



# 56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all

2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



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Side-event to the 56<sup>th</sup> Commission for Social Development 2018

## Closing the Protection Gaps for All

Monday 5 February 2018

4:30pm – 6:00pm

Conference Room D, Conference Building  
United Nations Headquarters

## Speakers Bios



**Mr. Bogdan J. Dumitrescu**



**Founder and CEO  
BJD Reinsurance Consulting, LLC**

Bogdan is the Founder and CEO of BJD Reinsurance Consulting, LLC, an advisory firm incorporated in the United States, in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

He is an Advisory Board Member of ARISE, the Private Sector Platform of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Ambassador of the International Insurance Society to Europe and a Founding Board Member of the Romanian Insurance Policyholders Guarantee Fund.

With an experience of more than 25 years in finance and insurance, he is intensively collaborating with the risk protection industries, financial markets, regulators and international organizations on common purposes, mostly focused on closing the insurance protection gaps worldwide.

Bogdan J. Dumitrescu is a graduate in Economics and Econometrics, and has a Master of Science in Computing and Statistics from Paris Panthéon-Assas University.

He lives in New York and, and as a citizen of the World, shares most of his time between North America, Europe and Asia.



## **H.E. Mrs. Louise Kantrow**



### **Former Permanent Representative and Observer to the United Nations International Chamber of Commerce**

Louise Kantrow was appointed ICC Permanent Representative to the United Nations in April 2007. The Paris based ICC is the largest, most representative business organization, encompassing 6.5 million businesses in its global network, with national committees and direct members in 130 countries, as well as active presence in over 230 countries through ICC's World Chambers Federation. It has served as the voice of business at the UN since 1946, frequently taking part in UN and related multilateral deliberations in the economic, social and environmental arenas.

Since her appointment, Kantrow has been involved in multiple major UN conferences as ICC and private sector representative. She was co-chair of the Private Sector Steering Committee in the Follow-up International Conference to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 2008); as co-chair of the Private Sector Steering Committee for the Fourth UN Conference on Least Developed Countries (Istanbul, 2011); and most recently, as co-organizing partner of the Business and Industry Major Group for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). In these capacities, Kantrow coordinated business and industry contributions to the political processes, represented and delivered private sector messages, and organized official UN private sector events including the Second International Business Forum in Doha, the High-Level Lunch Meeting in Istanbul, and the Business Action for Sustainable Development Business Day in Rio de Janeiro, particularly the High-Level Lunch Meeting and the 2012 World Business and Development Awards. She also leads the establishment and coordination of the work of the Global Business Alliance for Post-2015, a robust and inclusive business alliance that would provide positive private sector contributions to the formulation and implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Kantrow's career has included posts within the UN and senior positions at nonprofit, governmental and intergovernmental organizations closely associated with UN activities. Most recently, she served as executive director of the International League for Human Rights, one of the oldest human rights organizations in the world. Prior to that, as executive vice-president of the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA), she supervised a major expansion of programs at the Business Council to the United Nations.

Earlier in her career she served as senior advisor to the United Nations Population Fund and as director of operations at the Population Council. She worked for eighteen years as economic affairs officer in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, following service as a senior economist with the US Agency for International Development and as a population affairs officer with the UN. Kantrow holds doctoral and master's degrees in demography and economics from the University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.



## **Mr. Michael J. Morrissey**



### **President & CEO International Insurance Society**

Michael J. Morrissey is President and Chief Executive Officer of the International Insurance Society. The IIS is the largest and most diverse organization of the global insurance industry. Its members are insurance company executives, scholars and regulators from nearly 100 countries, who share their diverse knowledge and perspectives to study the forces driving growth and innovation in the industry.

For 15 years before being appointed CEO, Mike was an active IIS member while Chairman and Chief Executive of Firemark Investments. He was also Chief Investment Officer of Firemark, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor, investing in insurance companies globally and advising insurance company managements, regulators and public institutions around the world. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Selective Insurance Group, Inc., is Chairman of its Finance Committee and a member of its Executive Committee.

Mike is a member of the Board of Overseers of the St. John's University School of Risk Management. He is a senior advisor to the United Nations on the insurance industry. He is a member of the World Economic Forum's global council on Insurance and Asset Management. Mike is also an insurance working group member of the National Bureau of Economic Research, a special advisor to the Asia Pacific Financial Forum, and a member of the Board of Governors of the Asia Pacific Financial Forum

Mike was formerly President of Manhattan Life Insurance Company, and Executive Vice President of Crum & Forster Insurance Group. He holds a B.A. From Boston College, an MBA from Dartmouth, and has completed the Harvard Business School Corporate Finance Program. He is also a Chartered Financial Analyst and former President of the Association of Insurance and Financial Analysts.



## **Mr. Thomas Holzeu**



### **Regional Chief Economist, Americas Swiss Re Institute**

As Regional Chief Economist for the Americas, Thomas is responsible for the Swiss Re Institute's economic and insurance market research for the Americas. This includes the sigma studies — Swiss Re's research series on the insurance industry.

Thomas and his team support Swiss Re's strategic planning on market developments, the economic environment, the competitive landscape and regulatory factors affecting insurance and reinsurance markets in the Americas. His research focuses on the relationships between the general economy, capital markets and the insurance and reinsurance markets. Thomas is the author of several sigma studies on trends in the worldwide insurance industries, covering a broad range of topics including non-traditional re/insurance solutions, the global underinsurance of property risks, economic and non-economic liability claims drivers and the impact of inflation on insurance. He publishes and speaks frequently on economic, insurance and risk-related topics.

Thomas joined the Swiss Re Group in 1990 and has worked in Germany and Switzerland and the US. Prior experiences include marketing services, treaty underwriting, corporate development and competitor analysis.

Thomas graduated from the University of Munich with a M.S. and a Ph.D. in economics.



## **Mr. Jonathan Mintz**



### **Founding President and Chief Executive Officer Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund**

Jonathan Mintz is Founding President and Chief Executive Officer of the Cities for Financial Empowerment (CFE) Fund, a national non-profit organization that supports municipal efforts to help low-income families and individuals achieve long-term financial stability.

He also founded and co-chaired the Cities for Financial Empowerment Coalition (CFE Coalition), which brings together pioneering municipal governments from across the country to advance innovative financial empowerment initiatives on the municipal, state, and national level.

Jonathan was previously the longest-serving Commissioner in the history of the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), having been appointed to the role by former New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg. During this time, Mintz redefined the Department's regulatory enforcement powers toward a focus on consumer financial stability, re-envisioning consumer rights in fields such as debt collection, process serving, employment, and finance. While there, he launched the Office of Financial Empowerment (OFE), which has been replicated by local governments across the nation to systematically advance programs in financial counseling and education, asset building, and safe banking.

Mintz has pioneered the "Supervitamin Effect," a growing body of programs, policies, and research that measures the positive impacts of integrating financial empowerment services into mainstream local government antipoverty programs such as workforce development, public housing, domestic violence, prisoner reentry, and more.



## **Mrs. Chloe Demrovsky**



### **President and CEO Disaster Recovery Institute International**

Chloe is the President and CEO of DRI International the nonprofit that helps organizations prepare for and recover from disasters in business continuity and related fields. DRI serves more than 15,000 certified professionals in over 100 countries.

In her previous role as Executive Director, she led DRI to a record number of certified professionals with a 42% increase and oversaw the launch of a number of valuable initiatives including the DRI Online Library, the Collegiate Conference Program, the DRI Webinar Program, the Future Vision Thinktank, a new risk management training and certification program, the launch of DRI's premier organizational certification, and the most substantive revision of DRI's core training program in the history of the organization. She designed DRI's international market development strategy operating in over 50 countries. During her tenure, DRI's conference reached a record level of attendance and the organization launched a series of new committees dedicated to better serving the industry's diverse needs including Women in Business Continuity, Young Leaders in Resilience, and the Veterans' Outreach Program.

She built the relationship with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, is a Board Director for the DRI Foundation, and a Certified Business Continuity Vendor (CBCV). She has appeared on Bloomberg TV, MSNBC and Fox and has served as an expert source for *The Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, and many more.

She has presented at dozens of events across four continents and served as an editor for the 2017 version of *The Professional Practices for Business Continuity Management* and the coordinator for the first *International Glossary for Resiliency*.

She is on the adjunct faculty at New York University. She holds a Master's of Science in International Business from New York University, a Bachelor of Arts from Bard College at Simon's Rock and speaks four languages. Follow her @ChloeDemrovsky.



## Mr. Aris Papadopoulos



### **Former CEO Titan America**

Aris is the author of "Resilience: The Ultimate Sustainability".

Aris Papadopoulos is the retired CEO of Titan America and is presently Board Chairman of ST Equipment & Technology and an advisor to Titan Group.

He has over 35 years of industrial experience, twenty of which he served as Chief Executive.

He founded the non-profit Resilience Action Fund, aiming to advance transparency, awareness and education for greater disaster resilience in the built environment. He authored of the recent eBook: *"Resilience – The Ultimate Sustainability: Lessons from Failing to Develop a Stronger and Safer Built Environment"*.

He was the first chair (2011-2013) of the UN International Strategy on Disaster Reduction (UN-ISDR) Private Sector Advisory Group.

He was founding chair of the Concrete Joint Sustainability Initiative and chaired the Portland Cement Association. In 2013 he received the American Concrete Institute's Sustainability Award.

He earned Bachelors and Master's Degrees in Chemical Engineering from MIT and an MBA from Harvard University.

In 2015 he was appointed Distinguished Expert in Resilience at Florida International University's (FIU) Extreme Events Institute, where he advises on urban resilience research and educational programs.





**Mrs. Rupalee Ruchismita**



**Founder Director  
Resilience Design and Research Labs**

Resilience Design and Research Labs develops and spreads innovative safety net solutions for emerging markets.

Rupalee collaboratively launched South Asia's first catastrophe insurance and her work in health insurance has been covered in peer reviewed medical Journal, the Lancet.

She is an invited member of the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII), has served as the Steering Committee Member, Impact Insurance Facility (earlier MIIF) - International Labor Organization (ILO), and Editorial Board Member for Global Micro Insurance Compendium - Munich Re Foundation.