



Innovating Peace Mediation: New Approaches and Strategies

A Policy Forum on Peace Mediation

June 21, 2022: 17.00-19.00*

ETH Hauptgebäude, Rämistrasse 101, Zürich

**Doors open at 16.30*

MAS ETH Mediation in Peace Processes

ETH Zürich, Haldeneggsteig 4, 8092 Zürich, Switzerland
www.mas-mediation.ethz.ch

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The peace and security landscape of today's world is in a flux. Changing dynamics in the global macro context – from heightened geopolitical tensions to the growing threat of climate change – are influencing the nature of armed conflict and posing new challenges to conflict resolution. Innovative approaches and strategies are therefore required to adapt and continuously professionalize peace mediation.

To discuss peace mediation in today's contemporary context, ETH Zurich is organizing a High-Level Policy Forum on Peace Mediation on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. The Policy Forum will consist of a welcome speech by **Livia Leu**, the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Switzerland and a panel discussion. The panelists will include seasoned international mediation practitioners, experts, and officials. The panel will be moderated by **Mr. Itonde Kakoma**, Permanent Representative of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to the African Union. Please note that MAS ETH MPP reserves the right to possible changes in the configuration of the panel.

The panel will focus on understanding four macro trends (geopolitics, worldviews, environment, technology) and their impact on both armed conflict but also peace mediation.

The event will take place in the ETH Main Building (ETH Hauptgebäude, Rämistrasse 101) at 17.00 on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Please arrive at least 15 min early.

NOTE: Prior registration is required. Please register for the event through the following link: www.mas-mediation.ethz.ch/events.html



Livia Leu
State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs of Switzerland



Michael Keating
Executive Director
European Institute of Peace



Volker Perthes
Special Representative for Sudan and Head
of the United Nations Integrated Transition
Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS)



Itonde Kakoma
Permanent IFRC Representative to
the African Union



Sergio Jaramillo
Former High Commissioner
for Peace



Marie-Joëlle Zahar
Professor of Political Science
Université de Montréal

Master of Advanced Studies ETH Mediation in Peace Processes (MAS ETH MPP)

The event is organized in the context of the Master of Advanced Studies ETH Mediation in Peace Processes (MAS ETH MPP) – a globally unique two-year program focused specifically on mediation in peace processes. The MAS ETH MPP is built on a close partnership between ETH Zürich, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and the foreign ministries of Germany, Finland and Sweden. The program is supported by international organisations, such as the United Nations (UN), European Union (EU) and Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). It brings together the most experienced mediation practitioners and researchers the world has to offer. The program students are highly qualified mid-career professionals with diverse experiences in peace mediation, ranging from distinguished backgrounds with the UN and Foreign Service to working on mediation efforts within regional organizations or in civil society.

For more information on the MAS ETH MPP, please visit www.mas-mediation.ethz.ch/.

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Livia Leu was born in Zurich and her place of origin is Truns in the canton of Graubünden. She studied at the University of Zurich and the University of Lausanne. She holds a degree in law and was admitted to the bar in the canton of Zurich. After joining the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) in 1989, she completed her diplomatic service training in Bern, Paris and Geneva. She subsequently held various positions, including in the International Organisations Division, the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations in New York, the Swiss embassy in Cairo and the Americas Division and the Africa/Middle East Division, which she headed as ambassador. From 2009 to 2013, she headed the Swiss embassy in Tehran, which also represents US interests. In August 2013, she took up her post as the Federal Council's delegate for trade agreements and head of Bilateral Economic Relations at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) in Bern. From 2018 to October 2020, Livia Leu served as Swiss ambassador to France and Monaco. In October 2020, the Federal Council appointed her as FDFA state secretary and chief negotiator with the European Union. Livia Leu is married and has two sons.

Michael Keating is Executive Director of the European Institute of Peace (EIP), an independent body partnering with the European Union and European states as a resource to promote and provide practical support for more effective approaches to conflict prevention, resolution and mediation. Until September 2018, he was the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia. His career has been divided between the private and public sectors. Until 2015, he was an Associate Director at Chatham House in London. Between 2010-15, he worked as an advisor to conflict mediation bodies, including Intermediate and Search for Common Ground. From 2008 – 10, he served as the Executive Director of the Africa Progress Panel, a policy group chaired by Kofi Annan. His UN career has included assignments in Kabul as deputy SRSG, in Lilongwe, Jerusalem/Gaza, New York, Geneva, Islamabad and Mogadishu. His private sector experience includes five years in financial publishing in the City of London; in television as associate producer on documentaries broadcast by the BBC, Channel Four; and running a management and communication consultancy. He was born in Uganda, educated in the UK and has a Master of Arts in History from the University of Cambridge.

Marie-Joëlle Zahar is Professor of Political Science, Director of the Research Network on Peace Operations and Fellow at the Centre for International Research and Studies at the Université de Montréal. She is also a member of the Scientific Board of the Network for Strategic Analysis. From March 2013 until August 2015, she served as Senior Expert on Power Sharing on the Standby Team of Mediation Experts at the UN Department of Political Affairs where she remains on the UN mediation roster. In 2017, she was a senior expert in the Office of the Special Envoy of the United Nations for Syria. A graduate of McGill University, her research interests span the dynamics of civil war and the politics of conflict-resolution. She is a specialist of the study of non-state armed groups, transition violence and post-conflict power sharing. A non-resident Senior Fellow with the International Peace Institute (New York) and a member of the Folke Bernadotte Academy's research working groups (Sweden), Professor Zahar has held a number of visiting appointments. She was a research fellow at Stanford's Center for International Security and cooperation and a SSHRC post-doctoral fellow at the Munk Centre for International Studies (University of Toronto). She has co-edited or co-authored 5 books and has also penned over 75 publications in academic journals and edited volumes on conflict resolution and peace implementation as well as a number of research and policy papers published by think-tanks and policy institutes. Her research has been funded, among others by the Carnegie Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and the United States Institute for Peace.

Sergio Jaramillo served as High Commissioner for Peace (2012-2016) and National Security Advisor (2010-2012) to the President of Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos. In that capacity he first led the secret negotiations with the FARC guerrillas, which ended with the signing of the General Agreement of 2012,

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and then together with Humberto de la Calle led the public negotiations that ended with the signing of the Final Agreement in November of 2016. As Peace Commissioner he also had to oversee the disarmament of the FARC in 2017. He was then appointed Ambassador to the EU and Belgium (2017-2018). Previously, Mr. Jaramillo had served as Vice Minister of Defence for Policy and International Affairs (2006-2009) and as Executive Director of Ideas for the Peace Foundation in Bogotá (2004-2006). He also worked as advisor to the ministers of foreign affairs and defence (2000-2003). He studied philosophy and Greek at the universities of Toronto, Oxford, Cambridge and Heidelberg.

Volker Perthes was appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on 7 January 2021 as his new Special Representative for Sudan and Head of the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS). Mr. Volker Perthes brings to this position over 25 years of experience in academia, research, international relations and diplomacy, including with the United Nations, as well as deep expertise in conflict resolution and regional geopolitics. From 2005 to September 2020, he served as Chief Executive Officer and Director of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), where he currently holds the position of Senior Adviser. From 2015 to 2018, he served as Assistant Secretary-General then Senior Adviser to the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, including as Chairperson of the International Syria Support Group's Ceasefire Taskforce for Syria on behalf of the United Nations. He has also served as Researcher and Head of Department at SWP from 1992 to 2005, and as Adjunct Professor for International Relations at Humboldt University of Berlin from 2007 to 2019. He began his academic career as Assistant Professor at the American University of Beirut (1991-1993). Mr. Perthes holds a Master's degree and a Doctorate in Political Science earned at the University of Duisburg in Germany. He is fluent in English and Arabic.

Itonde A. Kakoma serves as Head of Delegation and Permanent Representative to the African Union, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Prior to joining IFRC, he was a member of the Leadership Team and Director for Global Strategy at CMI - Martti Ahtisaari Centre, an organization he joined in 2014. He started at CMI as Head for Sub-Saharan Africa before being promoted as Programme Director responsible for Africa (Sub-Sahara, Sahel, North Africa and The Red Sea). Prior to CMI, Kakoma was the Assistant Director, Conflict Resolution Program at The Carter Center, managing a portfolio of the Center's peace initiatives and supporting President Carter's diplomatic efforts in and between Sudan and South Sudan. He was an international observer for The National Referendum on the Right to Self Determination for the People of South Sudan in 2011; and served as an advisor and report writer for the Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission, specifically on the role of traditional and religious communities during the civil war and in peacemaking. Kakoma is an experienced facilitator of and advisor for high-level political and security dialogue fora; and has expertise in negotiation, peace process design, transitional justice, and an advocate for gender and inclusion. Kakoma is a frequent moderator for both closed-door and public platforms on matters of global peace and security and currently an Executive-in-Residence within the GCSP Global Fellowship Initiative.