

## MEDIA NOTICE

# *Climate and Security: Emerging Trends and Adaptation Strategies*

11 December 2019 - 10:30-12:00

IFEMA - EU pavilion, Room Brussels, Avenida del Partenón, 28042 Madrid



- Climate change acts as a threat multiplier with serious implication for peace and security across the globe.
- Over the last decade, insecurities induced by climate change have been part of shaping our understanding of climate change as an urgent global issue with real impacts beyond the realm of ecological degradation.
- Climate security has also cast a wider light on the causes and implications of challenges of particularly vulnerable countries, connecting climate with discussions about regional stability, state fragility, and forced displacement.
- Direct security impacts may include diminished access to fresh water, local food supply and coastal infrastructure damage.
- Climate Change presents special challenges to environmental and human security in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America and the Pacific.
- Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Islands States (SIDS) are especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. For atoll island nations, climate-related sea level rise is an existential threat.
- LDCs and SIDS should promote and exploit opportunities for regional collaboration to better manage mitigation, adaptation and response to climate change, and to develop and disseminate better knowledge in support of those activities;

## ***Introduction***

**Mr. Stefano Signore**, Head of Unit Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, DEVCO



Stefano Signore is Italian. A qualified lawyer, he spent his early career working on banking supervision at the Italian central bank. He joined the European Commission in 2000. As of 2004 he has worked in the area of Migration. Between 2004 and 2008 he worked in the private office of European Commission Vice President leading on Justice, Freedom and Security issues Franco Frattini. He became Head of Unit in 2009 in the Directorate-General for Justice, Freedom and Security. Working in the Directorate-General for Home Affairs from 2010, he oversaw programming in the areas of migration, asylum, external borders and visa policy, organised crime and police cooperation. In 2015, he moved to the Commissions Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO), where he was in charge until May 2019 of the thematic work on Migration and Employment. Currently, he leads the thematic work on Sustainable Energy and Climate Change

## ***Climate and Security: An integral part of the EU's External Relations***

**Ms. Signe Vikaer Leth Olsen**, Policy Officer, EU Climate Diplomacy



Signe Vikaer Leth Olsen works as Policy Officer on climate diplomacy with a focus on the nexus between climate change and security at the European External Action Service. Prior to taking up her position at the European External Action Service, Ms Olsen worked as Energy Attaché at the Permanent Representation of Denmark to the European Union. Ms Olsen started her career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, and her academic background is in Political Science, International Relations and Cultural Anthropology. She graduated from the University of Copenhagen.

## ***Climate change, Peace-building and Sustaining Peace***

**Dr. Krampe Florian**, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute



**Dr Florian Krampe** is a Senior Researcher in SIPRI's Climate Change and Risk Programme specializing in peace and conflict research environmental and climate security and international security. His primary academic interest is the foundations of peace and security especially the processes of building peace after armed conflict. He is currently focusing on climate security and the post-conflict management of natural resources with a specific interest in the ecological foundations for a socially economically and politically resilient peace.

## ***Climate Change and Security in South Asia: Cooperation for Peace***

**Lieutenant General Tariq Waseem Ghazi (Ret)**, Former Defence Secretary, Government of Pakistan / Member, Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change



Lieutenant General Tariq Waseem Ghazi (Ret.) was born into a military family, and joined the Pakistan Army in 1967. General Ghazi is the former Defence Secretary of Pakistan (2005 – 2007) and has a MS degree in War Studies from the University of Islamabad. During a military career spanning 38 years, General Ghazi served on key operational, command, policy formulation, crisis management and leadership training appointments. He has trained with the Australian and Canadian military, and has led a multinational United Nations Peacekeeping Mission. He was Commandant of the two top officers' training institutions: the Staff College, Quetta and the National Defence College, Islamabad. As Secretary of Defence, General Ghazi oversaw working of defence establishment in Pakistan, representing its interests nationally and internationally as Co-Chair of several security dialogue processes. He has been Chairman of Civil Aviation Authority, Fauji Foundation, Defence Housing Authorities, PIA Investments and Chancellor of Foundation University, Islamabad. Presently, he serves on the Board of Habib University Foundation and The Kidney Centre. A recipient of Sword of Honour, two international and fifteen service awards, he has been conferred Hilal-Imtiaz (Military) by the President for meritorious services.

## ***SIDS: Climate-Security Risks and Opportunities***

**Lieutenant Commander Oliver-Leighton Barret**, U.S. Navy (Ret), Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Climate and Security



Lieutenant Commander Oliver-Leighton Barret, United States Navy (Ret) is a Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Climate and Security, where he focuses on the impacts of environmental degradation and climate change on the stability and security of states and populations, with an emphasis on Latin America. He is also Americas Liaison at the International Military Council on Climate and Security (IMCCS). He is the founder of Janus Advisory Inc., a company that provides advisory services to federal agencies. Most recently, he led a multi-author effort to draft the Pentagon's Environmental and Energy Issues for Militaries report – a collaborative multi-national assessment of the impacts of climate change on Latin America and Caribbean militaries' operations and installations. A retired naval officer, Oliver began his military career as an enlisted U.S. Marine deploying to Somalia in support of humanitarian assistance operations, and later, flew reconnaissance missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He worked as an advisor to U.S. Southern Command for six years managing partner nation public-private cooperation outreach efforts, technology programs as well as environmental and energy security initiatives. Oliver is also a Contributing Writer for Foreign Policy Association, with published articles on fragile states, environmental security and emerging diplomacy and defense issues. He resides in Miami, Florida.

## **Press Contacts**

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For more information go to: <http://www.gcca.eu/multimedia/gcca-cop25-climate-and-security-emerging-trends-and-adaptive-strategies>