

PANEL 1

Marc Pecsteen de Buytswere

Ambassador Marc Pecsteen de Buytswere holds a Master in Law and in International Relations. He is the current Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations Office at Geneva. Previously, he was the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations Office at New York, during the mandate of Belgium as non-permanent member of the Security Council. Throughout his diplomatic career, which he started in 1991, he was posted in Buenos Aires, Islamabad, Vienna, New York, Shanghai and Kigali. He also held the position of Deputy-Director of the Office of the State-Secretary for European Affairs and Director of the Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Pawel Radomski

Pawel Radomski is a member of the Polish Foreign Service since 1995. He is currently Director of the United Nations and Human Rights Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Previously, he held the position of Deputy Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations Office in New York. Throughout his diplomatic career, he was posted in Washington DC and New York. He also served as Personal Assistant to the Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and held various positions within the UN Department.

Roberto de León Huerta

Roberto de León Huerta is a graduate of the Monterrey Technological Institute of Higher Education (ITESM). He has a Master Degree in Diplomatic Studies from the Matias Romero Institute of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Mexico. He is also a member of the Mexican Foreign Service. He has served in the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations (member of the Mexican team in the Security Council during 2009-2010) and in the Embassy of Mexico in Brazil. He has been Deputy Director-General of Human Rights and Deputy Director-General of American Regional Organizations. He has participated in several multilateral and regional fora: the UN General Assembly; the Human Rights Council; UN Women; Indigenous Forum; CSW; CELAC and the General Assembly of the Organization of American States.

Anne Schintgen

Anne Schintgen is currently the Head of the Europe Liaison Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict. She previously worked in New York as a Political Affairs Officer with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict. Prior to her engagement with the UN, she worked as a Political Advisor at the Permanent Representation of Luxembourg to the United Nations, as Deputy Head of Office of the Luxembourg Embassy to Burkina Faso and Niger and as Programme Manager for

Development Cooperation with Mali and Senegal at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Luxembourg.

Evan Cinq-Mars

Evan Cinq-Mars is a Senior Policy Advisor with the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations in New York, where he is responsible for the Permanent Mission's engagement on Children and Armed Conflict, including chairing the New York-based Group of Friends of Children and Armed Conflict. Prior to joining the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations, Evan had over 10 years of experience working with non-governmental organizations, including as a Senior Advisor with the Center for Civilians in Conflict, a Research and Advocacy Officer with the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, and a Research Fellow with the Centre for International Governance Innovation.

PANEL 2

Laurent Dutordoir

Laurent Dutordoir is Children and Armed Conflict specialist with UNICEF's regional office for the Middle East and North Africa region. He focuses mainly on Syria and Yemen and is involved in documenting and reporting on grave violations against children, dialogue with both State and non-State parties to the conflict, bilateral and multilateral advocacy initiatives, as well as related humanitarian responses. Previously, Laurent worked in the field with UNICEF in State of Palestine and in Nigeria, and at UN headquarters with the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict. In this capacity, he worked closely with the UN's multilateral bodies (UNSC, UNGA and HRC) and authored a number of UN guidance notes and policy documents, including the "child protection policy in UN peace operations" and "the protection of schools and hospitals in armed conflict."

Alexandra Jackson

Alexandra Jackson is the current Global Advisor on Child Protection at the International Committee for the Red Cross. Before taking this position in Geneva, she has spent six years in the field with the ICRC working in Protection, Detention and Restoring Family Links, in Chad, DRC (twice) and Haiti. She was based in Kinshasa for the last two years, running the Restoring Family Links programme, which, with the Congolese Red Cross, searches for the families of unaccompanied children, who have been separated from their families by conflict and violence, and reunites them. Before joining the ICRC, she worked in London with the British Red Cross for four years in child protection, youth participation and volunteering and then spent two years working with the Gambia Federation of the Disabled in West Africa.

Claire Brisset

Claire Brisset started her career as journalist (« Le Figaro », « Le Monde »), specialized in health, nutrition and children issues. She subsequently joined UNICEF as spokesperson for 12 years. She traveled extensively in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. In 2000, she was appointed Ombudsperson for children by the French Government. After this mandate of six years, she became General Inspector of Education.

Dara McLeod

Dara McLeod is the Executive Director of War Child Canada. Before coming to War Child, she held senior roles with both the federal government in Ottawa and the provincial government in Toronto, Ontario. Prior to her work in government, Dara McLeod spent six years in Washington, DC as both the Director of Communications and Manager of Programs for Refugees International, a non-profit organization that does advocacy with the US government and the United Nations on behalf of displaced people. While with Refugees International, she took part in humanitarian missions to conflict zones around the world, including Afghanistan, Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Mexico, and South Sudan.

Dara McLeod is a former journalist and has her Masters in International Journalism from City University in London, England.

Siri Aas Rustad

Siri Aas Rustad holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Trondheim. She is a Research Professor at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) as well as a lecturer at the Norwegian University of Life Science. Her research interests are among others conflict related to conflict trends and dynamics, ceasefires, natural resources and conflict, human consequences of conflict and the geography of conflict. Her work has appeared in journals like *World Development*, *Political Geography*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *International Interactions and Conflict Management and Peace Science*. In addition, she has edited two books.