

# MODERATORS' PROFILES





**Mr Jonas Alberoth**

**(Consolidation and Development Committee (CDC) Chair of IAPTC Executive Committee)**

Jonas Alberoth has served in several international positions for the UN, the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Swedish Armed Forces. He has more than twenty years of overall experience worked on issues relating to politics, leadership, cooperation, conflict resolution and state building. In addition, Mr. Alberoth has a long withstanding engagement with the Challenges Forum and its partners since the onset of the platform.



**Brigadier General Joyce C Sitienei**

**(President IAPTC Executive Committee)**

Brigadier General Joyce Sitienei is one of the most senior ranking female officers in the Kenyan military. She is the Director of the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) in Nairobi, Kenya, a centre of excellence mandated to build capacity in international peace support operations that involve the military, police and civilian personnel. Since 2015 she has led the organization's efforts to integrate gender fully into peacekeeping operations.



**Ms Lotte Vermeij**

**(Civilian Chair IAPTC Executive Committee)**

Dr. Lotte Vermeij (PhD) is a Senior Expert on UN Peace Operations and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence at Norwegian Refugee Council. Since 2020 she has been a Non-resident Adviser to the International Peace Institute (IPI) in New York. She is actively engaged in the development and delivery of (peacekeeping) training for the UN, AU, NATO, ICRC, ISG, GPOI and national peacekeeping training centers, and has facilitated over 200 peacekeeping courses and workshops in 35 countries across six continents.

## Sessions Moderators



**Lieutenant Colonel Darleen Young AM, RFD  
(Pedagogical Chair IAPTC Executive Committee)**

Lieutenant Colonel Darleen Young has had vast and diverse experiences both in conflict and post conflict environments and in peacekeeping training centres. This has included operational deployments as recent as in the Middle East and conducting gap analysis, training, assessment and evaluation in over 25 Countries. She was awarded one of the highest Queens Honours in Australia for exceptional services and her efforts in the field of peace operations training and gender awareness education have had significant effect to regional international engagement and further reaching global impact.



**Major General Nasim Parvez  
(Former President IAPTC Executive Committee)**

Major General Nasim has served in different command, staff and instructor appointments in his illustrious career. He is an expert in the telecommunication sector and served successfully as Director General of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC). He has served twice under the blue helmets as a contingent member in Democratic Republic of Congo and as a military observer in Liberia. General Nasim served as the Commandant of Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation Training (BIPSOT). He has a number of publications in National Defence College (NDC) Journal and in different telecommunication magazines.



**Mr Ahmed Sameh  
(Deputy Director CCCPA)**

Mr Ahmed Sameh is a career diplomat in the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prior to joining CCCPA, he was the Africa and Legal Counselor at the Egyptian Embassy in Paris, where his primary responsibility involved coordinating with French officials on matters relating to African affairs and legal affairs. He has also served as Chargé D'Affaires at the Egyptian Embassy in N'Djamena. This role further enhanced his diplomatic prowess as he represented Egypt's interests and fostered relations with Chadian officials.

# PANELISTS' PROFILES



### Session - 1



**Mr. Jean Pierre Lacroix**  
**(Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations)**

Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix is the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations. Mr. Lacroix brings to the position over 25 years of political and diplomatic experience, with a focus on multilateral organizations, and on United Nations activities and programmes. His previous appointments include Ambassador of France to Sweden, Chief of Protocol of France, Deputy Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York, Deputy Chief of Mission at the French Embassy in Prague and First Secretary then Second Counsellor at the French Embassy in Washington.



**Mr Munir Akram**  
**(Permanent Representative, Pakistan's Permanent Mission to United Nations New York)**

Ambassador Munir Akram joined the Foreign Service of Pakistan in 1967, holding various positions in the Foreign Ministry as Additional Foreign Secretary and Director-General United Nations. During his term at the United Nations, Ambassador Munir Akram served twice as President of the Security Council. He also served as Member of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Disarmament, Chairman of the WTO Trade Policy Review Body and President of the Conference on Disarmament. He is currently serving as Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.



**Mr Faisal Shahkar**  
**(United Nations Police Adviser)**

Mr. Shahkar served as Punjab Police Inspector-General, Pakistan prior to joining the United Nations . He has more than 30 years of national and international policing experience, including 9 years with the UN at Headquarters and the field. He most recently served as Team Leader within the United Nations Standing Police Capacity. He also served with the United Nations Police Division in New York, United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH). Currently, he is serving as a seventh United Nations Police Adviser in the Department of Peace Operations.

## Sessions Panelists



**Brigadier General Nazmul Haque, afwc, psv  
(Acting Deputy MILAD, Office of Military Affairs)**

Brigadier General Mohammad Nazmul Haque is the Chief of Staff at the Office of Military Affairs, Department of Peace Operations (DPO), New York at the United Nations Headquarters. He is also currently performing duties as Acting Deputy MILAD in OMA.

### Session - 2



**Commander Tyson Nicholas  
(Strategic Military Advisor to UN Women)**

Commander Tyson Nicholas, RAN, psc is an Active-duty Officer from the Australian Defense Force, currently serving as Strategic Military Advisor to UN Women. In this role Tyson advises UN Women senior leadership and leads on matters related to gender-responsive peacekeeping, security sector reform, disarmament and small arms and light weapons, and the prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse. He also represents UN Women in an attaché capacity in defense international engagement and diplomacy. Tyson has served in leadership and staff positions in Australian. His operational experience includes combat operations with Australian, NATO, and U.S. forces in Afghanistan, peacekeeping with the UN Mission in South Sudan.



**Maliha Lodhi  
(Former PAREP UN)**

Maleeha Lodhi is a Pakistani diplomat, political scientist, and a former Pakistan's Representative to the United Nations. She was the first woman to hold the position. Previously, she served as Pakistan's envoy to the Court of St James' and twice as its ambassador to the United States.



**Mr Christian Saunders**  
**(Special Coordinator on Improving the UN Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse)**

Mr Christian Saunders is currently serving as Special Coordinator on improving the UN response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. He brings to the position, over 30 years of experience in international affairs, much of it focusing on delivering results and overseeing major reforms leading to improved organizational effectiveness and efficiency. He served as a member of the high-level task force established by the Secretary-General to develop a strategy to improve the organization's approach to preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse.



**Lieutenant Colonel Saimoon Nahar**  
**(Instructor at BIPSOT)**

Lieutenant Colonel Saimoon Nahar, afwc, psc has an illustrious career in Bangladesh Army spanning 22 years. She is a graduate from National Defence College and Defence Services Command and Staff College, Mirpur. She also holds a Masters of Business Administration from South East University, Dhaka. She served as peacekeeper in two capacities; as contingent member in United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and United Nations Mission in South Sudan as Staff Officer. Presently she is serving at Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation Training (BIPSOT) as Grade-1 Staff Officer, an Instructor, and as a Mission Desk Officer (South Sudan).



**Ms Margarete Cheptile**  
**(Head of Curriculum Design IPSTC, Kenya)**

Ms Margaret Cheptile is a development researcher with interest in the areas of Development Policy, Peace and Security, Curriculum Development. She holds a Masters Degree in Development Studies and Bachelors Degree in Social Work (Hons.) from the University of Nairobi. She has conducted several field-based researches and trainings in Peace Support Operations (PSO) which have significantly enhanced her expertise on conflict prevention, conflict management and post conflict reconstruction.



**Lieutenant Colonel Amna Abbas Malik  
(FMO in MINURSO)**

Lieutenant Colonel Amna Malik is a Public Health Specialist and a Health Care Administrator in Pakistan Army Medical Corps. A graduate of Army Medical College, received her post-graduation qualifications from Armed Forces Post Graduate Medical Institute and Defense Institute Of Medical Operations, DIMO, Texas, USA. She was selected twice to render her services under the ambit of United Nations as Medical Officer in Darfur (UNAMID) and as FMO in Western Sahara (MINURSO).



**Mr Daniel Wathome  
(Gender Specialist and Training Coordinator IPSTC, Kenya)**

Mr Daniel Wathome, Gender Specialist and Training Coordinator International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC), Kenya, Nairobi overseeing training and research activities under the gender mainstreaming in Peace Operations Program.



**Ms Beth Asher  
(Conduct and Discipline Service, Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, UN)**

Beth Asher is a Canadian-trained lawyer who has worked as a litigator in civil and criminal law. Ms Asher has worked with the United Nations for more than 12 years in the area of peacekeeping operations and support. She spent four years working with the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Kosovo, where she held several positions in the Department of Justice, including Legal Officer to the Chief International Prosecutor. Ms Asher then took up positions in UN Headquarters in New York, and has worked principally with the Department of Field Support in the area of conduct and discipline.



### Session - 3



**Mr. David Haeri**

**(Director of the Policy, Evaluation and Training Division, DPO)**

He has extensive field and UN Headquarters experience related to political affairs, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and inter-agency policy development. He has served in a range of capacities in DPO including as the Chief of Staff ad interim, Chief of the peacekeeping Policy and Best Practices Service and as Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary General, as well as in the Department of Political Affairs and the Office of the Secretary-General.



**Brigadier General Fahad Ayub**

**(Sector Commander, MINUSCA)**

Brigadier-General Fahd Ayub has thirty years of illustrious career with Pakistan Armed Forces. He has represented Pakistan Armed Forces as interlocuter in multiple international forums, seminars and military exercises including USA, Turkey, India, Thailand, Singapore, Sri-Lanka, Myanmar, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, South Korea, Philippines, Japan and Afghanistan. He has served as Sector Commander West Headquarters, MINUSCA from October 2023 to October 2024. Besides commanding integral subunits of infantry, he has commanded an Infantry Battalion (2013-2015) in operational area and an Infantry Brigade (2021-2023).



**Colonel Arrigo Gareffi**

**(Police Chair IAPTC and CoESPU Italy)**

Colonel Arrigo Gareffi is currently the Director of the International Institute for Stability Policing Studies at the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU) in Vicenza. With over three decades of service, he has held several strategic roles within the Carabinieri Corp. He has experience as Territorial Commander as well as Police Adviser and CoESPU Head of Crisis Management Chair/ Planning and Exercise for Peace Support Operations. He has internationally served in Kosovo, Afghanistan, Somalia and Iraq. Remarkable roles include overseeing deployment training, mentoring local forces, managing crisis intervention units, and coordinating training and advisory teams



**Mr Allan Cheboi**

**(Data and Digital Technology (DigiTech) Lead at Build Up)**

Allan is a DigiTech specialist with a keen interest in deciphering how organized groups exploit digital spaces, to either influence public opinion or to influence democratic processes globally. He has a wealth of experience doing digital research and investigations from his previous roles in cybercrime investigation and forensic audit at KPMG, where he honed his skills in unraveling complex digital trails.



**Lieutenant Colonel Wajiha Arshad**

**(Inter Services Public Relations)**

Lieutenant Colonel Wajiha Arshad served on various command, staff and instructional appointments. She has experience in the Plans and Foreign Media Division at ISPR Directorate. The Officer has represented the Pakistan Army in international media platforms and at conferences on media communication held in China and Italy. The officer served as a Military Public Information Officer at UN mission HQ in Cyprus. Currently, she is serving in the ISPR Directorate, General Headquarters.



**Mr Matt Quinton**

**(Regional Director ME/CA, M&C Saatchi World Services)**

Matt started with M&C Saatchi in early 2015 as the Deputy Program Director in East Africa. He later moved to the Middle East as the Program Director leading a number of strategic influencing program and training projects in the region. Prior to working for M&C Saatchi, Matt was a career infantry warrant officer in the British Army. He served for 25 years and deployed on various operations a number of times conducting information and psychological operations. worked as a security advisor supporting implementing partners and other international development agencies in the Middle East and Central Asia.



**Mr Liam Webber**

**(Regional Director AF/EUR, M&C Saatchi World Services)**

Mr Liam Webber began working with M&C Saatchi in February 2013 and was instrumental in setting up the business footprint in sub-Saharan Africa. He continues to lead the development of new communications projects across the continent and in 2022 added Europe to his portfolio. Liam was an infantry officer in the British Army. During a 20-year career he spent time running military psychological operations in the Balkans, Iraq, Afghanistan and across a number of countries in sub-Saharan Africa.



**Mr Mark Pederson**

**(Ex Chief ITS)**

Mark Pedersen is an Adviser with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. The majority of his United Nations service has been in the field where he has worked as a civil affairs officer and a political affairs officer and he has served in both peacekeeping and special political missions. At headquarters in New York, he has worked on policy, political, monitoring and evaluation, and mission support issues. Most recently, he has been a Visiting Fellow at the University of Zagreb and the Chief of the Integrated Training Service of the Department of Peace Operations which provides support to troop and police contributing countries and peace operations.

## Session - 4



**Ms Aisha Khan**

**(Head of the Civil Society Coalition for Climate Change and Mountain and Glacier Protection Organization)**

Aisha Khan is a member on the Board of Directors of several organizations and provides expert advice on climate change related adaptation and mitigation challenges. She is currently serving as the convener of the Working Group on Climate Security at the Strategic Policy Planning Cell, National Security Division. Awards recognizing her contribution include Tamgha-i-Imtiaz (Pakistan Civic Award for public service), The Bright Award for Environmental Sustainability from Stanford University and The National Order of Merit by the Government of France.



**Mr. Harinder Sood**  
**(Chief ITS)**

Harinder Sood, based in New York, is currently a Chief ITS at United Nations. Harinder Sood brings experience from previous roles at United Nations. Harinder Sood holds a Masters Degree in Public Policy in International Relations from Princeton University. With a robust skill set that includes Peacebuilding, Policy Analysis, Foreign Policy, Humanitarian Assistance, Logistics.



**Ms. Sarah Ratia Tekenet**  
**(Climate Peace and Security Unit, UNMISS)**

Ratia Tekenet is a climate security expert with over a decade of experience working across and supporting projects in Africa, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), and North America. She has worked on developing and implementing strategies to mitigate climate-related risks to enhance the resilience of communities & ecosystems and shape climate security policy. Her work has focused on critical areas such as climate finance, climate risk assessments, global environmental policy, adaptation planning, and integrating climate security into national and international policies, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

### Session - 5



**Lieutenant Colonel Dirk Maeder**  
**(Chief of the Basic Training Division, Germany)**

Lieutenant Colonel Dirk Maeder is the Chief of the Basic Training Division of the German Armed Forces United Nations Training Centre. In his more than 30 years of active service in the German Army, he served for more than one decade in the armor branch and for a decade in the Civil Military Cooperation. He served on the Balkans, in several missions in ISAF, Afghanistan and in the UN mission in South Sudan, in the field as Military observer and as chief U7 of the Force Headquarter.



**Brigadier General Imran Rasheed (Retired)**  
**(Former Faculty Member CIPS)**

Brigadier General Imran Rashid (Retired) has held various significant Command and Staff appointments throughout his career. He brings extensive UN peacekeeping experience and has served as a Senior Research Fellow and faculty member at the Centre for Peace and Stability. In this capacity, he has engaged with numerous organizations, institutes, and peacekeeping missions worldwide. Additionally, he has also served as a founding Editorial Director of Journal of International Peace & Stability and other publications concerning Peace Operations



**Lieutenant Colonel Arafat Hossain**  
**(BIPSOT)**

Lieutenant Colonel Mohammed Arafat Hossain is currently serving as a Staff Officer and Scenario Developer at the Bangladesh Army War Game Centre. His role involves enhancing decision-making for Army officers, military peacekeepers, and civilian officials through simulation exercises in strategic and operational scenarios. His job focuses on conventional warfare, UN peace operations, and military operations other than war. His job helps him to gain insights into diverse UN missions and global security environments. He served as a peacekeeper in two distinct roles as contingent member and as an Operations Staff Officer (U3) at the Forces Headquarters in MONUSCO.

### Session - 6



**Annika Hilding Norberg**  
**(Head of Peace Operations and Peacebuilding Geneva Center for Security Policy)**

Annika Hilding Norberg is Head of GCSP Peace Operations and Peacebuilding Education/Training; Policy Applicably Research/Advise; Dialogue/Discussion since 2017. She serves on the Board of Directors, International Leadership Association and the International Advisory Council, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. Annika led the GCSP's co-hosting of UNMAST, UNPCC, UNPD Leadership Retreat and UNSML. Recent publications focused on the future of UNPOL and lessons from UNTSO.



**Mr Herbert J. Loret**

**(Light Coordination Mechanism, ITS, DPET, DPO)**

Mr. Herbert J. Loret started his career with the Directorate for Strategic affairs, Security and Defence at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He served at the United Nations as a Disarmament Officer with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and with the UN Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission for Iraq. He then joined the Department for Peacekeeping Operations, serving as a special assistant to the UN senior leadership in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, and to the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel. He is currently serving as Political Affairs officer in charge of the United Nations Light Coordination Mechanism (LCM), within the Department of Peace Operations.



**Ms Dana Houk**

**(Program Director in Global Peace Operations Initiative)**

Ms Dana Houk is the Peace Operations Capacity Building (POCB) Division Chief in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs' Office of Global Programs and Initiatives (PM/GPI) at the United States Department of State. In this role, she serves as the Program Director for the U.S. Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) and the African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership (APRRP). Prior to this role, Ms. Houk served as a Strategic Planning Advisor in the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues, developing strategic plans for the United States Department of State's efforts to promote gender equality in foreign policy.



**Mr Takakazu Ito**

**(Senior Program Manager at TPP, UN)**

Takakazu Ito is the Senior Program Manager of the UN Triangular Partnership Program, a flagship peacekeeping training and operational support initiative of the Department of Operational Support. His UN career spans diverse roles across headquarters and the field, where he has worked as Senior Program Officer in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support, Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support, Special Assistant to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Timor-Leste, and Political Affairs Officer in headquarters and field locations.



**Mr Evariste Karambizi**  
**(Director for Peace Division at UNITAR)**

Mr Evariste Karambizi is a distinguished member within UNITAR, where he plays a vital role in advancing training programs focused on peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and sustainable development. With a deep commitment to strengthening capacities for peace, Karambizi has been instrumental in designing and implementing UNITAR's initiatives that equip diplomats, government officials, and civil society leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to address complex global challenges.



**Colonel Mustafizur Al Rehman**  
**(Program Manager at ITS, DPO)**

Colonel (Retired) Mustafizur Rahman is serving as the 'Program Manager' and Head of 'Train the Trainer (TOT)' Centre of the 'Integrated Training Service (ITS)' of DPO at Entebbe, Uganda since February 2022. He retired from Bangladesh Army in March 2021 after serving more than 33 years. In his long military career, he served in various capacities of command, staff and instructional appointments. He served twice in the Blue Helmets and also 'Senior Instructor-1' at Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation Training (BIPSOT) for 7 years, from 2010-2013 and 2016-2019.



**Colonel Soulaymane Sangare**  
**(African Peace Support Trainers Association)**

Colonel Soulaymane Sangare is a distinguished military leader with extensive experience in engineering and defense management. He began his career as a Deputy Commander of the 341st CCSTG and progressed through key roles, including Permanent Instructor at the Interarms Military School in Mali and Head of Studies at the Directorate of Military Engineering. He honed his skills in bridge and building construction, earning a Master's degree from the German Federal Army University. As the Director General of the Peacekeeping School Alioune Blondin Beye since January 2021, he combines military expertise with a commitment to training the next generation of peacekeepers.



### **Mr. Richard Caplan**

**(Professor of International Relations; Fellow of Linacre College)**

Richard Caplan is Professor of International Relations and an Official Fellow of Linacre College. His principal research interests are concerned with International Organisations and conflict management, with a particular focus on peacekeeping and 'post-conflict' peace- and state-building. He is the author and editor of several books. Professor Caplan is Principal Investigator of the ESRC-funded project 'After Exit: Assessing the Consequences of United Nations Peacekeeping Withdrawal', which is investigating conditions on the ground in countries that have played host to large-scale UN peacekeeping operations in the five-year period following the closure of these operations.

## Day Moderators

### Day 1 & 5



### **Colonel Fahad Yaqoob Awan, nswc, psc**

**(Deputy Senior National Representative, MINUSCA)**

Colonel Fahad Yaqoob is serving in Pakistan Army since 1997. The officer is a graduate of Command & Staff College, Quetta and National Defence University, Islamabad. He has remained on various Command and Staff Appointments throughout his Military Tenure including two stints of Training Instructor at the prestigious Pakistan Military Academy. His UN experience includes deployment in UN Mission Liberia in 2005-2006 and he is currently employed in UN mission Central African Republic.

### Day 2



### **Lieutenant Colonel Amna Malik**

**(FMO in MINURSO)**

Lieutenant Colonel Amna Malik is a Public Health Specialist and a Health Care Administrator in Pakistan Army Medical Corps. A graduate of Army Medical College, received her post-graduation qualifications from Armed Forces Post Graduate Medical Institute and Defense Institute Of Medical Operations, DIMO, Texas, USA. She was selected twice to render her services under the ambit of United Nations as Medical Officer in Darfur (UNAMID) and as FMO in Western Sahara (MINURSO).



### Day 3



#### **Brigadier General Humayun Zia Chohan, SI(M)**

Brigadier General Humayun Zia Chohan, SI(M) comes with 36 years of inland / abroad leadership, planning, operations, training, human resource management and logistics experience. He is a graduate of Command & Staff College and National Defence University. He has commanded a National Guards Brigade, a Logistics Brigade, a Supply & Transport Battalion and Field Supply Depots. He contributed to peacekeeping for over a year in UN Mission Sierra Leone and remained Chief, Force Generation Service in Office of Military Affairs, Dept of Peace Operations in UN HQ New York as well as Co-Chair Strategic Force Generation for 3 years.

### Day 4



#### **Lieutenant Colonel Wajiha Arshad (Inter Services Public Relations)**

Lieutenant Colonel Wajiha Arshad served on various command, staff and instructional appointments. She has experience in the Plans and Foreign Media Division at ISPR Directorate. The Officer has represented the Pakistan Army in international media platforms and at conferences on media communication held in China and Italy. The officer served as a Military Public Information Officer at UN mission HQ in Cyprus. Currently, she is serving in the ISPR Directorate, General Headquarters.