



2021 GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN POLICY FORUM

*Where to from Here? Humanitarian Action
Between Rising Needs And Distant Solutions*

Speakers

9 December 2021: High-level Opening - Risks, Threats and Challenges : The Growing Global Demand for Humanitarian Action



Femi Oke - Moderator

Journalist and Broadcaster

Femi Oke is an award-winning international journalist, broadcaster, professional moderator and cofounder of the diverse moderator's bureau "Moderate the Panel." Femi's reporting has been recognized by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Communications Agency and InterAction. Since the 1980s, she has worked for BBC television and radio, Sky TV, myriad U.K. television networks, CNN and U.S. public radio. As a professional moderator, Femi has presided over world class events including European Development Days, NBA Africa Celebratory Luncheon for the U.S. National Basketball Association, and the historic Barbershop Conference at the United Nations Headquarters.



Martin Griffiths

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Since 2018 Mr. Griffiths has served as the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Yemen. Between 2014 and 2018, he served as the first Executive Director of the European Institute of Peace. Between 2012 and 2014, he served as an adviser to all three Special Envoys of the Secretary-General for Syria, and Deputy Head of the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS). From 1999 to 2010, Mr. Griffiths was the founding Director of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva. He also worked in the British diplomatic service and for various international humanitarian organizations, including UNICEF, Save the Children and ActionAid. In 1994 he became the Director of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in Geneva and, and from 1998 to 1999, he served as Deputy to the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator in New York. He has also served as United Nations Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Great Lakes and in the Balkans.



Ayoade Olatunbosun-Alakija

Co-Chair, African Union's Africa Vaccine Delivery Alliance

Dr Ayoade Olatunbosun-Alakija is Co-Chair of the African Union, Africa Vaccine Delivery Alliance and Founder of the Emergency Coordination Centre, Nigeria (ECC), as well as the former Chief Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria. With a background in medicine, public health and policy, Ayoade is a recognised Pan-African strategist and analytical thinker who brings creative and innovative solutions to complex situations. Ayoade has long standing relationships and networks with leaders across governments, multilateral agencies, NGOs, civil society, and the private sector. She has successfully delivered initiatives ranging across health, development, humanitarian crisis and education in countries across Africa and globally. In addition to this, she served as a Board Member at George Washington University, Africa Centre for Peace and Human Security. Ayoade is passionate about achieving equitable outcomes in all aspects of life especially health, education and achieving social justice globally. In addition to this, she is currently spearheading an initiative to create Safe Learning and Teaching Environments in Nigeria (The CASTLE Initiative).



Abdulla Shahid

President of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

H.E. Abdulla Shahid is widely recognized as an exceptional politician and a seasoned diplomat, with a long and distinguished career serving in both the Government and legislature of Maldives. Since his appointment as Minister for Foreign Affairs in 2018, for the second time, Mr. Shahid has worked incessantly to reposition Maldives as a responsible and respected member of the international community. Amid the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, Mr. Shahid has been one of the leading voices in the international arena highlighting the devastation caused by the global health crisis on the economies and societies of small island developing States. Mr. Shahid began his professional career as a foreign service officer in 1983 and his parliamentary career spanned 25 years, during which time he participated in, and oversaw, major legislative progress and reform. During his career, he held positions as Executive Secretary to the President, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Member of Parliament for five consecutive terms, and Speaker of the People's Majlis, among others.



Rachel Kyte

Dean of The Fletcher School

Rachel Kyte is the 14th dean of The Fletcher School at Tufts University. A 2002 graduate of Fletcher's Global Master of Arts Program (GMAP) and a professor of practice at the school since 2012, Kyte is the first woman to lead the nation's oldest graduate-only school of international affairs. Prior to joining Fletcher, Kyte served as special representative of the UN Secretary-General and CEO of Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL). She previously was the World Bank Group vice president and special envoy for climate change, leading the run-up to the Paris Agreement. She was also vice president at the International Finance Corporation responsible for ESG risk and business advisory services. Kyte is a member of the U.N. Secretary-General's high-level Advisory Group on Climate Action and an advisor to the UK government for the U.N. Climate Talks, COP26. Kyte is co-chair of the Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative (VCMI), chair of the FONERWA, the Rwanda Green Fund, and chair of the ESG Committee of the Private Infrastructure Development Group.

9 December 2021: From Checkpoints to High Politics: Humanitarian Access Negotiations in Action



Rob Grace - Moderator

Researcher and Affiliated Fellow, Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies, Brown University

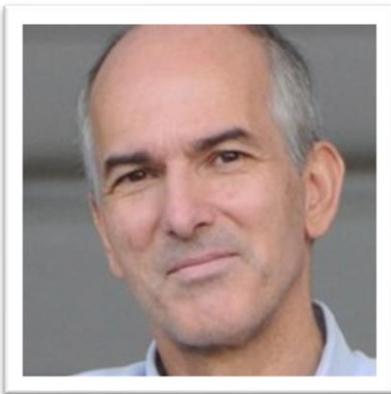
Rob Grace's Ph.D. research at Brown University focuses on the politics of humanitarian action, with a particular emphasis on humanitarian access. He is also a Senior Associate at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI), where he leads a research project on humanitarian negotiation for the Advanced Training Program on Humanitarian Action. Previously at HHI, he served as the lead drafter for the Advanced Practitioner's Handbook on Commissions of Inquiry. His writing has been published by the Journal of Conflict & Security Law, World Health & Population, the European Society of International Law, Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection, the Foreign Policy Association, and Foreign Policy in Focus. He holds an MA in Politics from New York University and a BA from Vassar College.



Fiona Terry

Head of Operational Research, International Committee of the Red Cross

Fiona Terry is a scholar-practitioner with over three decades of field and management experience in humanitarian affairs, including assignments for Médecins Sans Frontières, the ICRC and UNHCR in Iraq, Somalia, Rwanda, Liberia, Sudan, Myanmar, Nepal, Afghanistan and Tanzania. Dr. Terry has a Ph.D. in International Relations from the Australian National University and has made significant scholarly contributions to understanding humanitarian policies and politics. Her book *Condemned to Repeat: The Paradox of Humanitarian Action* (Cornell University Press, 2002) won the Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order and remains highly cited.



Charles Petrie

Human Securities Consultant and former ASG

Charles Petrie is a former senior UN official, who rose to the rank of Assistant Secretary-General. Over the twenty-year career at the United Nations, he assumed senior level operational and policy roles in Afghanistan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza and the Palestinian Territories, Myanmar/Burma, Rwanda (during the 1994 Genocide), Somalia and the Sudan. In 2012, he was appointed by the UN Secretary-General to lead an internal review of the UN's actions in Sri Lanka during the last phase of the conflict. Charles Petrie is providing mentoring support to a number of newly appointed UN Resident Coordinators. In addition to work he continues to undertake for the UN, Charles Petrie has also been invited to provide policy guidance to various governments on, for example, questions relating to Myanmar and Syria.



Tom Gregg

Senior Advisor to the United Nations

Following service with United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in Afghanistan, Tom Gregg has focused his career on negotiating to secure access for health workers in some of the most protracted conflicts around the globe. As Director of Global Projects at the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre), Tom led the effort to secure access for polio vaccinators as well as the HD Centre's COVID-19 response. Tom is a former Fellow and Associate Director of New York University's Center for International Cooperation.



Ghada Hatim Eltahir

Deputy Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, OCHA

Ms. Eltahir holds over 24 years of progressive experience in international humanitarian and not-for-profit organizations. During this time, she served as the Executive Director of a regional office, Head of Mission/Country Representative, Communication Director, Emergency Coordinator, and Humanitarian Advisor in many international organizations. Ms. Eltahir has extensive experience in programs and humanitarian aid operations in conflict contexts as she worked in Sudan, South Sudan, Yemen, Syria, Libya, Iraq and Nigeria. Ms. Eltahir built a wide network with different stakeholders at government level, diplomatic missions, UN agencies and leading international NGOs, and with local humanitarian and charitable groups, policy research foundations, international donors, media networks, universities, and research centers.

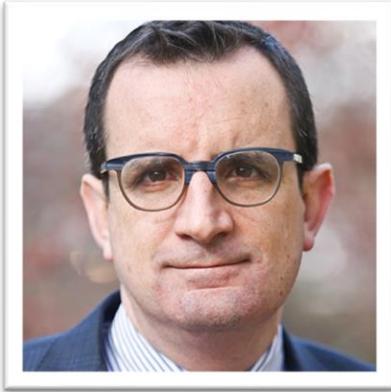
9 December 2021: Sparks on the Horizon: COVID-19 and Fragility



Raj Kumar - Moderator

President and Editor in Chief, DEVEX

Raj Kumar is the founding President and Editor-in-Chief of Devex, the media platform for the global development community. A social enterprise dedicated to ensuring global development efforts do more good for more people, Devex was born in 2000 when Raj was a graduate student at the Harvard Kennedy School. Today, there are 100+ Devexers around the world serving a global audience of more than one million aid workers and development professionals. Beginning as a kid in Kerala, India, Raj has witnessed firsthand determined and courageous development work in over 50 countries - it's what drives the Devex mission to *Do Good. Do It Well*. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Save the Children Board of Trustees, a media leader and former humanitarian council chair for the World Economic Forum and has interviewed on-camera and on-stage hundreds of global luminaries on the most important challenges of our time. Raj is the author of the book *The Business of Changing the World*, a go-to primer on the ideas, people, and technology disrupting the aid industry.



Thomas Wright

Author of “Aftershocks: Pandemic Politics and the End of the International Order”, Brookings Institute

Thomas Wright is the director of the Center on the United States and Europe and a senior fellow in the Project on International Order and Strategy at the Brookings Institution. He is also a contributing writer for The Atlantic and a nonresident fellow at the Lowy Institute for International Policy. He is the author of *Aftershocks: Pandemic Politics and the End of the Old International Order*. Wright has a doctorate from Georgetown University, a Master of Philosophy from Cambridge University, and a bachelor's and master's from University College Dublin. He has also held a pre-doctoral fellowship at Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs and a post-doctoral fellowship at Princeton University. He was previously executive director of studies at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and a lecturer at the University of Chicago's Harris School for Public Policy.



Vera Songwe

Under-Secretary-General, Economic Commission for Africa

Vera Songwe is the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Upon her appointment, she became the first woman to lead the institution in its 60-year history. As Executive Secretary, Songwe's reforms have focused on developing and implementing “ideas for a prosperous Africa”. They have emphasized the critical importance of macroeconomic stability, innovative finance, private sector participation, the digital transformation, trade and competitiveness in fostering growth and improving livelihoods. She was listed as one of Africa's 50 most powerful women by Forbes in 2020 and named as one of the ‘100 Most Influential Africans’ by Jeune Afrique in 2019. In 2017, New African Magazine listed her as one of the ‘100 Most Influential Africans’ and the FT named her one of the ‘25 African to watch’ in 2015. Songwe is acknowledged for her long-standing track record of providing policy advice and her wealth of experience in delivering development results for Africa. She has written extensively on development and economic issues including on debt, infrastructure development, fiscal and governance issues. She is well published and contributes to the development debate across a broad spectrum of platforms including in the Financial Times. Prior to ECA, she held a number of senior leadership roles with the International Finance Corporation and World Bank.



Mireia Villar Forner

UN Resident Coordinator, Colombia

Mireia has served in the United Nations for 25 years. Before her appointment in Colombia she was the UN Resident Coordinator in Uruguay where she led the UN development system's efforts to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. She started her career in UNDP's Regional Bureau for Arab States, and from 1999 to 2002 she led the Programme Section of the Electricity Network Rehabilitation Programme in Northern Iraq, the largest UNDP programme at that time. From 2002 to 2004 she was the focal point for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Arab States in UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. She served in the Liaison Office in Brussels from 2007 to 2015, strengthening the UN/UNDP partnership with the European Union on crisis and fragility and supporting the post-2015 dialogue with EU institutions. Mireia was UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Iraq during the country's political transition (2004- 2006) and in Bolivia from 2015 to 2017. Prior to joining the UN System in 1996, she worked in the financial sector in Spain. She obtained her master's degree in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Barcelona.



Sarah Charles

Assistant to the Administrator of USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)

Sarah Charles is the Assistant to the Administrator of USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), the U.S. Government lead for international disaster response. Prior to BHA, Ms. Charles was the Senior Director for Policy and Advocacy for the International Rescue Committee, where she led efforts to reform the humanitarian aid system and promote policies to improve the lives of refugees and other conflict-affected people. She also staffed the National Security Council (NSC) at the White House, first as the Director for Humanitarian Affairs and then as the Director and Acting Senior Director for Strategic Planning. Before the NSC, Ms. Charles covered the Middle East for USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives, the United States government's primary political transition and post-conflict assistance instrument. She led USAID's post-Arab Spring efforts to strengthen democracy, promote space for democratic dialogue, support stabilization and encourage civic participation in the Middle East. Ms. Charles also helped start the International Rescue Committee's emergency response in Darfur and led multi-country refugee repatriation efforts following the signing of the Sudanese Comprehensive Peace Agreement.



10 December 2021: No Return To Normal: Realities and Opportunities of the Growing Humanitarian Climate Crisis



Koko Warner - Moderator

Manager, Adaptation Programme, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Dr. Koko Warner manages UNFCCC's Vulnerability Subdivision, where she guides the adaptation knowledge hub, scaling up adaptation action, and the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform. She chairs an impact advisory group on resilient futures. She is a Perry World visiting fellow at the University of Pennsylvania focusing on climate change and migration. Warner is an IPCC lead author for the 6th Assessment cycle Special Report on Climate Change and Land, and 5th Assessment Report on climate impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. Previously at UNFCCC, she supervised the loss and damage workstream, including guiding the Warsaw Economic Mechanism Executive Committee's five-year rolling workplan. Prior to 2016, Koko founded and was Executive Director of the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative, including trailblazing work with the private and public sector including with the G7/G20 InsuResilience Initiative.



Selwin Charles Hart

Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Climate Action and Assistant Secretary-General for the Climate Action Team

Mr. Hart is currently the Executive Director for the Caribbean region at the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB). He was previously the Ambassador to the United States and the Organization of American States for Barbados and Director of the Secretary-General's Climate Change Support Team, leading the team's delivery of the 2014 Climate Summit and the Secretary-General's engagement in the process leading to the signing of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Throughout his career, Mr. Hart has served in several climate change leadership positions, including as a Climate Adviser for the Caribbean Development Bank, Chief Climate Change Negotiator for Barbados as well as the Coordinator and Lead Negotiator on Finance for the Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS). He was a member of the Kyoto Protocol Adaptation Fund Board from 2009 to 2010 and was elected by the United Nations General Assembly to serve as Vice-Chairman of the 2nd Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (Economic and Financial) during its 60th Session.



Valerie Guarnieri

Assistant Executive Director, World Food Programme

Ms. Guarnieri has been WFP Assistant Executive Director since January 2018. In this role, she leads cutting-edge programme and policy development towards ending hunger, spear heading WFP efforts to ensure protection and inclusion, expand school meals and nutrition programmes, empower women, build resilient food systems and support cash transfers and social protection. Prior to this appointment, she served as WFP Regional Director for East and Central Africa providing supervision, strategic guidance and support for some of WFP's largest and most complex country operations, as WFP's global Programme Director, and in a variety of country office, regional and headquarter positions since August 2000. Before WFP, she worked in the U.S. Government, at the National Security Council and the US Agency for International Development (USAID), as part of dedicated, inter-disciplinary teams to save lives and help create conditions for sustainable peace, with particular focus in Africa. Ms. Guarnieri holds a Master of Arts from the School of International Service of American University in Washington, D.C.



Saleemul Huq

Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCAD), Bangladesh

Saleemul Huq is the director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCAD) in Bangladesh and is an expert on the links between climate change and sustainable development, particularly from the perspective of developing countries. He was the lead author of the chapter on Adaptation and Sustainable Development in the third assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and was the lead author of the chapter on Adaptation and Mitigation in the IPCC's fourth assessment report.



Melchor Mergal

Municipal Mayor, Salcedo, Eastern Samar, the Philippines

Mr. Mergal is the Municipal Mayor with nearly 8 years of being the Local Chief Executive of the Municipality of Salcedo. He brought recognition to the Municipality as a 4-time Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) awardee. He institutionalized partnerships with NGO's and INGO's to help him accomplish relevant basic services in all areas of local government operations. He introduced as DRR Champion, Health Champion, Education Champion, and Environment Champion by agencies of the government. His municipality is modeling an adaptive, resilient, and disaster ready communities. He is instrumental in enacting Women Economic Empowerment and Care Ordinance that demonstrates commitment for increase investment in care related services, improving water



facilities; provision of time labor saving equipment to reduce arduous tasks of unpaid care work; and include unpaid care in the annual investment programs.

10 December 2021: The Humanitarian Implications of Cyber Threats



Kristen Eichensehr - Moderator

Director, National Security Law Center, University of Virginia

Kristen Eichensehr writes and teaches about cybersecurity, foreign relations, international law and national security law. She received the 2018 Mike Lewis Prize for National Security Law Scholarship for her article, *Courts, Congress, and the Conduct of Foreign Relations*, published in the *University of Chicago Law Review*. In 2021 she became director of UVA Law's National Security Law Center. Eichensehr clerked for Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Sonia Sotomayor of the Supreme Court of the United States and for Judge Merrick B. Garland of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. She also served as special assistant to the legal adviser of the U.S. Department of State and practiced at Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., where she specialized in appellate litigation and international and national security law, including cybersecurity issues.



Nemanja (Neno) Malisevic

Director of Digital Diplomacy at Microsoft

Nemanja Malisevic joined Microsoft in 2014. Until the Spring of 2018 he led the work of the Digital Diplomacy Team in Germany. Then, with the launch of Microsoft Defending Democracy Program (DDP) in 2018, he was responsible for the program's international engagements. Since joining the company, Mr. Malisevic has always been actively involved in Microsoft efforts related to cyber security norms but in 2020 he re-focused his attention on driving these efforts. Prior to joining Microsoft, Mr. Malisevic worked more than 10 years for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), where he was the Organization's first Cyber Security Officer. In this capacity he was deeply involved in the elaboration and negotiation of the first set of OSCE cyber/ICT security related confidence building measures (CBMs), adopted in December 2013. Before that, he led the Organization's efforts dealing with combating terrorist use of the Internet.



Delphine van Solinge

Adviser on Digital Risks for Populations in Armed Conflicts, Protection Division, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Delphine van Solinge has worked as Adviser on Digital Risks for Populations in Armed Conflicts in the Protection Division in Geneva since February 2018. Before that, she joined the ICRC in 2004 and worked as Protection Coordinator in Chad, the Philippines, Afghanistan and Colombia and as Head of Unit OP_PROT_GLOB in Geneva. Prior to joining the ICRC she worked with different NGOs in Africa. Delphine holds a Master in International Relations and Diplomacy from SOAS University (UK), a Master in International Humanitarian Assistance from the University of Aix-en-Provence (France) and a Master in International Migration and Human Rights from the University of Kent in Canterbury (UK).



Sara Wahedi

CEO & Founder of Ehtesab, Afghanistan

Sara Wahedi is the CEO and Founder of Ehtesab, Afghanistan's first civic technology startup. Ehtesab's first project, the "Ehtesab App" has been providing near real-time security and city service alerts to Kabul residents since June 2020, and is expanding to three major cities across the country. She was also featured as TIME Magazine's "Next Generation Leader" for the class of 2021, for her work in democratizing access to information for Afghans. Sara previously worked at the Office of the President of Afghanistan, Dr. Ashraf Ghani, focusing on social development projects funded by IOM and the World Bank. She is currently pursuing her studies in Data Science and Human Rights at Columbia University.



Robert Young

Legal Counsel at Global Affairs, Canada

Robert Young is an international lawyer and veteran humanitarian professional with focus on cyber, digital and Internet and international law issues, in the Criminal, Security and Diplomatic Law Division in the Legal Affairs Bureau, Global Affairs Canada. Rob leads and advises on Government of Canada legal positions on international cyber issues. In 2016-2017 he was legal adviser to the Canadian Expert on the UN Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on cyber and security. Since 2018 Rob has served as the Coordinator of the Data and Jurisdiction Contact Group of the multi-stakeholder Internet and Jurisdiction Policy Network, leading to the launch of the Data and Jurisdiction toolkit in March this year. Robert worked for many years with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), including in Ethiopia, Colombia, Geneva, and as Regional Legal Adviser in Central Europe and ex-Yugoslavia, and in West and Central Africa. He was the ICRC's Deputy Permanent Observer and Legal Adviser at the UN in New York.



GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN POLICY FORUM



2021



Jonas Belina

PhD, Diplomatic Officer, Humanitarian Diplomacy

Dr. Jonas Belina is a diplomat at the Peace and Human Rights Division at the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). He works on humanitarian policies with a focus on the application of new technologies to the protection of civilians and humanitarian action. At the FDFA, he leads the Humanitarian Data and Trust Initiative, a multi-stakeholder initiative for the protection and responsible use of humanitarian data, launched by Switzerland, the ICRC and the OCHA Centre for Humanitarian Data in 2020. Furthermore, Jonas is involved in designing system-level solutions for the search for missing persons and restoring family links. Previously, he was posted in Argentina and the U.S. Jonas holds master's degrees in physics and philosophy from the University of Bern and LSE and a PhD in neuroscience from Yale University.