



EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS IN POPULATED AREAS

Oslo Conference 2024

SPEAKERS

OPENING SESSION



Andreas Motzfeldt Kravik was appointed **State Secretary at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs** on 11 August 2023. Prior to his appointment, Mr Kravik served as Director in the Legal Affairs Department at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr Kravik has extensive experience of diplomacy and multilateral affairs, particularly in the field of international law, including international human rights law, international criminal law and the law of the sea. He has previously served as Minister Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations and as an adviser to the Office of the Co-Prosecutor of the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials (UNAKRT). Mr Kravik has also served as head of the expert committee on the independence of judges and lawyers under the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ Norway). Mr Kravik holds a master's degree in law and a bachelor's degree in international relations. He has also written a number of books and articles on various international law topics and teaches international law at the University of Oslo.

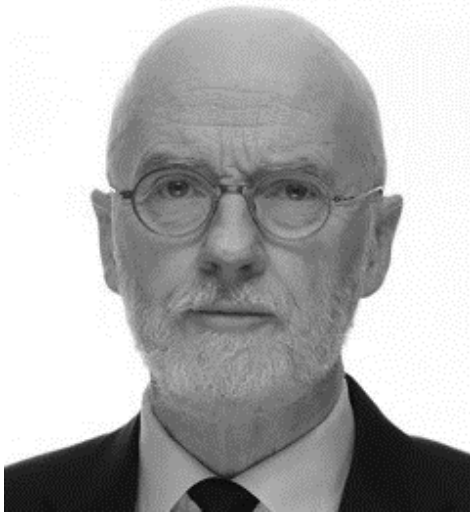


Tine Mørch Smith is the **Director General at the Department for Multilateral Affairs in the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**. Tine Mørch Smith has previously served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations Office at Geneva. Prior to her appointment to Geneva, Ambassador Mørch Smith had been serving as Director General of the Department of Regional Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway since 2015. She was Deputy Director General of the Department from 2014 to 2015. She also served at the Section for Human Rights and Democracy at the Ministry from 2005 to 2010, first as Assistant Director General and then Deputy Director General; and at the Section for Humanitarian Affairs from 2000 to 2005 as an adviser. Ambassador Mørch Smith served as Deputy Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations in New York from 2010 to 2014. She was also based as an Attaché/Second Secretary at the Norwegian Embassy in Lisbon, Portugal from 1997 to 2000. Mørch Smith has a Master degree in history and a Bachelor of Science in political science and history from the University of Oslo (1987-1993).



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Ambassador Noel White is the **Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations and Other International Organisations in Geneva**. He took up duty in December 2022. Prior to his appointment to Geneva Mr White served in Brussels as Ireland's Ambassador to the EU Political and Security Committee from 2017. From 2016 to 2017 he served as Director for International Security Policy at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin; from 2012 to 2016 as Ambassador to Australia, with parallel accreditation to New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands; and, as Director/Spokesperson at the Press Office from 2010 to 2012. Mr White also worked at the EU General Secretariat of the Council as a Political Administrator. Other posts include Director of Development Cooperation at Headquarters and Director of Institutional Affairs at Ireland's Permanent Representation to the EU. Mr White graduated in law from Trinity College Dublin, and subsequently studied at King's Inns where he qualified as Barrister-at-Law.



Carolyné Mélanie Régimbal is the **Chief of Service of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs' Geneva Office (UNODA)** and Deputy Secretary General to the Conference on Disarmament. Ms. Régimbal has 25 years of multilateral disarmament, peace and security experience. She served as Director of the UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) in Lima (Peru) and also worked for the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, where she served as Head of Field Coordination contributing to the Colombian Peace Process. Prior to joining the United Nations, Ms. Régimbal worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Canada. She was also a founding member of the Canadian Mine Action Team in Ottawa and continued to work on Human Security, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation matters at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the Organization of American States (OAS) as an Alternate Representative in Washington DC. Ms. Régimbal, has a Bachelor of Arts in Canadian Studies and a Masters in International Service.



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Marwa Almbaed is an **activist and survivor from Syria** who uses her voice and first-hand experience as a war survivor to support the implementation of the EWIPA declaration. The war in her home country Syria altered Marwa's life drastically at the age of 24 when she was in a car accident provoked by explosive weapons on the highway, leaving her paralyzed from the waist down. Her fear of being unable to evacuate quickly during times of wars were not eliminated before arriving to Germany, where Marwa sought for asylum. The unique treatment she received from an occupational therapist there inspired her to get trained to pursue the profession herself aiming to assist others facing similar situations. Prior to arriving in Germany, she volunteered her efforts to aid peacebuilding in Syria.



Younis Al Khatib was elected as the **President of Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS)** at the 8th General Assembly in 2000. Younis started with PRCS as a volunteer in 1982 and in 1989 joined the Executive Board of PRCS. He held numerous senior positions within PRCS including the Director of Palestine Hospital in Cairo, Head of Health Planning and Human Resource Development, Director General and President. He has also been actively engaged with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement for decades, and was elected to the Governing Board of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) from 2017 to 2022. Younis has an Honorary Doctorate Degree from South Korea, Master of Science in Management and Organisational Development, Masters in Public Health, and BSc in Business Administration from the UK.



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Radhya al-Mutawakel is a **Yemeni human rights defender**. She is the chairperson and co-founder of Mwatana Organization for Human Rights. She has been working in the human rights field since 2004, covering different topics including war crimes, arbitrary detentions, enforced disappearances, and freedom of the press. Al-Mutawakel has been invited to present her work at numerous international events and forums, including at a hearing of the European Parliament, and she briefed the UN Security Council on 30 May 2017 and on 25 February 2022 about the war in Yemen. In March 2019, April 2020 and March 2021 she had a testimony in front of the Congress. Al-Mutawakel was on the TIME's list of the 100 most influential people of 2019. She also holds a bachelor's degree in mass communication and two high diplomas in gender studies and political science from Sana'a University.



Svitlana Avramenko is the **Head of War-related Threat Awareness Department in the Ukrainian Red Cross Society**. With extensive experience working with communities and districts affected by the onset of armed conflict in 2014 in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, Svitlana Avramenko joined the Ukrainian Red Cross Society as a regional mine risk specialist in the Kyiv region in the autumn of 2022 and later took on the position as the Head of the Mine Risk Department. In the past, Svitlana participated in activities to restore areas affected by the conflict, organizing and coordinating emergency work. Svitlana holds a Masters in Commodity Science from Luhansk National University and a Masters in Public Administration.



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PANEL 1: MILITARY POLICIES AND PRACTISES



Rear Admiral Bjørn-Erik Marthinsen, born in Oslo on 15 November 1964 is the **Deputy of the Norwegian Defence Staff**. In January 1984 he started as a conscript in the Norwegian Navy. After initial NCO course he served as a platoon commander at the Navy's Basic Training school and later Company commander until he began his naval education at the Naval Academy in Bergen in 1987. On completion he started his sea riding service on minesweepers in 1989. After various positions on minesweepers and mine hunters, he completed a specialist Mine Warfare course in 1992 and qualified as commander on minesweepers. He served as ship commander on mine sweepers and mine hunters until 1997. In the period 1997 to 1999, he served as a mine warfare instructor at the Naval Weapons school. During the period, he completed the Naval Staff Course and the Maritime Warfare Course in Halifax, Canada. In 1999 he was selected to serve as Principle Staff Officer in NATO's Standing Naval Mine Warfare Force, MCMFORNORTH. In year 2000, he was promoted to Commander and took up the position as Commander of the Norwegian Mine Countermeasures Squadron for a period of two years, before he served as a staff officer in the Naval Operations Centre at the Norwegian Armed Forces' operational HQ in Stavanger. After completing general staff college in 2004, he was appointed Commander Senior Grade and served as senior staff officer in the Mine War Flotilla in Bergen. In the period 2006 to 2009, he served as senior staff officer and total project coordinator in the Planning Department of the Norwegian Defence Staff/Naval Staff. He completed the NATO Defense College in Rome, Italy in the first half of 2009 and then started as a senior staff officer in the Ministry of Defence's Department for Defence Policy and Long-Term Planning. In the period 2011-2012, he was appointed temporary commander and head of the Section for Defence Planning and Structural Development. In 2013, Marthinsen was appointed Captain (N) and Commander of the Mine Warfare Flotilla. In 2014, he deployed as Deputy Commander of the Danish-Norwegian-British maritime Task Force for Removal of Chemical Agents from Syria (Operation RECSYR) before resuming his position as MW Flotilla Commander. *(continued)*



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(continued) In 2016 he became Deputy Chief of the Norwegian Fleet, and Chief of The Fleet Staff, before he in October the same year was appointed Commodore and Chief of the Norwegian Fleet. From September 2017, Marthinsen returned to the Defence Staff Deputy of the HR department. In 2021 he took position as head of the J5 department. In October 2022, Marthinsen joined the Defence Logistics Organisation as Deputy Commander, before he was promoted Rear Admiral from 1 April 2024 and took up the position of Deputy Chief of the Norwegian Defence Staff. Bjørn-Erik Marthinsen is married to Anne-Cathrine Siljan. Together they have two daughters, Sarah (2003) and Cornelia (2009), and live in Bekkestua, near Oslo.



Dr. Arnold H. Kammel, born in 1981, has been **Secretary General of the Federal Ministry of Defence of Austria** since 2022 and Director of Defence Policy since 2020. From 2018 to 2019, he was an advisor in the Cabinet of the Federal Minister for the EU, Arts, Culture and Media in the Federal Chancellery of Austria. Prior to that, he was Research Fellow, Secretary General and Director of the Austria Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES) from 2004 to 2018.



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Ltcol Peter de Bock currently works in the Dutch MoD's Directorate of International Affairs as a **Policy Advisor on Protection of Civilians**. On behalf of the Dutch Chief of Defence he is the project lead for 'the Baseline study on Civilian Harm Mitigation'. By means of this baseline study, he also supports the Dutch Minister of Defence in implementing the Political Declaration of EWIPA. In former positions Peter was deployed as commanding officer, twice to Iraq and once to Afghanistan. He holds a Master in Military Strategic studies, and an Executive Master in Security and Defence.



Dan E. Stigall Dan E. Stigall is the **Director for Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response (CHMR) Policy at the U.S. Department of Defense**. His Directorate is within the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Irregular Warfare and Counterterrorism, Special Operations & Low-Intensity Conflict, OSD (Policy). Mr. Stigall previously served as an attorney with the National Security Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Mr. Stigall also served in multiple roles in DOJ as both a policy advisor and trial attorney, including several years in DOJ's Office of International Affairs. He also served as Deputy Chief of Staff and Counselor for International Affairs for the DOJ National Security Division. From 2017–19, Mr. Stigall served as a Director for Counterterrorism with the National Security Council, where he focused on detainee policy and served as lead author and interagency coordinator for the U.S. National Strategy for Counterterrorism. He served on active duty as a U.S. Army Judge Advocate ("JAG") from 2001–09, with assignments in Europe, the Middle East, and the United States. Mr. Stigall is also currently the Distinguished Professorial Lecturer in National Security Law at The George Washington University School of Law and, as an Army Reservist, he serves on the adjunct faculty in the Department of Law of the United States Military Academy at West Point. His scholarly work has appeared in the Harvard National Security Journal, the Military Law Review, the George Washington International Law Review, and numerous other publications. His books include *The Santillana Codes* (2017) and *Counterterrorism and Investigative Detention: International and Comparative Legal Evolution* (2021).



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Laurent Gisel is the **Head of the Arms and Conduct of Hostilities Unit at the Legal Division of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** in Geneva. He leads the development and promotion of the ICRC's strategies and activities to reaffirm, clarify, and strengthen international humanitarian law with regard to weapons of humanitarian concern, new technologies of warfare and the conduct of hostilities. Laurent began his career at the ICRC in 1999 and held several positions in conflict areas, in Israel and the Occupied Territories, Eritrea, Afghanistan, and as Deputy Head of Delegation in Nepal. He served as Diplomatic Adviser to the ICRC Presidency from 2005 to 2008. Laurent worked in the ICRC Legal Division in various positions since 2008, including Legal Adviser to Operations, and Senior Legal Adviser and Cyber Team Leader. Prior to joining the ICRC, Laurent became attorney-at-law in Geneva and worked at the Public and Administrative Law Court of the Canton de Vaud.



Diana Castillo is the **Director of the Office of International Affairs and Cooperation of the Ministry of Defense of Colombia**. She has previously worked on the Disarmament and Humanitarian demining Portfolio at the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the UN, Geneva, Switzerland, and on gender issues, terrorism, international security and organized crime in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia. Castillo has also served as an external advisor to the Intelligence Directorate of the Colombian Army. Castillo holds a Master's Degree in International and European Security from the University of Geneva, in Government and Fight against Terrorism from the Herzliya Interdisciplinary Center in Israel, and in National Security and Defense from the Superior School of War, Colombia.



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Laura Boillot is a **Director of UK-based Article 36** which focuses on reducing harm from weapons. Laura also serves as **Coordinator for the International Network on Explosive Weapons (INEW)** and led the coalition through the negotiations of the international political declaration to strengthen the protection of civilians. She has previously worked as Campaign Manager and subsequently as Director of the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC). Prior to that Laura worked as Program Officer on the Control Arms campaign and for the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA). She has 20-years experience of leading global civil society coalitions on humanitarian disarmament and protection of civilians issues..



Wendy MacClinchy is the **Director of the United Nations program at Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC)**, leading strategic policy engagement and advocacy at the UN to advance reforms essential to the protection of civilians. She also oversees CIVIC's field-based peacekeeping research in Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali and South Sudan, which provides evidence-based recommendations and brings civilian voices to multilateral negotiations. She brings over 20 years of experience working in conflict and humanitarian crises in field-based and policy roles.

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PANEL 2: UNDERSTANDING DIRECT AND INDIRECT EFFECTS



Ammar Hijazi the **Assistant Minister for Multilateral Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine** and oversees Palestine's endeavors at multilateral fora. Throughout his diplomatic career, Mr. Hijazi has participated and led Palestine's successful applications to international organizations and accession to multilateral treaties and other international tribunals, including UNESCO and Interpol memberships. Mr. Hijazi also oversaw the inscription of Hebron's Old City as a World Heritage site by UNESCO and headed the State of Palestine's delegations before different United Nations Treaty Bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. When the State of Palestine assumed its role as a Chair of G77 and China in 2019, Mr. Hijazi directed the negotiations on climate change and represented the Group in various conferences and meetings, including the Bonn and Madrid Climate Conferences. Mr. Hijazi also played an instrumental role in the Ministry's negotiations with the Holy See, culminating in the signing of a comprehensive bilateral agreement between the Holy See and the State of Palestine, which is the first of its kind between the Holy See and a majority-Muslim country. Between 2011 and 2012, Mr. Hijazi served as the coordinator for the Political Committee, which oversaw Palestine's efforts to join the United Nations. Prior to that role, Mr. Hijazi served in the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations from 2004 to 2011, where he was in charge of issues related to the Question of Palestine, international humanitarian law, development, climate change, and disarmament and participated in several relevant international conferences. Before his post in New York, Mr. Hijazi worked in the Peace Process Affairs Department and the North America Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Hijazi joined the Ministry in 1996, where he also served in various capacities in the Minister's office, Aid Coordination and Eastern Europe Departments in the Ministry.



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Simon Walker is a **Senior Human Rights Officer at OHCHR** where he has been working since 1999. He is currently the Chief of the Rule of Law and Democracy Section, supervising work in areas from administration of justice, democracy and protection of fundamental freedoms, transitional justice and accountability and protection of human rights in armed conflict. Prior to that, he was working in the Human Rights Treaties Branch and he was OHCHR Representative in Cambodia from 2017 to 2019. He has also been Senior Legal Advisor to the High Commissioner in 2017 and was the UN Human Rights Advisor in Albania and OHCHR advisor on human rights and disability. Mr. Walker has worked on a range of human rights themes including human rights and business and economic, social and cultural rights. Prior to working with the OHCHR, Mr. Walker worked for the World Intellectual Property Organization, was a solicitor at the Australian law firm Clayton Utz and was the Associate to Justice Michael Kirby when he was President of the New South Wales Court of Appeal. Mr. Walker has a PhD in law from Utrecht University and a Bachelor of Law and Arts from the University of New South Wales.



Katherine Young is the **Research and Monitoring Manager of the Explosive Weapons Monitor**, a research initiative of the International Network on Explosive Weapons (INEW). She undertakes and oversees the development of research and provides overall programmatic management to the initiative. Katherine was previously Senior Researcher of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) Monitor, a project of Control Arms. Prior to that she was the Program Manager of the Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School, where she managed the day-to-day operations of the International Human Rights Clinic.



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Ezequiel Heffes is the **Director of Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict** in New York, a network of leading human rights and humanitarian NGOs working to advance children's rights in armed conflict. Prior to joining Watchlist, Ezequiel worked for Geneva Call and the ICRC in various operational positions. He holds a PhD from the University of Leiden and has widely published on different international law issues, and he is notably the author of *Detention by Non-State Armed Groups under International Law* (Cambridge University Press).



Dr. Robin Geiss is the **Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)**. Dr. Geiss has over 20 years of experience in peace, security and international affairs. Previously, he served as tenured Professor and Director of the Glasgow Centre for International Law and Security at the University of Glasgow. He was also the Swiss Chair of International Humanitarian Law at the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights and Visiting Professor at the Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po, Paris. He served as Legal Adviser and delegate to the UN Human Rights Council for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). He is an ex officio member of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters and remains (affiliate) Professor at the University of Glasgow. He has published widely on international and humanitarian matters and is a former editor of the *Yearbook of International Humanitarian Law*. He has served on the advisory boards of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, the Foundation for Peace Research and on the Red Cross' National Committee on International Humanitarian Law. Dr. Geiss holds a PhD in international law from the University of Kiel, studied at the University of Edinburgh, and obtained a master's degree in international legal studies from New York University (NYU).

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PANEL 3: ASSISTING CONFLICT-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES



Julien Thöni is the **Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations and the other international organisations in Geneva and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament**. Prior to this he was Consul General of Switzerland in Istanbul. He joined the diplomatic service in 1998 and made his diplomatic traineeship both in Bern at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and in Moscow at the Embassy of Switzerland. In 2000, Mr. Thöni served as desk officer for the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States at the FDFA, covering the bilateral relations with Russia, Belarus, Moldova as well as the countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia. Between 2003 and 2007 he was Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Switzerland in Saudi Arabia. In 2007 he was appointed deputy head of section and covered euro-Atlantic and European security in the International Security Division at the FDFA. In 2010, he served as head of section on issues related to disarmament and peace promotion also in Bern. Between 2013 and 2023 he was successively posted in Moscow as counsellor for economic and financial affairs, in Ramallah as Head of Mission and Representative of Switzerland to the Palestinian Authority and in Istanbul as Consul General. Mr. Thöni has a degree in International Relations from the Geneva Graduate Institute and a Masters' degree in international conflict analysis from the University of Kent (Canterbury).



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Alma Taslidžan is the **Disarmament and Protection of Civilians Advocacy Manager at Humanity & Inclusion**. She has devoted her career to humanitarian disarmament and the protection of civilians. Since 2014, she has led Disarmament and Protection of Civilians advocacy for Federation Handicap International in Brussels. Her efforts are dedicated to advancing the implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Additionally, she played a pivotal role in shaping the Political Declaration aimed at addressing the humanitarian ramifications stemming from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas. Taslidžan was recently appointed to Chair the Governance Board of ICBL-CMC. She is also a member of the Steering Committee of INEW, a member of the Monitoring and Research Committee of the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor and Board member of the Explosive Weapons Monitor.



Hazel de Wet is the **Deputy Director of the United Nations Children's Fund's (UNICEF) Office of Emergency Programmes in Geneva**. She has 23 years of extensive and diverse experience in political affairs, human rights, protection of civilians, women's rights, international relations, and diplomacy in the United Nations, she is a former diplomat and a committed United Nations staff member. Ms. De Wet's experience spans across a wide spectrum of action, from the grassroots level in the field directly with local actors, to policy making, high-level political engagement and intergovernmental processes at UN headquarters. For last 14 years Ms. De Wet was at the frontlines of conflict, post conflict and emergency contexts in the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions in Sudan and South Sudan. In her previous role Hazel has been serving as the Head of Office of the States of Jonglei and the Upper Nile in the United Nations Mission in South Sudan where she has dealt with crisis situations and successfully navigated volatile and sensitive political scenarios. Her most recent role has been the Director of civil Affairs in South Sudan. Ms. De Wet is a Namibian national and holds Law degree in Human Rights from University of London and bachelor's degree in political science from University of Western Cape.



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Alonso Martínez Ruiz is the **Counsellor for Disarmament Affairs with the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations in Geneva**. He was an active participant in the negotiations on the Political Declaration of EWIPA, which he continues to cover among other fora of WMD and conventional disarmament. Has held responsibilities in the TPNW (gender focal point), BWC (friend of the Chair for verification and compliance), CCM (working group on victim assistance), amongst others. Previously, he has been Deputy Legal Advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director for International Law (Law of the Sea), representative to the Organization of American States, and Consul for Legal Affairs in New York.



Dina Abou Samra is a **Protection Advisor with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Policy Advice and Planning Section, Operations and Advocacy Division in Geneva**. She is currently OCHA's focal point on the issue of the protection of civilians from the use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas (EWIPA). She serves as a senior policy advisor on protection and human rights, providing technical advice and support to OCHA country offices and senior management. She joined OCHA in 2009, first serving in OCHA's Displacement and Protection Support Section and later the protection of civilians' unit in OCHA's policy branch. Prior to joining the UN, she held various positions with NGOs, including as Head of a Sexual and Gender based Violence Project with War Child; Protection and Advocacy Coordinator with the Norwegian Refugee Council, and Analyst with the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre. She has worked in a variety of contexts including in the Middle East, Turkey, Pakistan and Uganda. She holds a Master of Law in International Human Rights Law (LLM) and a Master's degree in ethnology.

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CLOSING SESSION



Anne Beate Tvinnereim was appointed **Minister of International Development and Minister of Nordic Cooperation** on 14 October 2021. Ms. Tvinnereim is the deputy leader of the Centre Party. She has served as the County Councillor for Planning, Climate and Environment in the Viken County Council, State Secretary at the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, and Political Adviser at the Ministry of Transport and Communications. She has also previously worked in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norad and the think tank Agenda. The Minister of International Development is responsible for international development efforts in countries outside the OSCE, the Middle East, North Africa and Afghanistan. She is also responsible for development cooperation under the auspices of the UN system, the World Bank, the regional development banks and other global funds and programmes. In addition, she is responsible for Norad, Norec and Norfund. Ms Tvinnereim comes from Halden, Norway, and has a degree in political science.



Alejandro Solano Ortiz is the **Vice Minister of Multilateral Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica**. Ortiz is the former ambassador of Costa Rica to Austria and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). He holds a master's degree in international relations from the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences.



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Caoimhe Udom has served as **Deputy Director for Disarmament & Non-Proliferation at the Irish Department for Foreign Affairs** since 2022 – leading delivery of the first EWIPA Conference in Dublin in November 2022, and overseeing Ireland’s work on explosive weapons, autonomous weapons and military AI, and biological / chemical weapons. She previously worked on a number of areas in the Middle East and Asia, including the Syria humanitarian crisis, and refugee issues in Iraq and Afghanistan, and was previously posted to Baghdad.



Juliana Helou van der Berg is a **Political Affairs Officer at the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)** Geneva Branch. She is UNODA’s focal point on the issue of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas and covers a range of conventional weapon files, including new and emerging weapon technologies. Prior to joining UNODA she *i.a.* worked in the Joint Operations Centre of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). Before working for the United Nations, she held various positions with IOs and NGOs focusing on international law. Ms. Helou van der Berg has Bachelor in Sociology and a Master of Laws in Human Rights Law and Policy.