

IRIS

INSTITUT DE RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES ET STRATÉGIQUES

RESEARCH TEAM

Thematic and alphabetical classification

November 2026

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International Balances of Power and Globalisation

Climate, Environment, Security

Energy and Raw Materials

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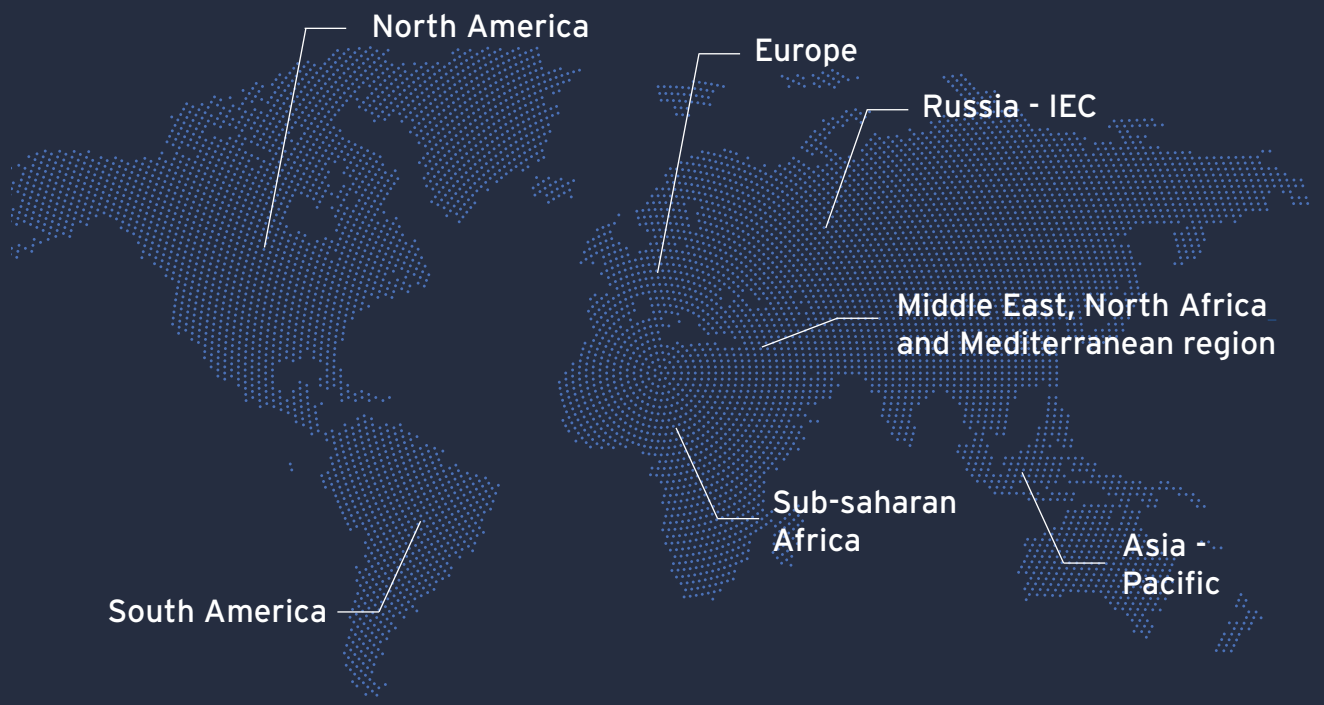

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GLOSSARY

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Jean-Pierre Maulny is a Scientific Adviser at IRIS, where he heads the Defence, Strategy and Armaments Programme.

He is responsible for research on defence issues, European defence and NATO, the arms industry and arms sales. He heads ARES Group (*The Armament Industry European Research Group*), a network of European researchers specialising in defence industry issues.

Jean-Pierre Maulny is a member of the editorial board of *La Revue internationale et stratégique*. He is also responsible for the Master's-level Defence and Security programme at IRIS Sup', IRIS's school of applied geopolitics, where he also teaches. He served as Deputy Director of IRIS from its creation until 2026.

He chaired the Defence Industrial and Technological Base (BITDE) Commission at the inaugural Defence Economic Intelligence Forum, organised by the French Directorate General of Armaments (DGA), in partnership with the Defence Academy of the École Militaire (ACADEM) at the Ministry of the Armed Forces.

Jean-Pierre Maulny holds a DEA in Defence Studies and a DEA in Public Law and attended the 31st session of CHEAr. From 1997 to 2002, he served as an adviser to the Chair of the French National Assembly's Defence and Armed Forces Committee.

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Federico Santopinto is Senior Research Fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS) in Paris, responsible for the Europe, EU, NATO Programme on EU/NATO issues.

He specialises in European integration in the areas of defence and foreign policy, as well as transatlantic relations and NATO. Federico Santopinto has also worked on military and security cooperation between the European Union (EU) and Africa.

Graduated in Political Science at the University of Florence (international option), Federico Santopinto obtained a master's degree in International Politics at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB).

He then worked for more than ten years as a long-term electoral observer for the EU, mainly in post-conflict countries in Africa. At the same time, he joined GRIP (Groupe de recherche et d'information sur la paix et la sécurité), a research institute specialized on arms control, where he worked on both EU policies and UN peacekeeping. In this context, he has been project manager of the Boutros-Ghali Peacekeeping Observatory (OBG). Federico Santopinto also occasionally works for ULB as an associate expert.

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Louise Souverbie is a Senior Research Fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS) in Paris, head of the Europe, EU and NATO Programme on political developments in European countries.

She is also involved in the coordination of the ARES Group.

Her work focuses on defence industrial policies, armaments cooperation and the role of the European Union in developing a European defence industrial and technological base.

She is also interested in the strategic cultures and defence policies of Poland, the three Baltic States and the Nordic countries.
She holds a master's degree in European Affairs from the Institut d'Études politiques de Paris (Sciences Po).

Before joining IRIS, Louise worked as a project officer for the defence attaché at the French Embassy in Lithuania.

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JULIA TOMASSO

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Julia Tomasso is a Research Fellow at IRIS, working within the Defence, Strategy and Armament and Middle East / North Africa programmes. She specialises in the defence industries of the Middle East and the industrial policies underpinning them. A Turkish and Persian speaker, her research focuses in particular on the Turkish, Iranian and Israeli defence industrial and technological bases (DITBs), as well as those of the Gulf monarchies.

Her work on Iran also examines military strategy, drone and missile programmes, the nuclear programme and networks used to circumvent economic sanctions. More broadly, she studies how these countries' industrial policies interact with national strategic cultures, how they reshape regional balances of power and what they mean for the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB).

She holds a dual bachelor's degree in Political Science and Islamic Studies from McGill University in Montreal and a master's degree in Middle Eastern Studies from SOAS University of London. She previously worked at the French Ministry of the Armed Forces, focusing on Iranian military doctrine. She subsequently served as a defence editor specialising in Iran at the Cambridge Middle East and North Africa Forum.

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Patrick Charaix is an Associate Research Fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS).

He is president of the Association des Pilotes de Chasse, member of the board of directors of the Livre de l'aveugle, du Tomato et de Logipostel. President of Chasquarre conseil, he is an advisor to the president of the Institut des Hautes Etudes Des Métropoles (IHEDM) and teaches at the IEP in Bordeaux and at the Centre des hautes études militaires in Kinshasa (DRC). He takes part in many media as a military expert.

As a former fighter pilot, he commanded the Djibouti air base and held staff positions in the air defence command and the air force. At the Army Staff, he worked within the general strategy office and in the joint operations centre. As a Lieutenant General, he finally held the position of Commander of the Strategic Air Forces, in charge of the air component of the nuclear deterrent. He left the service in September 2014 after working there for 36 years.

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Fabrice Debbasch is an associate research fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS).

He is a former student at St-Cloud Ecole Normale Supérieure. He is also `agrégé' professor of and doctor in physics and he is now an associate Professor at Sorbonne Université.

He works in quantum information at the Laboratoire d'Etude du Rayonnement et de la Matière en Astrophysique (LERMA, UMR 8112), and is also an expert in statistical physics and hydrodynamics.

Over the years, he has accepted several administrative responsibilities in the physics faculty at the Université Pierre-et-Marie Curie (UPMC). He has also worked for DGA/DS/MRIS, where he was in charge of the club of academic partners of DGA and has also been involved in international relations.

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Pascal Dupont is a research associate at IRIS and a consultant. His main areas of expertise are defence and security issues, law and international relations.

Pascal Dupont was appointed Brigadier general on 31 August 2022 and has thirty-eight years' military service. After serving as administrative and financial director of air bases, he completed his studies at the Ecole de Guerre, where he held management and expert positions in public procurement, public finance and international law within the Ministry of the Armed Forces.

Placed on secondment for two years with Défense Conseil International, he took part in a number of overseas operations and was posted to NATO on several occasions (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Turkey and the French Permanent Representation in Brussels).

He was a military expert for the French Senate's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and then deputy finance advisor to the Prime Minister's military Cabinet Chief.

A Doctor of Law from the University of Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas, he holds a Master 2 in Employment Law (Paris 2), a Master 2 in International Transport (Paris 1) and a Master 2 in the History of Strategic Doctrines from the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (Paris 4). He is also a former auditor at the Institut des Hautes Etudes pour la Sécurité et la Justice (INHESJ). General Secretary of the French Society of Air and Space Law (SFDAS), he is a member of the French Air and Space Academy and the National Defence Studies Committee.

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Alain Filipowicz is an Associate Research Fellow at IRIS and an innovation support consultant.

He is a graduate engineer of the École Polytechnique and the Institut Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace and devotes himself to writing and various aspects of innovation.

After a career as an armaments engineer, where he held various positions at the DGA (French Defense Procurement Agency), the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, in engineering school management, and at the CNRS (French National Center for Scientific Research), he became a consultant and continued his career in the automotive industry. His preferred technologies are embedded and connected systems and artificial intelligence.

He is president of GIPI, the industrial innovation club, a senior member of the SEE (French Society for Electronics, Computer sciences and Telecommunications), and a volunteer at Instant Science. He is also a reserve officer serving as a technology advisor to the staff of the army.

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Frédéric Mauro is an associate research fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS), a Lawyer at the bar of Brussels. He is specialized in defence matters and legal questions related to the Common Security and Defence Policy such as the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO).

He has written a report for the European Parliament in 2016 on the 'Future of European Defence Research' and another one in 2017 on "PESCO: state of play and national perspectives". He also wrote in 2017 a preliminary study for the European Commission on the budgetary aspects of the European Defence Industry Development Programme (EDIDP). He has just achieved at the end of 2018 a complex study on the European defense planning process compared to the NATO defence planning process in a study for the European Parliament in view of a white book on defence.

He is a former clerk of the House of the French Senate and spent the last years of his career at the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Armed Forces Committee where he took part at numerous works on procurement and defence research. He is an alumni of the University of Nice-Sophia-Antipolis (Law), Sciences Po Paris, and University of Paris I Panthéon- Sorbonne.

He has just written his first book *Defendre l'Europe – Plaidoyer pour une armée européenne* with co-author Olivier Jehin (ed. Nuvis Paris 2019 -coll 'la pensée stratégique').

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Energy security | Energy and defence | Resilience and critical infrastructure | Turkey, European Union | Mediterranean, Middle East, Central Asia

Noémie Rebière is an Associate Research Fellow at IRIS, specialised in energy issues in the field of defence and security. In the course of her research, Noémie Rebière has specialised in energy security issues in Turkey and in the Mediterranean, Middle East and Central Asia regions.

Noémie Rebière lectures at IRIS Sup', the IRIS school, on the challenges of energy transition for the armed forces.

Over the last five years, she has worked on energy and environmental issues for the French Ministry of Defence in various departments: the Directorate General of International Relations and Strategy (DGRIS), the Office of the Minister of Defence and the Armed Forces General Staff (EMA). She also spent a year at the École de guerre as a civilian auditor.

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Philippe Steininger is an associate research fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS). His main areas of expertise are defence policy and aerospace issues.

He joined the French air force in 1980. He graduated in 1983 as an engineer in aeronautics and received his wings of fighter pilot in 1984.

He successively served at the 13th Fighter Wing, as an exchange pilot in the German air force with the 74th Fighter Wing in Neuburg, at the 11th Fighter Wing and as commanding officer of a Mirage 2000 squadron in Cambrai. As a pilot and detachment commander, he participated in many operations in Africa, the Middle East and the Balkans.

In 1999, he was appointed to the Joint Staff in Paris as the United-States and Canada Desk Officer before joining in 2002 the Armed Forces General Inspectorate.

General Steininger was commanding officer of Cazaux Air Base from 2004 to 2007, and later, head of the NATO/EU Branch of the Delegation for Strategic Affairs, French Ministry of Defence, between 2007 and 2009. From 2009 to 2013, he served in Paris in the cabinet of the Secretary general for defence and national security, being charged with preparing the high-level defence committees.

Back in the air force, General Steininger served as deputy commanding officer, then commanding officer, of the Strategic Air Command.

In 2015, General Steininger was appointed Deputy secretary general for defence and national security and occupied that position till 2018.

General Philippe Steininger is a graduate of the French Joint staff college and attended the 100th Senior course of the Nato Defence College in Rome. He wrote numerous articles on airpower and nuclear deterrence and translated into French John Warden's *The Air Campaign* published in France in 1998. Since 2003, he has been giving lectures on airpower at the Joint Staff College in Paris.

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Jean-Marc Vigilant is an Associate Research Fellow at IRIS, specializing in defense issues.

Founder and Chairman of BeVigilant, he advises CEOs of innovative companies with high growth potential in emerging, disruptive and strategic sectors, to develop their activities, including internationally. President of the Euro Défense-France association, he also puts his operational and international experience at the service of European institutions.

A general officer in the French Air and Space Force, Jean-Marc Vigilant is a graduate of the French Air and Space Force Academy, holds diplomas from the French and Spanish War Colleges, and is an auditor at the NATO Defense College in Rome.

Previously Director of the War College in Paris, he adapted the training of future military leaders to the changing strategic environment and new domains of warfare, while strengthening the college's international and European dimension.
In the course of his military career, he has held a wide range of responsibilities, mainly on a joint basis and in an international context, most often at the strategic level in the politico-military field, advising senior French and allied civilian and military authorities. In particular, he served as an exchange officer in the Spanish Ministry of Defense and as Executive Assistant to the Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation (SACT), NATO's highest military authority in the United States.

At operational level, a fighter pilot by trade, with over 3,000 flying hours and 90 combat missions to his credit, he commanded the 3/33 « Lorraine » fighter squadron in Reims, the 102 « Capitaine Guynemer » air base and the Dijon joint defense base. He also took part in numerous missions and operations in Europe, America, Africa, and Asia, and more recently in the Middle East, where he was the French Senior National Representative responsible for the French armed forces involved in the international coalition in Iraq and Syria, and Director of Civil-Military operations of the Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve.

French Air and Space Force Major General Jean-Marc Vigilant is an Officer of the Legion of Honor and Commander of the National Order of Merit.

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PASCAL BONIFACE

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Dr. Pascal Boniface is the founding Director of the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs – IRIS, based in Paris.

He is the Director of the quarterly journal "La Revue internationale et stratégique" (International and strategic review) since 1991, and the Editor of "L'Année stratégique" (Strategic Yearbook) since 1985.

Dr. Pascal Boniface has published more than eighty books dealing with International Relations, Nuclear Deterrence and Disarmament, European Security, French International Policy, Sport in the International Relations (he developed the concept of *Geopolitics of Sport*) and also the conflict in the Middle-East and its impact in France. Many of them have become classics, reissued on a regular basis and translated in several languages.

Dr. Pascal Boniface publishes numerous articles in international and strategic reviews, is regularly present in the media, national and international, written and audiovisual, and gives many conferences in France and abroad. He's one of the most followed geopolitical analysts on social networks (Facebook, Twitter and TikTok). He also analyses international issues on his own YouTube channel and weekly podcasts "Comprendre le monde " (Understand the world), where he has more than 400 000 followers, as well as on his blog (IRIS, Mediapart and personal).

Pascal Boniface is a member of the National Ethical Commission at the *Fédération française du football* (French Football Federation).

He has been made a Chevalier of the French Award for distinguished services in public and private capacity, Officier of the Legion of honour and Chevalier of the Order fo the Arts and the Letters.

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Victor Pelpel is Deputy Director of IRIS, responsible for innovation and strategy. In particular, he oversees the direction, coordination and development of new formats for the Institute's various outputs.

Since 2019, he has worked on major contemporary geopolitical issues, relations between major powers and key conflicts. He contributes to and oversees the scientific coordination of several atlases and publications focusing on international relations and major current conflicts. In particular, he co-authored *Geopolitics of Artificial Intelligence* (Eyrolles, 2024) with Pascal Boniface. A lecturer at IRIS Sup', IRIS's school of applied geopolitics, he works to make geopolitical issues accessible through a wide range of analytical and educational resources.

Victor Pelpel holds a Master's degree in International Affairs and Development, specialising in Peace Studies, from Paris Dauphine University.

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Camille Boulenguer is an economist, and Research Fellow at IRIS. She heads the Observatory of Digital Geopolitics and Emerging Technologies.

Her work is situated at the confluence between industrial economy and taxation, and questions the interweaving between legal economy and illegal economy (tax evasion, money laundering, corruption). Her research interests focus on the challenges and evolution of illicit economic practices with the arrival of new technologies (artificial intelligence, cryptocurrencies, robotics).

She is also in co-charge of the Geoeconomic Risks and Strategic Intelligence course at IRIS Sup'.

Camille Boulenguer is undertaking a PhD in Economics under the supervision of Sophie Harnay at the EconomiX research centre of Université Paris Nanterre. She also holds two master's degrees: one in Economics (Paris Dauphine University) and the other in Economic Intelligence (Gustave Eiffel University).

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He has authored several books and numerous articles in the fields of industrial economics, telecommunicarions, internet ans artificial intelligence economics. He has also published works in the fields of competition economics, international economics with a particular focus on protectionism ans trade frictions.

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Rémi Bourgeot is an economist and engineer. He is an associate fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS) and runs the geoeconomic platform epistelem.org.

His work addresses the challenges of technological development, trade strategy, and monetary balance, adopting both an international and historical perspective. He has built a career as an economist in the financial sector and as an expert on Europe and emerging markets for leading think tanks.

His analysis covers technologies and industries including AI, semiconductors, energy, and aerospace, as well as the competitive strategies of major powers in these fields. He regularly appears in French and international media and contributes op-eds to business newspapers.

Rémi is an engineer from aerospace institute ISAE-Supaéro, holds a master's degree from the Toulouse School of Economics, and a PhD from EHESS.

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Contemporary issues faced by Europe (migratory flows, digital sovereignty...)

International employment laws

Gaetan Gorce is an Associate Research Fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS) and an Honorary Member of the Parliament.

Former adviser to President François Mitterrand, he was a Member of Parliament and then Senator for the Nièvre from 1997 to 2017. He was a member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of both assemblies, and co-author of several reports on Burma, Europe/Russia relations, the migrant crisis and the global Internet governance. He was also a member of the Cnil. As an employment specialist, he has closely followed the challenges posed by social dumping on an international scale.

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Ophélie Coelho is an Associate Research Fellow at IRIS where she contributes to the work of the Geopolitical Observatory of Digital and Emerging Technologies.

She is the author of *Géopolitique du numérique : l'impérialisme à pas de géants* (Les Éditions de l'Atelier, 2023), in which she examines the rise of global technology companies and their role in the reconfiguration of power.

Her academic background – a Master's 2 in International Relations, complemented by studies in the history of science and the sociology of technology – combined with solid professional experience in the IT industry, has nurtured a resolutely interdisciplinary approach.

She is currently working on a thesis entitled "Connection Points, Fault Lines: digitalization as a vector of power change and systemic risks in Southern Africa", which extends the reflections developed in her book. In particular, she uses the concepts of nodal power, structural power and chains of dependence to examine the effects of digital transformations on regional balances of power, forms of state sovereignty, and the asymmetries induced by private control of infrastructures that have become essential.

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International cooperation bodies and organisations

Pierre Jaillet is an economist and an associate research fellow at IRIS.

He held various high level positions in the Banque de France, as special advisor to the governor, Chief representative for the Americas and Director General for Economics&International Affairs, responsible for economic research and the relations with european and international groups in Brussels and Francfort, the G7&G20 and the Bretton Woods institutions. He also held positions in the french administration(INSEE), the European Commission and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Pierre Jaillet holds a post-graduate degree in Economics, a Master's degree in Political Science and a Bachelor's degree in Sociology. He is member of the French Association of Economic Sciences (AFSE), of the French Political Economy Society (SEP) and of the editorial board of the Revue d'Economie Financière. He has taught monetary policy and international economics at ENA (Ecole Nationale d'Administration), ENSAE (Ecole nationale de la statistique et de l'administration économique) and ESCP (Business Paris School).

He has authored or edited numerous publications on economics and international issues. He is a knight of the Legion of honour.

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Éric Percheron is an associate research fellow at IRIS, specialized on compliance maters in the financial field, Financial Security (i.e. anti-money laundering, cross border flows and country risk analysis).

Éric Percheron has spent more than 30 years working for French banks, both on operational and compliance sides. Since more than a decade, he has developed an expertize on financial security and more broadly on compliance subjects in France, and for subsidiaries of French banks in Eastern Europe and Russia.

Moreover, he has chaired and has been part of specialized work groups (French Banking Federation and French "Office de Coordination Bancaire et Financière") and collaborates with Paris Dauphine University (Executive Master Compliance).

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He has represented France on the Trade Policy Committees of the European Union and the OECD. In particular, he was involved in issues such as the draft Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) negotiated within the OECD, debt cancellation for poor countries for the 2000 Jubilee, and the draft Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).
He has also worked on innovation, design and regional economic development.

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A political scientist and sociologist, his research lies at the intersection of the political sociology of multinational corporations, lobbying, interest groups and political institutions, economic sociology, and digital public policy. His work focuses in particular on the relationships between digital multinationals and states, the politicisation of the GAFAM companies, and the instrumentalisation of digital technologies—particularly artificial intelligence—in domestic politics and international relations.

He holds a doctorate in political science from the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, where he defended a thesis at the European Centre for Sociology and Political Science (CESSP) entitled *Google, an Influence Company? Indigenisation, Normalisation and Politicisation of a Digital Multinational in France*.

As an expert on the political and geopolitical issues surrounding digital technologies, he is regularly consulted by public institutions (National Assembly, Senate, Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Armed Forces, etc.) and by both national and international media. A former journalist, he notably served as editor-in-chief of *Les Matins de France Culture*.

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He is a sociologist and Research fellow at the French National Institute of higher Studies on Security and Justice (INHESJ). He is a member of the Scientific Committee of the French Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (OFDT) and the editorial Board of Drug International Challenges.

His latest works are focusing on "The funding of terrorist group through drug trafficking" (CSFRS, 2020), "The socio-economics analysis of collectors of cannabis money laundering" (UE-DCPJ 2020), "The identification and management of Foreign Terrorist Fighters in airports" (OSCE, 2018) , "Opioids trafficking through the Northern route" (UNODC, 2018), "The effects on cannabis regulation changes in Colorado, Uruguay and Washington State" (CSFRS, 2017), "Drug money in France»: turn overs and profits" (MILDECA, 2016), "Drug trafficking in Venezuela" (MILDT, 2014), "Illicit drug trafficking using small airfields" (MILDT, 2012), "Tobacco smuggling" (MILDT, 2013), "Cannabis cultivation in Europe" (MILDT, 2010), "Cannabis market in Europe" (MILDT, 2010) and "Money Laundering of cannabis profit in France" (MILDT, 2009). He has also worked on "The management of H1N1 epidemy" (In VS, 2010).

He is participating on different working groups such as "Economy of Violence" (IPED-CNAM, 2020), "Cocaine trafficking through French Guyana" (MILDECA, 2019) or "Identity checks and Police/ population relations" (Défenseur des Droits, 2015).

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Julia Tasse joined IRIS in 2019 after working for several years on maritime issues across a range of organisations, including the World Ocean Council, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Agence française de développement.

She teaches at IRIS Sup', IRIS's school of applied geopolitics, and Sciences Po, and regularly lectures at Sorbonne University. She is a member of the editorial board of *La Revue internationale et stratégique*, for which she has directed or co-directed three issues: *Géopolitique du basculement* (2023), *L'océan transparent ? Géopolitique des données maritimes* (2025), and *Guerre des systèmes : un abécédaire de la résilience* (2026). She is co-author of *Géopolitique de la mer* (Eyrolles, 2022).

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Working at the intersection of geopolitical and environmental issues, she specialises in climate security. More specifically, her research focuses on the impact of climate change on geopolitics (power dynamics and interstate tensions), the nation state (defence-related challenges), and human security (population vulnerabilities), as well as on the environmental consequences of armed conflicts. One of her main research areas examines how climate change is instrumentalised – and even weaponised – by states as a tool of power and influence (HADR operations, climate disinformation, etc.).

Alongside her research activities, Mathilde Jourde teaches on the Advanced Diploma in International Relations (equivalent to Master's level) at IRIS Sup', the school of applied geopolitics attached to IRIS.

Before joining IRIS, she worked for several years in the private sector. As a decarbonisation consultant, she primarily developed low-carbon strategies for companies.

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Alain Carton previously served as a senior civil servant within the French Ministries of Defence, the Interior, and Overseas France. Initially a specialist in Franco-German relations, European defence policy, and United States security policy, he later joined the préfectoral corps and the corps of State administrators at the Ministry of the Interior, where he held several positions with a focus on budgetary and financial matters or local economic development.

At the Ministry of Overseas France, he was responsible for integrating France's overseas territories into their regional environments and for the strategic dimensions of this cooperation. He worked on reforms to improve international mobility for residents of the overseas territories and on environmental issues related to maritime areas.

He created a consultancy firm supporting economic development in the overseas territories and joined the group STRATEMH as a consultant, based in French Guiana and the Indian Ocean. His current work includes issues related to Asia-Indian Ocean maritime routes centred on the port hub of La Réunion, drinking-water supply for the Amerindian areas of French Guiana, and the industrial valorisation of invasive algae in the Caribbean and Antillean basin.

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A graduate of Sciences Po Strasbourg and the Institut des Hautes Études Européennes (IHEE) in the history of international relations, he is currently working on the geopolitics of Latin America and the Caribbean. A researcher at the Laboratoire caribéen de sciences sociales (LC2S) and a defence and security teacher (REDS), he is interested in the links between climate change, humanitarian action and armed forces.

An auditor of the Institut des hautes études de défense nationale (IHEDN) and reserve officer with the Forces armées aux Antilles (FAA), he is in charge of geostrategic monitoring of the Caribbean zone for the General Staff (defence and security issues, foreign influences, crisis zones, etc.).

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Sofia Kabbej is an Associate Researcher at the Climate, Energy, and Security Program of IRIS, where she analyzes the geopolitical and security implications of climate change. She contributes to the work of the Defence and Climate Observatory, initiated by the French Ministry of the Armed Forces, and her current research focuses on the impact of climate change on defense actors as well as the geopolitics of climate modification technologies.

She holds a PhD from the University of Queensland (Australia). Her thesis, co-supervised by Matt McDonald and Roland Bleiker, focused on France's engagement with climate change as a security issue. It examined the main characteristics of this engagement, its evolution over time, and the political factors influencing it.

Sofia also currently coordinates the Climate Security & Peace Project (CS2P) at the NGO CliMates, after serving as Advocacy Co-Director from 2018 to 2019.

Previously, she worked as a researcher at IRIS's Climate, Energy, and Security Program (2020-2022), specializing in the security dimensions of climate change. She has also contributed to projects on climate governance, international climate negotiations, green economy, and sustainable development within organizations such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Danone, and the NGO CliMates.

Sofia Kabbej holds a master's degree in international security policies from the European School of Political & Social Sciences (ESPOL – Catholic University of Lille), a master's in international relations from ESPOL, and a bachelor's degree in political science and communication from the University of Montreal.

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Emmanuel Hache has a doctorate in economics from the University of Paris I and is qualified to direct research at the University of Paris Nanterre. He also has a degree in geopolitics.

He teaches foresight, the economics of natural resources and the geopolitics of planetary limits, as well as the emerging economies of Asia.

Emmanuel Hache is also an associate professor in a number of institutions and the organiser of the Fresque du Climat. He has written over sixty articles in refereed journals and collective works. He is the author of *Géopolitique des énergies* (ed. Eyrolles, Sept. 2022) and *Métaux, le nouvel or noir* (ed. du Rocher, Sept. 2023). The latter book won the Marcel Boiteux Prize for 2023 from the Association of Energy Economists.

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Sami Ramdani's work focuses on the geopolitical dynamics of European gas supply.

In 2019, he was notably a visiting researcher for six months at the NATO Center of Excellence for Energy Security in Vilnius.

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Francis Perrin teaches at IRIS Sup', the Sorbonne School of Management (EMS, Paris), the National Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology (INSTN, Saclay) and the Université Inter-Ages du Dauphiné (UIAD, Grenoble). He is a contributor to the specialised weekly *Petrostratégies*. He writes chapters on oil and oil products in the annual *Cyclope report* on raw materials (Éditions Economica).

He often takes part in professional conferences and seminars on energy issues, as well as in various French and international media.

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He has been a weekly guest expert on *LCI* since 2023 and also writes a twice-monthly column on agricultural and food geopolitics for *BFM Business* since 2024. He teaches at the Catholic University and Junia-Ingénieurs (Lille), at IRIS Sup' (Paris), and at UM6P (Rabat). He is a member of the editorial board of the journal *Futuribles*, of the mission committee of the Avril group, of the supervisory board of the Grand Port Maritime de La Rochelle, and of the Cercle Sully. He also contributes as a columnist to the daily newspaper *L'Opinion*, the journal *Sésame* and the annual publication *CyclOpe*.

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An Officer in the Citizens' Reserve of the French Navy and a Knight of the French Order of Agricultural Merit, he is frequently consulted and heard by French and European public authorities.

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He works as an energy transition and environment M&A advisor in an independent investment bank since 2022. He particularly advises innovative companies in their funding from the lab to industrial deployment.

Over the last 8 years, he was involved in the Energy and Natural Resources CIB advisory team of Natixis, ending as Industry Banker. With a special focus on cleantech companies, Julien Laurent has then been instrumental on several IPO transactions.

Prior to that, he has been sell-side equity analyst on oil & gas engineering companies for 10 years at Natixis Securities.

Julien is graduated from Montpellier Business School, with a MSc from IPF School (Energy Economics) and a MSc from ESCP Business School (Financial engineering). He also is a CIIA Charter Holder (French SFAF). He is fluent in English.

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A journalist, filmmaker and author, he has published two essays translated into a dozen languages: *La Guerre des métaux rares. La face cachée de la transition énergétique et numérique* (2018) and *L'Enfer numérique. Voyage au bout d'un Like* (2021).

Guillaume Pitron wants to position himself at the forefront of technical revolutions by questioning the economic, geopolitical and environmental issues they entail.

Agricultural, mining and energy resources are a privileged entry point to question these evolutions: conditions of extraction of rare earths and graphite in China, the economic impact of oil activity in Alaska or the new geopolitical dependencies generated by robotized agriculture. They work to question the narratives and utopias that accompany current technological development: ecological virtue, dematerialization of our lifestyles, decoupling of economic growth from resource consumption, social and human progress...

Guillaume Pitron is regularly invited to speak at international institutions, universities and colleges, governments and associations.

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Noémie Rebière lectures at IRIS Sup', the IRIS school, on the challenges of energy transition for the armed forces.

Over the last five years, she has worked on energy and environmental issues for the French Ministry of Defence in various departments: the Directorate General of International Relations and Strategy (DGRIS), the Office of the Minister of Defence and the Armed Forces General Staff (EMA). She also spent a year at the École de guerre as a civilian auditor.

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Alexander Stonor is an Associate Research Fellow at IRIS, specialising in raw materials in Africa and the Middle East.

He is currently working within the business development department of Forage FTE, after having headed the African activities of Embellie Advisory. In this capacity, he has supported companies, governments and investors in the mining sector on issues relating to political risk, ESG and sustainability.

A former reporter specialising in the mining industry, he has carried out extensive field investigations in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia and South Africa. He has written numerous reports and studies devoted to the assessment of geopolitical risks, investment in mega-infrastructure projects in Africa, and due diligence for Fortune Global 500 companies as well as for governments.

Alexander Stonor's work focuses primarily on mining dynamics in Africa and on the links between natural resources, political stability and sustainability. He has taken a particular interest in the Lobito Corridor, on which he has on-the-ground expertise and to which he has dedicated a series of articles published by IRIS.

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Before joining IRIS, Fatou Élise Ba worked for several years in the field in West Africa with international organisations and NGOs. She designed, led and coordinated advocacy strategies aimed at promoting and protecting human rights, in close cooperation with public decision-makers and local communities.

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He has co-edited, with Pierrick Le Jeune, the collection *Administration et Fonction publique* (Bruylant, Brussels) and directed or co-edited works in the collection SIREY (Dalloz, Paris).

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Director of the *Administration et fonction publique* collection at Éditions Juridiques Bruylant (Brussels), he has published several individual and collective works as well as articles related to his research topics.

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Before being adviser to Najat Vallaud-Belkacem's cabinet in the French Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research between 2015 and 2017, she had been Project Manager for France Stratégie (former Plan Commission) between 2010 and 2015, where she co-wrote and supervised several reports for the government or the French President, including "Quelle France dans 10 ans ?" in 2014, "Lutter contre les stéréotypes filles-garçons : un enjeu d'égalité et de mixité dès l'enfance" in 2014, "Reconnaître, valoriser, encourager l'engagement des jeunes" in 2015, or "Quelle action publique pour demain ?" in 2015. She has the same role today in the Conférence des Présidents d'Université.

She co-wrote with François Taddei the report "Un plan pour co-construire une société apprenante" (Plan to co-build a learning society) for the government in 2018, and designed two MOOCs in collaboration with the Centre for Research and Interdisciplinarity in Paris: "Towards a Learning Planet" and "Learning Planet".

She is also Research Director for the European thin tank Sport and Citizenship, and she has been teaching in business schools and colleges since 1999.

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He was also a member of the Cnil. As an employment specialist, he has closely followed the challenges posed by social dumping on an international scale.

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He began as a history professor and then became a journalist for the foreign politics service of the *RFI* (Radio France Internationale), then *RMC* (Radio Monte Carlo), and finally for the French television channel *France 2*.

As an international reporter and department head, and in charge of defence affairs in Paris, Gérard Grizbec was a correspondent for *France 2* in Italy and the Vatican, and then in Africa.

He also was a professor at the French Press Institute (IFP).

He also produced many documentaries on the Arabic world, which allowed him to write two collaborative books on the Middle-East.

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Her work focuses on the analysis of international crime and its geopolitics, criminal actors and crime facilitators (corruption, money laundering, criminal service providers), human trafficking and migrant smuggling, counterfeit trafficking, and international strategies to combat organised crime.

She served as a legal adviser to Amnesty International for over 15 years and was a member of the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) from 2016 to 2023.

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She taught international economic law, criminal law, the law of international institutions, and criminology at the University of Toulouse I and the Free Faculty of Law in Toulouse from 1998 to 2023. She is also the author of publications and investigative reports on international human rights protection mechanisms, international crime, and efforts to combat human trafficking.

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Russian-speaking and a seasoned traveler, he has traveled the former USSR for more than a decade to conduct his work. His research focuses mainly on the new geopolitical issues of Russia and sport. He is also interested in the question of sovereignty within the post-Soviet space. He regularly speaks at conferences and seminars on these issues, as well as in various media.

He has taught history and geopolitics at the Universities of Paris-Nanterre, Versailles Saint-Quentin en Yvelines, and Rennes 2.

His second book "*Geopolitics of Russia*" was published by La Découverte in August 2022.

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She is also associate director of research at IRIS, specialising in the geopolitics of sport.

Trained as a lawyer, she worked in the Cabinet Office of the Ministry of Sports before joining IRIS in 2013 as a researcher and then research director.

Her research work, mainly conducted for French and foreign institutions, focuses on sports diplomacy, integrity issues and sports governance reform.

Involved in IRIS Sup', she teaches courses on international sanctions and the geopolitics of sport.

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In the past, he has directed several international programmes on sports integrity. After having co-authored two reports on Sports betting, corruption and Money laundering, he ran a European programme financed by the European Commission which consisted in holding seminars in 23 EU countries to raise awareness among national sports administrators on the threat of match-fixing (2012-2014). He then directed the Precrimbet programme (Preventing criminal risks linked to the sports betting market, 2016-2017) which focused on the integrity of the betting market in itself.

Among his other research areas are the strategies of sports diplomacies implemented by the States. He conducted a research programme on the integration of sport in foreign policies (2012-2013) and advised the French Ministry of Foreign affairs in the setting up of a specific French sports diplomacy.

Before working at IRIS, he completed an internship in 2010 at the European Commission's Directorate-General for External Relations, where he worked on EU relations with East Asia. He is a graduate of the Political Study Institute in Rennes (IEP) and holds a Master II degree in "Law and Politics of International Security" form the Free University of Amsterdam.

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Caroline Roussy is co-founder of the Africa Acts modern art festival, she writes notes and articles, and is also co-author of several publications, including a programmatic note on the future of La Francophonie in 2018, and two chapters in the book L'urgence africaine. Changeons le modèle de croissance [The African Emergency. We Must Change the Economic Growth Model], éditions Odile Jacob, september 2019.

She holds a PhD in History of Modern Africa from Paris 1 – Panthéon Sorbonne, she wrote a thesis entitled: The construction of the Senegalese and Gambian border: territories, territoriality and identities (1850-1989).

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He has published a travel diary, *Un Dieu et des mœurs* (Présence Africaine, 2015), a biography, *Fadilou Diop, un Juste* (Vives Voix, 2021), a novel, *Mâle Noir* (Ovadia, 2021), and an essay, *Les bons ressentiments* (Riveneuve, 2022).

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Jean-Marc Gravellini has worked for 35 years at the Agence française de développement (AFD) where he ended his career in 2015 as Executive Director of Operations. He was in charge of designing and implementing country and continental strategies (Africa, Asia, Mediterranean and Middle East, Latin America, French overseas departments and territories) and sector strategies (agriculture, energy, sustainable cities, transport, health, education, etc.), as well as cross-cutting strategies (climate, CSR, gender, etc.). From 2015 to 2017, he was Vice President Africa of the Compagnie Fruitière, a French private group. From January 2018 to February 2020, he headed the Coordination Unit of the Sahel Alliance. Since March 2020, he has created a consulting company for private companies, local authorities and public bodies.

In the field of management of complex organisations, he managed at the Agence française de développement a matrix organisation composed of 5 geographical directorates and 5 technical directorates. At the Sahel Alliance, he was in charge of the animation and coordination of 12 development partners (countries and institutions) who joined forces to make their financial aid to the Sahel more efficient and faster for the benefit of the populations affected by the security crisis.

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As a consultant for a number of international organisations (World Bank, European Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, French Development Agency, United Nations), she has worked for over ten years in Africa (mainly in Senegal and Mali) on capacity-building and technical support programmes in macroeconomic analysis and forecasting, official statistics and impact assessment.

A PhD in international economics, she teaches at IRIS Sup' and is the author of articles in scientific journals on monetary and fiscal policies, regional integration and economic resilience. From 2014 to 2022, she was editor-in-chief of the review *Statéco*, co-published by INSEE, IRD and Afristat.

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Geopolitics of Africa | Tools and mechanisms of crisis resolution | Emerging conflicts

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Honorary journalist and geopolitics teacher, Francis Laloupo has directed several publications and editorial offices (*Taxi Ville*, *Le Nouvel Afrique-Asie*, *Continental magazine*, among others). In the audiovisual sector, he was Director of information at *Africa N°1*, columnist and editorialist at *France Inter* and *France Ô*. He has been an editorialist for *TV5* since 2000 and currently works as a consultant for several audiovisual media.

He had been a lecturer in African geopolitics at the ESSEC business school for ten years and then joined the teaching staff of the Institut pratique de journalisme (IPJ Paris Dauphine) in 2006 as a professor of geopolitics and international relations. He also taught international institutions, as well as a module entitled "Major contemporary issues". He is now a lecturer at IRIS Sup', in the module "Geoeconomics / Understanding the international environment". As such, he is the author of the textbook *Understanding the economic challenges and opportunities of the African continent*. President of the Observatory of Reforms and Geopolitics Africa-Europe (ORGAPE), his lectures focus on the history and political systems of the African continent, the dynamics of international politics, emerging conflicts and resolution systems, information management in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Francis Laloupo is the author of political essays and works, including *Blues Démocratique*, 1990-2020 (Karthala, 2022), *France-Afrique, la rupture maintenant ?* (Acoria, 2013), *L'Union africaine vue à travers les médias africains - Problématique du récit panafricain* (GME Commission de l'Union africaine, 2013), *La Conférence nationale au Bénin, un concept nouveau de changement de régime politique* (Centre d'étude d'Afrique Noire de l'Institut d'études politiques de Bordeaux-Talence, 1993).

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Development of the so-called "fragile countries"

Post conflict reconstruction

Serge Michailof has been involved in development issues since his first long-term mission to Africa in 1968. He is currently an associate research fellow at IRIS, specialised in so-called "fragile" countries and post-conflict reconstruction.

From 2002 to 2012, he was a lecturer first at the University of Paris 1 Sorbonne and then at Sciences Po Paris. He is a regular consultant for the World Bank and various other aid institutions. He is a regular advisor to several governments.

From 2001 to 2004, he was the Executive Director in charge of operations at Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and Vice President of its subsidiary, Proparco. Prior to that, he had been working for 8 years in Washington at the World Bank as an Operational manager and a Senior advisor, and for 15 years (between 1977 and 1993) as a Local director representing AFD in various African countries.

In 1992-93, he was a Technical advisor in the cabinet of the Minister of Cooperation, Mrs. Avice. Before joining AFD in 1975, he had spent six years preparing and evaluating development projects in an engineering company, SATEC, where he had headed the design office, working mainly in Latin America, South Asia, the Maghreb and the Middle East. During a forty-five year career dedicated to countries' development, he worked in 65 countries on all continents.

Serge Michailof studied in France (HEC) and in the United States (MIT). He holds a degree in Sociology and a doctorate in Economics. He has published or edited several books, the latest being *Africanistan. Is Africa in crisis going to end up in our suburbs?* (Fayard, 2015). He regularly publishes numerous articles in the daily press and specialized magazines that can be found on his website.

Serge Michailof is the Director of the Council of French Investors in Africa (CIAN). He is a Knight of the Legion of Honor, the French Order of Merit, and the Order of the Senegalese Lion.

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Géraldine Pinauldt is an Associate Research Fellow at IRIS and a specialist in the Horn of Africa. She regularly contributes to IRIS Sup', the IRIS school.

An independent international consultant, she holds a doctorate in geography and geopolitics from the French Institute of Geopolitics at the University of Paris 8. Since 2008, she has undertaken frequent research and consultancy missions (for international and regional institutions, NGOs, and private companies) in the Horn of Africa, primarily in Ethiopia, Somaliland, and Djibouti.

A Somali speaker, her research focuses on territorial constructions and cross-border exchanges in Somali territories. She is the author of several academic articles and reports on migration, trade, and regional geopolitics.

Since 2016, she has also served as an assessor judge appointed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) at the French National Court of Asylum and teaches at various higher education institutes.

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Unites States of America | Gender, equality woman-men, feminism | Socio-political issues of sport

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Marie-Cecile Naves holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Paris Dauphine, and has done a post-doctoral research in Information and Communication and Sciences for the House of Human Sciences foundation in Paris. She has written several publications on the United States, notably about the American right-wing parties, and she also works on gender and gender equality issues, education and youth policies, and the socio-political issues in sports.

Before being adviser to Najat Vallaud-Belkacem's cabinet in the French Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research between 2015 and 2017, she had been Project Manager for France Stratégie (former Plan Commission) between 2010 and 2015, where she co-wrote and supervised several reports for the government or the French President, including "Quelle France dans 10 ans ?" in 2014, "Lutter contre les stéréotypes filles-garçons : un enjeu d'égalité et de mixité dès l'enfance" in 2014, "Reconnaître, valoriser, encourager l'engagement des jeunes" in 2015, or "Quelle action publique pour demain ?" in 2015. She has the same role today in the Conférence des Présidents d'Université.

She co-wrote with François Taddei the report "Un plan pour co-construire une société apprenante" (Plan to co-build a learning society) for the government in 2018, and designed two MOOCs in collaboration with the Centre for Research and Interdisciplinarity in Paris: "Towards a Learning Planet" and "Learning Planet".
She is also Research Director for the European thin tank Sport and Citizenship, and she has been teaching in business schools and colleges since 1999.

Marie-Cécile Naves is a Member of the Ordre des Palmes académiques.

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United Nations | United States | Wokeism | Canada

Romuald Sciora is a French-American Associate Research Fellow at the IRIS and director of the Political and Geostrategic Observatory of the United States. A political analyst, author, and documentary filmmaker, he is a recognized specialist in the United Nations and in American foreign and domestic policy.

As a writer, he has published, among many others, four books on the UN and an essay on the UN General Assembly. As a filmmaker, he has produced a dozen political documentaries, including a TV series devoted to the United Nations, broadcast in more than 20 countries.

He is the only person to have had the opportunity to meet and interview several times all of the UN Secretaries-General, from Kurt Waldheim to Ban Ki-Moon.

He has been living in the United States for nearly 20 years. From 2011 to 2016, he served as President of the French-American Global Forum, a not-for-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. On this occasion, he co-organized and led a large number of conferences and seminars with the European Union, research centers such as CSIS and the Brookings Institution, *The New York Times* and magazines such as *The Atlantic*, *Newsweek* and *Foreign Affairs*. Till 2019, he was the host of Le monde diplomatique Debates, an international program of conferences sponsored by the famous French monthly *Le monde diplomatique*.

He works regularly with universities such as New York University, American University in Washington and University of Quebec in Montreal and as a consultant for different institutions and NGOs. He also appears regularly in the media, whether in North and South America, Europe, Russia or the Middle East, to comment on international news.

His latest books, *Who Wants to Kill the U.N.?*, co-written with Anne-Cécile Robert, *Poor John – America in the Time of COVID-19*, *Valiant Woman, Should we be afraid of wokisme ?* and *A Shattered America* were published in 2018, 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2025. In the meantime, the complete collection of his interviews with UN Secretaries-General was published in a special issue of *The International Politics Reviews* dedicated to his work.

Romuald Sciora has been awarded the insignia of Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres – Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters – and of Officer in the National Order of the Cedar.

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Jeff Hawkins is an associate research fellow at IRIS, Paris-based commentator and researcher.

Jeff Hawkins served some thirty years as an American diplomat, most recently as U.S. Ambassador to the Central African Republic and U.S. Consul General in Lagos, Nigeria. He has wide experience in Europe, Africa, and Asia. He currently teaches at Sciences Po and appears frequently in the French media.

Jeff Hawkins has a Masters in International Relations from the University of Southern California and a Bachelors in History from the University of California, Berkeley.

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Latin America (political life, regional integration, foreign policy...)

Civil society and Social movements

Christophe Ventura is a research director at IRIS. A specialist in Latin America, he frequently conducts missions in the region (Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, Central America, Venezuela, and Uruguay).

He also teaches at IRIS Sup' on topics including Latin America, the multipolar world, social movements, and civil societies.

As part of his work, he writes and publishes analytical papers, reports, and expert assessments for ministries and institutions (Europe and Foreign Affairs, Armed Forces, French Development Agency).

As a journalist for *Le Monde diplomatique*, he has been following political, economic, social, and geopolitical developments in Latin America since the early 2000s.

Active in the international associative sphere, he has contributed to the conception and organisation of the World Social Forums since their inception in 2001 (Porto Alegre, Brazil). Through this work, Christophe Ventura has gained unique insights into Latin American civil society (social movements, trade unions, NGOs, political parties, academia, etc.) and the institutional actors of the region.

A graduate of the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Christophe Ventura studied the history of neoliberalism in the United States and Latin American independence movements in the 19th century.

He is the author of *Géopolitique de l'Amérique latine* (Éditions Eyrolles/IRIS, 2022) and co-author, with Didier Billion, of *Désoccidentalisation. Repenser l'ordre du monde* (Agone, 2023).

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Laurent Giacobbi is a research associate at IRIS and a lecturer at the Université des Antilles.

A graduate of Sciences Po Strasbourg and the Institut des Hautes Études Européennes (IHEE) in the history of international relations, he is currently working on the geopolitics of Latin America and the Caribbean.

A researcher at the Laboratoire caribéen de sciences sociales (LC2S) and a defence and security teacher (REDS), he is interested in the links between climate change, humanitarian action and armed forces.

An auditor of the Institut des hautes études de défense nationale (IHEDN) and reserve officer with the Forces armées aux Antilles (FAA), he is in charge of geostrategic monitoring of the Caribbean zone for the General Staff (defence and security issues, foreign influences, crisis zones, etc.).

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Alain Carton is an Associate Research Fellow at IRIS, specialising in France's overseas territories and their regional environments, as well as the blue economy.

Alain Carton previously served as a senior civil servant within the French Ministries of Defence, the Interior, and Overseas France. Initially a specialist in Franco-German relations, European defence policy, and United States security policy, he later joined the préfectoral corps and the corps of State administrators at the Ministry of the Interior, where he held several positions with a focus on budgetary and financial matters or local economic development.

At the Ministry of Overseas France, he was responsible for integrating France's overseas territories into their regional environments and for the strategic dimensions of this cooperation. He worked on reforms to improve international mobility for residents of the overseas territories and on environmental issues related to maritime areas.

He created a consultancy firm supporting economic development in the overseas territories and joined the group STRATEMH as a consultant, based in French Guiana and the Indian Ocean. His current work includes issues related to Asia-Indian Ocean maritime routes centred on the port hub of La Réunion, drinking-water supply for the Amerindian areas of French Guiana, and the industrial valorisation of invasive algae in the Caribbean and Antillean basin.

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Carlos Ominami Pascual is a research associate at IRIS, and a former Chilean Minister of the Economy.

Between 1978 and 1984 he was a researcher at the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) in France. In 1984, he joined the Latin American International Relations Programme (RIAL) of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL) in Chile, then the Latin American Centre for International Economics and Politics (CLEPI).

He was Minister of the Economy in the Patricio Aylwin government between 1990 and 1992 and a Senator of the Republic of Chile from 1994 to 2010.

He is the author of several books and numerous articles in Spanish, French, English and Japanese.

Carlos Ominami holds a degree in commercial engineering from the University of Chile and a doctorate in economics from the University of Paris X Nanterre.

Carlos Ominami Pascual was awarded the French Legion of Honour in 2011.

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Maritime security

Defense and security policy in North-East Asia (Japan-Korea)

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Marianne Péron-Doise is a Senior Research Fellow at IRIS. She co-heads the Asia-Pacific Programme and is the Director of the Indo-Pacific Geopolitical Observatory.

Graduate from the Institute of Political Studies of Aix-en-Provence and the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Marianne Péron-Doise used to be a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Strategic Research at Military School (IRSEM) from 2015 to 2022.

Her research interests include Indo Pacific geopolitical issues with a specific expertise on security and defense policies in Northeast Asia (Japan-Korean Peninsula), global maritime security topics as emerging naval forces and key maritime theatres, such as the Horn of Africa, Indian Ocean, South and East China Sea, South Pacific.

She was a visiting Research Fellow at the Japan Institute for International Affairs and the National Institute for Defense studies (Tokyo). She also teaches classes in Maritime Security at Sciences-po Paris and the Lille Catholic University. She is a consultant for diverse EU maritime capacity building projects from 2015.

Marianne Peron-Doise has held various senior positions on security issues in Asia-Pacific within the French Ministry of Defence, notably Head of the Asia-Pacific Department, Delegation for Strategic Affairs from 2007 to 2011. She was Political Adviser at the Allied Maritime Command in Northwood, UK, from 2012-2015.

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Geopolitics of the arts, archaeology and heritage

Emmanuel Lincot is an associate research fellow at IRIS.

Born in 1970, Emmanuel Lincot is Professor at the Faculty of Arts of the Catholic Institute of Paris and attached to the UR "Religion, Culture and Society" (EA 7403), where he directs a research seminar: "The Routes Silk: circulation of ideas, influences and cultural issues". Doctor of Letters, Ability to direct research (HDR), graduate of the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (IV ° section) in art history and holder of a canonical degree, he directs a number of doctoral theses .

Specialist of political and cultural history of contemporary China where he lived several years first as part of the National Service Cooperation (CSN) as a lecturer of French language and civilization at Wuhan University and later on as a documentalist at the French Embassy in Beijing. He is also interested in the peripheral regions of China, especially Central Asia. Associate Researcher at the Institute of International and Strategic Relations (IRIS), he teaches and is co-editor-in-chief of Asia Focus magazine. Visiting professor at the Catholic University of Lille, he is also involved with many foreign universities including: Chicago University, UCLA, Notre Dame University, Sun Yat-sen University (Kaohsiung, Taiwan), Institute of Diplomacy (Beijing, China) , Fudan University (Shanghai - China), Sichuan University (Chengdu, China), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (Beijing).

President of the agency "Signs and Strategy", he advises in the field of semiotics applied to the industrial world in the Chinese context. He is also regularly consulted by the French Presidency and Matignon for Chinese affairs for more than ten years. He accompanies politicians and businessmen in Asia (China and Central Asia) on incentive trips focused on raising awareness of the major geopolitical and cultural issues of the contemporary world. Recipient of the Taiwan Fellowship and Survey, he directed the first Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) on "Geopolitics of China" in partnership with France Université Numérique.

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Jean-Joseph Boillot is an associate research fellow at IRIS. He is a specialist of the Indian economy as well as the emerging world, and in particular the China-India-Africa triangle, seen as a structuring poles of the new global economy in the making.

Jean-Joseph Boillot is Professor in economics and social sciences and hold a doctorate in economics. He has notably taught at the École normale supérieure and worked on Asia as an associate researcher at CEPII for a doctoral dissertation on the Indian model of development.

He then worked as an economic advisor for the french Treasury from 1991 to 2006 and was based in the major emerging regions of the world, including Eastern Europe, the former USSR, the Chinese world and finally the Indian world.

Since his return to Paris in 2006, he has been sharing his time between regular missions in emerging countries and consulting activities for public bodies and large companies, as well as at the CEPII club where he follows India and the emerging world.

He is co-founder of the Euro-India Group (EIEBG), and is a member of the Cyclope Expert Group and the ISEG Scientific Council. He regularly collaborates with several newspapers and writes monthly columns for Alternatives Economiques and Market Express.

He is the author of more than 20 books, including *L'Inde ancienne au chevet de nos politiques* (Félin Publishing House, Paris 2017), *L'Economie de l'Inde* (La Découverte 3e éd. 2016, translated in english with Gyan Books publisher), *L'Afrique pour les nuls* (First 2015), *L'Inde pour les nuls* (First 2014), *L'Innovation Jugaad* (translation et adaptation, Diateino 2013) and *Chindiafrique* (Odile Jacob 2013). His last book, *Utopies made in Monde, le sage et l'économiste* (éditions Odile Jacob) has been published in 2021.

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After graduating from the Institut politique de Paris and the Centre de formation des journalistes, Olivier Da Lage began his professional career as a correspondent in the Gulf, based in Bahrain. He then returned to France to join *Radio France internationale* (RFI) where he spent most of his career as a journalist. In recent years, he held the position of weekend editor-in-chief at RFI.

Olivier Da Lage has published numerous articles in magazines (*La Revue internationale et stratégique*, les *Cahiers de l'Orient*, *Maghreb-Machrek*, *Études*, *Hermès*, etc.) and has been a regular speaker at university conferences. He has also published some twenty books, mainly essays on the Arab-Persian Gulf and India, as well as several fictional geopolitical novels set in the USSR, the Middle East and India.

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Emmanuel Hache is a senior research fellow at IRIS and has a PhD in Economics from the Université Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne (2001), a DEA in Development Economics from the Institut d'Étude du Développement Économique et Social (IEDES-Paris I) and a DEA in Sociology of Development Practices (1995, U Paris I).

After 3 years in India during his doctoral studies doing research at the Human Sciences Center in New Delhi and at the Economics Research Center in Santiniketan (West Bengale) on issues such as access to rural loans and financing agricultural campaigns, he joined the Centre International de Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD) in Nogent-sur-Marne in the Economic Policy and Markets division (ECOPOL). In 2001, he took up an economics research position in the Centre d'Observation Économique (COE), an economics research center, and was a member of the panel of experts for the Ministry of Finance and Industry. Within the Economic Analysis division, he developed tools for analyzing and forecasting commodity prices and directed economic and structural studies on the broad spectrum of commodities (energy, non-ferrous metal and soft commodities). In 2005, he created and directed the "Club Matières Premières", a medium for discussion, analysis and forecasting raw material prices. In February 2006, he joined an engineer school as a Professor. In 2007 he was appointed Supervisor of two training programs. He now works in an energy research center and more especially on energy transition issues and on price formation. He teaches economics of raw materials and trading in engineering schools, as well as Asia and the NICs and international monetary issues at IRIS Sup'.

He has published numerous articles and has contributed to several books. He is also a referee for economic journals such as *Energy Economics or Energy Policy*.

His main fields of expertise are Natural Resources Economics, Asia and International Finance.

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Georges Lefeuvre is an associate research fellow at IRIS. Former political attaché to the European Commission in Pakistan (2002-09), he is a specialist in the Afghanistan-Pakistan-India crisis arc. He is also an independent consultant and teaches at IRIS Sup'.

Anthropologist and linguist (University of Haute Bretagne and Associate Research Fellow at the Contemporary anthropology laboratory of Professor Jean Arlaud, University of Paris-Diderot, until 1988), Georges Lefeuvre has spent six years in the Kalash tribe, at the Afghan-Pakistani border, between 1971 and 1987. Author for the University of Haute Bretagne (DEA 1990) of the linguistic description of their language (Kalasha, a rare language - 4,000 speakers - of ancient Indo-European), he also compiled an unpublished dictionary with 6,000 entries and references to Sanskrit.

From 1987 to 1989, he was deputy director of a French NGO based in Peshawar and traveled extensively in Afghanistan. From 1989 to 1993, he directed the Alliance Française of Peshawar and developed a cultural center for French-speaking Afghan refugees (PCFA). As the cultural attaché to the French Embassy in Uzbekistan from 1993 to 1997, he created the Alliances françaises of Tashkent and Samarkand and assisted Professor Pierre Chuvin in the creation of the French Institute for Central Asian Studies (Iféac). Back in Pakistan, he was the cultural attaché at the French Embassy from 1997 to 2001, before joining the European Commission Delegation to Pakistan as a political attaché in 2002. For 8 years, he devoted himself to research and wrote numerous analyses for the European Union on the various factors of regional instability and more particularly the Pashtun border insurgencies between Pakistan and Afghanistan, the sociology of terrorist networks and the exogenous ideologies that irrigate them.

In addition to his contributions to collective works (*Le Mondial des nations* - Choiseul 2011; *L'Afghanistan, gagner le cœur et les esprits* - Presses Universitaires Grenoble 2011; *L'Année stratégique 2015* - IRIS), he has written analyses for the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has led numerous national and regional sessions for the IHEDN. He regularly publishes in *Le Monde*, *Le Monde Diplomatique*, *Le Temps*, *La Croix*, *Diplomatie Magazine* and occasionally in *National Geographic* (2001), *Géo* (2002), *Critique Internationale* (Ceri, 2002). He regularly participates in round tables and is a regular guest on television and radio.

Georges Lefeuvre is an Officer of Arts and Letters (2000).

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Pierrick Le Jeune is an associate research fellow at IRIS, specialised in institutional development issues (reform of public administrations and legal systems). He works particularly on Asia, Southeast Asia and Afghanistan. He has led roundtables for the Europe-China Forum, and took part in missions in China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and Afghanistan.

He holds a doctorate in Public law and is a lecturer in Political science at the University of Western Brittany, where he directs the Institut de Préparation à l'Administration Générale. He is currently President of the National Conference of Directors of IPAG and CPAG. Professor at the CIDHEM in Cuernavaca (Mexico) and visiting professor at Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), he also teaches at IRIS Sup', at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Aix-en-Provence and acts as an international consultant on administrative reforms.

Director of the *Administration et fonction publique* collection at Editions Juridiques Bruylant (Brussels), he has published several individual and collective works as well as articles related to his research topics.

He also represents Action Contre la Faim by being its Deputy Treasurer at the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (CNCDH).

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European Union | European Defence | Defence Industry

Federico Santopinto is Senior Research Fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS) in Paris, responsible for the Europe, EU, NATO Programme on EU/NATO issues.

He specialises in European integration in the areas of defence and foreign policy, as well as transatlantic relations and NATO. Federico Santopinto has also worked on military and security cooperation between the European Union (EU) and Africa.

Graduated in Political Science at the University of Florence (international option), Federico Santopinto obtained a master's degree in International Politics at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB).

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Along with his research and teaching activities, he has held positions of responsibility in the senior civil service, as an advisor to the Prime Minister, then as a Recteur d'académie, as well as in the diplomatic service, as a cultural advisor in Berlin and Vienna, where he jointly directed the French Institute.

He has published several books, among which : "L'Allemagne, un enjeu pour l'Europe" (Eyrolles, 2024), "France-Germany : a sacred union ?" (Armand Colin, 2012), "Germany in the 21st century : a new nation" (Armand Colin, 2009), "Germany, a changing power" (Gallimard/Folio, 2006, rééd. 2008), "Germany in International Relations from 1890 to nowadays" (Armand Colin, 1998) and "Where is Germany heading ?" (Flammarion, 1997).

On the occasion of the celebrations of the fall of the Berlin Wall, he coordinated a special edition of *La Revue internationale et stratégique* on "Germany : a new power ?" (IRIS Éditions, 2009).

In addition, he is an agrégé in German and was a member of the jury for the agrégation.

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His work addresses the challenges of technological development, trade strategy, and monetary balance, adopting both an international and historical perspective. He has built a career as an economist in the financial sector and as an expert on Europe and emerging markets for leading think tanks.

His analysis covers technologies and industries including AI, semiconductors, energy, and aerospace, as well as the competitive strategies of major powers in these fields. He regularly appears in French and international media and contributes op-eds to business newspapers.

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He held various high level positions in the Banque de France, as special advisor to the governor, Chief representative for the Americas and Director General for Economics&International Affairs, responsible for economic research and the relations with european and international groups in Brussels and Francfort, the G7&G20 and the Bretton Woods institutions. He also held positions in the french administration(INSEE), the European Commission and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Pierre Jaillet holds a post-graduate degree in Economics, a Master's degree in Political Science and a Bachelor's degree in Sociology. He is member of the French Association of Economic Sciences (AFSE), of the French Political Economy Society (SEP) and of the editorial board of the Revue d'Economie Financière. He has taught monetary policy and international economics at ENA (Ecole Nationale d'Administration), ENSAE (Ecole nationale de la statistique et de l'administration économique) and ESCP (Business Paris School).

He has authored or edited numerous publications on economics and international issues. He is a knight of the Legion of honour.

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He is the author of several books and numerous articles on regional issues, and has also written a wide range of studies and consultancy reports for French institutions, including the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, as well as for French companies operating in the Middle East.

He joined IRIS in 1991 and went on to serve as one of its Deputy Directors until 2026, after having previously been Director of Studies, Director of Publications and Editor-in-Chief of La Revue internationale et stratégique.

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Julia Tomasso is a Research Fellow at IRIS, working within the Defence, Strategy and Armament and Middle East / North Africa programmes. She specialises in the defence industries of the Middle East and the industrial policies underpinning them. A Turkish and Persian speaker, her research focuses in particular on the Turkish, Iranian and Israeli defence industrial and technological bases (DITBs), as well as those of the Gulf monarchies.

Her work on Iran also examines military strategy, drone and missile programmes, the nuclear programme and networks used to circumvent economic sanctions. More broadly, she studies how these countries' industrial policies interact with national strategic cultures, how they reshape regional balances of power and what they mean for the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB).

She holds a dual bachelor's degree in Political Science and Islamic Studies from McGill University in Montreal and a master's degree in Middle Eastern Studies from SOAS University of London. She previously worked at the French Ministry of the Armed Forces, focusing on Iranian military doctrine. She subsequently served as a defence editor specialising in Iran at the Cambridge Middle East and North Africa Forum.

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Karim Emile Bitar is an associate research fellow at IRIS and Editor of French monthly public affairs magazine L'ENA hors les murs. He is an Associate Professor of International Relations at Lebanon's Université Saint-Joseph (USJ), an Associate Fellow at the Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP) and a Research Associate at Brussels' Institut Medea. He is a Professor of International Relations and of History of Political Thought at several French Grandes Ecoles.

He gave conferences and keynote addresses in more than 20 countries. In the past 10 years, he has been quoted more than 1200 times in the international media. He frequently testifies before the Foreign Affairs Committees of the French and European Parliaments.

Besides his academic and research activities, Karim Emile Bitar is a consultant in management, communication and public affairs (KB Consulting Group). He worked for five years at France's television channel *CANAL+* (Vivendi Universal) as a manager in charge of strategic planning, business development and external relations.

He graduated from France's National School of Administration (ENA, promotion Cyrano de Bergerac 1997-1999) and from the Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po). He also studied Law at the University of Paris Sorbonne and obtained a Bachelor of Arts (Economics and International Relations) from McGill University. He spent his senior year at Harvard where he studied Government and specialized in Middle East Studies.

He edited and co-wrote the collective book *Regards sur la France* (Seuil, 640 pages), in which thirty personalities from across the world (former heads of state, intellectuals, political scientists, economists, artists and heads of multinational firms) analyzed France's strengths and weaknesses.

He has also authored numerous book chapters and articles in leading publications including *Le Monde diplomatique*, *Libération*, *Le Monde*, *Informed Comment*, *Atlantico*, *La Vanguardia*, *An Nahar, L'Orient-Le Jour*...

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Olivier Da Lage has published numerous articles in magazines (*La Revue internationale et stratégique*, les *Cahiers de l'Orient*, *Maghreb-Machrek*, *Études*, *Hermès*, etc.) and has been a regular speaker at university conferences. He has also published some twenty books, mainly essays on the Arab-Persian Gulf and India, as well as several fictional geopolitical novels set in the USSR, the Middle East and India.

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Beginning of professional career at RMC Middle East (MC Daoulya - France MM) as production assistant then as journalist until the post of general secretary of the editorial staff. In 1998, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he held various positions mainly related to the Middle East area and more specifically to the Gulf.

He has a master's degree in Italian from the Sorbonne Paris IV and is a former student of the IEP. He is graduated from the University of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo.

He has published a political fiction novel in partnership with Olivier Da Lage (*Maudite soit ta source* – éditions Michalon) and has sat on numerous bodies such as the Joint Committee on Journalists' Employment, of which he was the Chairman. He taught press law and ethics at Celsa.

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Georges Lefeuvre is an associate research fellow at IRIS. Former political attaché to the European Commission in Pakistan (2002-09), he is a specialist in the Afghanistan-Pakistan-India crisis arc. He is also an independent consultant and teaches at IRIS Sup'.

Anthropologist and linguist (University of Haute Bretagne and Associate Research Fellow at the Contemporary anthropology laboratory of Professor Jean Arlaud, University of Paris-Diderot, until 1988), Georges Lefeuvre has spent six years in the Kalash tribe, at the Afghan-Pakistani border, between 1971 and 1987. Author for the University of Haute Bretagne (DEA 1990) of the linguistic description of their language (Kalasha, a rare language - 4,000 speakers - of ancient Indo-European), he also compiled an unpublished dictionary with 6,000 entries and references to Sanskrit.

From 1987 to 1989, he was deputy director of a French NGO based in Peshawar and traveled extensively in Afghanistan. From 1989 to 1993, he directed the Alliance Française of Peshawar and developed a cultural center for French-speaking Afghan refugees (PCFA). As the cultural attaché to the French Embassy in Uzbekistan from 1993 to 1997, he created the Alliances françaises of Tashkent and Samarkand and assisted Professor Pierre Chuvin in the creation of the French Institute for Central Asian Studies (Iféac). Back in Pakistan, he was the cultural attaché at the French Embassy from 1997 to 2001, before joining the European Commission Delegation to Pakistan as a political attaché in 2002. For 8 years, he devoted himself to research and wrote numerous analyses for the European Union on the various factors of regional instability and more particularly the Pashtun border insurgencies between Pakistan and Afghanistan, the sociology of terrorist networks and the exogenous ideologies that irrigate them.

In addition to his contributions to collective works (*Le Mondial des nations* - Choiseul 2011; *L'Afghanistan, gagner le cœur et les esprits* - Presses Universitaires Grenoble 2011; *L'Année stratégique 2015* - IRIS), he has written analyses for the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has led numerous national and regional sessions for the IHEDN. He regularly publishes in *Le Monde*, *Le Monde Diplomatique*, *Le Temps*, *La Croix*, *Diplomatie Magazine* and occasionally in *National Geographic* (2001), *Géo* (2002), *Critique Internationale* (Ceri, 2002). He regularly participates in round tables and is a regular guest on television and radio.

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In 2006, he was deployed to Lebanon as the commander of the air component of Operation BALISTE, and in 2007, he served in Afghanistan as the air advisor to the French Representative for Operation PAMIR.

He is a graduate of the NATO Defence College in Rome, the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INaLCO) in Paris, and Ankara University. He holds two Master's degrees: one in Public Law with a specialisation in Defence Law, and another in Strategic Crisis Management.

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He teaches a course on geopolitics and the practice of international relations at SUPii Mécavenir. Previously, he taught Comparative Political Systems and Business English at Paris-Est Créteil University and the University of Évry Val d'Essonne, respectively.

He is regularly invited as a consultant and speaker by a range of French and international institutions and media outlets.

His research focuses primarily on the Maghreb, as well as US foreign policy in North Africa and the Middle East. His particular areas of interest include public diplomacy and the role of non-state actors (NGOs, trade unions, interest groups, multinational corporations, etc.), as well as issues relating to terrorism, conflict management, and related matters.

He is the author of *Algeria: A Diplomatic Resurgence* (Eyrolles, 2023). He has also published in a number of French and international academic journals.

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Over the last five years, she has worked on energy and environmental issues for the French Ministry of Defence in various departments: the Directorate General of International Relations and Strategy (DGRIS), the Office of the Minister of Defence and the Armed Forces General Staff (EMA). She also spent a year at the École de guerre as a civilian auditor.

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He was Consul General of France in Jerusalem and Ambassador of France to Senegal, Brazil and Russia.

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Doctor of Slavic Studies (University of Paris Nanterre – University of Paris Lumières), holder of a double Franco-Russian Master's degree in geopolitics of the post-Soviet space at the Russian State University of Human Sciences (RGGU) (Moscow, Russia) and at the French Institute of Geopolitics (IFG) of the University of Paris 8 (Paris, France), he defended a thesis entitled "The Sportokratura in Russia: governing through sport in the era of Vladimir Poutine, 2000 -2020", the book adaptation of which was published by Bréal in May 2021.

Russian-speaking and a seasoned traveler, he has traveled the former USSR for more than a decade to conduct his work. His research focuses mainly on the new geopolitical issues of Russia and sport. He is also interested in the question of sovereignty within the post-Soviet space. He regularly speaks at conferences and seminars on these issues, as well as in various media.

He has taught history and geopolitics at the Universities of Paris-Nanterre, Versailles Saint-Quentin en Yvelines, and Rennes 2.

His second book "*Geopolitics of Russia*" was published by La Découverte in August 2022.

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He has published numerous articles, notably in *La Revue internationale et stratégique*, *Politique internationale*, *Le Courrier des pays de l'Est*, *La revue d'études comparatives Est-Ouest* and *Diplomatie*. Arnaud Dubien is a regular contributor to French-language media (*Le Figaro*, *L'Opinion*, *RFI*, *RTS*, *Radio Méditerranée internationale*, etc.) and Russian media (*Kommersant*, *Vedomosti*, *Nezavissimaïa gazeta*, etc.).

Arnaud Dubien has directed the Franco-Russian Observatory since its creation in 2012.

He recently published:

"What scenarios for Russia?", *Politique internationale*, n°153, fall 2016.

"Russia: the eternal return of the poor power", *La revue internationale et stratégique*, n°103, fall 2016.

"Russia: change in continuity", in Pascal Boniface (ed.), *L'Année stratégique 2019*, Paris, IRIS-Armand Colin, 2018.

"Russia - North Africa: old friends and new partnerships", *Diplomatie*, n°84, September-October 2018.

Russia 2019. Regards de l'Observatoire franco-russe (ed.), L'Inventaire/NVM, 2019.

"Vladimir Putin: towards a lifetime presidency?", *Les Grands Dossiers - Diplomatie*, n°57, July-August 2020.

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Il a été consultant pour les ministères français des Affaires étrangères et des Armées ainsi que pour le Centre pour le Dialogue humanitaire (Genève). Il est intervenu au Collège de Défense de l'OTAN (Rome) et intervient à l'École de Guerre (Paris).

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IRIS, a public utility association, is one of the main French think tank specialised on geopolitical and strategic issues. It distinguishes itself by its unique ability to bring together a research center and a school (IRIS Sup') which delivers diplomas. This model contributes to its national andinternational attractiveness. IRIS is organised around four activity units: research, publication, organization of events and training.