

***Human Security, Resilience and Dignity in Migration:
Translating the Global Compact into Action***

High-Level Side Event at Migration Week

9 December 2018

15:30-17:15

Palmeraie Palace Resort, Salle Diamant
Marrakech, Morocco

Speaker Biographies



Ms. Sonia Nazario, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist

Ms. Sonia Nazario is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author. For three decades, she has tirelessly reported on immigration issues, humanizing migrants and telling the stories of refugees for a wide audience. In 2003, Ms. Nazario won the Pulitzer Prize for her piece “Enrique’s Journey” published in the *Los Angeles Times*. In 2012, *Columbia Journalism Review* named her among ‘40 Women Who Changed the Media Business in the Past 40 Years’. In 2015, Ms. Nazario received the Don and Arvonne Fraser Human Rights Award for her work in connecting lawyers with unaccompanied migrant children. In 2016, the American Immigration Council awarded Ms. Nazario the American Heritage Award, and the Houston Peace & Justice Center honored her with their National Peacemaker Award. Ms. Nazario is currently an opinion contributor to the *New York Times*.



Ms. Amanda Nguyen, Founder and President of Rise and 2019 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee

Ms. Amanda Nguyen is the founder and president of Rise, a US-based civil rights nonprofit. In 2016, Ms. Nguyen and her organization were instrumental in the passage of the Survivors' Bill of Rights Act, a landmark civil rights law establishing statutory rights in US federal code for survivors of sexual assault and rape and are now at work to replicate the law internationally through the UN System. The child of Vietnamese immigrants, Ms. Nguyen has also served as a 2016 TED fellow, Deputy White House Liaison for the U.S. Department of State, and at NASA. She was the recipient of a Young Women's Honors Award from *Marie Claire* magazine in 2016, named on *Foreign Policy* magazine's list of the leading global thinkers in 2016, and featured on *Forbes*'s "30 Under 30" list. In 2018, members of the US Congress formally nominated Ms. Nguyen for the Nobel Peace Prize.



Dr. Karen Jacobsen, *Henry J. Leir Professor of Global Migration, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University*

Dr. Karen Jacobsen is the Henry J. Leir Professor in Global Migration at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and the Friedman School of Nutrition at Tufts University. Professor Jacobson directs the Refugees and Forced Migration Program at the Feinstein International Center. Professor Jacobsen's current research explores urban displacement and global migration systems, with a focus on the livelihoods and financial resilience of migrants and refugees. In 2013/2014, she led the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) in Geneva. From 2000-2005, Professor Jacobson directed the Alchemy Project, which explored the use of microfinance as a way to support people in refugee camps and other displacement settings. Professor Jacobsen's publications include *"A View from Below: Conducting Research in Conflict Zones,"* (with Mazurana and Gale), and *"The Economic Life of Refugees"* (2005), which is widely used in courses on forced migration.



H.E. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, *Chairperson of the High-Level Panel on Migration in Africa and former President of Liberia*

H.E. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf served as the 24th President of Liberia from 2006 to 2018, the first elected female Head of State in Africa. A campaigner for democracy in Liberia, President Sirleaf won the 2005 presidential election with 59 percent of the vote. On taking office in January 2006, President Sirleaf established a Truth and Reconciliation Commission with a mandate to "promote national peace, security, unity and reconciliation." She was re-elected in 2011, and in the same year was a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize with Leymah Gbowee of Liberia and Tawakkol Karman of Yemen for "their non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work." In June 2016, President Sirleaf was elected as the Chair of the Economic Community of West African States, making her the first woman to hold the position since it was created. Since leaving office, President Sirleaf has served as the Chair of the High-Level Panel on Migration in Africa, working to ensure migration issues remain at the top of the international policy agenda.



Mr. Jean-Paul Cavalieri, *Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Morocco*

Mr. Jean-Paul Cavalieri is the Chief Representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Morocco, a position he has held since July 2014. Mr. Cavalieri joined UNHCR in 1991, and has held positions in Hungary, Russia, Albania, Lebanon, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as fulfilling roles at UN Headquarters in New York and Geneva. Before joining UNHCR, Mr. Cavalieri served as a *rapporteur* and section Head at the French National Court on the Right of Asylum. He holds qualifications in European Studies, International Public Law, and History from the Bruges College of Europe, Aix-Marseille University, and the Paris-Sorbonne.



Mr. Pichit Boonsud, *Deputy Director General of the Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Thailand*

Mr. Pichit Boonsud is the Deputy Director General of the Department of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Kingdom of Thailand. Mr. Boonsud joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1990 and was appointed Second Secretary of the Royal Thai Embassy in Moscow in 1995. Mr. Boonsud has subsequently held a number of embassy postings, including in Brussels, The Hague, and Stockholm, as well as various senior positions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Boonsud most recently served as Director of the Development Affairs Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, before assuming his current role in July 2018. Mr. Boonsud was educated at Chulalongkorn University, Thammasat University, and the Institute of Social Studies of The Hague. Mr. Boonsud has received various decorations in Thailand, and in 2010 was made a Knight Commander (Second Class) of the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant.



H.E. Ambassador Knut Vollebæk, *Chair of the Advisory Board on Human Security*

Ambassador Knut Vollebæk is the Chair of the Advisory Board on Human Security. He served as Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Norway from 1997 to 2000, and was Chairman of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in 1999. Ambassador Vollebæk was Norway's ambassador to the United States between 2001 and 2007, and Costa Rica from 1991 to 1993. He is currently a member of the International Commission on Missing Persons Board of Commissioners and has previously held positions with the Council of the Baltic Sea States, the Barents Euro-Arctic Council, and the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia. Ambassador Vollebæk was educated at the Norwegian School of Economics, and has also attended the University of Oslo, the University of California, Santa Barbara, the Institut Catholique de Paris and the Universidad Complutense of Madrid.