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<tr>
<th>Participant</th>
<th>Post</th>
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<tr>
<td>Clif Bachmann</td>
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<td>Ignacio Cartagena Núñez</td>
<td>Deputy Director General of Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
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Prof. Germán Santana Pérez
Professor and Director of Historical Sciences Department
University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Professor Germán Santana is a prominent historian of the early modern period of the Atlantic and Africa in particular. He currently teaches at the Universidad de las Palmas de Gran Canaria, as Associate Professor, where he directs an interdisciplinary program in Hispano-African Relations through History. To his extensive list of publications on relations between Africa and Spain, Professor Santana adds the experience of his international projection.

Natacha Kunama
Coordinator Peacemaking Unit
ACCORD
Durban, South Africa

Natacha Kunama is the Coordinator of the Peacemaking Unit at ACCORD. In this capacity, she leads the operational and strategic implementation of peacemaking initiatives. The goal is to prevent the occurrence of violent conflict and to promote mediation as a tool for peaceful resolution of conflicts in Africa. She also contributed to enhancing police capacity to participate in peacekeeping with the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre based in Canada. She also worked with the UN Office in Burundi as the national lead on the disarmament of civilians and the fight against the proliferation of small arms.

Grace Obado
President Spain Chapter
Africa 2.0
Johannesburg, South Africa

Grace Obado serves on the board of Africa 2.0 International Foundation, and she is also the chapter head for Spain. She is an Associate Professor of International Relations at IE University and Schiller International University and previously worked as the International Coordinator for ENIASA, European Network for Information and Action for Southern Africa. She designed, implemented and evaluated various projects on peace, democracy and sustainable development. Together with ACTSA (U.K member of ENIASA) she also coordinated the campaign to support Nelson Mandela’s court petition to reduce the prices of HIV-AIDS drugs.
Olaf Bachmann
Visiting Senior Research Fellow

African Leadership Centre (ALC)
London, United Kingdom
Nairobi, Kenya

Born in Germany in autumn 1961, married, living in Palma de Mallorca, and London. He holds a PhD in War Studies, and a MA (Distinction) in War in the Modern World. As a visiting senior research fellow at King’s and co-founder of a related consultancy, his research and writing is on the APSA, and the history and contemporary state of African military and warfare. He spent many years of field research in Central Africa, mainly in Gabon, Cameroon, Rwanda, and the DRC. He is a member of the Royal African Society and King’s Africa Research Group. He teaches on the Governance of Security and State Formation.

Vera Magan Jawol
Vice Chair

African Youth Panel
Tamale Northern region, Ghana

Vera Magan Jawol has gained a wide range of experience and has contributed to youth development work at local, national and international levels. She is currently the Co-Chair of the Africa Youth Panel (AYP) and Technical Advisor for Advocacy, Gender and Youth for Youth Empowerment for Life (YELI) in North Ghana. She also has experience as a board member of youth organisations as she worked as a volunteer for the Youth Forum Project as a Steering Committee member, and as a board member for Youth Employment Project from 2006 to 2010.

Victor Borges
Founder and President

Cape Verde Foundation for Development and International Exchanges (FDI-CV)
Praia, Cape Verde

Mr. Victor Borges is an independent consultant, lecturer and trainer. Previously, Mr. Borges was the minister of foreign affairs, co-operation and communities of Cape Verde (2004-2008). He also served as minister of education, culture and sports (2001-2002) and human resources development (2002-2004). Mr. Borges was a visiting fellow at the Bureau of European Policy Advisers, diplomat in residence at Bridgewater State University, visiting fellow at South African Institute of International Affairs and visiting professor in two Cape Verde Universities.
Chiqui Castellano Suárez
Director and Chief Executive

Centro Atlántico de Pensamiento Estratégico (CATPE)
las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Chiqui Castellano Suárez is the Director and Chief Executive of the Centro Atlántico de Pensamiento Estratégico Viera, where she is in charge of planning the annual objectives of the association and executing the decisions of the General Assembly. From 1999 to 2013, she was manager of the sales and marketing department at Almacenes Caspe SA. She also worked as an economist at the Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of Las Palmas between 1995 and 1999.

José Sánchez Ruano
Board Member

Centro Atlántico de Pensamiento Estratégico (CATPE)
las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Since 2004, José Sánchez Ruano has managed his own company, Servicios Avanzados de Canarias S.L., a consultancy firm that specializes in economic, financial and business strategies, with particular focus on areas related to the European Union and international trade. His past professional appointments include: member of the board of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Las Palmas (from 2006 to 2010), and president of the board of the Gran Canaria Free Trade Zone (from 2001 to 2003).

Dr. Samuel Nii Noi Ashong
Associate

Center for Policy Analysis (CEPA)
Accra, Ghana

Dr. Ashong is currently a CEPA Associate, where he worked as Research Fellow until August 2010. He was Minister of State for Economic Planning (from April 2003 to May 2005), Dean of the GIMPA Public Service School (September 2010 to July 2011) and Deputy Rector of GIMPA (from August 2011 to August 2014). He studied economics at both Ghana University and Queen’s University, Ontario, Canada. He took a PhD at Boston University.
José Adrián García Rojas  
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Senior Policy Officer, Institutional Relations & Regional Integration  
European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)  
Brussels, Belgium

José Adrián García Rojas is Professor of Political Science and Administration, Chairman of the General Election Commission of the University of La Laguna, Director of the Master in Regional Development and Director of the Center for African Studies at the University of La Laguna. He was Director of the Canary Island Institute of Public Administration (ICAP), Member of the Advisory Council of the President of the Canary Islands to reform the Statute of Autonomy, Secretary of the Department of Constitutional Law and Political Science at the University of La Laguna, Secretary of the Center of African Studies of the University of La Laguna, and much more.

Alex Vines is head of the Africa Programme at Chatham House and Director for Area Studies and International Law. He chaired the UN Panel of Experts on Côte d’Ivoire from 2005 to 2007, and was a member of the UN Panel of Experts on Liberia from 2001 to 2003. He has also been a UN election officer in Mozambique and Angola, and served as a consultant for the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). He worked at Human Rights Watch as a senior researcher.

Kathleen Van Hove works on regional integration processes and trade relations between Europe and the ACP regions. As senior policy officer in the institutional relations team, she focuses on partnership development for the Centre. She joined ECDPM in 1997. She has been an active member of the board of directors of International lawyers and Economists Against Poverty (ILEAP) since 2004. She has a Masters in Science of Foreign Service (MSFS) from Georgetown University and a 'Licenciado' in Economics from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KUL).
Josep Maria Royo Aspa  
Researcher  
Escola de Cultura de Pau  
Barcelona, Spain

Josep Maria Royo Aspa has been a research fellow at the School for a Culture of Peace, a peace research centre at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) since 2000. His areas of interest include non-state armed actors, the analysis of armed conflicts and peace processes from a global and comparative perspective. His work is focused on sub-Saharan Africa, where he has conducted field research. He is a member of different networks on African studies, peace and HR and is member of the Board of the Catalan Federation of NGOs. He is also occasional adviser to various NGOs on African affairs and has driven advocacy. He holds a BA on Political Science by the UAB, a Master in International Relations, a Diploma of Advanced Studies in International Public Law and International Relations and a Diploma on Peace Culture.

Elisa Díaz Martínez  
Senior Researcher  
Fundación Alternativas  
Madrid, Spain

Elisa Díaz Martínez is an economist, master and doctor in social sciences from the University of Oxford and the Iian March Institute. She has been advisor to the Government of Ontario (Canada), where she was responsible for strategy projects and the design and implementation of health and social policies. She has been Director of the Kazemsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance at St. Edward’s University (Austin, Texas). She has also been advisor on health, education and social policies at the Economic Office of the President of Spain. Her areas of research and interest are social inequalities and the design and evaluation of public policies.

Patricia Garrido  
Researcher  
Grupo de Estudios Africanos GEA-UAM  
Madrid, Spain

Patricia Garrido graduated from the Law and Economic Science Faculty of the Comillas Pontifical University (ICADE). She also has a Master in Management of Non-Profit Organisations (UNED), Fundación Luis Vives and Master in International Relations and African Studies (UAM). She is currently a researcher and a member of the Coordination Group of GEA (Grupo de Estudios Africanos, UAM). Patricia Garrido is specialized in issues concerning food sovereignty, natural resource management, development cooperation, regional integration processes, new African development proposals and sustainability.
Jesús A. Núñez Villaverde  
Co-Director of the IECAH  
IECAH  
Madrid, Spain

Co-Director of the Institute of Studies on Conflicts and Humanitarian Action (IECAH). He is a senior expert in conflict research, peacebuilding, conflict prevention and analysis of Middle Eastern, North African and Sub-Saharan Africa countries. Mr. Núñez has more than twenty years of experience as a researcher, analyst, consultant and professor. He is a regular contributor to a number of newspapers, magazines and TV programs. He has a B.A. in Economics (UAM, Spain) and he is Graduate of the Spanish Military Academy of Zaragoza, Spain.

Victor Magnani  
Project Officer at the Sub-Saharan Africa Program  
French Institute for International Relations (IFRI)  
Paris, France

Graduated in Political Science & African Studies from the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Victor Magnani has had various work experiences in South Africa (French Consulate in Cape Town, South African Parliament, French Institute of South Africa) before joining the Sub-Saharan Africa Program in May 2015 as a Project Officer. His research focuses on Elections and political parties in Southern Africa.

Gustavo Barros de Carvalho  
Senior Researcher  
Institute for Security Studies (ISS)  
Pretoria, South Africa

Gustavo de Carvalho is a Senior Researcher on Peacebuilding and Peacekeeping at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS). Gustavo has extensive experience in capacity development, policy support and research initiatives in the peacebuilding field in Africa. From 2009 – 2014 he worked at ACCORD as a Peacekeeping Analyst, and later as Coordinator of its Peacebuilding Unit. Previously, he worked as a Researcher at Global Witness, in London, focusing on DRC and Somalia. Gustavo holds a bachelor degree in international relations from the University of Brasilia, and a MSc in African studies from the University of Oxford.
Íñigo Macias Aymar
Independent Consultant
IBEI / UAB
Spain

With a strong background in economics and specialised in international development and cooperation issues, Íñigo Macias has over 10 years of professional experience as researcher, advisor, consultant, and project manager both in the private and the public sector. He currently works as an independent consultant and holds associate positions at IBEI and UAB universities. Previously, he worked as Research Fellow on development and cooperation issues at CIDOB, as Policy Officer on aid and development alternatives at ACTIONAID UK and more recently as policy officer on policy coherence for development at the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation. He has fieldwork experience in different regions: Andean region (Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru), Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua) and Sub-Saharan Africa (DRC, Rep. Congo).

Amadou Sall
Secretary in charge of the foreign relations and member of the Board
Mauritania Perspectives
Nouakchott, Mauritania

Amadou Sall is a Mauritian citizen, lecturer at the University of Nouakchott, and sociologist by training. He has more than twenty years of research experience and commitment to health and welfare, inequality and domination relations, social justice and discrimination etc. He is engaged in civil society, works and fights for the promotion of a new citizenship in his country. Specialized in gender equality, promotion of accountability and active nonviolence. He is also a Human Rights observer to the African Union.

Ricardo López-Arandana Jaug
Policy Planning Director
Policy Planning Unit,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
Madrid, Spain

Ricardo López-Arandana is a member of the Spanish Diplomatic Service. He has been posted to the Office of the Spanish President of the Government, where he was in charge of African affairs. He has also been Deputy Head of Mission of Spain in Nicaragua and more recently in South Africa, and deputy representative to the Political and Security Council of the European Union. Following that, he headed the Department of European Common Foreign and Security Policy at the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was also part of the team working for the Spanish candidature to the UN Security Council before being appointed Policy Planning Director at the Spanish MFA.
Hannah Wambui Kihiu
Program Coordinator
National Civic Forum-Somalia
Mogadishu, Somalia

Wambui has over 10 years experience as a programme manager and trainer. She is an accomplished human rights, conflict and gender analyst and a trainer in different aspects of gender equality, equity, gender based violence, sexual and reproductive health rights, community mobilization/lobbying and advocacy, networking and coalition building and gender and governance. She is also an accomplished rapporteur and has significant experience in carrying out social research. Wambui has a Masters of Arts in Armed Conflict and Peace Studies and Bachelor of Education in Linguistics and Literature. She also holds a diploma in Journalism.

Enrique Mendizabal
Director
On Think Tanks
London, United Kingdom

Enrique Mendizabal lives in Lima and is the founder of On Think Tanks (onthinktanks.org) and other initiatives such as Politics and Ideas (politicsandideas.org), the On Think Tanks Exchange (exchange.onthinktanks.org), the On Think Tanks Data Visualisation Competition (datavis.onthinktanks.org), and an annual prize to the best Peruvian think tanks with Revista PODER (premiopoder.pe). Until 2010 he led the Research and Policy Development programme at the Overseas Development Institute in London where he promoted the formation of the evidence-based in Development Network and the Outcome Mapping Learning Community.

Maria Solanas
Project Manager
Real Instituto Elcano
Madrid, Spain

Maria Solanas is Project Manager at the Elcano Royal Institute. She has a BA in Sociology & Political Science and a BA in Journalism from the Complutense University of Madrid. Previously she was Executive Adviser on International Affairs at the Spanish Prime Minister’s Office (2004-11) and was responsible for Latin America, Asia-Pacifc and Sub-Saharan Africa, in addition to immigration and human rights. Her research areas are Spanish foreign policy, gender issues, global governance, EU-Latin America relations and Sub-Saharan Africa.