

Annual Meeting of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform
Monday, 5 November 2018, 13.30-17.45
Speakers' Bios



Julia Bello-Schünemann is a senior research consultant based in Lagos, Nigeria for the African Futures and Innovation programme at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS). Before joining the ISS, she was a consultant working on peace and state building, providing policy advice to the European Union (EU) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), among others. She has a PhD in international relations from the Complutense University of Madrid, Spain. The African Futures Project at the ISS conducts quantitative futures research to understand trends in conflict, politics, economics and development, the results of which inform local and international policy and strategy.



Counsellor Yvette Chesson-Wureh is the Establishment Coordinator of the Angie Brooks International Centre (ABIC) for Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development, International Peace and Security. An advocate and champion of women's rights and gender equality, she was the Initiator of the "Women's Situation Room" (WSR) for the Liberian elections in 2011. WSR implements a process which leads to peaceful, democratic elections led by empowered women and marginalized youths. The WSR has been successfully replicated in 7 countries across Africa. Counsellor Chesson-Wureh received her Juris Doctorate law degree with honors from the North Carolina Central University School of Law and is a member of the United States Supreme Court Bar, the U.S. Federal District Bar, and the Association of Female Lawyers of Liberia (AFELL).



Kelly T. Clements is Deputy High Commissioner, at the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Geneva. She joined UNHCR as Deputy High Commissioner in July 2015. Ms Clements has been closely involved with refugee and displacement issues throughout her three-decade career. Before joining UNHCR, she served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) where she was responsible for humanitarian issues in Asia and the Middle East and global policies and resources. In 2014, she was Acting Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. From 1993 to 1996, Ms Clements served at the U.S. Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland on a Foreign Service appointment. She was Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs in 1997-1998. Ms Clements served as a Senior Emergency Officer for Europe, the Newly Independent States, and the Americas, and later as Balkans Assistance Coordinator; she was deployed to Albania in 1999. She worked for the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Bangladesh in 1992.



Ambassador Sabrina Dallafior is Head of Multilateral Division and Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland. She holds a Masters Degree in Eastern European History and Russian Studies from the University of Basel. In 2000 she joined the Swiss Diplomatic Service and started her diplomatic career as Attaché at the Swiss Mission to the EU in Brussels. She was thereafter appointed First Secretary at the Swiss Mission to NATO. Back at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in Berne in 2004, she covered various multilateral security policy issues at the Centre for International Security Policy and subsequently became Head of the OSCE Office. From 2008 to 2012 she was Counsellor and Head of the Political Affairs, Security & Communication Section at the Swiss Mission to the EU in Brussels where she was the point of contact for the EU for all questions relating to the Swiss participation in civilian, police and military crisis management operations. In May 2012 she was appointed Minister Counsellor and Deputy Head of the Human Security Division. In this function, she was in charge of human rights policy, humanitarian policy and international migration policy issues as well as disarmament and arms control issues. In August 2016, she was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference of Disarmament and Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva.



Jerald Joseph is a Commissioner with the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM), member of the Foreign Policy Council of Ministry of the Foreign Affairs and of the ad-hoc Independent Committee on Migrant Workers of the Ministry of Human Resources. Mr Joseph has worked with human rights NGOs for the last 25 years and been involved with many NGOs at leadership level which include Pusat KOMAS, Dignity International, ASPBAE and Commonwealth Foundation focusing on Non-Discrimination Indigenous rights programmes and good governance. Mr Joseph remains a Human Rights Training Consultant, having worked with many stakeholders, including grassroots communities across Asia, Africa and Middle East. He has authored several human rights training manuals on Human Rights Based Approaches to Development (HRBA). Mr Joseph was a member of the UN NGO International Steering Committee (ISC) of the 3rd World Conference against Racism (WCAR) in 2001. He was also a High Level Panel speaker at the 17th UN Human Rights Council (2011) in Geneva on best practices in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Mr Joseph was Chair of Regional Steering Committee for the ACSC/ASEAN Peoples Forum (APF) 2015-2016.



Miroslav Lajčák has dedicated his professional life to diplomatic service, representing Slovakia and the international community. He currently serves his fourth term as the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic. He is also the former President of the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly and the incoming Chair of the OSCE. Previously, Mr Lajčák has negotiated and supervised the referendum on the independence of Montenegro in 2006, served as the High Representative and EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2007-2009) and as the Managing Director of the European External Action Service (2010-2012).



Anne-Lene Midseim has worked for Hydro since 1998, including as Company Secretary, Head of Staff in Bauxite & Alumina, Head of CSR and Legal Counsel. In 2006 and 2007 she worked for the Norwegian Oil for Development project as resident Legal Advisor to the Minister of Petroleum. Before joining Hydro, Ms Midseim worked as a lawyer for the Norwegian law firm Vogt & Co and Executive Officer in the Ministry of Oil and Energy. Ms Midseim has a law degree from the University of Oslo.



Ghada Rafai is an architect from Syria who also holds a diploma in Project Management and Urban Planning. She is a co-founder of Mobaderoon network, an active citizen network of over 4,000 participants which works in the development sector and delivers training. She has been working in urban development since 2001 and headed the Rehabilitation Project of the Old City of Aleppo. She had a vital role in activating Aleppo's Urban Observatory while she led its Directorate within Aleppo City Council. She also established the "Aleppo a Child Friendly City" initiative as part of the development strategy of Aleppo (Madinatouna). She also worked as program manager with Syria Trust for Development (citizenship for children and rural development), where her ability to work with a multitude of different social groups and to encourage them to work together and participate in community development was vital to achieving successful outcomes. Ms Rafai has volunteered with and helped establish several local NGOs since 1997 and succeeded in initiating cooperation projects between the Aleppo City Council and local NGOs and in leading an urban development intervention project between two areas. Her work was one of the first to introduce the concept of NGO-led urban development in Syria. Recently she was awarded the Livia Foundation Award in recognition for her extensive work to promote peace at time of conflict.



Ana Glenda Tager Rosado is the General Director of Alianza para la Paz (APAZ) a peacebuilding organization in the Americas. She conducted graduate and post-graduate studies in sociology at the University of Pontificia de Salamanca, Spain, and has almost 17 years of experience in issues related with security sector reform, violence reduction, vulnerable youth people (youth gangs and sport clubs), conflict transformation, resilience and peacebuilding. She coordinates multi-stakeholder dialogues in the seven countries of the Central American region, Haiti, Chiapas México and currently in Colombia. She has worked with regional organizations including the Central America Integration System (SICA) and the Organization of American States (OAS). She has published articles on private security, security sector reform, citizenship security, intelligence, violence prevention, youth gangs, illegal actors, and conflict in Central America. Her latest articles are include: "Parte del problema, parte de la solución: Actores ilegales y reducción de la violencia en El Salvador", in M. Gottsbacher, M. and J. Boer (2016) *Vulnerabilidad y Violencia en América Latina y el Caribe*, and "Armed Social Violence and Peacebuilding" (co-author Bernardo Arévalo de Leon) in B. Unger et al (2016), *Unclear Wars. Exploring a Peacebuilding Approach to Armed Social Violence*.



Dmitry Titov served as UN Assistant Secretary-General for the Rule of Law and Security Institutions from 2007 to 2017. In January 2018, Mr Titov was appointed by UN Secretary-General António Guterres to lead a Special Investigation into a series of attacks on peacekeepers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Mr Titov joined the UN in 1991, first as a Principal Officer in the then Department of Special Political Affairs, then serving as Director of the Africa Division in the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations from 1998 to 2007. In 2007, during the height of the Darfur crisis, Mr Titov successfully led the UN team in negotiations with the Government of Sudan. These mediation efforts led to a breakthrough in the peace process and the establishment of a hybrid African Union-United Nations peacekeeping force in Darfur. Before joining the United Nations, Mr Titov served for almost 20 years as a diplomat in his country's foreign service on UN Security Council and General Assembly matters while participating in peace negotiations on Afghanistan, Cyprus, Cambodia, Namibia, Central America, and other conflict situations. He is a graduate of MGIMO, the Moscow State Institute of International Relations, where he earned his Master of Arts in international economic relations.



Mike van Graan is the President of the African Cultural Policy Network, a member of UNESCO's Technical Facility on the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and an award-winning playwright. He has written 31 plays, one of the most recent – *When Swallows Cry* – won the Naledi Theatre Awards for Best Script, Best Production and Best Director. He is the 2018 recipient of the Sweden-based Hiroshima Foundation for Peace and Culture Award in recognition of his contribution to the fight against apartheid, to building a post-apartheid society and to the interface of peace and culture both in South Africa and across the African continent.



Achim Wennmann is Executive Coordinator of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, a network that connects the critical mass of peacebuilding actors, resources, and expertise in Geneva and worldwide. At the Platform, Achim leads the strategic and programme development, fundraising, and integrated knowledge management. He is also co-founder of the Peace Talks Initiative and of Geneva Peace Week, and was co-facilitator of the Technical Working Group on Urban Safety and Peacebuilding, and the White Paper on Peacebuilding. Achim is also a Senior Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) of the Graduate Institute where he works on economic perspectives on violent conflict, dispute resolution and peacebuilding. He is author of over 80 publications, including *Urban Safety and Peacebuilding: New Perspectives on Sustaining Peace in the City* (edited with Oliver Jütersonke; London: Routledge, forthcoming 2019); *Business and Conflict in Fragile States: The Case for Pragmatic Solutions* (with Brian Ganson; London: IISS, 2016); *Legitimacy in Peace Processes: From Coercion to Consent* (edited with Alexander Ramsbotham, London: Conciliation Resources, 2014); *The Political Economy of Peacemaking* (London: Routledge, 2011); and *Ending Wars, Consolidating Peace: Economic Perspectives* (edited with Mats Berdal; London: IISS, 2010).