

International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers 15th Annual Conference

Biographies (in alphabetical order)



Major General Patrick Cammaert has had a distinguished military career in the Netherlands and the United Nations. He served as Sector Commander in Cambodia (UNTAC), Assistant Chief of Staff in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNPROFOR), Force Commander in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE), Military Advisor to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), and as General Officer Commanding the Eastern Division in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC). He was also responsible for carrying out assessments to several UN missions such as in DRC, Lebanon, Sudan, Haiti, Liberia and Chad and as Special Envoy to Sri Lanka for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children in Armed Conflict. Since his retirement in 2007, he has since been an expert advocate to DPKO, UN Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Women and a lead consultant on sexual violence in armed conflict. In 2008, he was awarded the Carnegie-Wateler Peace Prize in the Peace Palace in The Hague.



Fred Carver is the Head of Policy for UNA-UK, leading the organisation's policy development. He works with the Campaigns and Outreach teams on the policy content of their projects, and also has a particular focus on UNA-UK's work on UN Peacekeepers. Prior to joining UNA-UK, Fred ran the Sri Lanka Campaign for Peace and Justice, a human rights NGO which campaigned for a lasting peace in Sri Lanka based upon justice and accountability for crimes committed in the course of Sri Lanka's civil war. Before then he worked in local government and as a researcher and writer. He has conducted field research in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Israel and Palestine.



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Professor Christine Chinkin is an Emerita Professor of International Law, founding Director of the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at the London School of Economics and political science (LSE) and a special advisor to the House of Lords Select Committee on Sexual Violence in Conflict. She has been an advisor on UN fact-finding missions to Gaza in 2007 (Belt Hanoun) and 2009 (the Goldstone Report). She is a leading expert on the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and was a scientific advisor to the Council of Europe Committee that drafted the Convention on Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the 'Istanbul Convention'). In 2000, she co-authored *'The Boundaries of International Law'* with Hilary Charlesworth and was awarded the American Society of International Law, Goler T. Butcher Medal.



Dr David Curran is a Research Fellow at Coventry University. Since completing his PhD at the Department of Peace Studies, University of Bradford, David has undertaken research into a range of topic areas including the role of conflict resolution in training programmes for military peacekeepers; protection of civilians in UN Peacekeeping; the United Kingdom and the UN; the evolution of rapid-reaction peacekeeping and peacebuilding forces such as the African Union standby brigades, EU battle groups; and the potential of specialised UN rapid reaction capabilities. He is a frequent contributor to UNA-UK's research.



Nicola Dahrendorf is a Social Anthropologist and Lawyer. She recently joined the British Peace Support Team for East Africa in a newly created role as Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law and Gender Adviser. Prior to that, she worked in the Central African Republic where she worked in the UN Mission (MINUSCA) as the Director/Senior Adviser on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Chief of the MINUSCA Conduct and Discipline Team - focused on internal UN accountability and coordinating the response to the SEA scandal in CAR. She has had extensive experience within the UN, (UNHCR, UNICEF and UN DPKO), NGOs, the UK Government (DFID and Stabilisation Unit), and in academia with the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and King's College London where she is a Visiting Research Fellow. In the UN, she worked primarily in humanitarian emergencies and peacekeeping operations, in CAR, Haiti, DRC, Rwanda, East Timor, Bosnia and Cambodia. At DFID she worked as Regional Conflict Adviser for West Africa, as a Humanitarian Adviser and as Senior Security and Justice and Conflict Adviser on call for the UK Stabilisation Unit, on Nigeria, Somalia and South Sudan. Her overall professional focus has been on peace-building and conflict resolution, security and justice reform in fragile environments, protection of civilians and on sexual and gender based violence.



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Dr Marsha Henry is Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at the London School of Economics and political science (LSE), where she has worked since 2009. She previously taught at the University of British Columbia, the Open University, the University of Warwick and the University of Bristol, where she was a lecturer in the School for Policy Studies. Her research interests focus on three main areas: gender and development; gender, security and militarisation; and qualitative methodologies. Over the past 10 years, her research interests have been concentrated on documenting the social experiences of living and working in peacekeeping missions. Her recent research focuses on peacekeepers from the Global South.



Dr Karin von Hippel is the first woman and non-British national to be appointed as Director-General of the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) in 2015. She previously served as Chief of Staff to General John Allen, Special Presidential Envoy for the Global Coalition to Counter-ISIL. She has also worked in the US Department of State, United Nations and the European Union in Somalia and Kosovo. Dr Von Hippel has numerous publications to her name, including *Democracy by Force: US Military Intervention in the Post-Cold War World* (2000), which was short-listed for the RUSI Westminster Medal in Military History.



Hilde F Johnston is the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Formerly, she was the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMISS in South Sudan. Between 2001 to 2005, she was the Minister of International Development and Minister of Human Rights and Development from 1997 to 2000. In 2003, she was awarded the "Commitment to Development Award" by the Center for Global Development and Foreign Policy in Washington, DC.



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Tessy de Luxembourg is a Patron of UNA-UK, Global Advocate for Young Women and Adolescent Girls at UNAIDS as well as an Associate Fellow at Chatham House in the centre for Global Health and Security. She is a former officer in the Luxembourg army. In 2004, she was stationed in Kosovo after volunteering to take part in the United Nations BELUKOS 13/15 detachment. She was the only female on her team and received the United Nations Medal of Recognition for her work in the mission. Following this, she was posted to the Luxembourg Embassy in London in 2005 and then took up post at the Permanent Mission of Luxembourg to the UN in Geneva. She later joined the Psychological Support Group of Luxembourg and created her own NGO titled 'Professors without Borders.' In 2016, Tessy received the Mongrovious Medal of Recognition for her work on spreading humanistic ideas globally.



General Sir Gordon Messenger KCB DSO* OBE ADC is Vice Chief of Defence Staff. He became Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Military Strategy and Operations) in July 2014. He was part of various operations worldwide such as Kosovo, Afghanistan, Iraq and Lebanon as part of the HQ Royal Marines and Joint Force Headquarters. From 2010 to 2012 he served as Chief of Staff (Operations) at the Permanent Joint Headquarters, responsible for the conduct and capability of UK overseas operations. In 2013, he assumed the position of Deputy Commander of NATO's Allied Land Command in Izmir, Turkey.



Natalie Samarasinghe is Executive Director of the United Nations Association – UK (UNA-UK) and the first woman to hold this role. She provides analysis on international relations and institutions, and speaks and writes regularly on UN issues, recently co-editing the eight-volume SAGE Major Work on the United Nations. In 2013, she co-founded the '1 for 7 Billion' campaign to improve the selection process for the UN Secretary-General. Her voluntary positions include: the Sri Lanka Campaign, International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, and documentary foundation BRITDOC.
