

Annex II: Bios of the Panelists

Panel 1: UN's use of armed guards

Mr. Stuart Groves spent 13 years as the Senior Security Manager for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. He was an active member of the steering group of the UN Security Management Network which develops global security policy and procedures and he recently chaired the UN working group charged with developing policy for the use of private security companies. From 2009-2011, he joined the UN Department of Safety and Security and until the end of 2012 he temporarily filled the post of Senior Security Officer for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. He is a voting member of the ASIS committee developing standards for PSCs.

Mr. Rick Cottam is the Focal Point for Security and Safety for the CCISUA UN Staff Federation (40,000 staff) and President of the United Nations Staff Union for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). He represented CCISUA in the meetings of the IASMN working group on private security companies. Previously, he acted as ICRC Team Leader for Missing Persons from the Bosnian War where he carried out analysis of witness statements including crimes committed by militia's and foreign volunteers.

Ms. Lou Pingeot is an independent researcher and policy advisor at Global Policy Forum (GPF). She is the author of an investigative report on the use of private military and security companies by the UN, "Dangerous Partnership," published in 2012 by GPF and the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung. Her research interests include the privatization of security, corporate influence on global policymaking and civil society at the UN.

Panel 2: UN's use of PMSCs in peace operations

Ms. Åse Gilje Østensen holds a PhD in comparative politics, University of Bergen, Norway. Her research focuses on the political agency of commercial military and security companies. Her recent publications include 'UN Use of Private Military and Security Companies: Practices and Policies' (DCAF, 2011) and 'In the Business of Peace. The Political Influence of Private Military and Security Companies on UN Peacekeeping' (International Peacekeeping, 2013).

Mr. Mirko Sossai is Assistant Professor of international law at the Department of Law, University 'Roma Tre', Italy. He was member of the Management Team of PRIV-WAR (Regulating privatisation of "war": the role of the EU in assuring the compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights), a research project funded by the European Union 7th Framework Program (2008–11). He edited with Christine Bakker the book 'Multilevel Regulation of Military and Security Contractors: the Interplay between International, European, and Domestic norms' (Oxford & Portland OR, Hart Publishing, 2012).

Mr. Sabelo Gumedze is the Head of the Research and Development Unit at the Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA) based in Pretoria, South Africa. He is a former Senior Researcher of the Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Division at the Institute for Security Studies, in Pretoria, South Africa. He is currently managing a research project on Promoting Crime Prevention Partnerships Between the State and the Private

Security Sector in Southern Africa. Sabelo holds a Doctor of Social Science in International Law from Åbo Akademi University, Finland.