

“The Role of Education and Youth in Preventing Urban Violence and Countering Violent Extremism”

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SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

Herrington, Rebecca

Rebecca Herrington is a Design, Monitoring, and Evaluation Specialist with Search for Common Ground, currently working with 14 countries to provide technical DM&E support to UNICEF's Peace building, Education, and Advocacy programme. She has been working for seven years in conflict program management and DM&E, with a focus on program design and conflict sensitivity. Prior to her work at Search for Common Ground, Rebecca developed a strong governance specialization centered on fragile states, technical options development for dialogue, and strategies for shared societies captured through her chapter on Governance in Mari Fitzduff's Public Policies for Shared Societies book. She has worked throughout Central America, MENA, and East Africa, building lessons learned through living and working abroad in rural, conflict-affected and transitional communities. Rebecca holds dual Masters Degrees in International Development and Conflict Management from Brandeis University.



Lopes Cardozo, Mieke Ph.D.

Dr. Mieke Lopes Cardozo is assistant professor at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research of the University of Amsterdam. Trained in International Relations, Conflict Studies and International Development Studies (University of Amsterdam), and a former employee of UNICEF in the Netherlands, since 2011 she is the coordinator of the 'IS-Academie' co-funded research project of the University of Amsterdam and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She also leads a Research Consortium on Education, Social Justice and Peacebuilding in collaboration with the University of Sussex and the University of Ulster. As part of this Consortium, she is co-director of a research partnership with UNICEF's Peacebuilding, Education and Advocacy (PBEA) programme, together with prof. Mario Novelli (University of Sussex), and prof. Alan Smith (University of Ulster). Her research is focused on a range of thematic areas connected to education policy and practice in relation to social justice and peace building. This includes the role of teacher education in socio-political transformations in Bolivia, (non)formal peace education in Sri Lanka, the role of female education leaders in the Islamic context of Aceh and the relation between education policy, teachers roles' and young people's agency for peace building in Myanmar. She is involved in [GLOBED](#), an EU Erasmus Mundus Plus-funded joint Masters on Education Policies for Global Development. Mieke is a board member of the [Netherlands Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies \(NALACS\)](#) and the [Amsterdam Research Centre on Gender and Sexuality \(ARC-GS\)](#) and since 2014 a member of the [Working Group on Education and Fragility of the International Network for Education in Emergencies](#).



Monks, Joost Ph.D.

Joost Monks is the managing director of the NORRAG -Network for International Policies and Cooperation in Education and Training, located at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) in Geneva, Switzerland. He is in charge of the Network's international development and partnerships and runs the programme of work on "Urban violence and Education". Previously he served as management consultant in a wide range of national and international public organizations, including UNESCO, WIPO, and ILO, and worked in the field of organizational development in higher education institutions in Europe and China. He holds a Bachelor and a Master Degree from the IHEID and obtained his PhD in political economics from the University of Geneva.



Rodgers, Dennis Ph.D.

Dennis Rodgers is Professor of International Development Studies at the University of Amsterdam (UvA). He is a social anthropologist by training, and his research focuses broadly on issues relating to the political economy of development, including in particular the dynamics of conflict and violence in cities in Latin America (Nicaragua, Argentina) and South Asia (India). Much of his work focuses on the study of youth gangs – he has been conducting longitudinal ethnographic research on Nicaraguan gang dynamics since 1996 – but he has also worked on the topics of urban inequality, the politics of socio-spatial segregation, participatory governance processes, urban crime reduction, as well as on the epistemology of development knowledge. His future research plans include developing multi-level, comparative gang studies as well as, more broadly, re-thinking the relationship between conflict, violence, and development, both historically and in the contemporary era. He has authored and edited several books, journal special issues, articles, and book chapters. His recent publications include the co-edited volumes [*Popular Representations of Development: Insights from Novels, Films, Television, and Social Media*](#) and [*Global Gangs: Street Violence across the World*](#). Rodgers was also Associate Editor of the *European Journal of Development Research* (EJDR) between 2008 and 2012, and Editor of *Urban Studies* between 2012 and 2015. Rodgers holds BA, MA (Cantab), and PhD degrees in Social Anthropology from the [University of Cambridge \(Trinity College\)](#), and a Postgraduate Certificate in International Studies from the [Graduate Institute of International Studies](#) in Geneva, Switzerland.



*Interesting fact, he was a member of a Nicaraguan youth gang for a year, as well as manager of a market stall selling rice and beans in one of Managua's markets for six months

Zeiger, Sara

Ms. Sara Zeiger is a Senior Research Analyst at Hedayah, the International Center of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism based in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Ms. Zeiger supports the Director of Research and Analysis in implementing Hedayah's research programs, including the non-resident Fellowship Program, Annual CVE Research Conference, and the development of a counter-narrative collection. Ms. Zeiger was the Hedayah team lead to support the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) in drafting and developing their framework document, the Abu Dhabi Memorandum on Good Practices for Education and CVE, and is currently supporting the follow on Action Plan on Education and CVE (expected September 2015). She is also the co-editor of a research project on the different roles of women in countering violent extremism organized by Hedayah and the Global Center on Cooperative Security. Ms. Zeiger formerly served as consultant for the Strategy and Delivery Unit that was tasked with standing up Hedayah in 2012. Prior to moving to the UAE, Ms. Zeiger worked as a Research Assistant at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University, and as a Head Teaching Fellow for the Harvard Extension School where she taught courses on Middle Eastern politics. Ms. Zeiger holds an M.A. in International Relations and Religion from Boston University and a B.A. in Psychology and Religion from Ohio Northern University.