

6th International Border Management Conference Speakers' biographies

Keynote speakers



Önder Bakan is the Deputy President at the Presidency of Migration Management since July 15, 2023. He served as the District Governor of Beşiktaş between 2018-2023 and as the Head of Support Services Department at the Directorate General of Migration Management between 2013-2018. He also held the position of district governor in various districts of Türkiye. He completed his undergraduate education at Istanbul University, Faculty of Political Sciences, Department of Public Administration and his master's degree at Ankara University on Public Administration Metropolitan Municipalities.

Sietske Duller is the Director for Migration Policy at the Directorate-General for Migration within The Netherlands Ministry for Justice and Security since April 2023. Previously she has served as Acting Director since March 2022. In her current capacity she is responsible for the entire Dutch migration policy, ranging from asylum and reception policy to border management, return and legal migration. Previously she was head of the unit Supervision, Legal Migration and Nationality, Deputy Director of Migration Policy and Deputy Director Communications within the same ministry. She studied Communication and Information Sciences at Tilburg University.



Michael Spindelegger has extensive experience in international relations through his work in the Federal Government of the Republic of Austria. From 2008 to 2013 he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs, and from 2013 to 2014 as Minister of Finance. Additionally, he was the Vice Chancellor and leader of the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) from 2011 to 2014. In January 2016, he was appointed Director General of the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).

Sedef Dearing is the Director ad interim of Migration Dialogues and Cooperation at ICMPD and the Head of the Budapest Process Secretariat. She has more than 30 years of experience in migration programme development, implementation, dialogue facilitation, policy and research. She supervises ICMPD's operational portfolio in the Western Balkans and Türkiye, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Silk Routes region, the Mediterranean and West Africa, the Pan African Portfolio, and also coordinates work of the Secretariats of the intergovernmental migration dialogues supported by ICMPD (Budapest Process, Khartoum Process, Prague Process, and Rabat Process). Sedef holds a Master's in International Relations from Boston University and a Bachelor's in Economics from Bogazici University Istanbul.





Borut Eržen, Head of the Border Management and Security Programme at ICMPD headquarters in Vienna, has been involved in numerous border management projects worldwide, with nearly 40 years of experience. At the operational level, he was responsible for the management of police units dealing with organised crime, public order and border management. On secondment, he also served EU-led police missions in Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia, where he held senior positions responsible for police reforms, legislation, security sector reforms and border management. In the area of IBM, he is one of the co-authors of the Guidelines for Integrated Border Management in EC External Cooperation (2009).

Thematic Roundtable I.



Emmanuel Laryea Kwei is an Assistant Commissioner of Immigration with the Ghana Immigration Service (GIS) and serves as the Head of the Border Management Department. Prior to his current appointment, he served at various national borders across the country as Commander for over 15 years. Currently, he serves as a member on the Ghana Maritime Security Committee as the Immigration representative. He is part of a survey in Informal Cross Border Trade by the Ghana Statistical Service; part of the technical working team for Operation Screen West Africa 2023 by INTERPOL and is also involved in drafting Ghana's Joint Mobile Team

Concept and SOPs under the auspices of ICMPD.

Capt. Sunny Paul Ogbeche was recruited into the Nigeria Immigration Service in 1998 where he rose through the ranks to become a Senior Pilot/Comptroller of Immigration Service in Charge of Air Boder Division of the Nigeria Immigration Service Headquarters, Abuja. He is a trained pilot and holder of Air Transport License and member, American Owner, and Pilot Association. He attended the Mabdara Flying school, Zaria; Academy of Flights Queen's Boulevard, USA; Airmen School Oklahoma University, USA; King's Flying School (Inc), USA; Nigeria Civil Aviation License; Super King Air 350 and the Nigeria Civil Aviation License. Capt. Ogbeche has a Master of Science Degree in Psychology and master's degree in law enforcement and criminal justice from Amadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria.



Petra Achbergerová, with over twenty years of professional experience in the field of asylum and social work, has a rich background in managing integration of persons granted international protection, including working as a social worker with asylum seekers in a Reception Centre. Currently serving as the Director of the Department for Migration and Integration at the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, Petra's international experience includes assignments as a Reception Information Provision Expert in the Netherlands and Lithuania, Flow Management Expert in Cyprus, and participation in various EU-funded projects related to integration. She has also acted as observer of and contributed to resettlement missions in countries like Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon.

***Duco van Heel** is the Vulnerable Groups Coordinator at Frontex Fundamental Rights Office and co-ordinates Frontex efforts to support EU MSs in the identification and referral of vulnerable persons at the EU external border. He has contributed to numerous international forums and policy papers on protecting vulnerable groups and combating trafficking in human beings at and across borders, including the organisation of EU Anti-Trafficking Day 2011 and contributing to discussions from China to Belarus and the Balkans. Mr. van Heel brings with him more than twenty years of experience in migration information management and anti-trafficking, previously serving as the Deputy Head of the Immigration Service Analysis Centre within the Dutch Ministry of Justice and Security.*



***Ashraf Abushady** is a highly accomplished professional with a strong background in digital transformation and AI. As a Dipl. Ing., he serves as the Senior Advisor for Digital Transformation and AI at the Directorate of Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Industrial Development within the UN Industrial Development Organization. Ashraf holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from the Egyptian Marine Academy and a Masters of Science in Engineering from the Vienna Technical University. Originally from Egypt, Ashraf is recognised for his unwavering commitment to leveraging technology for the betterment of society. His expertise and leadership in digital transformation and AI have proven instrumental in driving impactful change within the UN and beyond.*



NEW SPEAKER TBC



***Monika Weber** is a Senior Advisor for Border Management and Security in ICMPD, providing expertise on IBM, document security, training of trainers, gender in the Eastern Partnership countries, Central Asia, Silk Routes and Western Balkans, as well as Sub-Saharan and West Africa. She holds a Ph.D. in Security Legal Studies and Dr. Iuris in Criminal Law with nearly thirty years of professional experience in the field of immigration, police and border control. The first decade of her career was spent with the Immigration and Border Police of the Czech Republic, including secondment to the UN peacekeeping mission, and has for the past fourteen years worked with ICMPD in various positions.*

Thematic Roundtable II:



***Najet Jaouadi**, General police commissioner first class, is the first Tunisian woman appointed Director General of Customs (2021 to date). Lawyer, a graduate of the Institute of Advanced Studies in Security and Justice and a doctor in private law. Prior to her current position, she was the first Tunisian woman in various positions such as head of a police station, Head of the Minors Protection Service at the General Directorate of the Judicial Police, Deputy Director of Social Prevention, Director of Regional Coordination at the General Directorate of Public Security, and Head of the General Directorate of Human Rights at the Ministry of the Interior. Ms Najet is also expert trainer on gender, women and children victims of violence and member of expert groups on human rights.*

Sietske Duller is the Director for Migration Policy at the Directorate-General for Migration within The Netherlands Ministry for Justice and Security since April 2023. Previously she has served as Acting Director since March 2022. In her current capacity she is responsible for the entire Dutch migration policy, ranging from asylum and reception policy to border management, return and legal migration. Previously she was head of the unit Supervision, Legal Migration and Nationality, Deputy Director of Migration Policy and Deputy Director Communications within the same ministry. She studied Communication and Information Sciences at Tilburg University.



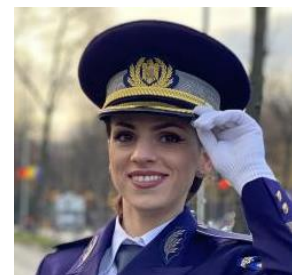
Brigadier General Amine Elkai is the Chairman of the Border Control Committee in the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF). Throughout his thirty year career in the military, he held several key positions including heading the Joint Operations Intelligence Centre at LAF HQ. He graduated from the Military Academy in Lebanon and holds a bachelor's degree in military science. Since then, he served in multiple units in the LAF at both strategic and operational levels and attended training courses worldwide. He holds a Master of Science degree in National Security Strategy from National Defense University, Washington, D.C, and an Executive MBA from the American University of Technology in Lebanon.

Lukáš Vilím completed his master's studies in 2005 in program on security law studies at the Police Academy of the Czech Republic and in 2013 he completed his Ph.D. studies in the field of security management and criminology. From 2015 to 2017, he worked as the Department of Defense and Security director at the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. He currently works at the National Counterterrorism, Extremis, and Cybercrime Agency in Prague in the position of head of the International Department. He is also active as a pedagogical and academic staff member of the Department of Public and European Law at the University of Finance and Administration in Prague.



Normunds Rudzitis, Mg.sc.ing., Mg.oec., is an assistant professor at the International Business and Customs Institute of Riga Technical University. He has extensive experience in business, management of customs matters, and the organisation of internal audits. His main areas of research are risk management, strategic management and supply chain security and is a successful author of several scientific publications. He has been working as an international expert in the field of internal audit and customs management in countries such as Armenia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania since 2008 and has been participating in the implementation of the BOMCA programme in Central Asia since 2014.

Georgiana Dornescu is a Specialist Officer within the Romanian Passenger Information Unit. Graduate of Police Academy in 2019, she became a border police officer within the General Inspectorate of Romanian Border Police - RO PIU as a PNR data analyst. She is a member of the pool of experts within the United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme and Airport Communication Project as a trainer in PNR&API data analysis and targeting matters. She was recently appointed as Training Contact Officer within the EU PNR Community.



Tony Mihaitoia works for ICMPD as a Senior Border Management Specialist since 2018, responsible for conceptualising and the implementation of strategies and initiatives in the field of border management and security. Tony has worked as a border police officer in various positions from conducting border checks at the BCP to coordinating the activities of the Romanian territorial border police units involved in the border control process, by drafting nationwide legal framework in a headquarters role. He graduated the Schengen Evaluators Basic Course in 2013 and has performed several Schengen evaluations at the EU external border. He also took part in WGs focused on identifying requirements for the development of a new Entry/EXIT system or the Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS).

Thematic Roundtable III:



Charles Cofie Lumor is a Chief Revenue Officer with the Ghana Customs Division of the Ghana Revenue Authority. He holds the position of Second-In-Command of Preventive/Enforcement Operations Unit at Customs Divisional Headquarters and is responsible for border protection, controls, surveillance, patrols and anti-smuggling operations. Charles is a lecturer with the Ghana Customs Academy and Training School where he served as a Deputy Commandant. Whilst at the Training school, he was a liaison officer for border patrol training between US Marines and the border security agencies of Ghana. He studied the University of Ghana and holds a Masters in Gender, Peace and Security from KAIPTC.

Thea Sogenbits is the Chief Information Security Officer of the Estonian Tax and Customs Board responsible for establishing and maintaining Estonian Tax and Customs Board's vision, strategy, and program to assure that data, assets and technologies are adequately protected from internal and external threats. In the past she has been an adviser to the deputy director general of the Estonian Police and Border Guard board and consulted private and public institutions on privacy and cyber security related executive management decisions, counter-intelligence and business process and - model optimisation. She has M.Sc. from Tallinn University in Human Computer Interaction and MBA in IT Management. Her main area of expertise revolves around the business and practices of professional organised cross-border transnational computer aided crime.





Goran Stojkovski has nearly thirty years of combined counter-terrorism and border security and management experience. Graduated from the National Military Academy, he has served in different positions with the Army Special Forces, with focus on operational planning, intelligence and investigations, risk analysis, anti-corruption and international cooperation. In 2012, he joined the OSCE, eventually becoming the Head of the BM Unit in Dushanbe, and at HQ as Border and Customs Adviser. In 2022, he joined UNOCT in New York, and later the Countering Terrorism Travel Programme in Budapest, as Programme Management Officer. He holds a Master's Degree in Border Security and Management and Security Sector Reform, with operational experience and deployments across South-Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Middle East and Africa.

Monica Gariup is currently Senior Advisor on International Cooperation at Frontex. In her 15 years at the agency, she has worked in a variety of domains including technical assistance and cooperation in Africa and the Middle East, joint operations at airports, capacity-building and research. She has previously worked in the academia and in security-related projects in the UAE, Greece, Germany, Canada, and the United States. Monica holds a Ph.D. in Security Studies.



Jean-Yves Charriou started his career in the French public administration and was involved in cooperation and coordination tasks at both inter-ministerial and international levels, initially in the field of security. From 2001, he worked in various regions within different technical assistance programmes. He was subsequently employed by UN, EC, OSCE, EU Member States and ICMPD to lead IBM projects; mainly in the Balkans, South Caucasus, Central and South Asia and in the MENA region. After 15 years at ICMPD, he joined to the World Customs Organization in Brussels as Project Manager of the EU-funded COLIBRI project related to monitoring and control of general aviation.

Rebecca Adeline is border management specialist for ICMPD's BMS Programme. She joined the Programme in 2015 as project manager where she has since been responsible for different projects in North Africa, West Africa, the Balkans and the Eastern Partnership region. Rebecca joined ICMPD in 2011 for the Dialogue on Mediterranean Transit Migration. Prior to that, she started her career with various NGOs and the EU's Fundamental Right Agency, leading to a consultancy company specialised in international development, working as a project manager for projects and contracts relating to foreign aid and good governance in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Rebecca holds a Master of Laws from University Aix-Marseille III and a Master's degree in Human rights from University Grenoble II.





Tamer Kılıç, Head of the Türkiye and Western Balkans Regional Office, has been serving as the Head of the Türkiye and Western Balkans Regional Office at ICMPD since March 2017. From 2001 to 2012, he held key positions in the United Nations and European Union Missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, focusing on migration, asylum, border management, and security related issues. He previously served in Türkiye's Ministry of Interior, specializing in Migration, Asylum, and Border Management. Joining ICMPD in 2013, he has led different migration and border management projects. With extensive experience in migration in the Western Balkans and Türkiye, Tamer Kılıç, a graduate of Ankara University Faculty of Law, holds substantial expertise in diverse migration matters.

Moderators of the Pre-conference sessions



Emanuel Preda is a Senior BMS Advisor at ICMPD and has worked in various BM related roles since 2016. He has previously worked, from 2001, within the Ministry of Interior in Romania, and as a Home Affairs Attaché in Moldova. He holds a degree from the Police Academy and the National College for Internal Affairs in Romania. He has also relevant experience working as consultant for Mol in North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine. Emanuel provides strategic advice in BM topics across projects in Western Balkans, Türkiye, Middle East and North Africa, being involved in setting up performance monitoring framework, preparing and evaluating Sector Budget Support programmes, but also in establishing donor coordination mechanisms.

Selin Barutcuoğlu, the Border Management Portfolio Manager at ICMPD Türkiye, is leading a diverse array of projects, encompassing spearheading policy development framework initiatives, conducting capacity-building programs for relevant authority staff, and implementing cutting-edge technology for effective border management. With over 12 years of experience at UNHCR, she excelled on interviewing with asylum seekers on their claims for leaving their countries of origin and Refugee Status Determination. Throughout her expertise, she maintained a steadfast commitment to serving the best interest of persons of concern and advocating for the rights of asylum seekers and refugees.



William Huddleston is project manager for ICMPD's IBM projects in Pakistan. He has worked in the area of BM since 2019, prior to which he spent five years in ICMPD's Anti-Trafficking Programme. Before joining ICMPD, he worked on migration for the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and IOM. William has extensive experience working with law enforcement and border management agencies in technical assistance programmes, including legislative reform, strategy development, sustainable training solutions and procurement. He holds an Executive Master's in the Management of International Organizations from SDA Bocconi.

***Vladimirs Zaguzovs** is ret. Colonel from State Border Guard of Latvia with extensive experience in border security. The combination of law enforcement and previous military education provided a solid basis for his successful career in senior positions. Moreover, the in-depth knowledge of European IBM and ten years' experience working as a Latvian SBG representative to the FRONTEX Management Board provided a solid ground for managing and overseeing theoretical and operational implementation of the international border security projects. He provided expertise in area of border security, including institutional development and reforms of law enforcement in the Central Asia, South Caucasus, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Türkiye, Palestine, and Mongolia.*



Closing remarks

***Ahmet Dalkıran**, a distinguished professional in civil administration, graduated from the Ankara University, International Relations Department in 2002. Embarking on his career in 2004, he succeeded in the District Governorship examination, subsequently serving as a District Governor Candidate in Tokat. In March 2007, Mr. Dalkıran demonstrated competence by successfully completing the 91st District Governorship Course and he was assigned to the Çorum-Oğuzlar district. Under the Ministry's postgraduate and doctoral programs, Mr. Dalkıran, earned his Master's Degree in Political Science and International Relations Department from Keele University in 2013, and his Doctoral Degree in Political Science from York University, in 2019. Presently Ahmet Dalkıran serves as the Head of Department at the Directorate General of Border Management, the Presidency of Migration Management.*

