

# COALITION POLITICS: RAMIFICATIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY

8 JULY 2024 | 12:00—13:15 CEST | ZOOM PLATFORM

## SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES



**Maria Luisa Fantappiè** is Head of the Mediterranean, Middle East and Africa Programme at IAI. She served as Special Adviser at the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva (2020-2023) and at the International Crisis Group (2012-2020), engaging at the highest level of policy in Europe, the United States and across MENA (Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Qatar, Oman and United Arab Emirates). In 2018, she was seconded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the European advisory mission for security sector reform in Iraq (EUAM). Her research interests include the MENA region, EU foreign policy and great powers competition in this area, conflict prevention and mediation as well as cultural diplomacy.



**Marisa Lourenço** is an independent political analyst and risk consultant in Johannesburg, South Africa. She holds degrees from University of the Witwatersrand, and Rhodes University. Marisa advises organisations primarily operating in the southern Africa subregion, and has also contributed to a range of online publications, including Democracy in Africa, Oxford Human Rights Hub and Cabo Ligado. Her analysis of regional developments is regularly featured by local and international media outlets, including Al Jazeera, Voice of America, BBC Africa, Forbes Africa, News24, Radio 702, Newzroom Afrika, and others.



**Bongive Mphahlele** holds a PhD in International Relations from the University of Pretoria. Her research interests include South African foreign policy, diplomacy, multilateral forums (BRICS, G20, UNSC, Africa, SADC), women in peace and security, women empowerment, and climate-related security risks. She has previously presented mediation and diplomacy modules to International Relations students at University of Pretoria. Her PhD focused on the SADC-mandated mediation, utilizing the Afrocentric paradigm to gain insights into implementing the African agenda in the continent. Her research explores how South Africa navigates the current geopolitical landscape to achieve its objectives, particularly its engagement with G20, BRICS, UNSC, and EU.



**Chido Mutangadura** is a peace and conflict expert whose work focusses on human security developments in sub-Saharan Africa, security sector reform, conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, peacebuilding post-conflict reconstruction and development, governance, regionalism, and foreign policy. Chido currently is a Senior Fellow at the United Nations University- Centre for Policy Research where she recently co-led research under an XCEPT Research Fund award titled Toward a Peacekeeper Diversity Index: Evaluating the Relative Effectiveness of Peace Support Personnel Gender, Origin, and Status on Cross Border Conflict De-Escalation. Chido, was previously a member of Interdisciplinary Fellow Group on Sustainable regional peacebuilding at the Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA), University of Ghana, Accra. She holds a Doctorate in Conflict Management from Nelson Mandela University in South Africa where she specialized in the role of intergovernmental organizations in promoting citizen participation in political violence prevention processes in Africa.



**Darlington Tshuma** is a policy analyst, researcher, and practitioner with extensive experience working in Africa and Europe. He is currently on a WFP secondment as an Advisor to the Under Secretary General (USG) and Special Advisor on Africa at the UN Secretariat in New York and simultaneously a Research Fellow – Africa at Istituto Affari Internazionale in Rome, Italy. In 2021, he was a Policy Fellow at the Florence School of Transnational Governance of the European University Institute. He has worked as a consultant for multiple think tanks in Africa and Europe. He holds a Ph.D. in Peace and Conflict Studies.