

Speakers

Stephen Evans, NATO Assistant Secretary General of Operations



Ambassador Stephen Evans took up the post of Assistant Secretary General for Operations in August 2011 on secondment from the United Kingdom Diplomatic Service. He supports the North Atlantic Council and the Secretary General of NATO in the political direction and management of NATO's operational activities.

Stephen Evans joined the United Kingdom's Diplomatic Service in 1974 on completing a three-year Short Service Commission in the British Army. He worked as a Desk Officer in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London before being posted as Head of Chancery at the British Embassy in Vietnam in 1978. He returned to London in 1980, took up a Head of Section job in the FCO and then went abroad again two years later as First Secretary at the British Embassy in Thailand. Another spell at the FCO from 1986 to 1989 was followed by successive overseas postings as Head of Political Section at the Embassy in Turkey and Counsellor Economic at the British High Commission in Pakistan.

Ambassador Evans is married and has three adult children.

Krystina Marty Lang, Ambassador of Switzerland in Pristina

Krystyna Marty Lang has graduated from Zurich University in Chinese Studies and International Law in 1993. After a short passage as an assistant to the Directors of Daewoo Securities in Zurich, Ms Marty Lang has worked as a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Sri Lanka and Bosnia. In 1996 she joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a diplomatic trainee with assignments at the Integration Office FDFA/FDEA and at the Swiss Embassy in Delhi. After her diplomatic training she started as member of the Swiss Development Cooperation and later on joined the UN-Coordination Team in Berne. In July 2002 she was transferred to the Embassy of Switzerland in Tashkent where she was given the position of Deputy Head of Mission overlooking Swiss relations with Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. In August 2007 she has taken up her assignment as the Head of the Economic and Commercial Section at the Embassy of Switzerland in Beijing. In April 2009 she was given the position of Deputy Head of Mission overlooking Swiss relations with China, Mongolia and North Korea. Mid of September 2011 she has started her assignment as the Ambassador of Switzerland to Kosovo.



Ambassador Marty Lang is married and has a son.

Fernando Gentilini, EEAS, Director Western Europe, the Western Balkans and Turkey



Fernando Gentilini is an Italian diplomat with twenty years of experience in European, multilateral affairs and crisis management and an expert on the Western Balkan region. He was born in Subiaco (Rome) in 1962 and joined the Italian Diplomatic Service in 1990. In 1996, he joined the Italian Permanent Representation to the E.U. in Brussels and was later seconded to the Policy Planning and Early Warning Unit at the E.U. Council Secretariat, under the authority of the High Representative for the E.U. Common Foreign and Security Policy. He was promoted to Counsellor of Legation in Rome in 2000 and became Head of the Western Balkan Unit at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2002. He joined the E.U. High Representative's Office in Kosovo in 2004. In 2006 he was appointed Deputy Diplomatic Advisor to the Italian Prime Minister in Rome. In 2008 he was nominated NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan and in 2011 he was appointed as the EU Special Representative for Kosovo. He is currently director for Western Europe, Western Balkans, and Turkey for the European External Action Service.

Fernando Gentilini is the author of *Infiniti Balcani: Viaggio sentimentale da Pristina a Bruxelles* (2007) and *Afghan Lessons: Culture, Diplomacy, and Counterinsurgency*.

He is Second Lieutenant (short service) of the Italian Army (Artillery and awarded the Italian Honour, "Cavaliere Ufficiale dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica" in 2006.

Olivier Haener, Swisspeace, Mediation and North Kosovo Expert

Olivier Haener works as a Senior Program Officer at the Mediation Program of Swiss peace Since 2008, he has been living and working in Mitrovica, Kosovo. Currently, he conducts a dialogue project in Northern Kosovo, addressing the social and economic roots of the conflict with local actors, on both sides of the divide. Holding a MA in Contemporary History and Slavic Languages from the University of Lausanne, his professional experience is mostly related to the political analysis of the Western Balkans, with a strong focus on Northern Kosovo. Previously, he conducted and published an in-depth empiric field research in the causes of conflict in Northern Kosovo as an independent political analyst (2010-2011). He also worked as a Policy Adviser for the International Civilian Office / EU Special Representative (ICO/EUSR) Mitrovica Office (2008-2009) and earlier as a Political Analyst for Eastern and South-East Europe at the Centre for Political Analysis of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (2000-2008). In 1999 he served as an Adviser on Transborder Cooperation with the Local Democracy Agency in Osijek, Croatia. He is member of the Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.



Selected publications :

Un Kosovo unitaire divisé : les politiques des acteurs locaux et internationaux au Nord du Kosovo à la lumière de la division de la région de Mitrovica, Politorbis, Revue de politique étrangère, Berne : Département fédéral des Affaires étrangères, mars 2011, 90 pages. www.isn.ethz.ch/Digital-Library/Publications/Detail/?ots591=0c54e3b3-1e9c-be1e-2c24-a6a8c7060233&lng=en&id=131511. (English Executive Summary upon request).

(Ed.) *Islam et politique dans les Balkans occidentaux: Politorbis, Revue de politique étrangère*, DFAE, n° 43, 2/2007, and « Avant-propos », *ibid.*: pp. 3-4. www.isn.ethz.ch/Digital-Library/Publications/Detail/?ots591=0c54e3b3-1e9c-be1e-2c24-a6a8c7060233&lng=en&id=109783.

(Ed.) *Suisse-Europe du Sud-Est: Stratégie de politique extérieure de la Suisse pour l'Europe du Sud-Est*, Politorbis, Revue de politique étrangère, DFAE, n° 30, 1/2002. www.isn.ethz.ch/Digital-Library/Publications/Detail/?ots591=0c54e3b3-1e9c-be1e-2c24-a6a8c7060233&lng=en&id=112978.

« Les Balkans, un volcan éteint ? » : *Swiss Peace Supporter*, n° 1, 2002, pp. 14-15, www.vtg.admin.ch/internet/vtg/en/tools/webarchiv/archiv_2010/swiss.parsys.0010.downloadList.00101.DownloadFile.tmp/peacesupporternr.102.pdf

Moderator

Rosa Balfour, European Policy Center (EPC)



Dr. Rosa Balfour is Director, Europe in the World, at the European Policy Centre (EPC), an independent think tank based in Brussels. She has researched and published widely on issues relating to European foreign policy and external action, relations with the Mediterranean region, Eastern Europe and the Balkans, EU enlargement, European Neighbourhood Policy, and on the role of human rights and democracy in international relations. Her book on *Human*

Rights and Democracy in EU Foreign Policy. The cases of Ukraine and Egypt was published by Routledge in 2012, the paperback edition in 2014. Her recent work has focused on the EU's new diplomatic service and its implications for European foreign policy (to be published by Ashgate in 2015). She holds an MA from Cambridge University, an MSc in European Studies and PhD in International Relations both from the London School of Economics and Political Science.