



International Media Seminar on Peace in the Middle East [Virtual Event]

16-17 November 2021

Organized by the United Nations Department of Global Communications



UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL INFORMATION PROGRAMME ON
THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

PARTICIPANTS' BIOGRAPHIES

Dina Aboughazala



An Egyptian media entrepreneur and bilingual journalist, Ms. Aboughazala spent 14 years working for the BBC before launching her media startup, Egab (egab.co) in August 2020. Egab empowers local journalists from the Middle East and Africa to publish in regional and international media outlets, stories that challenge stereotypes and dominant narratives about their communities. Egab specializes in solutions journalism - a genre focused on reporting how people respond to problems in their communities. During her years at the BBC, Ms. Aboughazala covered political, social, economic, cultural and media developments in the MENA region. Ms. Aboughazala holds an M.A. in Interactive Journalism from City, University of London. When not busy running her startup, she gives talks and training sessions on solutions journalism as well as diversity and inclusion in the media. @DinaAboughazala

Dr. Yossi Beilin

Served in many ministerial positions in the Israeli Government, including as Deputy Foreign Minister, Deputy Finance Minister, Minister of Economy and Planning, Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister, Minister for Religious Affairs, and Minister of Justice. Dr. Beilin is a leading proponent of the peace process. He initiated the secret channel of talks that resulted in the 1993 Oslo Accords, and subsequently in late 1995 concluded a 'non-paper' of guidelines for a permanent status peace agreement with the Palestinian leader, later to be the President of the State of Palestine, Mr. Mahmoud Abbas. Dr. Beilin headed the Israeli delegation to the multilateral peace process working groups from 1992 to 1995 and was a negotiator at the Taba talks with the Palestinians in January 2001. In November 2008, Dr. Beilin resigned from the Knesset, after he had served there for eleven years, and established Beilink, a Global consulting firm where he serves as President. He is also the chairman of the steering committee of H. L. Education for Peace for the Geneva Initiative in Israel, and the chairman of Hillel Students Organizations in Israel.





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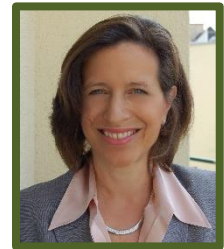
Nanette Braun



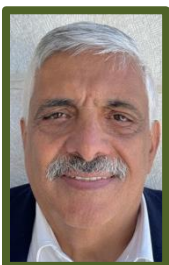
Chief of Communications Campaigns Service in the Strategic Communications Division, United Nations Department of Global Communications (DGC). Ms. Braun joined the United Nations in 1995. Prior to the current appointment, Ms. Braun headed the communications and public advocacy departments at UN Women, the women's rights organization of the UN, and at UN Volunteers, which facilitates the deployment of thousands of volunteers annually in support of the United Nations' peace, humanitarian and development efforts. A journalist by training, Ms. Braun worked for print media and broadcasters in her native Germany and abroad, reporting with particular interest on international politics and humanitarian issues. She holds an M.A. in Modern History and North-American studies from Free University Berlin and Technical University Berlin respectively.

Melissa Fleming

Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications at the United Nations since September 2019. Ms. Fleming previously served the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR) as its Head of Global Communications and Spokesperson for the High Commissioner for 10 years, and before that worked in senior communications roles for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). She is author of the book, "A Hope More Powerful than the Sea," and host of the award-winning podcast, *Awake at Night*. @MelissaFleming



Daoud Kuttab



Palestinian journalist since 1980, media activist and currently the Director General of Community Media Network (CMN), which administers Radio al Balad in Amman and www.ammannet.net. Mr. Kuttab is also the former Ferris Professor of Journalism at Princeton University and former Deputy Chair of the International Press Institute. He established and presided over the Jerusalem Film Institute in the 1990s and co-produced a number of award-winning documentaries. His op-ed columns have appeared in *The Los Angeles Times*, *Foreign Policy*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *Huffington Post*, Palestine News Network, and Al Arrabiya.Net among others. He has received a number of international awards including the CPJ Freedom of Expression Award. @daoudkuttab



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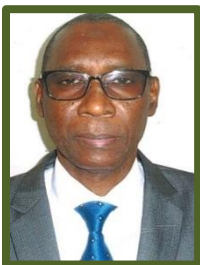
Rabbi Michael Melchior

Ambassador and Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations since 29 November 2012, and before that Ambassador and Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations since 2005. Dr. Mansour was promoted to the rank of Minister by a Presidential Decree issued, coinciding with his election as Chair of the Group of 77 and China for the year 2019.



Dr. Mansour is also the State of Palestine's non-resident Ambassador to Costa Rica as well as to the Dominican Republic. He served as Deputy Permanent Observer of Palestine to the UN from 1988 to 1994 and prior to that, as Deputy Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations from 1983 to 1988. Since 2002, he has lectured as an Adjunct Professor in the Political Science Department at the University of Central Florida. Dr. Mansour is the author of several publications. He obtained his PhD Philosophy in 1977 from the University of Akron, Ohio. @Palestine_UN.

Ambassador Cheikh Niang



A career diplomat who joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Senegal in 1993. Currently serving as Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations and Chairman of the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. Prior to that, Mr. Niang was Senegal's Ambassador to Japan (2014 to 2018), concurrently accredited to Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Vietnam and Singapore. He served as Ambassador to the United States (2012 to 2014), also accredited to Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay, and as Senegal's Ambassador to South Africa (2010 and 2012), with jurisdiction extended to nine other Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries. He was also, among other previously held positions, Consul General of Senegal in New York, Diplomatic Advisor to the President of Senegal, and Head of the African Division at the Senegalese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Niang holds a Diploma in Diplomacy from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration of Dakar, Senegal, an M.A. in International Relations and Strategic Studies from the University of Lancaster, United Kingdom, another M.A. and a M.Phil in English studies from Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal and a Certificate in French-English Interpretation from the University of Westminster, London, UK.



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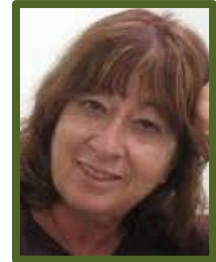


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Eetta Prince-Gibson

An award-winning journalist and lecturer on Israeli society and politics, including Jerusalem, gender issues, in Israel and the Middle-East conflict, the role of the media in conflict resolution, and refugee and minority rights. Ms. Prince-Gibson is currently the Israel editor for *Moment Magazine*, and a regular contributor to Haaretz, +61J, al-Monitor, *Foreign Policy*, and Religion News Service. She is the recipient of a Clarion Award for Women's Writing (2015) and a National Religion Newswriters Association First-Place Award (2015). She was also awarded the Search for Common Ground and several prestigious Simon Rockower Awards. After five years as Editor-in-Chief of The Jerusalem Report, Ms. Prince-Gibson stepped down to pursue freelance writing. Prior to that, Ms. Prince-Gibson was a correspondent for the Washington Post (1993-2001), where she was a partner in the Washington Post bureau's award-winning coverage of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the outbreak of the Second Intifada, and other stories. She has hosted a regular talk show on Israel's All-for-Peace radio and is a frequent commentator for radio and TV in Israel and abroad. Ms. Prince-Gibson will soon launch a podcast, set to be co-hosted with a Palestinian female.



Grace Wermenbol



Non-resident scholar at the Washington-based Middle East Institute. She previously served as a lecturer on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict at the University of Oxford. Dr. Wermenbol received her PhD and M.A. from the University of Oxford, St Antony's College, where her work focused on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. She is the author of "A Tale of Two Narratives," which examines the perpetuation of conflict narratives in Israeli and Palestinian societies in the post-Oslo era, published by Cambridge University Press in 2021.