List of Speakers & Biographies

Frank ASBECK works as the Principle Adviser for Space and Security at the European External Action Service, and before that at the Directorate-General for External Relations of the European Commission.

He is a physicist from Darmstadt Technical University and has also an MA in War Studies from King's College, London. He started his professional career in 1977 at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, dealing with questions of space-related arms control issues. Thereafter he joined the German Civil Service and worked on issues on non-proliferation, technology transfer and on security policy matters, last as a diplomat in Brussels. In 1996 he moved as Deputy Director to the Satellite Centre of the WEU (later EU) in Spain, to which he returned as its Director from 2005 until 2010. In between, from 2001 to 2005, he was the Director for Security of the European Commission.

Ben BASELEY-WALKER is Programme Lead of the Emerging Security Threats Programme at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research UNIDIR. With significant experience in international relations, international law, and strategic communications, Mr. Baseley-Walker brings an innovative strategic approach to his work facilitating and supporting international dialog on emerging areas of conflict and international security.

Before joining UNIDIR, Mr. Baseley-Walker was the Advisor on Security Policy and International Law for the Secure World Foundation (SWF), a private operating foundation working in the field of space security. In this role he focused engaging the international community, especially emerging space States, on looking at new methods for multilateral negotiations of space-related international security issues. Previously, Mr. Baseley-Walker worked in international relations and international law in East Africa with the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, the Ethiopia International Law Project and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Nairobi, Kenya.

Mr. Baseley-Walker studied International and European Law at the Universiteit Van Amsterdam Law School in the Netherlands, and Politics at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. He is a graduate of International Space University Space Studies Programme in Beijing.

Eva BERNHARDSDOTTER is project manager for Space and Arms Control at the Swedish Defence Research Agency and specialises in issues relating to space, security and defence. She
provides expertise to the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Swedish Armed Forces on arms control in space, space policy and military space capabilities. Dr Bernhardsdotter is also serving as a technical expert in the EU-initiated efforts for a Space Code of Conduct. Previously she has worked at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center and at the Swedish Space Corporation in the areas of microgravity and astrobiology research as well as satellite mission design. Dr Bernhardsdotter has a MSc degree in Chemical Engineering, a BSc degree in Space Engineering and a PhD in Materials Science.

Pravir Chawdhry is Senior Scientist at the Institute for the Security and Protection of the Citizen (IPSC) at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, where he leads the CORSA action on the Protection of Communications, Radio-navigation and Space Assets, where the focus is on the EU Radio Spectrum Policy and Galileo Security from intentional and unintentional wireless interference, including extreme space weather events. In the past ten years, he has worked on the EU policy support to Border Security, Cybersecurity, and Online Consumer Protection.

He has previously held research and academic positions in the UK at the Universities of Leeds, Newcastle and Bath where he worked on engineering design, electronic data interchange, collaborative product development, virtual enterprise technologies and conflict resolution methodologies. He received a PhD in Systems Engineering from the Queen’s University of Belfast in 1985.

Beatrice FIHN is the project manager of Reaching Critical Will and monitors the UN disarmament machinery, in particular the Conference on Disarmament, the NPT and the First Committee. She has worked extensively on the UN disarmament machinery and contributed with writing, research and presentations in various forums. Prior to this position, Beatrice worked as a research officer at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, where she carried out research on geopolitics and global security in areas such as outer space and emerging strategic technologies. Beatrice has a BA in International Relations from Stockholm University and a LLM in public international law from University of London.

Emmet FLETCHER has been involved in flight dynamics, space situational awareness and orbital surveillance for the majority of his professional career. He holds a bachelor degree in Aerospace Engineering, a master’s degree in Astronautics and Space Engineering and an MBA specialising in innovation. Mr Fletcher previously worked with diverse government, military and private sector organisations to improve data fusion and interpretation systems – specifically when dealing with real-time tracking data from radar and optical sources and services related to conjunction prediction and re-entry analysis. He currently leads the Space Surveillance and Tracking efforts of Europe’s Space Situational Awareness programme at the European Space Agency covering the development of the associated architecture, services and policies.
Yvon HENRI is Chief of the Space Services Department (SSD) at the Radiocommunication Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in Geneva (Switzerland). Before joining ITU in 1995, he has held various management positions at France Telecom (Paris, France) and INTELSAT (Washington DC, USA) and has been involved in the satellite business for more than 25 years.

ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs. We allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide. ITU is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and its membership includes 193 Member States and more than 700 Sector Members and Associates. Within the ITU, the Space Services Department is responsible for managing the procedures for registration of all space system frequency assignments (satellite and Earth and radioastronomy stations) in accordance with the ITU Constitution and Convention, including the Radio Regulations. The Department is also providing assistance and support to administrations, operators and frequency assignment customers on all issues related to space service frequency management.

Theresa HITCHENS has been Director of UNIDIR since January 2009. Previously, she was director of the Center for Defense Information and led its Space Security Project, in cooperation with Secure World Foundation. The author of Future Security in Space: Charting a Cooperative Course, she has written on space and nuclear arms control issues for a number of journals and publications. She serves on the editorial board of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

Theresa has had a long career in journalism, with a focus on military, defence industry and NATO affairs. She was Director of Research at the British American Security Information Council, a think tank based in Washington and London. Prior to that, she was with Defense News from 1988 to 2000, including five years as the newspaper's first Brussels bureau chief from 1989 to 1993, and as the Editor from 1998 to 2000. From 1983 to 1988, she worked at Inside Washington Publishers, covering issues from nuclear waste to electronic warfare and military space.

Aarti HOLLA has been Secretary General of ‘ESOA’, the association of all European satellite operators, since 2004. She works on key issues impacting the industry, strengthening awareness of the benefits of satellite-delivered services with key decision-makers to ensure the global availability of these services & their contribution to key policy objectives such as the Digital Agenda for Europe, secure or emergency communications, development and Africa to name but a few. Ms. Holla has 16 years professional experience in the aerospace industry. Prior to ESOA, she represented Galileo Industries, the joint venture company of EADS Astrium, Alenia Spazio, Alcatel Space and Galileo Systemas y Servicios in Brussels, where she worked closely with European Institutions on the development of the public private partnership scheme and
management aspects of the Galileo programme. Ms. Holla worked at DaimlerChrysler Aerospace (now EADS) in Munich, Germany on project & strategic management before moving to Brussels. Ms. Holla holds an MBA from HEC in France, a diploma in German law from the University of Passau in Germany and a law degree from King’s College at the University of London. She has regularly given workshops on negotiation skills for young managers. She qualified as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court in London in 1995, working with the law firm of Pannone Pritchard Englefield. She lives in Brussels, has 3 children and speaks 5 languages.

Agnieszka LUKASZCZYK is European Program Manager for Secure World Foundation. With experience in the international space policy arena, at an executive level, Lukaszczyk has become known throughout the space industry as a thought leader and collaborative facilitator. Currently, Lukaszczyk is based in Brussels, Belgium where she is spearheading and actively facilitating international dialogue regarding space policy. Her work involves working with the European institutions on space policy matters. In addition Agnieszka Lukaszczyk works closely with the United Nations (UN) civil space activities covering the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and working closely with the UN Office of Outer Space Affairs (OOSA). Since 2006, Lukaszczyk has served as the Executive Officer for the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) in support of the UN Programme on Space Applications, and is now SGAC Chairperson. In addition, during the period of September 2006 to June 2008, Agnieszka was a researcher at the European Space Policy Institute. Agnieszka is also the Vice President - Europe for World Space Week.

Lukaszczyk holds a Bachelor's of Science in Political Science, from the University of Tennessee and a Masters from the American University School of International Service in International Politics. She also studied at the Universite Catholique de Louvain in Brussels, Belgium; the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland and the World Trade Institute in Berne, Switzerland. She gained professional experience at the Political Section of the Polish Embassy in Washington DC, American Electronics Association in Brussels, European Department of the Polish Senate in Warsaw and the Warsaw Business Journal.

Peter MARQUEZ is the Vice President for Space Strategy and Planning at Orbital Sciences Corporation. From 2007 to 2010 Peter served as the Director for Space Policy at the White House. Peter oversaw the development, implementation, and coordination of the space policies of Presidents Bush and Obama. Peter led the development of President Obama’s national space policy. Peter’s policy responsibilities, beyond the space portfolio, included critical infrastructure protection, selected regional military issues, and military intelligence policy. From 2000 to 2007 Peter served in a variety of posts in the Department of Defense.

Peter was born in Gilroy, California and received a bachelor’s degree in political science in 1998 and master’s degree in science and technology policy in 2000 from George Washington University. Peter resides in Washington, DC with his wife Melissa, daughters Claire and Madeline, and their dog Margaret Thatcher.
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 made significant contributions to the development of South Africa’s national space policy and to space-related activities in South Africa in general. He has been a member of the South African delegation to the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN COPUOS) for a number of years and is currently the Chairman of the COPUOS Scientific and Technical Subcommittee’s Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities.

He has authored, co-authored or edited over 190 publications and is an Associate Editor of the COSPAR journal *Advances in Space Research*.

Paul MEYER is a former Canadian diplomat who served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN and the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva (2003-2007). He was the Special Coordinator for the Conference’s consideration of its PAROS agenda item during its 2007 session. Since his retirement from the Canadian Foreign Service in 2010, he has been Fellow in International Security and Adjunct Professor of International Studies at Simon Fraser University and a Senior Fellow at the Simons Foundation in Vancouver. In addition to outer space security his research interests include nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament and cyber security.

Rajeswari PILLAI RAJAGOPALAN is Senior Fellow at Observer Research Foundation (ORF), New Delhi. She is currently a Visiting Professor at Graduate Institute of International Politics, National Chung Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan. Dr. Rajagopalan joined ORF after an almost five-year stint at the National Security Council Secretariat (2003-2007), where she was an Assistant Director. Prior to joining the NSCS, she was Research Officer at the Institute of Defense Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. She has written two books, one on Chinese military strategy, *The Dragon’s Fire: Chinese Military Strategy and Its Implications for Asia*, and the other on the US military strategy, *Uncertain Eagle: US Military Strategy in Asia*. A third book on Asian military strategies, *Clashing Titans: Military Strategy and Insecurity Among Asian Great Powers* is ready for publication. Her research articles have appeared in edited volumes, and in *Strategic Analysis* and *CLAWS Journal*. Other writings have appeared in journals such as *Journal of Strategic Studies*, *Journal of Peace Research* and *Contemporary South Asia* and she has also contributed essays to newspapers such as *Hindustan Times*, *Economic Times* and *Pioneer*. She has also lectured at the Army War College, MHOW and the National Defence College, New Delhi. Her areas of research interests include US foreign and security policies, including Indo-US relations, US missile defence issues, military strategies of major Asian powers including China, US, Japan and Russia, Sino-Indian relations, nuclear and space security, arms control, and ethnic conflicts and Sri Lanka.
Francesco PISANO is an expert in international affairs and geopolitics with a professional background in humanitarian affairs and risk management. He studied international relations with a specialization in conflict resolution, and law with a specialisation in international and constitutional law. He joined the United Nations in 1993 where he took positions of increasing responsibility with the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs, its Division for Disaster Mitigation, then with OCHA as Senior Officer. He now serves at the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) where he is the Manager of UNOSAT (Operational Satellite Applications Programme). Before joining the UN his previous professional positions included business development with a multinational company, and international development cooperation with Italy’s Foreign Office.

Muriel RICHARD got her Master’s degree in 1996 from the California Institute of Technology (USA) in Mechanical Engineering. She worked at the NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory from 1994 till 2005, early on for the Mars Program, and then for the Advanced Propulsion Technology Group. She becomes a senior engineer in 2001 when she moves to JPL’s Mission Architecture Group. In 2005, she was employed by the Space Center EPFL in Switzerland to manage the SwissCube satellite project. Since January 2012, she is the Deputy Director of the newly renamed Swiss Space Center.

Frank ROSE currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Space and Defense Policy, Bureau of Arms Control, Verification and Compliance. In this position, he is responsible for advising the Assistant Secretary and, as required, the Undersecretary for Arms Control and International Security, on key issues related to arms control and defense policy. These issues include missile defense, military space policy, defense acquisitions, and conventional arms control. His responsibilities also include liaison with the U.S. Intelligence Community on issues related to the verification of arms control treaties and agreements.

Prior to joining the State Department June 2009, Mr. Rose held various national security staff positions in the U.S. House of Representatives, including service as a Professional Staff Member on both the House Armed Services Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, where he focused on missile defense, defense policy, and intelligence issues.

Mr. Rose has also held numerous positions within the Office of the Secretary of Defense, including as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy and Threat Reduction; and Policy Advisor in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy. Previous to that, he worked as a National Security Analyst with Science Applications International Corporation, and on the staff of U.S. Senator John F. Kerry (D-MA).

Mr. Rose received his Bachelors degree in History from American University in 1994 and a Masters degree in War Studies from Kings’ College, University of London in 1999. He is a recipient of the Department of Defense Exceptional Public Service Award (2001) and the Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service (2005).
Victoria SAMSON is Washington Office Director for Secure World Foundation and has more than fourteen years of experience in military space and security issues. Among her significant previous positions, 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, 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 to share information quickly and efficiently between Congressional staffers, members of the media, embassy officials, citizens and think-tanks 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.

Known throughout the space and security arena as a thought leader on policy and budgetary issues, Samson is often interviewed by multinational media outlets, including the New York Times, Space News, and NPR. She is also a prolific author of numerous op-eds, analytical pieces, journal articles, and electronic updates on missile defense and space security matters. Read Ms. Victoria Samson holds a Bachelor's of Art (B.A.) degree in political science, with a specialization in international relations, from UCLA and a Masters of Art (M.A.) in international relations from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

John B. SHELDON is professor for Space and Cyberspace Strategy at the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. At SAASS he directs and teaches the Space and National Security and the Information and Cyberspace courses. Prior to his appointment in August 2006 at SAASS, John was director of the Space Security program at the UK-based Centre for Defence and International Security Studies, and was a founding co-editor of the space policy journal Astropolitics. Prior to his academic career, he served in the British Diplomatic Corps.

John has lectured on space, cyberspace, and deterrence issues at the Higher Command and Staff Course, UK Defence Academy, Shrivenham, the Royal United Services Institute, London, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, US Air Force Academy, Air Force Institute of Technology, and numerous universities in the United States and the United Kingdom. He has published numerous chapters and articles in various edited works, journals, and trade publications. John’s monographs include Theory of Space Power: The Perils of Strategic Analogy (Routledge, forthcoming 2012); The New Space Age: Space Policy, Strategy and Security in the 21st Century (Polity Press, forthcoming 2012); and is currently working on a manuscript provisionally titled Power and Conflict in Cyberspace also to be published by Polity Press.

As well as teaching at SAASS, John is also a Fellow at the George C. Marshall Institute in Washington, DC, and has consulted for the U.S. and allied governments on strategic policy.
issues. John holds a BA (Hons.) in Politics and International Relations and a Masters degree in Security Studies from the University of Hull, UK; and a Ph.D. in Political Science and Strategic Studies from the University of Reading, UK.

Kassym-Jomart TOKAYEV of Kazakhstan has been Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva and Personal Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General to the Conference on Disarmament since 2 May 2011. Mr. Tokayev brings to the position a wealth of experience at the senior levels of Government. A career diplomat, he served from 1992 as Deputy Minister and later as First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan. He then served as Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan from 1994 to 1999, when he was also appointed Deputy Prime Minister and later the same year Prime Minister of Kazakhstan. He served as Prime Minister from 1999 until 2002, when he was appointed State Secretary for Foreign Affairs before becoming Minister for Foreign Affairs in 2003. Prior to taking up his functions as Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, Mr. Tokayev was Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of Kazakhstan, having been unanimously elected in January 2007.

Born in 1953, Mr. Tokayev is a graduate of the Moscow State Institute of International Relations, the Beijing Institute of the Chinese Language and the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. He is Doctor of Political Sciences and has written several books on international affairs. He has received state awards of Kazakhstan and other countries. Mr. Tokayev is married and has a son.


Mr. Vasiliev participated as a member of the Soviet/Russian delegations at various international fora, including NPT 1995, 2000, 2005 Review Conferences, UNGA Sessions and First Committee meetings, sessions of the UN Disarmament Commission, etc. He was a governmental expert in the Group of Governmental Experts on verification in all its aspects in 2005 – 2006.
Haitao WU is currently Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for Disarmament Affairs and Deputy Permanent Representative of the PRC to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland. Ambassador Wu was born in October 1962. He is a university graduate. From 1985-1989 Ambassador Wu was staff member and Attaché, Information Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of the People's Republic of China (PRC). From 1989-1993 he was Attaché and Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of the PRC to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Vienna. From 1993-1995 he was Third Secretary and Second Secretary, Department of International Organizations and Conferences, MFA. In 1995 until 1997 he was Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of the PRC to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland. From 1997-1999 he was Second Secretary, Deputy Director and Director, Department of Disarmament and Arms Control, MFA. From 1999-2004 First Secretary and Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the PRC to the United Nations (New York). In 2004 until 2010 he was Counsellor and Deputy Director-General, Department of Disarmament and Arms Control, MFA. From 2010 until November 2011 he was Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the PRC to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland.

He is married with a son.