya is a political researcher and pracademic who has conducted studies on reconstruction in post-genocide Rwanda, conflict mediation in South Sudan and transitional justice in post-conflict societies; and has experience in policymaking and international development. Her academic background is Criminology, Criminal Justice and International Studies. She holds an MA in Development Studies and an MPhil in Social Policy and Development. Cynthia has spoken at various symposia, including the 2022 EU-AU Summit, Egypt's Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and the BRICS Roundtable Dialogue on Financing Clean Technologies. Her advocacy is grounded in research, having served at think tanks, and published on topical issues such as Sino-Africa relations and climate finance in emerging market economies. Cynthia has worked with several organisations promoting SDGs and the Agenda 2063 in Africa; she currently serves as the African Youth Ambassador for Peace for Southern Africa for the African Union and works as a Programme Coordinator for Political Dialogue in Sub-Saharan Africa at Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. She has previously held research positions in the South African Parliament and at the National Genocide Commission in Rwanda.

Ms. Janean Davis is a Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Bureau for Africa. She has over 20 years of U.S. and international development experience, including work with the New Jersey Department of Health and several community and international organizations. She taught mathematics as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Tanzania.

After joining USAID in 2004, Janean served in the United States as a Civil Servant, then converted to the Foreign Service and served in Rwanda, Tanzania, Pakistan, and Ghana. She also completed rotations with the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC) and the Office of Congressman Donald Payne. She most recently served as USAID/Ghana's Acting Mission Director, providing strategic and management direction for the five-year, \$701 million USAID country strategy to advance accountability, sustainable systems, and inclusive development.

Janean is a native of New Jersey and a mother of three daughters. She completed her undergraduate degrees in mathematics and industrial engineering from Spelman College and Georgia Institute of Technology, and joint graduate degrees in International Health and International Development at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health and School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Janean is fluent in Swahili and conversational in French.

General Birame Diop is a Military Adviser in the Department of Peace Operations at the United Nations. He was appointed to this role by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres announced on 25 May 2021. General Diop has over 30 years of military experience, previously serving as the Chief of Defense Staff of the Senegalese Armed Forces. Prior to this appointment, he served as the National Security Advisor to the President of Senegal. General Diop was also the

Chief of Staff and the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Senegalese Air Force. As a pilot in the Senegalese Air Force, he has accumulated a total of 7,000 flying hours.

General Diop has studied at the Royal Air Academy of Morocco, the University of Southern California, the Air University of Alabama, and the College Inter Armées of Paris. General Diop is a scholar and a practitioner who has worked for many years with the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS), as a facilitator and speaker in a wide range of seminars. He was a fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy and at the Woodrow Wilson Center where he conducted research on Sub-Saharan Africa's Security Sector Reform. General Diop has published several articles on Strategic Airlift Capacities, Security Sector Reform, Civil and Security Sector Relations in Sub-Saharan Africa and National Security and Right to Information (NSRI). He is a doctoral student in Diplomacy and International Relations at the Center for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies in Dakar, Senegal.

General Diop has invented a local approach to border security management, based on the local population. He has also worked with the US Africa Command and ACSS to create a network of African National Security Advisors of all 15-member States of ECOWAS. Additionally, he has facilitated the development of National Security Strategies in Africa through the support of US AFRICOM and the ACSS. He has also worked extensively on the Gender Dimension on Security Reform in Africa. Finally, Gen Diop has done a lot of work in the professionalization of Africa Militaries.

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, counterterrorism, 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.

Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh is currently senior associate and regional director for Central and West Africa at NDI. He has organized and advised international election observation missions to Benin, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone. He has also designed and supervised country specific democracy support programs with civic organizations, political parties and legislative bodies in Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, Mali, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, and Togo. In the course of his work, Dr. Fomunyoh interacts regularly with heads of state and government, cabinet ministers, elected officials, and political and civic leaders. He recently designed and helped launch the African Statesmen Initiative (ASI), a program aimed at facilitating political transitions in Africa by encouraging former democratic heads of state to stay engaged in humanitarian issues, conflict mediation, public health, and other key sectors of political, economic and human development on the continent.

As an expert on democratization in Africa, Dr. Fomunyoh makes frequent guest appearances on major radio and television networks including CNN, BBC, NewsHour, National Public Radio, Voice of America, and Radio France Internationale, and provides interviews for major national and international newspapers, including the Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, Le Monde and The International Herald Tribune. He has published a number of articles in academic journals on African politics and democratization.

Dr. Fomunyoh has traveled extensively in Africa, Europe and North America, and is bilingual in English and French. He holds a Licence en Droit from Yaoundé University in Cameroon, a master's degree (LL.M.) in international law from Harvard Law School, and a Ph.D. in political science from Boston University. Dr. Fomunyoh is an adjunct faculty at the African Center for Strategic Studies and a former adjunct professor of African politics and government at Georgetown University. He also is the founder of a nonprofit organization interested in supporting democracy and humanitarian causes in Cameroon.

Dr. Gueye Abdou Lat is the Director of the ECOWAS Early Warning Directorate, a position he has held since 2014. Prior to this role, was appointed by ECOWAS in 2004 as the first permanent staff of the Political Affairs, Peace & Security Department (PAPS) to build the early warning system of ECOWAS and by 2009, the system had been deemed as one of the most advanced on the continent and became a reference for AU and other Regional Economic Communities. Before joining ECOWAS, Abdou Lat for seventeen-years gave expression to his passion for education as a lecturer/consultant of Geography at the University of Ife in Nigeria. Dr. Gueye holds a Master's degree in Geo-Information Science and Technology from the University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands and a Doctorate degree in Geographic Information Systems from OAU, Ife, in Nigeria.

At the helm of the ECOWAS Early Warning System, he has ardently advanced his vision of a robust, efficient, and decentralized early warning and response mechanism in the ECOWAS region. Under his leadership, the ECOWAS Regional Early Warning System has defined a bespoke human security approach to Early Warning and Early Response, driven by data, based on identified thematic parameters and focused on effective linkages between early warning and early response for upstream conflict prevention. Abdou Lat has championed many key initiatives of the ECOWAS Early Warning System including the establishment of national early warning and response mechanisms in ECOWAS Member States, the incorporation of GIS and cutting-edge technology in the Early Warning System, Gender integration in Early Warning, the ongoing development of an ECOWAS Regional Risk and Vulnerability Index and the establishment of peace infrastructures across the region.

In his spare time, he is a skillful draughts player and has won several awards locally and internationally. Abdou Lat is married to Nekhou and together they have four lovely boys and a girl.

Ms. **Peace Ibekwe** has served 33 years with the Nigerian Police Force. Now retired, Peace is a consultant working to support the development of the security sector while continuing to serve as a mentor to young officers.

Her story began when she left Nigeria at 11 years old to attend secondary and tertiary education in the United States of America. Upon her return in 1984, she served one year with the National Youth Service Corps under the Nigerian Police Force before deciding to enlist as a Cadet Assistant Superintendent of Police. Peace was driven by the desire to ensure justice is served to all.

Ms. Ibekwe's previous roles in the police and government service include Deputy Inspector General of Police, Director of Internal Security at the Office of the National Security Advisor, and Commissioner of Police. Currently, Ms. Ibekwe serves as an advisor and trainer for DCAF and Adam Smith International. She has led multiple projects on policing for Partners West Africa Nigeria and Coffey International. Ms. Ibekwe is a graduate of Tufts University and the Institute for Security Studies in Nigeria.

Dr. Nnenna Ifeanyi-Ajufo is an Associate Professor of Law, and the Head of Law at Buckinghamshire New University, United Kingdom. Her teaching and research interests relate to the intersection of law and technology, including the governance of emerging technologies, cybercrime, digital rights and rule of law in cyberspace. She also teaches law and technology related subjects at Swansea University, United Kingdom. She holds a Bachelor of Laws degree (LLB), Bachelor at Law Degree (BL), LLM in International Information Technology Law, MA in African Studies and LLD in International Law. She also holds a Postgraduate Certificate in International Academic Practice and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA).

Nnenna presently serves as the Vice-Chairperson of the African Union Cyber Security Experts Group (AUSCEG) and a member of the International Law Association Working Group on Digital Challenges for International Law. She is also a Senior Research Fellow at the African Centre for International Criminal Justice, a member of the Cyber Threats Research Centre (CYTREC) Team at Swansea University, United Kingdom and a contributing editor to the 'Directions' of the Cyber Direct Project of the European Union Institute for Security Studies. In March 2022, she was nominated by the United States Mission to the African Union to participate in the U.S. Department of State International Visitors Leadership Programme (IVLP) on 'Promoting Cybersecurity'. Nnenna has been invited as an expert or appointed as a consultant by distinguished organisations such as the Chatham House, the African Union, the Commonwealth, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

She has participated in several initiatives that create a platform for knowledge engagement, research and capacity building for cyber governance, cyber security, and digital rights. She has been invited to speak at several conferences and events including events organised at Council of Europe, Internet Governance Forum, The Commonwealth, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, and many other organisations and Universities. In 2020, she was named amongst 50 Individuals leading Legal Innovation in Africa, at the Africa Legal Innovations Award. She has written for a vast range of research projects, journals and media publications including engaging in media debates on governmental initiatives and policies related to cybersecurity, the rule of law in cyberspace and more generally, the governance of digital technologies.

Dr. Willene A. Johnson serves as a consultant advising institutions, national governments, and international organizations on issues related to finance and development. Her current assignments focus on peacebuilding and strengthening capacity in the security sectors of African

countries. To that end, she facilitates workshops for practitioners engaged in strategic planning and budgeting, as well as in peacekeeping and economic reconstruction. Dr. Johnson was previously the U.S. Executive Director at the African Development Bank, a member of the UN Committee for Development Policy, co-chair of the African Regional Committee of the Grameen Foundation and chair of the sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committee of the U.S. Export-Import Bank. Dr. Johnson's work on Africa benefits from her global experience with economics and finance, gained from twenty years in the Federal Reserve System, where her assignments included research and operational responsibilities in foreign exchange and international financial markets. Dr. Johnson served as adjunct faculty at the United States Institute of Peace and Columbia and Cornell Universities and recently served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Tuskegee University. She holds degrees in social studies (Radcliffe College, Harvard University) and African history (St. John's University) as well as a doctorate in development economics (Columbia University). In recognition of her expertise in governance and public administration, Dr. Johnson was recently elected as a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Ms. Nirina Kiplagat has over 20 years of experience in the field of conflict transformation and peacebuilding from policy to community-level engagements. She currently works at UNDP's Regional Service Centre for Africa as the Regional Peacebuilding Advisor. Ms. Kiplagat previously worked in UNDP Tanzania, UNDP's Bureau of Policy and Programme Support, the Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery and UNDP Kenya. At UNDP she has worked on a range of issues including prevention and response to violent extremism, conflict analysis, conflict sensitivity, elections, post-election violence recovery, infrastructures for peace, youth and peacebuilding, gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as on cross-border projects, among other issues. Before joining UNDP Ms. Kiplagat worked in several internationally and regionally renowned organizations specializing in the field of conflict analysis, prevention and peacebuilding, including The Carter Center, Project Ploughshares, Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa, and the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA). Nirina holds a Masters of Science Degree in Conflict Analysis and Resolution, and has published several articles on thematic issues related to conflict transformation and peacebuilding.

Dr. Luka Biong Deng Kuol is an independent consultant and an adjunct distinguished professor of African security studies with the Africa Center for Strategic Studies at National Defense University in Washington. His areas of expertise include Development – Security – Governance Nexus, Public Policy Design, Implementation and Evaluation, National Security Strategy Development and Implementation in Africa, Management of Security Resources in Africa, Post-Conflict Transitions, Peacebuilding and State building, Livelihoods, Vulnerability and Food Security and Humanitarian – Development Nexus.

Dr. Kuol is also a Global Fellow at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), a Fellow at the Rift Valley Institute, and an Associate Professor of Economics (on leave) at the University of Juba in South Sudan. He is a member of the United Nations Security Sector Advisory Council, a member of the African Security Sector Network and a founding member of South Sudan Studies Association. He also sits on the editorial board of the *Disasters Journal*, published by the United Kingdom Overseas Development Institute.

He was the Dean of Faculty and Academic Affairs at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. In addition, he was the faculty lead of three academic programs: National Security Strategy Development and Implementation in Africa, Managing Security Resources in Africa, and Emerging Security Sector Leaders in Africa. Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Kuol served as the director of the Institute of Peace, Development and Security Studies at the University of Juba in South Sudan. He was also a member of the teaching staff of the Faculty of Economics and Rural Development at the University of Gezira in Sudan. He was a resident fellow at Harvard Kennedy School and a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies at University of Sussex in the United Kingdom. He served as a Minister of Presidential Affairs for the Government of Southern Sudan and as a 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 was the founder of the New Sudan Center for Statistics and Evaluation that became the South Sudan Bureau of Statistics.

He has published scholarly articles in a wide array of prestigious international journals and contributed with many peer-reviewed chapters in various books and peer reviewer for more than fifteen renowned peer-reviewed journals. He is the lead author of the National Security Strategy Development in Africa: Toolkit for Drafting and Consultation published by the Africa Center. He is a co-editor of a book entitled *"The Struggle for South Sudan: Challenges of Security and State Formation"*, co-editor of a book entitled *"Abyei: Between Two Sudans"* and author of two books entitled *"Confronting Civil War: Vulnerability and Resilience in South Sudan and Sudan"* and *"Why Does Famine Persist in Africa?"*.

He received his Bachelor of Science from the Faculty of Economics and Social Studies at the University of Khartoum, Sudan, master's degree in economics and Master of Business Administration from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, and a Ph.D. from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex in the United Kingdom.

Brigadier General (Professor) Dan Kuwali serves in the Malawi Defence Force as the Commandant of the Malawi Defense College. He was previously Chief of Legal Services and Judge Advocate General. He is an extraordinary Professor of International Law and International Relations at the University of Pretoria and Visiting Professor at Lund University, Sweden where he also earned his Masters and Doctoral degrees in International Law. He has been a Fellow of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and has served as a Legal Advisor in the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. General Kuwali was also a Fellow and Scholar at the United States Army War College in Pennsylvania.

He is the current Chairperson of the Malawi National International Humanitarian Law Committee. He was a Plenipotentiary for the Republic of Malawi in the negotiations on the Cluster Munition Convention and the Arms Trade Treaty, where he significantly contributed to the drafting of some of the key provisions of these legal instruments. Professor Kuwali has published extensively, including several books and dozens of peer-reviewed articles. His most recent publications include the Oxford Bibliography on The Use of Force for Protection of Human Rights in Africa and The Palgrave Handbook on Sustainable Peace and Security in Africa.

Colonel (ret.) Tim Mitchell currently serves as an Adjunct Faculty for the Institute for Defense Analyses and the Africa Center for Strategic Studies.

Mr. Mitchell served a thirty-year career in the Army as an Infantry Officer and Foreign Area Officer with a focus in Sub-Saharan Africa. He ended his Army career in 2017 while serving as an assistant professor of National Security Studies at the National War College in Washington, D.C. Tim is a French speaker with eight years of experience serving as the U.S. Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché (SDO/DATT) in three African countries: Chad, with non-resident accreditation to the Central African Republic, (2004-2007); Tanzania (2007-2010) and most recently Liberia (2013-2015) where he played a lead role in the international efforts to stop the spread of Ebola in West Africa. Colonel (ret) Mitchell also served as the Chief, Security Cooperation Division at U.S. Army Africa in Vicenza, Italy, where he was responsible for coordinating all U.S. Army security cooperation activities in Africa.

Mr. Mitchell earned a Masters degree in Public Policy from Duke University and a Masters degree in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. A 1987 graduate of West Point, he also commanded an Infantry Company in Panama and served as an instructor in the Social Sciences Department (1997-2000) at West Point prior to becoming a FAO.

Prior to his retirement in March 2022, **Captain (Navy) Loïc N. Moudouma** spent three years as the Deputy Chief of the Gabon Navy-Headquarters.

From 2017-2018, Captain Moudouma worked at the Joint Staff as the Deputy Director General of Gabon Armed Forces. While there, he dealt with Joint Force planning, maritime boarder's issues, illegal mining, poaching and all illegal activities at sea (Securing the Blue Economy). From 2014-2017, he was appointed as the Director of Operations for the Gabonese Navy and launched the ALBACORE Mission Bob Baker (Securing and Protecting the Blue Economy).

Previously, CAPT Moudouma worked at ECCAS (Economic Community of Central African State) as an Expert in Maritime Aspect. His policy contributions include 1) Safeguarding Strategy for the Vital Interests at Sea for Gulf of Guinea's ECCAS States; 2) Code of Conduct of Yaoundé process; and 3) Integrated Maritime Strategy of Gabon.

Currently, CAPT Moudouma works with UNODC Standards Operations for tacking maritime crimes at sea; contributes to the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Strategy of Gabon, and; is organizing the Gulf of Guinea Maritime Integrated Actions for the Safety and Security Operations regrouping local and foreign Navies. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College at Newport.

General (ret.) Njuki Mwaniki is currently the CEO of Power Axis Kenya, Ltd following his retirement from the Army in May 2013. In March 2015 he helped the Armed Belligerents in Central Africa Republic conclude the cessation of hostilities agreement as the Deputy Chief Mediator of the Nairobi Declaration. General Mwaniki is decorated with awards, such as the Moran of the Golden Heart, Chief of the Burning Spear, and Order of the Golden Warrior. General Mwaniki had a military career spanning close to 40 years having been commissioned back in 1974. He is an ardent Infantry General who has held various appointments both in Command and Staff duties such as the Kenya Army Commander, Commandant of the National Defence College, Assistant Chief of General Staff in charge of Personnel and Logistics at the Defence Headquarters, General Officer Commanding Eastern Command, Brigade Commander,

Commanding Officer 1KR, and as Director of Staff at the Defence Staff College - Kenya and the Army Staff College - Camberley in United Kingdom. He has an MA (Distinction) in War Studies from Kings College, London.

Professor Boubacar N'Diaye holds a Ph.D. in Political Science (Comparative Politics, International Relations & Public Administration) from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, USA. Dr. N'Diaye is a professor Emeritus at The College of Wooster in Ohio (United States) where he was a member of the Departments of Political Science and Pan-African Studies. He has also been an international consultant in the fields of political and security governance, civil-military relations, and institutional capacity building in many African countries. He has thus contributed to the training of hundreds of parliamentarians, high-ranking officers, and leaders of civil society organizations throughout the world.

Professor N'Diaye is a founding member of the African Security Sector Network (ASSN) which he chaired from 2012 to 2017. He led or was part of missions, processes, or programs, facilitated or participated in many activities that have contributed to the Reform of the Security Sector, the construction of peace and the rule of law in many African countries. He has advised governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and is member of several international advisory boards.

Professor N'Diaye is the author, co-author or co-editor of numerous publications including: *The Challenge of Institutionalizing Civilian Control* (Lexington Books, 2001); *Mauritania's Colonels: Leadership, Civil-Military Relations, and Democratization* (Routledge, 2017); *Security Sector Reform in French-speaking West Africa* (Lit, 2010); *Elections in West Africa, 1990-2009* (Africa World Press, 2011); *Guide for ECOWAS parliamentarians* (DCAF, 2011); *Not Yet Democracy: West Africa's Slow Farewell to Authoritarianism* (Carolina Academic Press, 2005); "Francophone Africa and Security Sector Transformation: Plus Ça Change ..." (*African Security Review*, 2009); "Still Getting Away with It: France's Defense and Security Policy" (2014).

Mr. Camlus Ouma Omogo is the Director of IGAD's Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (IGAD-CEWARN) since May 2016. He joined IGAD-CEWARN in 2012 initially as its first Monitoring and Evaluation Officer during which he developed and led in implementation of the Mechanism's first Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and supported the development of the overall IGAD Monitoring and Evaluation System. Under his leadership, IGAD-CEWARN has expanded the thematic and geographic focus of its conflict early warning and response thereby positioning the Mechanism to support the region with strategic conflict analysis needed for effective decision making in the current uncertain period.

Mr. Omogo has over 20 years' experience in the field of peace and security including as a peace-building practitioner and consultant (training, facilitating community peace dialogues, facilitating peace building and problem-solving workshops, strategic planning, research and analysis, etc.) for various organizations in Kenya and Eastern Africa. He has published chapters on peace and security in edited books. He has participated in professional training, forums and seminars including Africa Center for Strategic Studies *Emerging Security Sector Leaders Seminar* in Washington, DC in October 2017. He has contributed to small arms control processes including as coordinator of Kenya Action Network on Small Arms (KANSA), Board member of Eastern Africa Action Network on Small Arms (EAANSA), member of International Action Network on

Small Arms (IANSA) Advisory Council as well as a member of a committee that drafted the Kenya National Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management and the Kenya National Action Plan on Small Arms and Light Weapons. He has participated in various national, regional and international small arms control meetings including as part of Kenya Delegation to the United Nations (New York) during the negotiations of UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (UNPOA) and subsequent Arms Trade Treaty.

He holds a Master's degree in International Peace Studies (Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, USA) through Fulbright Scholarship. He also holds a Post-Graduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management from The Catholic University of Eastern Africa (Nairobi, Kenya) and a BA in Philosophy from Urbaniana University (Rome).

Brigadier General (ret.) Joyce Ng'wane Puta is the current Chairman for the Zambia Ex-Servicemen League and a Consultant in Peace and Conflict, HIV/AIDS and Gender related issues. Puta has been facilitator with ACSS since 2006 in many seminars and programs. Puta retired from the Zambian Army after 37 years of service as Brigadier General. In her last posting, she served as Defence attaché to Beijing, China. In addition, she was seconded to the UN and served for a total of 5 years and 9 months in UNMSET East Timor and UNMIL in Liberia as HIV/AIDS Policy Advisor. Puta has also served as HIV/AIDS Coordinator in the Zambia Defence Force as well as Regional HIV/AIDS Coordinator for Eastern and Southern Africa Region for 7 years during the peak of the epidemic. She holds a Masters Degree in Peace and Conflict Studies from Dag Hammarskjöld Institute of Peace and Conflict and the Copperbelt University Zambia, a MPH from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, an advanced diploma in Health Systems Management from the Royal College of Nursing London and a diploma in HIV/AIDS Management from San Jose, California. She has also completed the Senior Command Course at Kamwala Staff College in Lusaka.

Dr. Clionadh Raleigh is a professor of political geography and conflict at the University of Sussex and the executive director of the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED). Her research concentrates on the dynamics of conflict and violence, African political environments, and elite networks. She has received two European Research Council Awards (an ERC starter in 2011 and ERC consolidator in 2016) to pursue this research. Raleigh founded ACLED in 2005 as part of her PhD work, and it is now an independent NGO with 200 staff collecting and analysing information on political violence and demonstrations across the globe.

Dr. Danielle Resnick is currently a David M. Rubenstein Fellow in the Global Economy and Development Program at the Brookings Institution. From 2013-2021, she was a Senior Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) where she led the Institute's governance and political economy research portfolio. Her key areas of interest include democratization, decentralization, urban politics, and informality, with a regional specialization in sub-Saharan Africa. She has conducted analysis, fieldwork, and policy outreach in Botswana, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, and Zambia. She is the co-editor of *Political Economy of Food System Transformation: Pathways to Progress in a Polarized World* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming), co-editor of *Democratic Trajectories in Africa: Unravelling the Impact of Foreign Aid* (Oxford University Press, 2014), and author of *Urban Poverty and Party Populism in African Democracies* (Cambridge University Press, 2014). Her

research on African politics has appeared in several peer-reviewed journals and popular outlets, including *Comparative Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Foreign Policy*, *Journal of Democracy*, and *World Development*. She received her PhD and MA in Government from Cornell University, MSc in Development Studies from London School of Economics, and BS in International Political Economy and African Studies from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service.

Mr. Robert Scott, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service with the rank of Minister Counselor, currently serves as a Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of African Affairs covering Peace and Security Affairs and Southern African Affairs. He was previously the Ambassador of the United States to the Republic of Malawi from 2019-21. He has also served as acting Deputy Assistant Secretary covering West Africa and Economic and Regional Affairs. Previously he served as the Deputy Chief of Mission in Zimbabwe and Tanzania, and as the Deputy Office Director for West African Affairs. Other overseas tours include Ukraine, Germany, France, Ghana, and domestic assignments working on climate change and European security issues.

Mr. Scott joined the Foreign Service in 1994. He received a B.A. from Lawrence University and has an M.A. in International Relations from American University.

Dr. Joseph Siegle leads the Africa Center's research program, which produces the Center's *Africa Security Briefs*, *Research Papers*, *Special Reports*, *Spotlights*, and *Infographics* series with the aim of generating policy relevant analyses that contribute to addressing Africa's security challenges. Dr. Siegle's research interests include understanding the role of governance in advancing security and development; security trends in Africa; stabilization of fragile states; democratic transitions; and strengthening institutions of democratic accountability. He has written widely for leading policy journals and newspapers and is a regular media analyst.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, he was a Douglas Dillon Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, a senior research scholar at the University of Maryland's Center for International and Security Studies, and a senior advisor for democratic governance at DAI. For more than a decade, he served in various field capacities throughout Africa as well as in Asia and the Balkans with the international NGO, World Vision, and as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Dr. Siegle holds a doctorate in international security and economic policy from the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy and a master's in agricultural economics, with an emphasis on African food security, from Michigan State University.

Ms. Susan Stigant is the director of Africa Programs at the U.S. Institute of Peace where she leads programming in East Africa and the Greater Horn, on the Red Sea Arena and with the African Union. Her thematic focus is on the design and implementation of inclusive constitutional reform and national dialogue processes.

Prior to joining USIP, Stigant managed constitutional development, citizen engagement and election observation programs with the National Democratic Institute (NDI). From 2005-2011, she served as program director with NDI in Southern Sudan, where she supported the

implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. She also worked with the Forum of Federations on comparative federalism and with the research unit of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament in South Africa.

Dr. Nancy J. Walker, currently a Public Policy Fellow with the Africa Program at the Wilson Center, has served as a senior career U.S. government official, occasional visiting professor, political organizer, community volunteer, UN consultant, guest lecturer, and mentor.

Dr. Walker's government career included serving as the founding Director of Africa Center for Strategic Studies at NDU, Director of the Office of African Affairs and UN Branch Chief at the Office of Peacekeeping at DoD. Dr. Walker was the first Director of the Atlantic Council's Ansari Africa Center. She has taught U.S. Foreign Policy at the Elliot School at GWU, National Security Decision Making at Bilkent University (Ankara), and African Studies at Ankara University, as well as guest lecturing in the U.S., Europe, and Africa. In 2013, Dr. Walker established Nancy's Wonderful Women to provide mentoring and leadership development opportunities for women across generations and professional fields. During the COVID Pandemic, Dr. Walker created Nancy's Mentoring and held virtual mentoring sessions with individuals and small groups.

She has a D.Phil. in politics from Oxford University and an A.B. from Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges, was a Bosch Fellow in Germany and completed MIT Seminar XXI program in National Security. Nancy speaks fluent German and French, rusty Spanish and Turkish. Dr. Walker is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Women's Foreign Policy Group, Women in International Security, among others. Dr. Walker is an active member of the Advisory Council of the Wilson Center's Africa Program and serves on other boards. In 1999, Dr. Walker was awarded the Order of the Lion from the Government of Senegal in recognition of her contribution to U.S.-Africa relations.

Dr. Paul D. Williams is a professor of International Affairs and Associate Director of the Security Policy Studies MA Program at the George Washington University. His research focuses on the politics and effectiveness of peace operations, the dynamics of war and peace in Africa, and emerging threats in international security. Between 2012 and 2019, Dr. Williams was a Non-Resident Senior Adviser at the International Peace Institute in New York. He has also served as a Visiting Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, a Visiting Professor at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, and a Visiting Scholar at Georgetown University and the University of Queensland, Australia. Dr. Williams is the author of several books, including *Understanding Peacekeeping* (Polity Press, 3rd edition, 2021); *Fighting for Peace in Somalia: A History and Analysis of the African Union Mission (AMISOM), 2007-2017* (Oxford University Press, 2018); and *War and Conflict in Africa* (Polity Press, 2nd edition, 2016).