



Research Centre
Trust, Peace and
Social Relations



ESSENTIALS

When:

Wednesday 16th January, 12:30 – 14:00
*An informal lunch will be served at 12.30
and the seminar will begin at 13.15*

Where:

Coventry University,
Jaguar Building, Room: G28
113A Gosford St, Coventry CV1 5DL

RSVP:

All are welcome to attend; however,
guests are required to register via email.
To submit your RSVP please contact
Cynthia Oroma at
cynthia.oroma@acuns.org

WHAT ROLE DO YOU SEE FOR REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS IN AFRICA?

The Joint UN-AU framework for Enhancing Partnership in Peace and Security, which UNSG Antonio Guterres and African Union Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat signed in 2017 marked a new beginning in the relationship between the UN and the AU, and a new understanding of the role of Africa in its own development. According to the UN Secretary General, future approaches and solutions must be “Africa owned, Africa-driven and Africa-led.”

The advancement of Africa’s own multilateral framework(s) will be critical in the socio-economic, financial and political development of the African continent. Africa’s sub-regional IGOs such as IGAD, the EAC, SADC, ECCAS, ECOWAS and the AMU are likely to play their own roles in addition to the African Union and non-African multilateral organisations such as the UN.

The question is what these roles are and how African regional IGOs cooperate within a multilateral African framework, and with IGOs outside that framework? What will be the role of the UN and other multilateral organizations?

These and other questions will be put to 4 panelists who debate the challenges for African multilateralism. The seminar will be moderated by **Professor Math Noortmann** and the panelists are:

- > **Gabriel Amvane** - Legal Office, Horizon Amitie
- > **Nancy Annan** - Doctoral Candidate, CTPSR
- > **Mary Farrell** - Professor in International Relations, University of Plymouth
- > **Nabeel Goheer** - Assistant Secretary-General, Commonwealth Secretariat

Guest Speakers' Biographies

Gabriel Amvane is a legal officer at Horizon Amitie in Strasbourg (France). He previously worked with the Permanent Mission of the Gabonese Republic to the United Nations from September 2010 to December 2011. At the time, Gabon was a non-permanent member of the Security Council. He then worked for Gabon to the Security Council. He holds a PhD in public international law. He specialised in the maintenance of international peace and security. Gabriel Amvane is a member of the Board of Directors of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS).

Nancy Annan is a doctoral candidate with the Centre for Trust Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR), Coventry University, UK. Her research is focusing on Local Infrastructures for Peace in Post-Conflict Societies. In addition to her current post, she is a Research Assistant at the CTPSR for the EU funded Peacetraining.eu project. Prior to this, Ms. Annan was a Researcher with the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) Accra, Ghana. Furthermore, she had gained experiences working in various capacities with other organizations including Plan International and United Nations.

Mary Farrell is a Professor in International Relations at the University of Plymouth, and vice-chair of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR). She was educated in Ireland, and received her PhD from London School of Economics. She has extensive experience teaching in universities in Europe, Africa, and Asia, with a particular focus on global governance, development studies, comparative regionalism, and the role of the United Nations in peace and security. Professor Farrell is an international expert on the inter-connection between global and regional governance systems, and is currently working on a research project addressing the place of Africa in the international system. She is a participant in several international research projects and networks, and acts as a consultant to the European Commission and national scientific bodies on research funding evaluation and project reviews.

Nabeel Goheer is with the Commonwealth Secretariat in London since 2010, and presently working as Assistant Secretary-General. He specialises in the relevance and reform of international organisations and complex systems. In the last eight years, he has worked closely with Commonwealth member states, coordinated its networks, and supported eminent person groups to rejuvenate the system. Earlier, he worked with other international agencies such as the World Bank, United Nations, and USAID. He studied for PhD at Cambridge Judge Business School, has affiliation with the Hull University Business School as a Distinguished Fellow, and also lectures at Oxford and Middlesex Universities.

Math Noortmann serves as the Executive Director of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS). Math is Professor in Transnational Law and Non-State Actors in the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR) at Coventry University.