Speakers

Dr Nihan Akyelken, Associate Professor in Sustainable Urban Development, University of Oxford

Dr Akyelken is an Associate Professor in Sustainable Urban Development at the University of Oxford. Nihan’s research focuses on mobility of people and goods, inequalities and access, infrastructure, labour and work. Her research has particularly addressed the nexus of work, women and mobility; inequality and labour implications of transport infrastructure and innovations. She obtained her doctorate in Economic Geography from the University of Oxford, and her undergraduate and master degrees from the London School of Economics and Political Science in the areas of Economics and Philosophy and European Political Economy. She is the winner of the 2015 OECD-ITF Young Researcher of the Year Award.

Ms Émilie Potvin, UNOPS Director of Partnerships and Liaison Group

Émilie Potvin joined UNOPS in 2021, bringing 20 years of experience in public policy and government affairs. Before joining UNOPS, Ms. Potvin was Director in the Public Policy and Government Relations Team at Uber. Prior to that, Ms. Potvin also served as Vice President in Public Affairs and Stakeholder Relations at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce where she acted as Canada’s Sherpa to the B20 group. She also served as Chief of Staff to various ministers in the Canadian government.

Ms Doreen Malambo, Assistant Superintendent, UNPOL Gender Advisor for UNMISS

Ms Malambo was awarded the 2020 United Nations Woman Police Officer of the Year award for her work in partnership with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), where she has helped establish the Stand Up for Rights of Women and Girls initiative that has helped to reduce and prevent sexual and gender-based crime in South Sudan. Ms Malambo also created a network of groups led by male local police officers to engage other men in the community to disseminate information and promote the protection and advancement of the rights of women and girls. Her previous UN experience includes a deployment with the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) from 2008 to 2009, where she assisted the Liberia National Police to prevent and investigate sexual and gender-based violence and domestic violence. Her national experience spans 24 years with the Zambia Police Service.

Ms Nichola Mallon, MLA Minister for Infrastructure for the Northern Ireland Executive

Nichola Mallon is an Irish politician from Northern Ireland and a member of the SDLP. She has been a Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly for Belfast North since 2016, and was Lord Mayor of Belfast in 2014–2015, the first female Irish nationalist politician to hold the position. She was elected a Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly for Belfast North in 2016 and re-elected in 2017. She was elected as Deputy Leader of the SDLP in 2017. She was appointed Minister for Infrastructure on 11 January 2020.

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Ms Femi Oke, Co-Founder Moderate the Panel

Femi Oke is an award-winning international journalist, broadcaster, professional moderator and co-founder of the diverse moderators bureau “Moderate The Panel.” Femi’s reporting has been recognised by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Communications Agency and InterAction. Since the 1980s, she has worked for major networks including BBC television and radio, Sky TV, all the U.K. terrestrial television networks, CNN, and U.S. public radio. As a professional moderator Femi has presided over world class events including European Development Days and the historic first Barbershop Conference at the UN Headquarters.