



ATLANTIC
— CENTRE —

ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP SEMINAR ACADEMIC PROGRAM

BIOGRAPHIES

Leadership and Keynotes

Rear Admiral Nuno de Noronha Bragança was born in Lisbon on June 15th, 1963. Having attended Naval School, he graduated in 1988. He specialised in Communications and Electronic Warfare, holds a Master's degree in Management and Organizational Behaviour and took, besides other courses, the ESDP Foundation Training Programme, the Joint General Staffs Course and the Promotion Course for General Officer.

He was the commanding officer of an OPV, the N.R.P. "Limpopo", having previously held positions on board of several naval units. Ashore, he was Commander of the Cadet Company of the Student Corps of the Naval Academy, Director of the Naval Radio Station of Ponta Delgada Azores and held a position at the Chief of the Navy Staff in the Personnel and Organization Division. He was Aide-de-Champ and Navy Military Advisor of His Excellency the President of the Republic, Officer in the European Union Military Staff in Brussels, Director of the Navy Communications, Data and Cipher Centre in Lisbon.

Held the position of Commander of the Navy Headquarter Facilities, Head of the Resources Division of the Chief of Navy Staff and Chief of Cabinet of the Director General of Maritime Authority.

Between August 2018 and September 2019, he held the position of Commander of the Navy Permanent Task Group for West Africa, having commanded the National Force Deployed for the Open Sea Mission 18.2 and 19.1, developed in the Gulf of Guinea region.

He was, between February 2020 and July 2021, the Military Advisor to the National Defense Commission of the Portuguese Parliament, having assumed on 30 July 2021 the position of Chief of Cabinet of the Admiral Chief of Navy Staff and National Maritime Authority.

In January 2022 took office as Deputy Director General of the Maritime Authority and Deputy Commander of the Maritime Police.

He was appointed coordinator of the Atlantic Center Working Group on March 9, 2023.

His service record includes several commendations and national and foreign decorations.

Dr. Helena Carreiras, PhD in Political and Social Science from the European University Institute in Florence, is the Portuguese Minister of National Defence since March 2022.

She is Associate Professor with tenure at ISCTE – Lisbon University Institute (ISCTE-IUL) and researcher for the Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES-IUL). From 2010 to 2012 she was deputy director of the National Defence Institute and from 2016 to 2019 she headed the ISCTE-IUL School of Sociology and Public Policy. She was also deputy director of the CIES - Sociology Research and Studies Centre (2015) and the IPPS – Institute for Public and Social Policy (2018/2019). She was the Director of the National Defence Institute from 2019 to 2022. She is the author or organiser of 14 books, 48 chapters in books and 27 articles in specialist reviews.

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.

Admiral Henrique Eduardo Passaláqua de Gouveia e Melo was born in Quelimane, Mozambique, on November 21, 1960. He entered the Naval School on September 7, 1979 as a Cadet of the "Carvalho Araújo" course and, on September 19, 1983, was promoted to Aspirant.

He joined the Submarine Squadron in September 1985 and, until 1992, sailed on the Submarines Albacora, Barracuda and Delfim, performing various operational duties as a garrison officer. He held the position of First Officer on the Albacora and Barracuda submarines.

At sea, he held the Command of the Submarines Delfim and Barracuda and the frigate NRP Vasco da Gama. Due to the death of the Commander of the Submarine NRP Tridente, he was responsible for the trials, tests and operations of the one-year warranty period after the ship was received in Portugal.

Throughout his career he attended several courses, including the specialization in Communications and Electronic Warfare, the "International Diesel Electric Submarine Tracking Course" in Norfolk, United States, the General Naval Warfare Course, postgraduate studies in "Information Warfare" at the Independent University, the Complementary Naval Warfare Course and the General Officer Promotion Course at the Institute of Higher Military Studies.

Between 1998 and 2002 he led the Submarine Squadron Training and Evaluation Service and the General Staff of the National Authority for the Control of Submarine Operations (SUBOPAUTH), later assuming command of that squadron.

He served as Head of the Information and Public Relations Service of the Office of the Admiral Chief of Staff of the Navy, 2nd Commander of the Flotilla of Ships, Director of Lighthouses, Director of the Shipwreck Relief Institute, Chief of Staff of the Admiral Chief of Staff of the Navy and 2nd Naval Commander.

From January 12, 2017 to January 14, 2020 he served as Naval Commander, and for two years of this same period, from September 19, 2017 to September 19, 2019, he served as Commander of EUROMARFOR.

On January 17, 2020, he took office as Deputy for Planning and Coordination of the General Staff of the Armed Forces. Position he held until taking office as Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces. During the performance of this position, he was also appointed, on February 3, 2021, coordinator of the Task Force for Vaccination against Covid-19.

He took office as Chief of Staff of the Navy and National Maritime Authority on December 27, 2021, when he was promoted to Admiral.

In the course of his career, Admiral Gouveia e Melo was distinguished with several decorations, highlighting the Military Order of Avis - Grau Comendador, eight Military Medals for Distinguished Services, three gold and five silver, Military Medal of Military Merit of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class, National Defense Medal of 1st Class, Military Medal of Naval Cross of 3rd Class, Military Medal of Exemplary Behavior - gold, Commemorative Medal of the operation "Sharp Guard" under the North Atlantic Treaty (NATO) and more recently, the Order of Maritime Merit, by the French Navy and the Medal of the Order of Naval Merit - Grand Officer Degree, by the Brazilian Navy.

Ambassador Jessye Lapenn is the inaugural Senior Coordinator for Atlantic Cooperation. In this role, she leads implementation of the recently established Atlantic Cooperation Initiative. She cooperates with Atlantic coastal countries on common approaches to maritime law enforcement and governance, sustainable ocean-based economies, and climate and environmental challenges.

A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, she was previously the U.S. Ambassador to the African Union and the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. She also served as the Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Mission in South Africa from 2016-2019 and Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Kigali from 2012-2014.

A committed multilateralist, Ambassador Lapenn directed the Office of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs in the Bureau of International Organizations and advised the U.S. Delegation to the United Nations in New York on Security Council matters.

Ambassador Lapenn's other domestic U.S. assignments have included Chief of Staff to the Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights, staff to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, desk officer for Libya and Tunisia, and State Department fellow at the U.S. House of Representatives. Additional overseas tours have included Jeddah, Riyadh, Paris, Tbilisi, Baghdad, and Jerusalem.

Ambassador Lapenn was born and raised in New York City. She received a BA in Women's Studies from Harvard College and an M.Phil in International Development from Cambridge University. Her thirteen-year-old son has been along for all of her most recent adventures.

Dr. Assis Malaquias oversees curriculum and program development as Academic Dean 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.

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).

Mr. Abroulaye Fofana has been Permanent Secretary of the Interministerial Committee in charge of State Action at Sea for the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire since February 2016.

Under the authority of the Prime Minister, he coordinates the missions of the fifteen or so administrations (civil and military) operating or having an interest at sea.

His missions cover two main areas: securing maritime spaces and developing the Blue Economy. As Permanent Secretary, he is also Chairman of the Strategic Committee of ISMI, Institut de Sécurité Maritime Interrégionale, (the institute responsible for maritime safety training for civil and military executives in the Gulf of Guinea).

He has formerly served in both the Ivorian and French merchant navies, was a marine surveyor, and was also a consultant and international auditor of quality, safety, and environmental management systems. He is a graduate of IAE Poitiers and holds a PhD from the Centre d'Etudes Diplomatiques et Stratégiques de Paris. He is a knight of both the French and the Ivorian Order of Maritime Merit.

CDR Jonathan Odom joined the George C. Marshall Center in July 2019. He serves as the Military Professor of International Law, teaching various aspects of public international law and maritime security in the Marshall Center's courses and engagement events. Additionally, he serves as the Acting Director for the Marshall Center's Program on Cyber Security Studies (PCSS).

During his Naval career, CDR Odom has provided legal and policy advice on matters involving international law and national security law to senior U.S. policy officials, U.S. and multi-national military commanders, headquarter staffs, and military forces around the world for operations at sea, in the air, on land, and in cyberspace. Additionally, he has served as a legal and policy advisor on U.S. delegations in official negotiations and dialogues between the U.S. government and the governments of more than twenty nations.

Prior to joining the Marshall Center, CDR Odom served as the Military Professor of Law and Maritime Security at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (2015-2019). He was an Instructor of Law at the U.S. Naval Justice School (2001-2004), while concurrently serving as an adjunct faculty member at the U.S. Naval War College, the U.S. Surface Warfare Officers School, the U.S. Naval Submarine School, and the U.S. Naval Chaplaincy School.

CDR Odom is a Non-Resident Fellow of the China Maritime Studies Institute at the U.S. Naval War College. In his personal capacity, CDR Odom has published law journal articles, book chapters, and opinion-editorials on various aspects of the law of the sea, the law of airspace, the law of armed conflict, national security law, national security strategy, oceans policy, international territorial-maritime disputes, maritime security, homeland defense, and negotiations. He has guest lectured at more than a dozen universities and colleges in the United States and Asia and has presented at more than fifty academic conferences in the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia, and Oceania.

CDR Odom is a licensed attorney in good standing with the Bar of the U.S. State of North Carolina. He is a Fleet Marine Force Qualified Officer. His personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), the Navy Commendation Medal (four awards), the Joint Service Achievement Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards). In 2015, CDR Odom received the Judge Advocate Association's Career Armed Services Attorney-of-the-Year Award for a "record of outstanding professional accomplishments, service to community, service to the legal profession, and development of subordinates.

Dr. Ifesinachi Okafor-Yarwood is a lecturer and PEW Marine Fellow at the University of St. Andrews' School of Geography & Sustainable Development in Scotland.

To date, her research has investigated various aspects of ocean sustainability, blue economy and governance, including the gendered nature of marine criminality, environmental justice, and the

impacts of depleting marine resources on inequality, poverty, and insecurity. Her current research explores the socioeconomic impacts of fisheries closure in West Africa, examining its effects on communities, particularly women, and the integration of local ecological knowledge practices with state-sanctioned management interventions for more sustainable marine conservation measures. Dr Okafor-Yarwood holds a PhD in Leadership, Security, and Development, an MA in Conflict, Security, and Development from King's College London, a BA in International Relations, Peace, and Conflict Studies and a Preparatory Diploma in Law from London Metropolitan University.

COL (ret.) Matthew Sousa is a retired Foreign Area Officer in the U.S. Army, specializing in Sub-Saharan Africa. He most recently served as the Chief of Staff and Deputy Director of Security Studies at the George C. Marshall Center for European Security Studies from 2019-2023. Before coming to the Marshall Center, he served as the Senior Defense Official and Defense Attaché in Angola from 2014-2019. Prior to that, he was the U.S. Army War College Fellow at the Italian Center for High Defense Studies in Rome, Italy and the Chief of Security Cooperation Programs at U.S. Army Africa in Vicenza, Italy. He served as the Senior Defense Official and Defense Attaché responsible for all U.S. military engagement in Senegal, Cape Verde, The Gambia, and Guinea-Bissau from 2009-2012. Before that, he was the U.S. Defense and Army Attaché accredited to Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea from 2006-2009. Previously, he was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Sciences at the U.S. Military Academy, where he taught *Politics and Development of Sub-Saharan Africa* and *Comparative International Politics*, and guest-lectured at Harvard University and universities in the Netherlands and Nigeria. He has also co-authored a book, *Oil and Terrorism in the New Gulf: Framing U.S. Energy and Security Policy in the Gulf of Guinea*.

Matt Sousa has lived, worked, and traveled in more than thirty African countries, is fluent in French and Portuguese, and conversational in German, Italian, and Spanish. He received his graduate degree in Public Administration and International Development from Harvard University, and his undergraduate degree in Human/ Regional Geography from West Point. Additionally, he attended the International Peace Support Operations Course at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Ghana, and the Managing Peace Processes Course at the United Nation's Institute for Conflict Resolution in Northern Ireland.

CDR Göran Swistek is a Visiting Fellow of International Security Division at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)) and a Commander in the German Armed Forces, specializing in defense and security policy and maritime security. Prior to this, he served as the Advisor to the Office of the Germany Chief of Navy / Deputy Chief of Navy and in an assignment as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Current Operations to the German Maritime Forces from 2018-2020. He has also served as the Head of Training Department and had various multinational assignments, like at STRIKFORNATO from 2015-2017. He holds several master's degrees in Political Science, International Relations as well as Leadership and Management. He also attended several post-graduate programs, i.e. for peace and conflict research.

Moderators and Panelists

CMG António Gonçalves Alexandre is a captain in the Portuguese Navy, in reserve. He spent much of his career aboard various frigates and took part in several NATO military operations, including Sharp Vigilance and Sharp Guard, embargo operations against former Yugoslavia in the Adriatic Sea in 1992 and 1996, respectively, and operation Active Endeavour in 2002 in the Central and Eastern Mediterranean against maritime terrorism.

He commanded the frigate Corte-Real between 2008 and 2010, and in 2009 the ship took part in the operation Allied Protector to combat piracy in the Western Indian Ocean, as flagship of the commander of Standing NATO Maritime Group One.

Between 2014 and 2015 he commanded the Portuguese Naval Force.

He was for three years a lecturer at the Military University Institute.

António Gonçalves Alexandre holds a PhD in International Relations from NOVA University of Lisbon – School of Social Sciences and Humanities (NOVA-FCSH), in the specialization area of Security Studies and Strategy, with the title of his thesis being "Maritime security in the Horn of Africa: the role of the military instrument (2008-2016)".

He also holds the Course on Geopolitics of Sub-Saharan Africa and the Course on Advanced Studies in Geopolitics, as well as the Advanced Courses in Regional Studies: Eurasia, and Middle East and Maghreb, all from the Autonomous University of Lisbon, and has conducted and published research in recent years, mostly focused on the general theme of the oceans, in the specific optics of maritime security and geopolitics of maritime spaces.

He is an associate researcher at the Research and Development Centre of the Military University Institute and auditor of the National Defence Course. He regularly collaborates with NOVA-FCSH, the Military University Institute and the National Defense Institute.

CDR Patricia Bennett, a native of Harpswell, Maine, graduated with honors from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 2003 with a degree in Marine and Environmental Sciences.

Upon graduation, CDR Bennett served as a Deck Watch Officer and Boarding Officer onboard USCGC MIDGETT (WHEC 726) in Seattle, Washington. From 2005 to 2007, she was USCGC MUSTANG's (WPB 1310) Executive Officer in Seward, Alaska. In 2007, she worked in the Seventh Coast Guard District's Enforcement Branch in Miami, Florida and fulfilled roles as the Major Cutter Scheduler and Patrol Boat Manager. In 2010, she commanded USCGC ADAK (WPB 1333) for Patrol Forces Southwest Asia in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom in Manama, Bahrain. Upon completion of that tour, CDR Bennett served as Commanding Officer of USCGC SANIBEL (WPB 1312) in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. After earning her Master's Degree in Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island in 2014, she was assigned as Deputy Chief of Enforcement and Fisheries Officer for the Fifth Coast Guard District in Portsmouth, Virginia. She continued to serve in Portsmouth, Virginia as the Executive Officer of USCGC TAMPA (WMEC 902) from 2018 to 2020 and as the Commanding Officer of USCGC NORTHLAND

(WMEC 904) from 2020 to 2022. She is currently the Chief of Fisheries Enforcement (MLE-4) at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

She is a permanent cutterman with more than eleven years of sea time and is married to Kristin Foster of Salem, Connecticut.

Dr. Luis Bitencourt is a Professor of International Security at the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Studies. Prior to rejoining the Perry Center in August 2020, he was a consultant professor for the Global Defense Reform Program-sponsored Defense Education Cooperation Program between the Perry Center and Brazil's Escola Superior de Guerra. He was also a Visiting Professor at the Brazilian Navy War College and a Visiting Professor, for over 25 years, at Georgetown University. From June 2005 to November 2017, he was a Professor, Dean of Academic Affairs, and Deputy Director at the Perry Center. Prior to joining the Perry Center, Dr. Bitencourt was respectively a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council and the Director of the Brazil Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Dr. Bitencourt has dedicated his entire professional life to adult education in both the public and the private sectors. While working for the Brazilian federal government, he performed several functions related to research and training in strategic planning, international security, public administration, and Congressional intelligence oversight. At the Catholic University of Brasilia, Dr. Bitencourt was a professor and dean of the Social Sciences College for over a decade. He also worked for the United Nations as a Regional Coordinator in East Timor, as a member of the Electoral Team of Experts in Tajikistan, and as a rapporteur for the "Responsibility to Protect" initiative with the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty.

Dr. Bitencourt holds a doctorate degree and an MA in World Politics from the Catholic University of America and an MA in Political Science from the Universidade de Brasília. His bachelor's degree is in mathematics. Besides hemispheric security, his research interests include strategic planning, defense governance, international trade, and business, marketing, innovation, and leadership in times of globalization.

Rear Admiral Jo-Ann Burdian assumed the duties as the Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Response Policy in May 2022. In this capacity, she is responsible for the development of strategic response doctrine and policy guidance for all Coast Guard forces. These policies encompass seven of the eleven operational maritime missions in the areas of law enforcement, search and rescue, maritime security, counterterrorism, defense operations, marine environmental response and emergency management and disaster response programs. In Rear Admiral Burdian's previous assignment, she served as Commander Coast Guard Sector Miami. She directed all Coast Guard missions along 182 miles of Florida coastline, including Port Miami, the Miami River, Port Everglades, and the Port of Palm Beach. She served as Captain of the Port, Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection, Federal Maritime Security Coordinator, Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator, and Federal on Scene Coordinator for the over 250,000 square miles that constitute the Sector Miami area of responsibility.

RDML Burdian is a Coast Guard Permanent Cutterman and Honorary Chief whose previous

operational assignments include Chief of Response at Sector Puget Sound, Commanding Officer of USCGC KEY BISCAYNE in St. Petersburg, Florida, and Executive Officer, USCGC ATTU in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She began her career as First Lieutenant, onboard the USCGC COURAGEOUS, in Panama City, Florida. Additionally she served as Coast Guard Liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., where she managed all service engagements with Members of Congress, advised senior Coast Guard leaders on all matters related to the House of Representatives, and advocated for multi-billion dollar acquisition programs and advancing authorizing legislation. In addition, she served as the Senior Duty Officer in the White House Situation Room. Rear Admiral Burdian took advantage of the Coast Guard Temporary Separation program to care for her sons and drilled as a member of the Selected Reserve at Sector St. Petersburg, Florida. Originally from Queens, New York, Rear Admiral Burdian is a 1997 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Government. She also holds a Masters in Public Administration from Florida State University. She has been awarded numerous personal, unit, campaign, and service awards. Her military awards include the Armed Forces Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Global War Terror Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and Humanitarian Service Medal. She is married to Captain Stephen Burdian, USCG (ret.) of Briarcliff, New York. Together they have three handsome sons – Jack, Sean, and James.

Mr. Simon Church is the Special advisor to the CO Chairs of the Gulf of Guinea Maritime Collaboration Forum – SHADE. He was appointed to this position by the G7 ++ FOGG as part of the objectives of FOGG under the chairmanship of UK and Senegal in 2021. Prior to this Simon was EU NAVFOR's Special Advisor for Industry Relations in the Strategic and Operational Headquarters for EUNAVFOR's counter piracy operation off Somalia for 12 years. He was the Director of MSCHOA and was instrumental in its creation having worked at EU NAVFOR since the beginning of its mandate in 2008. His principal role was to manage and advise the Command team at EU NAVFOR on the strategic the relationship of the Maritime Community and Industry in EUNAVFOR. His background is in commercial Shipping. He has worked in the Shipping Industry for over 20 years, working for several shipping organisations in a variety of different roles and markets including Tanker Broking, Logistics, Fuel Trading, Commercial operations and Business development. His last position was with Teekay Tankers in London.

RADM Dr. Narciso Fastudo Jr is a native of Angolan from the city of Gabela in the South Kwanza Province. He has a Bachelors Degree in Electronic Engineering from the University of Odessa in former Soviet Union (Russia), a Masters Degree as well as a Doctor of Philosophy (Phd) Degree from the Agostinho Neto University in Angola.

Dr Fastudo is a Naval Officer who has served the Angolan Armed Forces for many years; 15 years in the Air Force and 27 years in the Navy. His previous appointment was at the Defense Ministry, where for almost a year was attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral in November 2017. Apart from Portuguese, Rear Admiral Fastudo speaks and understands Russian, French and English.

Throughout his career, particularly from 1980 to 2002, Rear Admiral Fastudo has held several appointments in the Angolan Armed Forces. Notable among these are command and staff appointments from the tactical to strategic levels of Command. Rear Admiral Fastudo actively

participated in the Angolan War of Liberation and was awarded two awards for his meritorious service. As part of his career progression, Dr Fastudo successfully attended several military courses including but not limited to Command and Direction, Peacekeeping, Exclusive Economic Zone, Military Resource Management, Leadership. He is also a product of the Republic of South Africa National War College, the US Naval Postgraduate College and Angolan Air Defence Academy.

Rear Admiral Fastudo was Member of the South African Development Community (SADC) Standing Maritime Committee from 1996 to 2016, and participated in the Third Summit of Heads of State of the Gulf of Guinea / ECCAS / ECOWAS in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in 2013. From February 22nd 2017 is working in Yaoundé-Cameroon as a Deputy Director of a Interregional Coordination Center (ICC) for the implementation of the Yaounde Code of Conduct MARITIME SAFETY & SECURITY IN GULF OF GUINEA. From 21 Mai 2019 was appointed ICC Interim Executive Director.

Admiral (ret.) Eduardo Bacellar Leal Ferreira was the Commander of the Brazilian Navy from 2015 to 2019. He also served as the President of the Board of Directors of Petrobras (2019-2022) and presently he is a member of the Board of Directors of Braskem, a Brazilian Petrochemical Company.

He graduated in the Naval Academy in 1974 and undertook his postgraduate courses in the Brazilian Naval War College and in the Chilean Naval War College. While in Chile, he also completed the Economics module at the Faculty of Economic Sciences of the Maritime University of Chile Throughout his career he served as the Commanding Officer in three ships and a Destroyer Squadron, Instructor at the United States Naval Academy, Commander of the Brazilian Naval Academy, Commander of the National War College, and Commander-in-Chief of the Brazilian Fleet. He also served as Captain of the Ports of Rio de Janeiro and Director of Ports and Coasts, when he had the opportunity to deepen connections with offshore activities linked to the oil industry.

Since he retired from the Navy he has regularly lectured and participated in panels and seminars at the Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI), the Center for National Defense and Security (CEDESEN), the Institute for the Reform of Relations between State and Private Companies (IREE Defense and Security) and the group "Personalities in Focus" on topics related to military x civilian relations, ocean politics, geopolitics, international relations, security x climate change, and economy of the sea.

Rear Admiral (ret.) Pedro de la Fuente is a senior subject matter expert and thought leader on National Security Strategies and Maritime Domain Issues focused on Latin America. He is a retired Rear Admiral with over 35 years' operational naval experience and over 18 years in academia, with research and course development focused in the capacity building of governments in the region in the areas of National Security, Policy and Strategy, Maritime Security, Decision Making, and Crisis Management and Communication.

He is a member of the International Security and Strategic Affairs Institute (ISIAE) of the Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI).

Since February 2011 till January 2016, he was a Professor at the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies, National Defense University, in Washington, DC. In that capacity he taught in courses, developed and led exercises and crisis simulation games, and conducted Executive Dialogues and National Security Planning Workshops in various countries of the Western Hemisphere in support of the Department of Defense.

In February 2016, he was honored as a Distinguished Member Emeritus to recognize his exceptionally meritorious service during his five years as a Professor at the William J. Perry Center, and was awarded with the Defense Security Cooperation Agency's World of Excellence Award for his exceptional support to the Center and its mission.

Since 2016 to 2022 he was a Professor on Strategic Planning at the Master's Degree on National Strategic Intelligence at the La Plata National University, Argentina.

RADM de la Fuente held numerous leadership and operational command positions within the Argentine Navy. He was the Commanding Officer of the Transport Ship ARA *CANAL BEAGLE*, the Corvette ARA *PARKER*, and the Second Corvette Squadron.

As a Flag Officer, he served as Commander, Sea Fleet Command, and later as Director of Naval Education. Previously, he was President of the Argentine Naval War College and Vice President of the Center for Strategic Studies of the Argentine Navy.

Pedro de la Fuente holds a Master of Science in Management from Salve Regina University, Newport, RI. At the Harvard Kennedy School, he completed the Executive Program *Driving Government Performance: Leadership Strategies that Produce Results*.

He is the author of *Confidence-Building Measures in the Southern Cone: A Model for Regional Stability*, published by the Naval War College Review.

Among other decorations, he has been distinguished with the Navy Commendation Medal, presented by the U.S. Secretary of the Navy for meritorious service while serving as Research Fellow, analyst and professor at the Center for Naval Warfare Studies, U.S. Naval War College.

Ms. Carolyn Gruber is a Fellow and Deputy Director of the Environmental Security Program at the Stimson Center. She most recently served as a Foreign Affairs Officer with the Office of Marine Conservation in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. She worked primarily on international fisheries management in the Eastern and Western Pacific Ocean, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Her portfolio included serving as a U.S. delegate to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and the Western and Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission. Carolyn was the lead coordinator and policy advisor for the South Pacific Tuna Treaty and related Economic Assistance Agreement, including managing a multi-million-dollar annual grant to the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency. In addition, Carolyn supported the team charged with implementing the Department's strategy to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, including supporting the 21-agency Working Group on IUU Fishing and its subsidiary bodies.

Carolyn was previously a Foreign Affairs Specialist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) and holds a Bachelor of Arts dual degree in Geography and Environmental Studies from the University of Richmond and a Master of Environmental Management degree from Duke University. Following graduate school, Carolyn spent time working with the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance, coordinating policy outreach in support of local fishermen, and then came to Washington, D.C. in 2015 as a John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellow.

Ms. Holly Haverstick a member of the Senior Executive Service, currently serves as the Director of International Affairs and Foreign Policy Advisor for the US Coast Guard. In this capacity, she is responsible for developing, coordinating and implementing agency strategy, policies, and programs related to the Coast Guard's international activities. In addition, she serves as the Executive Agent for the International Affairs Executive Steering Group (IAESG), which also develops recommended strategies, policies and direction regarding the Coast Guard's international engagement.

Ms. Haverstick has extensive experience in international affairs, Security Cooperation, strategy and Foreign Military Sales (FMS). She previously served as the Deputy Assistant Director for Weapons at the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA). In this capacity, she was responsible as the senior industry ombudsmen, weapons systems technical subject matter expert, and lead expert on the various technology release processes. She also successfully led numerous multi-billion dollar international weapons systems competitions, worked closely with partners and Allies to define and fulfill critical operational requirements and co-drafted various national level policies.

Other career highlights include: Director for Strategy at the DSCA. In this role she was responsible for co-drafting and implementing the 2018 Conventional Arms Transfer (CAT) Policy and implementing the sweeping Security Cooperation reforms mandated in the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Prior assignments include: C4ISR Lead, DSCA Weapons; Regional Desk Officer for Europe, Department of State, Political Military Affairs Regional Security and Arms Transfer; Country Program Director for Middle East, Navy International Programs Office; FMS Case Manager, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command.

Ms. Haverstick holds a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, as well as a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Affairs from George Washington University.

Dr. Ali Kamal-Deen (Kamal) is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Professional Studies, Accra, and a founding member and Executive Director of Center for Maritime Law and Security Africa (CEMLAWS Africa). He is an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Nelson Mandela University, South Africa, a visiting lecturer at both the International Maritime Law Institute (Malta) and the Interregional Maritime Safety Institute (ISMI), Abidjan. Kamal has an excellent blend of professional and academic experience which spans International Law, International Relations, Ocean Governance, Defense and Security. He served for 20 years in the Ghana Armed Forces during which he worked in multiple roles, both home and abroad. He is a consultant and technical expert to a number of international institutions. He is a Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, Ghana, a Senior Research Fellow at the Australian National Centre for Ocean

Resources and Security and an Associate at the Corbett Centre for Maritime Policy Studies, UK. He currently serves on the editorial boards for the Journal of Defence, Security and Strategy and the advisory board STRONG High Seas Project.

He holds a PhD (with Special Commendation) from the University of Wollongong, Australia. His other academic qualifications include Master of Law, Master of Arts in International Affairs and Bachelor of Law. He has published widely and his book "Maritime Security Cooperation in the Gulf of Guinea: Prospects and Challenges" (2015) is rated as a significant contribution to global knowledge. As a Technical Expert to the UN High Panel on Sustainable Ocean Economy, he recently Co-authored Blue Paper 16, Organized Crime in the Fisheries Sector, which was launched on 18 August 2020. He is an editor of Vol II of the book project The Law of the Sea – Contemporary Norms and Practice in Africa, due for publication in 2022.

Francisco das Chagas Lemos Jr. holds a Bachelor's Degree in Naval Sciences, with a major in Mechanics, from the Naval War College (1994). He holds a Master's Degree in Naval Sciences from the Naval War College (2011), a General Staff Course from the Naval War College of Uruguay (2013), a Joint Staff Course from the War College (RJ, 2014), Senior Defense Studies Course from the War College (DF, 2020), Complementary Course of Advanced Studies by the Naval War College (2021), Course on Geopolitics of Africa by the Military University Institute of Portugal (2022) and Course on Defense Management in an Expanded Context by the UK Defense Academy (2022). He headed the Presidente Epitácio (SP) Fluvial Station from 2007 to 2009, where he was also Secretary of the Technical Committee of the Tietê-Paraná Waterway, and commanded the "Almirante Gastão Motta" Tanker, of the Brazilian Fleet, from 2016 to 2018. He was an instructor of Military Planning at the Naval War College between 2014 and 2015. He was National Coordinator of Operation Agate (land and maritime border strips and overlying airspace), subordinated to the Joint Operations Headquarters (CHOC) of the Ministry of Defense (MD), in the biennium 2018-2019 and 2021. Between November 2021 and February 2022 he was interim Chief of Staff of the CHOC, assuming in March 2022 the coordination of the South Atlantic Peace and Cooperation Zone (ZOPACAS) forum, as well as the advisory role on issues related to the Gulf of Guinea, at the Ministry of Defense's Deputy Head of International Organizations (SCOI), his current position.

Captain (ret.) Brian Lisko is Chief of International Training and Technical Assistance in the US Coast Guard's (USCG) Office of International Affairs and Foreign Policy Advisor at USCG Headquarters in Washington, DC.

He was the first Director of the Strategy Implementation Division at US Naval Forces Europe/Africa-US SIXTH Fleet (NAVEUR/NAVAF-SIXTHFLT), Naples, Italy. He served as the lead command advisor for security cooperation (SC) and security assistance (SA) programs totaling \$500M in support of US European Command and US Africa Command (AFRICOM) theater security cooperation objectives.

Mr Lisko was formerly a Maritime Advisor at AFRICOM's Counter-Narcotics and Transnational Threats Division (J59) in Stuttgart, Germany where he was responsible for enabling combined maritime law enforcement operations between the United States and African partner nations under Operation JUNCTION RAIN. Mr Lisko led six legal interoperability studies in support of phase zero of the African Maritime Law Enforcement Partnership (AMLEP) program to Cote

d'Ivoire, Kenya, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, and Tanzania. He was directly responsible for the first-time participation of the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy in NAVAF's PHOENIX Express exercise and the Somali Maritime Police Unit in NAVAF's CUTLASS Express exercise. Mr Lisko served as the AFRICOM Chief Command Briefer for three years, briefing scores of distinguished visitors, including Speaker Pelosi and Secretary Esper, as well as serving as the master of ceremonies for the AFRICOM change of command in 2019.

One of the US Government's (USG) leading experts on Somali piracy, he served as Head of the US Delegation for two Plenaries of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS). In July of 2018, he successfully negotiated on behalf of the USG with the Puntland Attorney General and Chief Justice for the continued incarceration of 30 convicted Somali pirates being considered for early release.

He retired as a Captain from the US Coast Guard (USCG) after 35 years of commissioned service in 2016 having served as the Senior USCG Liaison to the US Department of State (DoS), Deputy Director, and Chief of Regional Affairs, all in the Director of International Affairs and Foreign Policy Advisor's Office. Mr Lisko led the USCG's efforts addressing the European mass maritime migration crisis from 2014-2016. Earlier, he served as Senior USCG Liaison to NAVEUR/NAVAF-SIXTHFLT and the first USCG Attaché outside the Western Hemisphere, posted to US Embassy Valletta, Malta. Mr Lisko was the most senior C-130 pilot in the USCG on his retirement.

Mr Lisko received the Department of Homeland Security's Gold Medal (highest award for service), two Legions of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross with valor device, DoS's Superior Honor Award, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joint Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

He holds master's degrees from Marine Command & Staff College and the University of Arkansas.

Colonel (ret.) Daniel Locattelli is the General Director of Defence Policy at the Ministry of Defense and Secretary at the National Defence Council of Uruguay.

As a graduated officer from the Military Academy, he served in Artillery Units as a lieutenant until the rank of Captain, when he attended the International Security Course in UK, being appointed at the Army General Staff upon arrival. Once promoted to the rank of major, he graduated at the Staff Course, and later appointed as a Chief of Staff of the Divisional Artillery. Overseas he served as a United Nations MILOB in MINURSO, in Western Sahara, and some years later, he was deployed as the Chief of the Uruguayan Contingent in the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt in the Multinational Observer Force.

His last assignment during his active service, was Head of Courses at the Military Academy. Months later he retired as a Full Colonel.

He earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Political Sciences from the University of the Republic in Uruguay, and is currently studying for a PhD in the same discipline, at the University of San Martín, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

As a political scientist he has developed different lines of research, one of them related to International Security, having presented papers at the Congresses of the International Society of Political Science (IPSA), in Poznan, Poland (2016) and Lisboa, Portugal (virtual -2021).

Another line of research is related to the Democracy-Authoritarianism transition in Uruguay, which was the main subject for the final dissertations at the bachelor's and master's degrees in Political Sciences. Those were presented in the Latin American Association of Political Science Congresses (ALACIP), in Buenos Aires, Argentina (2010), Quito, Ecuador (2012) and at the UK Political Science Association (PSA) in Glasgow. (2018).

He has been a Professor at the Defense College (since 2008); at the Army War College (since 2005) and also Lecturer at different Institutes and Universities, on topics related to the lines of research described before.

He also teaches classes at the University of Social and Business Sciences of Argentina (since 2018), in the subject of Strategic Intelligence, within the specializations of Foresight, and Money Laundering.

As a political consultant, his main works have taken place in the implementation of the Third Level of Democracy, sponsored by the UNDP in Uruguay (2008 - 2009), and as a parliamentary strategic advisor (2016 - 2020).

Since 2020 he is Director General of Defence Policy of the Ministry of National Defence and Secretary of the National Defence Council, in Uruguay.

Ms Kirsty McLean is the Program Manager for Building Partner Capacity program for the US Navy International Program Office. Her mission is to efficiently and effectively respond to Component Command requirements for equipment that enables partners to combat terrorism and respond to maritime threats. Ms McLean translates operational needs into system requirements and successful outcomes for the U.S. government and valued partners.

Ms McLean is a former Royal Australian Air Force officer who has worked for 20 years as a technology program manager for three different Defense Forces: Australia, New Zealand and the United States, as well as in the private sector. Her previous positions include: Program Analyst for the Under Secretary for Defense Acquisition at the Pentagon; Logistics and Procurement Manager for the Royal New Zealand Defense Force; and Project Management Consultant for LMR Solutions, implementing projects for technology firms such as Microsoft and AMGEN. Before joining the US Naval Forces Africa, she spent 5 years as the Project Execution Lead for the \$80M High Energy Laser Weapon System project at General Atomics in San Diego.

Ms McLean holds a Bachelor of Economics from Griffith University in Australia, a Masters of Business Administration from the American University in Washington DC and is a current candidate for a Masters of Development Economics at the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies. She was the valedictorian of the Australian Naval Staff College and holds professional certifications in Project Management and Systems Engineering.

Mr. Francis Izegaegbe Omiunu is a National Programme Officer, with the Global Maritime Crime Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). He is based in the UNODC Country Office Nigeria. He has been serving as UNODC's National Programme Officer Global Maritime Crime Programme in Nigeria since January 2020.

He has an LLB from the University of Benin and has been called to the Nigerian Bar. Prior to joining the UNODC as National Programme Officer, Francis Izeg Omiunu had worked with the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and more recently the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA).

He has been a prosecutor in Nigeria and has many years of practice as a maritime law enforcement expert.

Captain Mohammed Shettima is a senior Captain in the Nigeria Navy with operational experience in multiple missions and exercises including UN missions. He is the Coordinator for the African Union-led development of the Combined Maritime Task Force - Gulf of Guinea, which is in the process of being operationalized in order to provide kinetic capabilities to the the Yaoundé Architecture and other Maritime Security requirements in the Gulf of Guinea and the continent at large. He has previously served as the Naval Attaché at the Nigerian Mission to the African Union and as the Commanding Officer of the *NNS Dorina*, where he led maritime security operations. He has also flown several helicopter missions in anti-piracy and anti-illegal bunkering missions. Mohammad is a maritime security consultant and has provided consultancy services to the AU, AUPSC and the GGC. Captain Shettima is a graduate of the Nigerian Defence Academy and holds a Masters in Maritime Warfare Studies. He is a member of the African Defense Attaché Forum and recipient of the Meritorious Service Star, Forces Service Star, and multiple other honors and awards. Captain Shettima enjoys philanthropic activities in his leisure time.

Dr. Miguel Ferreira da Silva is the Director of the Commission for Strategic and Governance Studies of the Sea, Energy, and Environment (CEEGMEA). Dr. Ferreira was the Senior Portuguese Representative at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. Following his graduation in Law from the University of Lisbon he completed post graduate studies in Juridical-Political Sciences, at the same University, and in Political Science and International Relations at the Portuguese Catholic University. He specializes in security, intelligence, and terrorism. After developing a career in Legal Advising to the Public Sector, both at local and national levels, Miguel returned to academia to teach Portuguese language and culture at the University of Nottingham, where he also completed his PhD. in cultural studies (legitimacy discourse of international criminal courts). Still a Senior Legal Advisor with the Portuguese Media Authority, he also became an advisor to the Portuguese Government, particularly in matters related to Africa. His main research interests are linked to democracy, the rule of law, freedom of the press and post conflict cultures. Miguel is also a member of the International Consortium for the Study of Post Conflict Cultures. Born in Porto, Portugal, he fluently speaks Portuguese, English and Spanish; he also speaks French.

Commander Artur José Lucas da Silva was born in Lisbon in 1975 and began his naval career in 1993.

After finishing his primary training at the Naval Academy, he was assigned to the frigate NRP Álvares Cabral for his first sea draft.

Commander Artur Silva was the Commanding Officer of a Coastal Patrol Vessel when afloat. His maritime deployments were mostly on Frigates, where he served as Officer of the Watch, Principal Warfare Officer, Operations Officer, and Executive Officer. Commander Artur served onboard ships for almost 17 years, participating in a wide range of joint and naval missions and exercises.

Commander Artur also integrated the international staff of the European Naval Force during Operation ATALANTA in the Indian Ocean for ten months as a senior officer, and the international staff of the Standing NATO Maritime Group One for twelve months.

Commander Artur Silva worked ashore at the Portuguese Sea Training Department and the Portuguese Navy Staff, Plans and Policy Division, where he oversaw the Navy's interagency

cooperation with national and international partners. Commander Artur Silva worked as the Cell Head for Civil and Military Engagement in Sub-Saharan Africa at the NATO Strategic Direction-South Hub in Naples. He is now the Director of Naval Intelligence.

Commander Artur's professional education comprises a Master of Science (MSc) in Business Management and an Executive Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from the ISCTE Business School of Lisbon, in addition to his military degree.

Commander Artur Silva's awards include national and international recognitions.

Mr. Timothy Walker is the Maritime Project Leader and a Senior Researcher at ISS Pretoria. He leads a project that aims to strengthen African maritime security institutions. Since 2011 he has worked to promote maritime security as a policy priority with organisations such as the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). He is a graduate of Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa where he earned a BA, BA Hons and MA degrees in Political and International Studies. His areas of interest include Maritime Security, Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea, Water Security, China-Africa relations, International Relations (IR) theory and Human Security.