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**Space Security 2015**  
**“Underpinning Foundations of Space Security”**  
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Organized by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research  
in collaboration with Secure World Foundation and The Simons Foundation

**Biographies**

**Salem Humaid AL MARRI**

Salem Humaid Al Marri is the Assistance Director General for Scientific and Technical Affairs, he assumed this position in 2012 and his role is centered on ensuring the vision and mission of EIAST are achieved through the different technical and scientific programs being run at EIAST.

He has over 10 years' experience in the Space Field and was part of the team which setup EIAST, he was formally the Director of the Marketing and International Affairs Department at (EIAST), and he was the Project Manager for EIAST's earlier satellite projects DubaiSat-1 and DubaiSat-2.

He is currently overseeing the expansion of the institute in different scientific and technical fields along with the institutes continued development in the space field, and working towards ensuring all initiatives at EIAST serve the stakeholders with useful value added services, one of his major goals is ensuring the achievement of domestic satellite development through Emirati engineers.

**Alexander M. DEYNEKO**

Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

October 2009–November 2013: Deputy Director, Department for Disarmament and Security Affairs of the Russian Foreign Ministry (conventional arms issues).

Mr. Deyneko participated as a member of the Russian delegations at various international fora, including UN Conferences on ATT of 2012 and 2013, UNGA First Committee meetings, etc. He was Russian expert in the UN Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on UN Register on Conventional Arms of 2013 and GGE on Missiles of 2007–2008.

From 2006 till 2009: Department for Disarmament and Security Affairs of the Russian Foreign Ministry.

2002–2006: Russian Embassy in Washington D.C.

1996–2000, 1991–1994: Russian Embassies in Iraq and Sudan.

In 1989 he graduated from the Moscow State Institute (University) of International Relations and joined Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR/Russia.

Mr. Alexander Deyneko was born in 1962.

**Laurent GISEL**

Laurent Gisel has been working for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) since 1999. From 1999 to 2005, he carried out assignments in Israel and the Occupied Territories, Eritrea, Afghanistan and Nepal. From 2005 to 2008, he served as Diplomatic Adviser to the ICRC Presidency.

Since 2008, Laurent Gisel works in the ICRC Legal Division. As Legal Adviser to the Operations from 2008 to 2012, he covered notably the Western countries, Iraq and Afghanistan. He is currently working in the Thematic Legal Advisers' Unit.

Prior to joining the ICRC, Laurent Gisel became attorney-at-law in Geneva and worked at the Public and Administrative Law Court of the Canton de Vaud. He holds a degree in law from the University of Geneva and a Master in international law from the Graduate Institute of International Studies (Geneva, Switzerland).

**Peter HULSROJ**

Peter Hulsroj pursued his legal studies at the University of Copenhagen from 1974 to 1979. After military service, Peter Hulsroj did post-graduate studies at Harvard Law School in the USA, where he earned a Master's Degree in 1981. Returning from the USA, Mr Hulsroj joined a large commercial law firm in Copenhagen, where he became a full member of the Danish Bar. After three and half years of private practice in Copenhagen, Mr Hulsroj became a Contracts Officer in ESTEC, and thereafter served for almost 14 years as the Head of Contracts and Legal Affairs at Eumetsat in Darmstadt, Germany. Before rejoining ESA, Mr Hulsroj was the Legal Adviser of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization in Vienna. Peter Hulsroj was appointed ESA Director of Legal Affairs and External Relations in April 2008, comprising four specialist areas: the Legal Department, the International Relations Department, the Communication Department and the Education and Knowledge Management Office. Since 2011 Peter Hulsroj is the Director of ESPI.

**Muhammadou M.O. KAH**

Prof. Muhammadou M.O. Kah is the former Rector and Professor of Information Technology & Communications at The University of The Gambia (2009-2015). Prof Kah was the Third Vice Chancellor of The University of The Gambia and the first Gambian to be appointed to the post. He was also the Overseer/Principal of The Gambia Teachers College (The Teachers College of The Gambia). The President of The Gambia appointed Prof. Kah to serve as the Vice Chairman of the National Committee on Science, Technology & Innovation.

At the successful completion of his tenure as The University of The Gambia's 3rd Vice Chancellor and the 1st Gambian to hold the position on March 28th, 2015, The President of the Republic of The Gambia appointed him to serve as the Chairman of the Governing Council of The University of The Gambia. Further, the President of The Republic of The Gambia also appointed him as The President's special advisor on Science, Technology & Innovation and as a special advisor to the Minister for Basic and Secondary Education and Minister for Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology.

Prof. Muhammadou M.O. Kah is recently engaged by ADA University in Baku, Azerbaijan as the Vice Rector For Technology & Innovations and The Founding Dean For the School of Information Technology & Engineering.

**Marco KALBUSCH**

Marco Kalbusch is Senior Political Affairs Officer in the Geneva Branch of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and Secretary of the Conference on Disarmament. Before moving to Geneva in June 2015, he was the Director of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), based in Lomé, Togo. He holds law degrees from the University of Passau (Germany) and the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium). He was awarded a doctoral degree in law from the Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg (Germany). Mr. Kalbusch previously served with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Burundi, Somalia and in the Regional Office for Southern Africa, with the Department for Disarmament Affairs at United Nations

Headquarters in New York and in UN peace operations in East Timor and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Mr. Kalbusch was the legal advisor to the independent, international commission of inquiry on Côte d'Ivoire and represented OHCHR on the SADC legal team to support the implementation of the Madagascar roadmap.

Prior to joining the United Nations, Mr. Kalbusch worked with the European Commission, in the Directorate General Research and Technological Development. He did his legal clerkship at the Court of Appeal of Nuremberg (Germany).

#### **Ajey LELE**

Dr Ajey Lele, is working with the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi, India since 2001. He started his professional career with Indian Air Force and took premature retirement to join academics. He holds a rank of Group Captain. He has done his Masters in Physics and his PhD is on International Relations. His areas of research interests include issues related to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), Strategic Technologies and Space Security. He has various publications to his name and some of his book publications include *Strategic Technologies for the Military* (Sage, 2009), *Asian Space Race: Rhetoric or Reality?* (Springer, 2013) and *Mission Mars: India's Quest for the Red Planet* (Springer, 2014).

#### **Sergio MARCHISIO**

Full Professor of International Law at Sapienza University of Rome and Legal Expert, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Since 1997, Delegate to the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, where he served as Chairman of the Legal Subcommittee (2003-2006). In 2011, elected co-chair of the Expert Group D (Regulatory Frameworks) of the Working Group of the COPUOS STSC on the Long Term Sustainability of the Outer Space Activities (LTSSA). Since 2007, Chairman of the European Centre for Space Law (ECSL) within the European Space Agency (ESA). Member of the Board of Directors of the International Institute for Space Law (IISL). In 2012, he was appointed member of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on Outer Space Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures (TCBMs) established by General Assembly resolution 65/68. In July 2015, he chaired the multilateral meeting on the draft International Code of conduct on outer space activities. Since 2014, member of the Board of Directors of the Italian Space Agency.

#### **Peter MARTINEZ**

Dr Peter Martinez is the Chairman of the South African Council for Space Affairs, the national regulatory authority for space activities in South Africa. He has served on the South African delegation in several multilateral fora dealing with space affairs and is currently the Chairman of the United Nation Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN COPUOS) Scientific and Technical Subcommittee's Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. He was South Africa's representative on the United Nations Group of Government Experts on transparency and confidence building measures for space activities.

Dr Martinez holds a PhD in astrophysics from the University of Cape Town. He is a member of the International Academy of Astronautics, the International Astronomical Union and the International Institute of Space Law. He has authored, co-authored or edited over 190 publications in journals and books and is an Associate Editor of the COSPAR journal *Advances in Space Research*.

#### **Paul MEYER**

Paul Meyer is a Senior Fellow at The Simons Foundation and an Adjunct Professor of International Studies at Simon Fraser University both in Vancouver, Canada. A former Canadian career diplomat he served over 35 years in a variety of assignments, primarily in the field of international security policy. Amongst these he was Director-General of the International Security Bureau (1998-2001), Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN and Conference on Disarmament in Geneva (2003-2007), and Director-General of the Security & Intelligence Bureau, DFAIT (2007-2010). He is a member of the Governance Group of "Space Security Index" an annual publication that surveys

developments in outer space with implications for security and his research and writing interests include, besides space security, the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime and international cyber security.

#### **Niklas HEDMAN**

Niklas Hedman is Chief of Committee, Policy and Legal Affairs Section of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA). He serves as Secretary of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee. He is also Secretary of the United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), which is the central coordination mechanism for space related activities in the United Nations system. He is responsible for OOSA capacity-building activities in space law and policy. Before joining the United Nations in 2006, he worked in the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, particularly in the areas of ocean affairs and law of the sea; space law and space policy; as well as disarmament and non-proliferation, including PAROS and the Hague Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOB). He represented Sweden to COPUOS for 10 years and held various positions, including Chair of the UNISPACE III+5 report A/59/174. Mr. Hedman represented Sweden to the final rounds of negotiations on the International Space Station Intergovernmental Agreement (ISS-IGA), and was chief negotiator to the governmental framework agreement on space cooperation between Sweden and the United States of America. He is a member of the International Space Law Committee of the International Law Association (ILA), International Institute of Space Law (IISL) and International Academy of Astronautics (IAA).

#### **François RANCY**

Mr. Rancy was elected by the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2010 (PP-10) to the post of Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) of the International Telecommunication Union, and was confirmed in a second term during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2014 (PP-14).

As Director, Mr. Rancy is responsible for the management of the Radiocommunication Bureau which organises and co-ordinates the work of the Radiocommunication Sector whose aim is to ensure the rational, equitable, efficient and economical use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary satellite orbit.

Previous to taking up his duties at the ITU in January, 2011, he was Director General of the French Agence nationale des fréquences. Since 1995, Mr. Rancy has served as the head or deputy head for national delegations at many ITU conferences and meetings.

Mr. Rancy graduated from Ecole Polytechnique in 1977 and from Ecole nationale supérieure des télécommunications in 1979.

#### **Jana ROBINSON**

Jana Robinson is currently a Senior Fellow and Space Security Program Director at the Prague Security Studies Institute (PSSI). She previously served as Space Policy Officer at the European External Action Service (EEAS) in Brussels. She was also a Space Security Advisor to the Czech Foreign Ministry, seconded to the EEAS. From 2009 to 2013, Ms. Robinson worked as Resident Fellow at the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), seconded from the European Space Agency (ESA), leading the Institute's Space Security Research Programme. Prior to joining ESPI, she served as Development Director at PSSI from 2005 to 2009, and administered its affiliate organization in Washington DC, PSSI Washington. She holds an MA in Asian Studies from George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs, and an MA in Chinese Studies from Palacky University. She received scholarships to attend the International Space University's (ISU) 2009 Space Studies Program (SSP09), the 2008 Summer Training Course at the National Taiwan Normal University in Taipei, and a one-year course of study at Shanghai University 1999-2000.

**André João RYPL**

André João Rypl is a diplomat in the Office of Outer Space, Ocean and Antarctic affairs of the Brazilian Ministry of External Relations. He is a keen supporter of space diplomacy initiatives and has been actively involved in the discussions of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities at the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), where he also leads the participation of the Brazilian delegation. Mr. Rypl additionally participates in discussions of other initiatives designed to ensure that only activities of a peaceful nature are conducted in the outer space environment, such as the European proposal of an International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities and the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space initiative (PAROS).

**Victoria SAMSON**

Victoria Samson is the Washington Office Director for Secure World Foundation and has more than seventeen years of experience in military space and security issues. Before joining SWF, Ms. Samson served as a Senior Analyst for the Center for Defense Information (CDI), where she leveraged her expertise in missile defense, nuclear reductions, and space security issues to conduct in-depth analysis and media commentary. Prior to her time at CDI, Ms. Samson was the Senior Policy Associate at the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers, a consortium of arms control groups in the Washington, D.C. area, where she worked with Congressional staffers, members of the media, embassy officials, citizens, and think-tanks on issues surrounding dealing with national missile defense and nuclear weapons reductions. Before that, she was a researcher at Riverside Research Institute, where she worked on war-gaming scenarios for the Missile Defense Agency's Directorate of Intelligence. Ms. Samson holds a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in political science with a specialization in international relations from UCLA and a Master of Arts (M.A.) in international relations from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

**Jarmo SAREVA**

Mr Jarmo Sareva of Finland was appointed as Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) effective 1 January 2015. Until the end of 2014 he serves as Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Director of the Conference on Disarmament Secretariat and Conference Support Branch (Geneva Branch) of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, which post he has held since September 2009.

From 2006 to 2009 Mr. Sareva served as Chief of the Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch at the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) of the UN Secretariat in New York, and as Secretary of the First Committee (Disarmament and International Security) of the General Assembly. Prior to joining DGACM, Mr. Sareva was Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Finland to the UN in New York, during which time he served, inter alia, as Chairman of the First Committee. Mr. Sareva served as Special Assistant to the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC), a subsidiary organ of the UN Security Council, from 2001 to 2002.

From 2000 to 2001, Mr. Sareva was Chef de Cabinet of the Office of the President of the 55th session of the United Nations General Assembly (Millennium Assembly). During that time, he guided the work of the Cabinet during a record number of major conferences and special sessions of UNGA, including the UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons. The Presidency was widely appreciated for successfully integrating the various UN conferences during that year under the general theme of follow-up to the September 2000 Millennium Summit.

From 1998 to 2000, Mr. Sareva served as Minister Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations in New York. He represented the European Union in the Fifth Committee during the Finnish Presidency of the EU (1999), acting as chief negotiator for the EU during the budget negotiations for the 2000-01 biennium.

Mr. Sareva's prior diplomatic experience includes two tours of duty at the Embassy of Finland in Moscow, including as Deputy Chief of Mission from 1996 to 1998. He has also served as Director of Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-proliferation at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Helsinki, as First Secretary at the Finnish Embassy in Washington, D.C. and as Counselor at the Finnish Mission to the CSCE (now OSCE) in Vienna.

Mr. Sareva holds an M.A. from the School of Advanced International Studies of the Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C., and an M.Sc. (Political science) from the University of Turku in Finland. From 1989 to 1990, he spent an academic year in postgraduate training on leave from MFA at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva.

#### **Michael K. SIMPSON**

Dr. Michael K. Simpson is Executive Director of the Secure World Foundation and former President of the International Space University. He has also been President of Utica College and the American University of Paris with a combined total of 22 years of experience as an academic chief executive officer. He currently holds an appointment as Professor of Space Policy and International Law at ISU. After graduating from Fordham University, Simpson accepted a commission as an officer in the U.S. Navy, retiring from the Naval Reserve in 1993 with the rank of Commander. His naval experience included service as a Political-Military Action Officer at US European Command in Stuttgart, Germany. He completed his Ph.D. at Tufts University, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, holds a Master of Business Administration from Syracuse University; and two Master of Arts degrees from The Fletcher School. He has also completed two one-year courses in Europe: the French advanced defense institute (Institut des Hautes Études de Défense Nationale) and the General Course of the London School of Economics. He is a member of the International Academy of Astronautics, a member of the International Institute of Space Law and a Senior Fellow of the International Institute of Space Commerce. He is the author of numerous scholarly papers, presentations, articles and book contributions. His practical experience includes service as an observer representative to the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, participating organization representative to the Group on Earth Observations and member of its Ministerial Working Group, the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the World Space Week Association, and the Board of Governors of the National Space Society.

#### **Venkatesh VARMA**

Ambassador Varma has been India's Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament since 2013. Prior to joining his current position, he was the DG in charge of disarmament and international security in the Indian Ministry of External Affairs. He was part of the Indian negotiating team for the Civil Nuclear Initiative when he worked in the Indian Prime Minister's Office. He has vast experience in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation having participated in numerous meetings in Geneva and New York. He led the Indian team to discussions on the draft International Code of Conduct of the EU between 2012 and 2013.

#### **Victor L. VASILIEV**

By the appointment of the President of the Russian Federation Ambassador at Large Victor Vasiliev currently serves as Representative Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Collective Treaty Organisation. Mr Vasiliev was born in Moscow on 25 February 1963. After graduation in 1989 from Moscow State Institute (University) of Foreign Relations joined Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR/Russia. In 1993-1997 and in 2000-2004 served in the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations in New York, most recently as Senior counsellor in charge of the UN Security Council affairs and disarmament. In 2004-2007 Deputy Director, Department of International Organisations MFA in charge of UN Security Council affairs (crisis management and sanctions). From 2007 till 2013 Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the UN and other International Organisations in Geneva (political and disarmament). Mr Vasiliev attend various international fora, including sessions of the UN General Assembly, NPT Review Conferences, etc. He

also served as the Russian expert in the UN GGE on Verification and was Chairman of the UN GGE on TCBMs in Outer Space Activities in 2012-2013.

**Olga A. VOLYNSKAYA**

PhD (Space law), LLM (International law/ EU law)

Chief International Law Counsel of the International Cooperation and Treaties Department, Federal Space Agency of the Russian Federation (ROSCOSMOS).

Research Scientist of the Fundamental Scientific Research Centre, Russian Foreign Trade Academy of the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation (VAVT).

Since 2008 has been working in the Russian space industry as international space lawyer.

Permanent member of the delegation of the Russian Federation to the UN COPUOS (LSC, STSC), UNIDROIT, IAC, meetings on the EU proposal for the International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities.

Has a Master's degree in EU law from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (MGIMO) and a PhD in Space law from the Russian Foreign Trade Academy of the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, supervisor – Prof. Dr. Gennady P. Zhukov.

Grant scholar of the President of the Russian Federation for distinctive scientific research and achievement.

Author of 28 scientific publications on various issues of space law in the leading Russian and foreign journals in the area of international law, space law and foreign trade. Co-author of the Russian treatise "Space Law" edited by Prof. Dr. Gennady P. Zhukov and Prof. Dr. Aslan Kh. Abashidze (published in 2014).

**Robert A. WOOD**

Ambassador Robert A. Wood arrived in Geneva on August 13, 2014 to assume his duties as the U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament and U.S. Special Representative for Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC) Issues. He previously served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Mission to the European Union from August 2013 – July 2014. Before his service in Brussels, Ambassador Wood was the Deputy U.S. Permanent Representative to the International Organizations in Vienna, Austria from 2010-July 2013. From July 2008- January 2010, Mr. Wood was the State Department's Deputy Spokesman and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs. During the first six months of the Obama Administration he served as Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs and Acting State Department Spokesman.

Mr. Wood has been a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State and the former U.S. Information Agency since 1988. From 2004-2008 he served as the Press Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Germany. Prior to his assignment to Berlin, he was Deputy Spokesman at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York (2001-2004).

In Washington, Mr. Wood has worked as a public affairs advisor for the Bureau of African Affairs, as a special assistant to the Undersecretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, and in several positions dealing with the Balkans.

Mr. Wood has also served in public affairs positions in Mexico City, Mexico; Lagos, Nigeria; Islamabad, Pakistan; and Pretoria, South Africa. He speaks German, Spanish and French.