



**Advisory Group of Experts
for the Progress Study on
Youth, Peace and Security**
mandated by Security Council Resolution 2250



Al-Muslimi, Farea (Yemen)

Farea is a visiting scholar at the Carnegie Middle East Centre, where his research focuses on Yemeni and Persian Gulf politics. He is the chairman and co-founder of The Sana'a Centre for Strategic Studies, a youth-led think tank dedicated to examining political and humanitarian issues in Yemen and the Persian Gulf, and aiming to bring new perspectives to regional affairs.

Farea has worked as a researcher and consultant for the United Nations, Human Rights Watch and other international and local organizations. He also worked as a Programme Officer for Resonate! Yemen, a grassroots foundation that promotes youth participation in public policy. Farea is a frequent media commentator. He has written publications for *Foreign Policy*, *Al-Monitor*, *Assafir*, *Foreign Affairs* and the *National*. Farea was born in 1992.



Atran, Scott (United States)

Scott received his B.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology from Columbia University. He is an anthropologist at France's National Centre for Scientific Research, Oxford University, John Jay College and the University of Michigan. He is the current Research Director and Co-Founder of ARTIS International, and is a Senior Fellow and Co-Founder of the Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflicts at Harris Manchester College and the Centre for International Studies, Oxford. Scott previously assisted Dr. Margaret Mead at the American

Museum of Natural History and has held various positions at Cambridge University, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, and the École Normale Supérieure, École Polytechnique and École de Philosophie, Paris.

Scott has repeatedly briefed NATO and members of the U.S. Congress and the National Security Council staff at the White House on the "Devoted actor versus the rational actor in managing world conflict"; on the "Comparative anatomy and evolution of global network terrorism"; and on "Pathways to and from violent extremism". He has briefed the Security Council on issues relating to youth and violent extremism and has engaged in conflict negotiations in the Middle East, and establishing indigenously managed forest reserves for Native American peoples.



Bah, Chernor (Sierra Leone)

Chernor is a leading advocate for global education, a champion for girls and a former refugee from Sierra Leone. He is currently an Associate at the Population Council, leading a collaborative initiative to provide solutions to adolescent girls affected by the Ebola outbreak.

In 2012, he was appointed by the Secretary-General to serve as the Youth Representative on the High-Level Steering Committee for the Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative. From 2012-2015, Chernor also served as the Chair of the initiative's Youth Advocacy Group, leading a dynamic group of young advocates for global education. Chernor was a co-founder and youth engagement lead at A World at School – a digital mobilization and campaign organization for global education – where he started and led the Global Youth Ambassador initiative with over 500 young leaders campaigning for education around the world. As a teenager, he founded and led the Children's Forum Network, Sierra Leone's

Childrens Parliament and was an Executive Producer for the Voice of Children Initiative, leading children and youth participation in his country's peacebuilding process. In 2014, he received the Women's Refugee Commission's Voice of Courage Award and the Population Council's Ideas with Impact Award for his global efforts on behalf of girls, children and youth affected by disaster. He holds a master's degree from the University of Notre Dame and a bachelor's degree from the University of Sierra Leone. Chernor was born in 1985.



Ben Said, Ikram (Tunisia)

Ikram is a women's rights advocate and founder of Aswat Nissa (Voices of Women), a Tunisian non-profit that promotes women's active participation in political and policy-making spheres while fighting against all forms of discrimination and violence against women. Her latest initiative, Women's Political Academy, was awarded the 2014 Madeleine Albright Award and aims to boost the leadership skills of women from all political backgrounds to enhance their ability to run electoral campaigns.

Ikram previously worked as a Senior Program Manager at Search for Common Ground, is an experienced dialogue facilitator, was featured as a Next Generation Leader and chosen as a Female Role Model 2014 by The Pixel Project "16 for 16" campaign. Ikram obtained a bachelor's degree in Marketing from the Higher School of Economic Science and Commerce in Tunis and is currently a Fulbright Fellow at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at Minnesota University.



Bol Kiir, Malual (South Sudan)

Malual has been a peace and youth activist advocating for the mutual understanding and peaceful co-existence of all South Sudanese, and refugee and host communities. He recently participated in the Global Refugee Youth Consultations organized by UNHCR in Uganda and has used his network to impact change.

Malual is the founder and President of the African Youth Action Network (AYAN) a youth-led initiative in Uganda formed as part of the call to action by youth towards true development, respect for human rights, action for the protection of refugees and lasting solutions for refugees. AYAN brings youth together to enable them to realize their potential in refugee settlements, and help build their self-confidence and sense of fulfilment. Through AYAN, Malual has been able to reach out to over 12,000 war-traumatized youth through providing youth counselling, organizing peace and reconciliatory meetings and working with NGOs to bridge the gap between national and refugee youth. Malual was born in 1993.



Ekomo-Soignet, Kessy Martine (Central African Republic)

Kessy Martine has over seven years of experience in the political and development sectors and now works as a local correspondent for Peace Direct. She is also a free-lance consultant and founder of "URU", a youth-led local organization working on peacebuilding and development by improving capacities and increasing visibility of youth and youth-led organizations from CAR.

In 2014, Kessy Martine completed the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders and subsequently participated in an 8-week internship in the United States. Kessy Martine holds a bachelor's degree in Economics and Social and Political Studies and a master's in Geopolitics, International Security and International Relations. She was born in 1990.



Elman, Ilwad (Somalia)

Ilwad is the Director of Programs and Development for the Elman Peace and Human Rights Centre in Somalia. She oversees the organization’s programmes with a broad portfolio focus on human rights, gender justice, protection of civilians, countering violent extremism and peacebuilding in Somalia, the Horn of Africa and eastern Africa.

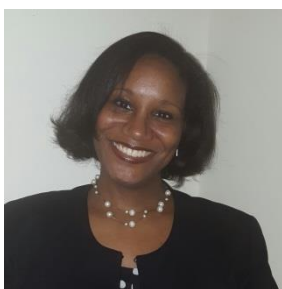
Ilwad is an advocate on countering violent extremism for the Kofi Annan Foundation’s latest initiative called Extremely Together; she chairs the Child Protection Working Group and the Mogadishu Gender-Based Violence Case Management Group. She has served as the One Young World Ambassador to Somalia since 2013, completed President Barack Obama’s flagship White House fellowship for Young African Leaders in 2014 and in the same year was appointed Youth Ambassador to Somalia for Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict. Ilwad briefed the Security Council debate on the Protection of Civilians and co-wrote the Youth Action Agenda on Countering Violent Extremism. In 2015, she was honoured with the 2015 Gleitsman International Activist Award from Harvard University and the 2016 Right the Wrongs Award from Oxfam America. Ilwad was born in 1989.



Flemming, Matilda (Finland)

Matilda works for the European Women’s Lobby – the largest umbrella organization of women’s association in the European Union – on their campaigns to strengthen the role of women in decision making.

Until April 2016, Matilda led the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY), a global network of 70 youth peace organizations in 45 countries. She was also the co-chair of the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development’s Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding and a well-recognized advocate for youth participation in issues of peace and security, including on issues of violent extremism. She led the civil society campaign for Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security starting in 2012, and is passionate about youth participation, inclusive peacebuilding, human security and gender equality. She holds a master’s in Development Studies from the International Institute of Social Studies in the Hague. Matilda was born in 1986.



Gilbert-Roberts, Terri-Ann (Jamaica)

Terri-Ann has over 15 years of experience in research and policy development related to Caribbean integration and issues affecting children and youth, including child labour, youth unemployment, juvenile justice and youth participation. She is currently a Research Fellow at the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, Jamaica. Her academic work focuses on the politics of development with a special interest in the intersection of governance, regionalism and youth development. At UWI, she is Chair of the SALISES 50/50 Youth

Research Cluster where she supports evidence-based youth policies and programmes in the Caribbean.

Terri-Ann also serves as a youth development expert and adviser to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), UNDP, Commonwealth Secretariat and the Caribbean Regional Youth Council. She is the author of *The Politics of Integration: Caribbean Sovereignty Revisited* and editor of “Youthscapes” of *Development in the Caribbean and Latin America*, a 2014 special issue of the journal *Social and Economic Studies*. Her current work involves activist research around the ideational foundations of governance in the Caribbean and the visions and aspirations of young Caribbean leaders. Terri-Ann was born in 1982.



Granada Contreras, Luz Alcira (Colombia)

Luz is a social worker and specialist in community development, NGO leadership, human rights, childrens' rights, child and juvenile participation, peace education, and child protection, participation and advocacy for development. She has over 25 years of experience working on development and advocacy processes at the local, national and international level, and has provided training to professionals and community leaders.

Luz actively engaged in the monitoring of the Convention of the Rights of the Child in Colombia. She also participated in the consultation on "The study of violence against children" and, the subsequent follow-up with the Government of Colombia on the implementation of the study's recommendations. Luz previously worked with World Vision International in Colombia and is currently working with Save the Children Colombia.



Ismail, Saba (Pakistan)

Saba is the Executive Director and co-founder of Aware Girls, a youth and women-led organization working to empower young women and promote gender equality in Pakistan. She is also co-founder and Vice Chairperson of the Coalition on Rights and Responsibilities (CRY), a member organization of UNOY Peacebuilders working to develop young people as agents of change within their communities.

Saba was listed among the 100 Leading Global Thinkers by *Foreign Policy* and was a Hufford Youth Fellow with the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) in Washington, where she focused on the role of young women in emerging democracies. She also previously served as a member to the International Steering Group of UNOY Peacebuilders. Saba has a master's in Biotechnology from the COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Pakistan. Saba was born in 1987.



Kavindi Kotigala, Thevuni (Sri Lanka)

Thevuni is currently studying to obtain her bachelor's degree in Business Statistics at the University of Sri Jayewardenepure, Sri Lanka, as well as a Diploma in Diplomacy and World Affairs at the Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute. Her areas of interest include: post-war reconciliation, peace studies and the empowerment of women and youth.

Thevuni currently works with *Sri Lanka Unites*, a group that aims to unite youth of all ethnic and religious backgrounds across Sri Lanka to promote reconciliation and lasting peace. Thevuni was born in 1993.



Laiq, Nur (United Kingdom)

Nur is author of *Talking to Arab Youth: Revolution and Counter-revolution in Egypt and Tunisia* (International Peace Institute, 2013) and co-editor of *The Search for Peace in the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (Oxford University Press, October 2014). Nur is a visiting researcher at Georgetown University, Washington DC. She lives in New Delhi where she

is conducting a study on youth politics in North India. She is also writing a book *Kings, Caliphs and Citizens* on identity and politics in the Middle East, which is based on interviews with politicians, activists and youth in the region. Nur is a contributor to the 2015 UN Youth World Report and has presented policy papers at conferences organized by the Office of the Envoy on Youth, UNDP, the UN Department of Political Affairs and the

World Bank.

Nur worked on the Congress Party's national campaign for the 2014 general election in India, including a special focus on promoting the party's engagement with first-time youth voters.

Previous to this, Nur was a senior policy analyst at the International Peace Institute in New York where she worked on the Arab Youth Project. Nur has also worked as a research assistant for members of parliament in London, a paid intern at the European Commission in Brussels and volunteered with refugees through UNHCR in New Delhi. Nur is originally from India and received her master's in Modern Middle Eastern Studies from Oxford University in 2005.



Lopes Cardozo, Mieke (the Netherlands)

Mieke is an Associate Professor and coordinates the IS-Academie, a co-funded research project of the University of Amsterdam and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is also co-director of a Research Consortium on Education and Peacebuilding in collaboration with the University of Sussex, the University of Ulster and UNICEF's Peacebuilding, Education and Advocacy (PBEA) programme. In the Consortium, Mieke is leading a team of

researchers in a country study on Myanmar as well as the thematic research area of youth agency for peacebuilding covering four countries.

Mieke is also currently co-leading a joint research project with Dr. Ritesh Shah at the University of Auckland and colleagues at the International Centre for Acehese and Indian Ocean Studies (ICAIOS) on peacebuilding and education in Aceh, Indonesia. Her research is focused on education policy and practice in relation to social justice and societal transformation in Bolivia, and the role of education for peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, Aceh and Myanmar.



Muggah, Robert (Canada)

Robert Muggah is the co-founder and research director of the Igarapé Institute, a think and do tank focused on data-driven and evidence-based security and justice across the Americas and Africa. He is also co-founder and research director of the SecDev Foundation, a cyber-analytics group that works on big data and extremism in the Middle East, Eastern Europe and Central and South Asia. At both organizations he is involved in designing data visualizations and apps designed to improve safety. For two decades he has worked in conflict- and crime-

affected countries and advises international agencies (including the UN, IDB and World Bank), governments and companies on public security, stability, humanitarian action, disarmament, urban planning and migration policy.

From 2000-2011 he directed research at the Small Arms Survey in Geneva and lectured at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. In 2013 he was named one of the top 100 most influential people in violence reduction and has delivered several talks at TED Global, the Web Summit and World Economic Forum events in Davos. Robert is a co-chair of the Know Violence in Childhood initiative and has worked with UNICEF and the WHO on a range of assessments related to violence against children. He is a regular contributor to the Atlantic, BBC, CNN, El Pais, Foreign Affairs, New York Times, O Globo, an Wired. Robert has authored and edited over a dozen books and has a DPhil from the University of Oxford.



Nabil Murtaja, Hussein (Palestine)

During a struggle between the Palestinian Parties in Gaza City, Hussein was shot in the head and was kept in intensive care for five months. Two years following this incident, he began to volunteer and in 2008 he created "Letters Group" – a group that aims to empower marginalized communities and has since spread to a number of Arab countries. In 2012, Hussein founded the first ever Palestinian Model United Nations with the goal of enhancing the concept of constructive dialogue, promoting respect for others and spreading the idea of a society free from violence. He also served as the representative for victims of war

and armed conflicts at the Model UN Palestine 2012.

Currently, Hussein is an active member of the Youth Advisory Board with UN-Habitat, a coordinator at the Gaza Group of Culture and Development and a manager of “The Economic Empowerment Project for Poor Families in the Gaza Strip” funded by UNDP. Hussein was born in 1987.



Olonisakin, Funmi (Nigeria)

Funmi is Professor of Security, Leadership and Society at King’s College London. She is also founding Director of the African Leadership Centre (ALC), which aims to build the next generation of African scholars and analysts generating cutting edge knowledge for conflict, security and development in Africa. She served as Director of the Conflict, Security and Development Group at King’s College London from 2003 until 2013. Prior to this, she worked in the Office of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General

on Children and Armed Conflict overseeing the work on Africa.

Trained in Political Science (Bsc. Ife, Nigeria) and War Studies (PhD, King’s College London), Funmi has positioned her work to serve as a bridge between academia and the world of policy and practice. Her academic research and writing has contributed to strategic thinking in post-conflict contexts and in the work of regional organizations, such as ECOWAS and the African Union. Funmi is a founding member of the African Security Sector Network (ASSN) and served as its West African Regional Coordinator from 2008 until 2012. From 2008-2010, she served on the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Fragile States. She currently serves as the Chair of the International Advisory Board of the Thabo Mbeki African Leadership Institute (TMALI) and is on the Advisory Board of the Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF). She is a member of the Board of the Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa and the Boards of Trustees of International Alert and the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue. Funmi was one of the seven experts appointed by the Secretary-General in 2015 to lead the first phase of the Peacebuilding Architecture Review.



Salamah, Salim (Syria)

Salim was born in 1989 in a refugee camp for Palestinians in Syria, and in 2011 he started a blog tracking Syrian events that were not covered by mainstream media. His blog aimed to bring issues of equality, liberty and dignity to the fore by highlighting stories of survival and hope. Salim studied for a Bachelor of Arts in Law at Damascus University until his studies were disrupted by the conflict. Salim now lives in Sweden where he is studying at

the Malmo Institute for Studies of Migration, Diversity and Welfare. Salim served as a Western Asia researcher for The Case for Space project examining the political participation of Syrian youth.



Saleem, Ali (Pakistan)

Ali is a senior practitioner with experience in diplomacy, foreign policy and development practice, providing political, technical and managerial leadership in peacemaking; negotiations; mediation; facilitation, design and conduct of dialogue processes; peacebuilding and conflict transformation programming; and consensus building processes.

Most recently, he worked for the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in the Philippines, where he provided support to, *inter alia*, mediation and negotiations processes between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front . With considerable track one mediation experience, he provided advice and support to parties in the signing of Framework Agreement (2012), Annex on Wealthsharing and Revenue Generation (2013), Annex on Transitional Modalities (2013), Annex on Powersharing (2014), Annex on Normalisation(2014), Addendum on Bangsamoro Waters (2014) and other related protocols from July 2012 to September 2015.

He has previously worked for Search for Common Ground, the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations peacekeeping operations and the Asian Legal Resource Centre Hong Kong. He holds a master's degree in Post War Recovery Studies from University of York, UK.



Sharief, Hajer (Libya)

Hajer is co-founder of Together We Build It, an association working on the democratic transition in Libya since 2011, emphasizing the relevance of youth and women's political participation in the peacebuilding process.

She has been engaged in a number of youth-led activities promoting peace in Libya and co-initiated the Libyan 1325 Network, which advocates for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. Hajer trains community activists and youth leaders in non-

violent conflict resolution, gender conflict and peacebuilding. She also participated, as a researcher and co-author, in the first civil society report on the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 in Libya. Hajer is the regional contact for the Youth Advocacy Team with UNOY and was recently selected by the Kofi Annan Foundation to act as an advocate for the Extremely Together Initiative, which emphasizes the role of young people in countering violent extremism. Hajer was born in 1993.



Sommers, Marc (United States)

Marc is an internationally recognized youth, conflict, education, gender, and development expert, an experienced evaluator, and an award-winning author. He has provided technical advice and policy analysis and conducted research, assessments and evaluations in 21 war-affected countries since 1990.

An Africanist, anthropologist and educationalist, Marc taught for many years at The Fletcher School, Tufts University, and was a Jennings Randolph Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace and a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He

works part-time as a Senior International Technical Advisor at the Education Development Center.

His specialties include: youth, development, adolescent, gender (sexual violence, adulthood and masculinity), education, peace education, urbanization, displacement, conflict resolution/coexistence, security, employment, governance, popular culture, child soldier and coordination issues during and after wars.