



**SECOND
WORLD SUMMIT
FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
DOHA 2025**

**SOLUTIONS SESSION ON
COHERENT POLICY RESPONSES TO
DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE**

Virtual event

Doha, 6 November 2025, 13:15 – 14:30 AST

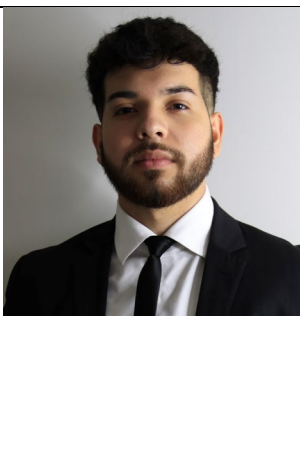
BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

	Bertrand Gruss is a Deputy Division Chief in the Research Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), where he is part of the management team responsible for the World Economic Outlook. He previously held positions in the African, European, Fiscal Affairs, and Western Hemisphere Departments, working on both bilateral and multilateral surveillance, as well as program countries. Before joining the IMF, he also worked at the Central Bank of Uruguay. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the European University Institute.
	Nick Latimer is the Executive Director of the Australian Government Centre for Population. He came to the Centre having worked in a variety of economic and social policy roles in the Australian Government and the Victorian State Government. He holds a Masters of Public Policy from Japan's National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies.
	Umid Abidkhadjaev is Deputy Minister of Economy and Finance of Uzbekistan and Director of the Institute of Macroeconomic and Regional Studies (IMRS).



DESA

Population Division

	Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda (Zimbabwe) is the UN Assistant Secretary-General and UN Women Deputy Executive Director for Normative Support, UN System Coordination, and Programme Results since February 2024. With over 35 years of experience in development, human rights, and gender equality, she is known for her lifelong advocacy for women's and girls' rights, inspired by her upbringing in resource-poor and conflict-affected communities. She founded and led the Rozaria Memorial Trust in Zimbabwe, advancing rural women's and girls' education, health, and entrepreneurship. As the first African Union Goodwill Ambassador on Ending Child Marriage (2014–2022), she worked with Heads of State, civil society, and youth to promote rights-based action, contributing to the 2023 AU Convention on Violence against Women and Girls. Her previous roles include leadership positions with the World YWCA, UNIFEM, UNICEF, and Zimbabwe's Ministry of Justice. She holds advanced law degrees and an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Massachusetts.
	Meghan Benton is Director of Global Programs at the Migration Policy Institute, a nonpartisan think tank, where she oversees the institute's global work including its flagship Transatlantic Council on Migration, Latin America and Caribbean Initiative, and Refugee and Forced Displaced Initiative. She is also on the board of MPI Europe, MPI's sister organisation in Brussels. She regularly advises governments on policy areas including asylum and irregular migration, labour mobility, and integration. She convenes MPI Europe's Integration Futures Working Group, which was established in 2016 to develop a forward-looking agenda for integration policy in Europe. She has a PhD in political science from University College London. Her PhD research focused on the status of denizenship, long-term residence without citizenship.
	Claudia Mahler assumed her role as Independent Expert in May 2020. She is a senior researcher in the field of economic, social and cultural rights for the German Institute for Human Rights since 2010. She was also a visiting professor at the Alice Salomon Hochschule in 2020-2021. From 2001 to 2009, Ms. Mahler conducted research at the Human Rights Centre of the University of Potsdam where her main fields were in human rights education, minority rights and the law of asylum. In 2000, she was appointed as Vice President of the Human Rights Commission for Tyrol and Vorarlberg. She has also worked as a lecturer in the field of human rights law and as a consultant to OHCHR in Geneva. From 1997-2001, she held the position of an assistant at the Leopold-Franzens-University Innsbruck, Austria in the field of Criminal Law and Criminal Procedures. Ms. Mahler received her doctoral degree in 2000.
	Giuliano José María Sarubbi Acosta is a 21-year-old youth leader, author, and social entrepreneur from Caazapá, Paraguay. At sixteen, he founded Ñemotenonde, Paraguay's first vocational training centre for Indigenous youth, empowering families to overcome poverty through education, entrepreneurship, and access to decent work. His work has impacted thousands of young people and families across Latin America and Asia, promoting inclusion and social mobility. He is the author of two books, <i>Nunca Muy Joven</i> and <i>Conquistando</i>, available on Amazon, which inspire young people to lead change within their communities. Based in Taiwan, Giuliano studies Global Politics and Economics and researches employability among Indigenous youth in Asia. His leadership has been recognized by the United Nations, TEDx Asia, and global youth programs in Geneva, Japan, and the United States. Giuliano's mission is to connect continents and generations — reaffirming that opportunity, dignity, and leadership must be accessible to all.