

February 2, 2024 | Bishop's University

# Canada's Fight for Purpose

*The Challenges of Talking and  
Walking our way to Peace*

## Canada's Fight for Purpose: The Challenges of Talking and Walking our way to Peace

Canada has been at the forefront of the creation and functioning of International organizations as platforms and forums of discussions amongst states, and to hone tools of intervention, to mitigate conflicts, protect populations and enhance national security. Yet strategic competition between major power complicates interventions and jeopardizes both the tools and their impact on conflicts around the world. This conference proposed to explore how Canada can position itself by optimally engaging both with International Organizations and non-EU/non-NATO countries.

It will explore how the information environment factors in Canadian's understanding of its role as members and partners of international organizations/institutions and address the risks and opportunities of burden sharing while maintaining the country's operational readiness. The conference is designed to inform debate and advance knowledge in the field through in-depth analysis on defense policy priorities.

The conference will create a well-rounded environment for discussion by tapping into research and expertise from academia, government, the armed forces, the private sector, and NGOs.

Feb 2,  
2024

AXIS II  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Cleghorn Lounge - Bishop's University**

**09:15 Land acknowledgement**

09:20

Camilla Rizzi (*Bishop's University*) and Laurie Van Herk (*Bishops' University*)

**09:20 Opening Remarks**

09:30

Dr. Sarah-Myriam Martin-Brûlé, *Bishop's University*, *Co-Director Network for Strategic Analysis*

**09:30 PANEL 1**

10:30

**Local Perception of Peace - in Canada and Abroad**

**Chair:** Sasha Kardos-Machado (*Bishop's University*) and Irma Susset (*Bishop's University*)

Dr. Yvan Yenda Ilunga, *Salve Regina University*

Maj (Ret) Nicolas Boucher, *Consultant, Calian, former U2 MINUSMA*

Dr. Fifi Edu-Afful, *Visiting Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence American University School of International Service and University of Maryland Depart of Gov't & Politics, Senior Research Fellow at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)*

Simon Delorme-Chalifoux, *Consultant (Deloitte) /Lecturer (Université Laval), former Deputy Chief to ICRC in Syria*

**10:30 Break**

10:45

**10:45 PANEL 2**

12:00

**Canada's Role in Disasters' Prevention and Humanitarian Responses**

**Chair:** Regan Simpson (*Bishop's University*) and Christina Lépine (*Bishop's University*)

Junru Bian, *PhD Candidate, University of Ottawa*

Kai Schafer, *Canadian Kimberley Process Office*

Marie-Pier Allard-Caron, *PhD Candidate, Queen's University*

Alexandra Vargas, *Global Affairs Canada*

**12:00 Lunch**

13:30

13:30  
15:15

**PANEL 3**

## Talking the Walk and Walking the Talk: Diplomacy

*Fireside chat:*

**Chair:** Irmah Alao (*Bishop's University*) and Angus Whyte (*Bishop's University*)

Dr. Vincent Pouliot, *McGill University*

Ambassador Sébastien Carrière, *Chief of Protocol of Canada*

15:15  
15:30

## Break

15:30  
17:00

**PANEL 4**

## Canada's Readiness for (Climate) Change

**Chair:** Mikael-Benedict Worku (*Bishop's University*) and Gabrielle Liu (*Bishop's University*)

Pauline Baudu, *PhD Candidate, Université du Québec à Montréal, Research Fellow, Centre FrancoPaix de la Chaire Raoul-Dandurand, non-resident Research Fellow Center for Climate and Security, Fellow at at CDA Institute*

Dr. Nicolas Hubert, *Post-doctoral researcher, Visiting researcher, Centre FrancoPaix*

Colonel Marie-Christine Harvey, *CAF-CDSN Fellow*

17:00  
17:15

## Conclusion

Dr. Sarah-Myriam Martin-Brûlé, *Bishop's University, Co-Director Network for Strategic Analysis*

### *Centennial Theatre - Bishop's University*

18:00  
19:30

## Keynote Speaker: The Role of Youth

Dr. Graeme Simpson, *Columbia University/Interpeace - Interpeace's Senior Peacebuilding Advisor and Principal Representative*

Graeme Simpson is the Principal Representative of Interpeace (NY) and Senior Peacebuilding Adviser at Interpeace, Independent Lead Author on the UN Security Council-mandated "Progress Study" on Youth, Peace and Security, Adjunct Lecturer in Law at Columbia University School of Law in New York City, Professor at the African Leadership Center at Kings College in London, former Civilian Adviser to the Minister of Safety and Security in the first Mandela cabinet, and in that capacity was one of the primary authors of the South African National Crime Prevention Strategy.

# biographies



**Marie-Pier Allard-Caron** is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in the Department of Political Science at Queen's University, co-supervised by Dr. Stéfanie von Hlatky and Dr. Sarah-Myriam Martin-Brûlé. She holds the position of Publications Coordinator and Emerging Researcher within the Strategic Analysis Network (RAS). Originally from Quebec, she earned her Bachelor's degree in Political Science and International Studies from Bishop's University in 2021, and subsequently completed a dual Master's degree in Political Science and European Studies at the University of Montreal and the Catholic University of Louvain in 2023. Marie-Pier specializes in international relations and gender, with a particular emphasis on peace operations, international organizations, and armed forces. Her research focuses primarily on pre-deployment training that targets mental wellbeing and resilience in troops within the context of peace operations.



**Pauline Baudu** is a Researcher with Chaire Raoul Dandurand (Montreal), a Fellow with the CDAI (Ottawa) and a nonresident Research Fellow with the Center for Climate and Security (Washington, DC). She works on the convergence of climate change and security with a focus on the North American and European Arctic and the role of NATO in addressing this nexus. She participated in the consultation process to inform the creation of NATO's Climate Change and Security Centre of Excellence (CCASCOE) and is a member of NATO's Research Task Group on the Effects of Climate Change on Security. She is a group lead as part of the Newport Arctic Scholars Initiative of the U.S. Naval War College to advance integrated naval deterrence in the Arctic, where she brings a climate lens to the discussions. She also coordinates the newly-created Climate Security Association of Canada. Her research builds on her prior experience in human rights, migrations and asylum law, as she served as a public official at the French National Asylum Court in Paris between 2018 and 2023, and previously with the UN Human Rights Office and diverse civil society organizations on issues of migrants' rights and non-discrimination. She is a graduate from the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS Sup') in Defense and Security. She also holds an M.A. in Crisis Analysis and Humanitarian Action and a B.A. in Applied Linguistics. She is currently a PhD candidate at Université du Québec à Montréal.



**Junru Bian** (BU '19) is a doctoral candidate at the School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa. His research focuses on the identities, spaces, and practices of peacekeeping, humanitarianism, and development. For his current research, he interviews different conflict interveners to understand how their racial, gender, sexual, and classed identities can influence their everyday practices in crisis environments. He has worked in multiple humanitarian relief and development programs in Tajikistan, Mongolia, Myanmar, and Ethiopia prior to obtaining his master's degree at McGill University. He has recently served as an independent expert for the World Health Organization's stakeholder review on the prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian contexts.



**Sébastien Carrière** (B.A. [political science], Laval University, 1999; M.A. [political science], Laval University, 2000) joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in 2000, following an internship at the Canadian Embassy to the People's Republic of China. His first assignment was Program Coordinator (Africa and Middle East), within the Mine Action Team (Ottawa Convention), before serving in the North Africa and Arabian Peninsula Division from 2002 to 2005 (Desk Officer, Political Affairs). In 2005, Mr. Carrière was assigned to Dakar, Senegal, as Counsellor (Political), with concurrent accreditation in The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde. In August 2015, Mr. Carrière was appointed Director of relations with the Maghreb (political, trade, development) and trade with North Africa, the Middle East and the Arabian Peninsula. In August 2018, he is appointed Director for Non-Proliferation, Disarmament and Space. He also served as Head of mission and Chargé d'affaires a.i. at the Canadian Embassy to Morocco from December 2018 to January 2019. From September 2021 to August 2023, Mr. Carrière was Ambassador of Canada to Haiti. In September 2023, he is appointed Chief of Protocol of Canada. He is also the Personal Representative of the Prime Minister of Canada for La Francophonie (since April 2023).



**Simon Delorme-Chalifoux** is an affiliated consultant with Deloitte in strategy and innovation to private, parapublic and public entities since 2022, Simon has more than 8 years of experience in complex emergency settings as manager of humanitarian operations and programs. He has worked for International and Non-Governmental Organizations in Syria, Venezuela, South Sudan, Colombia, Nepal, Iraq as well as Peru and Palestine. His last assignment was as deputy head of sub-delegation for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Aleppo. Simon is also a lecturer at the Faculté des Sciences de l'Administration (FSA) at Université Laval (UL) and is a regular speaker on a course on ethical issues in humanitarianism. He graduated with a master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the École de Hautes Études Commerciales (HEC) in Montreal, a master's degree in International Studies (M.Sc) from the University of Queensland, in Australia and a bachelor of political sciences from Université de Montréal (UdeM).



**Colonel Marie-Christine Harvey** joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1996. In 1997, she was commissioned in the Royal Canadian Artillery and completed her bachelor's degree at the Royal Military College of Canada in 2001. After her studies and basic military training, she began her career with the 5th Light Artillery Regiment of Canada (5 RALC). She occupied all command positions there culminating in command of the unit from 2017 to 2019. Her transfers outside the unit included the Headquarters of the 5th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, the Combat Training Center, the Canadian Army Headquarters and the office of an Assistant Deputy Minister. She completed several command courses as well as academic training including a master's degree from the Australian National University obtained during her course at the Command and Staff College in Canberra, Australia. In 2019, she was promoted to her current rank of Colonel, she has since held the Canadian Army G3 position (Director of Operations) and assumed command of the 5th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group from 2021-2023. Her operational experiences include several domestic operations (floods, forest fires, G7, ice storms, etc.) and international deployments on Op Palladium (Bosnia), Op Athena (Afghanistan) and Op Impact (Kuwait-Iraq).



**Nicolas Hubert** is a post-doctoral fellow in the Raoul Dandurand Chair in strategic and diplomatic studies, at the Université du Québec à Montréal. He works on issues relating to the environment–conflict nexus, natural resource management, peacebuilding, development, and peace and security. His research questions links between environmental degradation and conflict propagation in Burkina Faso, Benin, Togo and Ivory Coast. Nicolas Hubert is also editor-in-chief of VertigO – La revue électronique en sciences de l'environnement.



**Dr. Yvan Yenda Ilunga** is an Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island (USA), teaching undergraduate, master, and Ph.D. level courses. He also serves as Deputy Director of the Joint Civil-Military Interaction (JCMI) Research and Education Network, coordinating strategic partnerships, research, and training key stakeholders on policies and operations related to civil-military interactions in fragile countries. Dr. Ilunga conducts policy-relevant research and studies on Africa's security, development, and governance issues. More specifically, he focuses on questions related to peace operations, civil-military interactions, natural resources-based conflicts, and regional cooperation in his writing and public engagement. He is the author of the book *Humanitarianism and Security: Trouble and Hope at the Heart of Africa* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020). He holds a Ph.D. in Global Affairs (Rutgers University, U.S.A).



**Sarah-Myriam Martin-Brûlé** is Full Professor at Bishop's University and Non-Resident Fellow at the International Peace Institute, New York. She is the Deputy Director of the Centre FrancoPaix. In 2018–2019, she was the Canada Fulbright Research Chair for Peace and War Studies. In 2021, she was awarded the 3M National Teaching Fellowship. She is an associate faculty member of the Center for International Peace and Security Studies (CIPSS) and of the Montreal Center for International Studies (CERIUM). Her research focuses on peacekeeping-intelligence, peace operations and security issues related to intra-state wars. Her most recent publications include “Competing for Trust: Challenges in UN Peacekeeping-Intelligence“. Author of the first UN guidelines on Gender and Peacekeeping-intelligence, she is also co-author of the first United Nations Field Handbook on Joint Mission Analysis Centres (United Nations, 2018). She is co-hosting the podcast “Conseils de sécurité” a co-production of the CDSN-RCDS and RAS-NSA.



**Vincent Pouliot** is James McGill Professor of International Relations in the Department of Political Science at McGill University and a Humboldt fellow at WZB in Berlin. His research deals with global governance, international organizations, multilateral diplomacy and global historical sociology. His most recent book, co-authored with Jean-Philippe Thérien, is entitled *Global Policymaking: The Patchwork of Global Governance* (Cambridge University Press, 2023). Pouliot is also the author of *International Pecking Orders: The Politics and Practice of Multilateral Diplomacy* (2016, winner of the inaugural Hedley Bull Award) and *International Security in Practice: The Politics of NATO-Russia Diplomacy* (2010, winner of the CPSA IR Prize); as well as the co-editor of *Theorizing World Orders: Cognitive Evolution and Beyond* (2021), *Diplomacy and the Making of World Politics* (2015) and *International Practices* (2011), all with Cambridge University Press.



**Kai Schaefer** currently holds the position of Senior Policy Advisor working for the Canadian Kimberley Process Office, housed within Natural Resources Canada in Ottawa. He had previously worked as an Analyst at the U.S. Department of State at the Consulate General in Frankfurt/Germany and for Global Action to Prevent War, an NGO located at UNHQ in New York City. Born and raised in Germany, he immigrated to Canada at 21 years old where he studied at both Bishop's University (B.A. Honors in International Studies) and McGill University (M.A. Political Science). As part of his current job in the Government of Canada where he is working on stemming the flow of conflict diamonds, he is also a certified rough diamond grader.



**Alexandra Vargas Villamil** is an International Development Project Advisor for Global Affairs Canada. Prior to this role, her work experience has covered diverse areas from cybersecurity, stakeholders relations and Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy. 2018 Alumni from Bishop's University. She obtained a Master degree in Political Science from the University of Ottawa. Her focus of study was Syrian and Palestinian refugee food insecurity in Lebanon.