

CULTURE IN CONFLICT

— *A CONVERSATION*

Virtual Live Event

16 November 2021 / 13:00—14:00 CET

Organized by:

Conflux Center for Intercultural Dialogue and Mediation
China Foreign Affairs University
University of Arts Belgrade



Biographies



**MIRIAM
CORONEL-FERRER**

Miriam Coronel-Ferrer, a professor of politics at the University of the Philippines, served as senior mediation adviser in the UN Standby Team of Mediators for three years. Previously, she headed the Philippine government panel that negotiated and signed the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front on 27 March 2014. In 2015, she received the Hillary Rodham Clinton Award for Advancing Women in Peace and Security given by Georgetown University. As the chair of the government panel, Miriam Coronel-Ferrer made history as the first female chief negotiator in the world to sign a final peace accord with a rebel group. She continued in this capacity to oversee the Comprehensive Agreement on Bangsamoro's implementation in the first two years.



**ALASTAIR
CROOKE**

Alastair Crooke, Director and Founder of Conflicts Forum based in Beirut and Italy. He was formerly advisor on Middle East issues to Javier Solana, the EU Foreign Policy and Security Chief. He was also a staff member of Senator George Mitchell's Fact Finding Committee that inquired into the causes of the Intifada (2000-2001) and was adviser to the International Quartet. He facilitated various ceasefires in the Occupied Territories and the withdrawal of occupying forces on 2 occasions. Alastair has had 20 years' experience working with Islamist movements, and has extensive experience working with movements such as Hamas, Hezbollah and other Islamist movements in Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Middle East. He is a member of the UN's Alliance of Civilization's Global Experts. He is the author of "Resistance: The Essence of the Islamist Revolution" and he is a frequent contributor in the international press, both writing articles and TV and radio commentary.



**EMMANUEL
HABUKA BOMBANDE**

Emmanuel Habuka Bombande is a United Nations Senior Mediation Advisor. In 2017, he served as a Senior Mediation Adviser to the Head of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSCA) in the Central African Republic. Prior to that, he was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of the Republic of Ghana. He also worked with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS). He co-founded and was Executive Director of the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) for over 10 years. He is a Peacebuilding-Scholar Practitioner and international trainer in conflict mitigation and prevention across Africa and beyond with a strong background in conflict analysis. He has been a lead mediator in many community-based mediation efforts in West Africa.

Biographies



**MILOŠ
STRUGAR**

Ambassador Milos STRUGAR, UN Senior Mediation Adviser, Executive Director of Conflux Center for Intercultural Dialogue and Mediation. He has spent over twenty years with the United Nations in various peacekeeping and political missions in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. He was directly engaged in comprehensive peace and reconciliation talks in South Africa and in Tajikistan, and played a critical role in mediating cessation of hostilities between the Israeli Army and Hezbollah. He has considerable experience with ceasefire and cessation of hostilities issues, including facilitating discreet dialogue with non-state armed groups. He is currently engaged on the Syrian ceasefire agreement, and heads the UN expert delegation at the Astana talks on the conflict in Syria. He is a visiting researcher at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences. He was a diplomat of Yugoslavia. (milos.strugar@confluxcenter.org)

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