

International Research Seminar
“REPRESENTATION AND LEGITIMACY IN AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS”
Palais des Nations (Room XXIII), Geneva, 21 March 2013, from 13.00 to 15.00

Background

On **11 April 2007**, the Kingdom of Morocco tabled with the Secretary-General of the United Nations a document entitled “Moroccan Initiative for Negotiating an Autonomy Status for the Region of Sahara” meant to put an end to the current impasse on the negotiations regarding the regional dispute over the Sahara.¹ In order to promote discussion on some aspects of this proposal, Morocco initiated, among others, four international academic seminars:

- One on **6 October 2009** in Geneva (Switzerland) at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), which published a synthesis of that event in its *Geneva Paper No. 12*² ;
- The other on **21-22 February 2011** in Dakhla (Morocco), on the Human Rights and Democracy dimensions of the Moroccan Initiative, whose results were presented to a roundtable on 17 March 2011 in the margins of a meeting of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, and were published by the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
- A third one on **22 March 2012** in Geneva on “Governance in Autonomy Statutes: Institutions and Mechanisms”;
- A fourth one on **4 June 2012** in Geneva on “Managing Natural Resources in Autonomy Statutes”. Morocco has published the proceedings of the 2012 seminars.

Morocco organises a new international research seminar on **21 March 2013** on “Representation and Legitimacy in Autonomy Negotiations”.

This event, like the previous ones, aims at promoting the importance of the Moroccan Initiative as an unprecedented model for managing autonomy in the context of North Africa but also likely to serve as reference in other countries of the Global South.

This seminar will indeed offer an opportunity to compare current and past practices regarding the conditions of participation in negotiations on the autonomy of some regions with the provisions proposed by Morocco for the Sahara Region. It is however important to note that the international negotiations on the status of Western Sahara are being conducted within the framework of the United Nations and that this seminar does not intend to appear as a substitute of such negotiations.

The contributions to this 2013 seminar will be published by Morocco.

¹ See: United Nations, Document S/2007/206 of 13 April 2007 (available at: <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/MINURSO%20S2007206.pdf>).

² “Can Autonomy Fulfil the Right to Self-Determination?”, *Geneva Paper No. 12*, 2010 (<http://www.gcsp.ch/Resources-Publications/Publications/GCSP-Publications/Geneva-Papers/Conference-Series/Can-Autonomy-Fulfil-the-Right-to-Self-Determination>).

Draft Programme

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(Note: Simultaneous interpretation will be ensured in English and French)

- 12.30 – 13.00 Traditional Moroccan Buffet Lunch
- 13.00 – 13.20 Introduction by the Chairperson of the Seminar: Dr **Anne Mandeville**, Director, Centre on International Policy and Conflict Analysis, University of Toulouse: *“The Provisions of the Moroccan Initiative on the Sahara Region Related to the Representation of Populations Concerned with the Negotiation on the Autonomy of the Sahara Region”*
- 13.20 – 14.45 Presentations on autonomy negotiations and comparison with the Moroccan Initiative:
- 13.20 – 13.40 Central Europe: Dr **Gyula Csurgai**, Academic Director, School of International Training (Geneva): *“From the Nation-State to the Multinational State: Some Thoughts on the Concept and Practice of Autonomy in Europe in a Geopolitical Perspective”*
- 13.40 – 14.00 New Caledonia: **Mr Marc Finaud**, Senior Advisor, Emerging Security Challenges Programme, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP): *“Negotiations for the Autonomy of New Caledonia: Any Lessons Learnt for the Autonomy of the Sahara Region?”*
- 14.00 – 14.20 Indonesia/Aceh: Ms **Shadia Marhaban**, President, Aceh’s Women’s League, former negotiator of the Helsinki MoU: *“Comparative Study of Autonomy Negotiations: Aceh and the Sahara Region”*
- 14.20 – 14.45 Varia: Professor **Marc Weller**, Director, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, University of Cambridge: *“Participation in Autonomy Settlement Negotiations”*
- 14.45 – 15.00 Conclusions: **Dr Anne Mandeville**

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SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Gyula CSURGAI

Born in Budapest, Dr Gyula Csurgai holds Swiss and Canadian citizenships. He holds University degrees in Political Science from Concordia University, Canada and the University of Toulouse, France. He obtained two Master degrees from the University of Geneva and a Diploma in French Language and Civilization. He obtained his doctorate degree from the University of Geneva, completing his thesis in the field of geopolitics. He worked as scientific collaborator at the Geneva International Peace Research Institute (GIPRI), and has taught International Relations, Geopolitics and Geoeconomics in both undergraduate, master and doctorate programmes at different universities. He also organized seven international symposiums and directed the publications of its proceedings. He participated in several international research projects and provided expertise to a number of international organizations. He is co-founder and Director of the International Centre for Geopolitical Studies and Academic Director of the International Studies programme of SIT University in Geneva. His publications include: "L'analyse géopolitique : une approche interdisciplinaire pour déchiffrer la complexité des relations internationales", *Revue Militaire Suisse*, Jul. 2009; "Geopolitics, Geo-economics and Competitive Intelligence in Power Projection Strategies of the State in the 21st Century", Fundação Alexandre de Gusmão, Brasilia, 2008; "The Use of Geopolitical Approach in Analyzing Contemporary Conflicts", in *Globalization of Security Trends and Perspectives*, (ed. Alexandre Vautravers), Webster University, Geneva, 2008; "L'idée républicaine en Europe centrale" in *L'idée républicaine dans le monde* (ed. Emmanuel Dupuy & Paul Baquiast), Harmattan, Paris 2007; "Composantes et caractéristiques de la stratégie de désinformation", *Revue Militaire Suisse*, Lausanne, March-April 2007; "Quelques considérations sur les facteurs géopolitiques de la Suisse", *Revue Militaire Suisse*, Lausanne, 2006; "Les zones grises des Balkans", in *Les zones grises dans le monde d'aujourd'hui* (ed. Pierre Pascallon), L'Harmattan, Paris, 2006; "La nation et ses territoires en Europe centrale : une approche géopolitique", Peter Lang, Bern, 2005; "Geopolitical Aspects of the Minority Question in Central and South Eastern Europe", in *Concepts of Minority Governance in Europe on the Threshold of the 21st Century*, LGI Books/Central European University Press, 2002, Budapest.

Marc FINAUD

Marc Finaud holds a Master's Degree in International Law of the University of Aix-en-Provence, France (1975) and he is a Graduate of the Paris Institute of Political Studies (1977). He joined the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1977, first at the Military Cooperation Division. In 1977-1978, he was Vice-Consul at the French Consulate-General in Leningrad (USSR). Back in Paris, he was desk officer for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) from 1979 to 1982. He was a member of the French Delegation to the CSCE Meeting in Madrid (1980-1982). In 1982-1983 he served as Chief of Staff of the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, before being appointed First Secretary at the French Embassy in Warsaw. In 1987-1988, he was the Secretary-General of the French Delegation to the CSCE Meeting in Vienna. In 1989-1993 he served as Second Counsellor at the French Delegation to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and a member of the French Delegation to the First Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York. From 1993 to 1996 he was the Head of the Information Department (and alternate spokesman) of the Foreign Ministry in Paris. In 1995-1996, he was a lecturer on arms control for a post-graduate course at the Marne-la-Vallée University. In 1996 he was appointed Deputy Head of Mission at the French Embassy in Israel, where he joined the Team of Negotiators of the EU Special Envoy to the Middle East Peace Process. He was transferred to Sydney as Consul-General for France in January 2001, with jurisdiction over the whole of Australia. During his term he became familiar with the institutions and governance of New Caledonia. Since 2004, he has been seconded to the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), first as Director of Short Courses, then as Special Advisor to the Director, and now as Senior Advisor, Emerging Security Challenges Programme. He has published aphorisms in English about disarmament, articles on the Middle-East peace process, arms control, and international humanitarian law as well as books on the multilateral aspects of security.

Anne MANDEVILLE

Dr Anne Mandeville is, since 2008, Director of the Centre on International Policy and Conflict Analysis (CDPIAC) of the University of Toulouse (France). She received her PhD in Political Science from the Toulouse University of Social Sciences (1994) with a thesis on *Law Enforcement Authorities in the United Kingdom - Elements of Political Analysis of the British*



Law and Order System. She also received a degree from the Toulouse Institute of Political Science (1981) with a thesis on: *Elements of Sociology of Magistrates in the Judiciary Branch*. She teaches Political Sociology, Compared Political Systems, Conflict Analysis and Geopolitics. Her main areas of research include conflict analysis, study of law and order as political phenomenon, compared military sociology and international relations theory. She took part in the *Annual Teachers' Workshop* of the Philipp Merrill Center for Strategic Studies, and is a visiting lecturer at the University of Dublin (UCD). She was an intern at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London (IISS) (1988) and took part in the Harvard/MIT programme on nuclear deterrence and arms control (1987). In 2005-2007, she led the "South-West Regional Group" of the Ministry of Defence's Trainers Seminar. She was Vice-president of the Political Science Specialists' Commission of Toulouse University UT1 (1996-2007), External Member the Political Science Specialists' Commission of Perpignan University (1996-2005), Board Member of the Toulouse Institute of Political Science (1995-1999). She published many books and articles on Political Sociology, including: "La renaissance du système militaire comme acteur essentiel de la fonction de police globale contemporaine", with Bertrand Cavallier, *Inflexions*, Jan. 2007; "Le rapport Patten : Texte et contextes. Eléments pour une analyse politique et systémique de la réforme de la police en Irlande du Nord", *Etudes Irlandaises*, 2006, n° 30-1 ; *Europe's Old States in the New World Order* (ed.) with J. Todd and J. Ruane, 2003; « La sécularisation du système politique nord-irlandais : le cas de l'Ulster Defence Regiment », in Paul Brennan, *La sécularisation en Irlande*, 1998.

Shadia MARHABAN

Shadia Marhaban was the only woman delegate to the 2005 Helsinki peace talks that ended 30 years of conflict between the Indonesian government and the Free Aceh Movement. As a presidium member of the Aceh Referendum Information Center, she was forced to flee to the United States in 2003, when the central government declared martial law in Aceh. Ms Marhaban became a fervent human rights activist in the US, continuing to represent the Independent *Acehnese* Peoples' Voice Party (SIRA) as its international relations chief. Upon her return to Aceh after the Helsinki peace accord, she served for a year as special anti-corruption adviser to the governor. More recently, as president and co-founder of the Aceh Women's League, Ms Marhaban helps female former combatants return to civilian life. She also chairs the national caucus for implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which requires parties in a conflict to support women's participation in peace negotiations and reconstruction. Ms Marhaban has advocated for women's peacebuilding involvement in South Thailand, Mindanao (Philippines), Timor-Leste, and Nepal. Working with former Finnish President and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Martti Ahtisaari, she has traveled across South and Southeast Asia promoting women's engagement in post-conflict management. Ms Marhaban studied international relations at Jakarta's National University and is a 2011-2012 Fellow at Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, researching post-conflict management, gender, and political transformation.

Marc WELLER

Marc Weller is Professor of International Law and International Constitutional Studies in the University of Cambridge. He is also the Director of the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law in the University. He holds Doctorates in International Law and International Relations, in Law, and in Political and Social Sciences from the Universities of Cambridge, Frankfurt and Hamburg. He is a barrister (Middle Temple) and a fully qualified and accredited mediator. He joined the Faculty of Law of the University of Cambridge in 1990 and served as Deputy Director of the Centre of International Studies from 1997-2000. From 2000-2009 he was the Director of the European Centre for Minority Issues. In that role he directed headquarters operations and a growing field staff active in numerous projects in South Eastern Europe and the Caucasus region. He guided and conducted conflict settlement activities involving Georgia, Moldova (Transdnistria), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Kosovo and served as mediator addressing the Moldova-Gagauzia autonomy dispute. He has also repeatedly served as expert and facilitator for the Council of Europe. In 2000, he founded the Cambridge-Carnegie project on the Settlement of Self-determination Disputes, which has resulted in an international network of experts supporting ethnic peace-making around the world. In 2011, he launched a major international research activity in cooperation with the United Nations Secretariat relating to peace-making and peace agreements. He served as legal advisor during the 1999 Rambouillet Conference on Kosovo and senior legal advisor for Kosovo in the UN-led Vienna process of Final Status Negotiations between Kosovo and Serbia of 2006/7. Moreover, he was a senior expert for the African Union in relation to the North-South Sudan pre-referendum negotiations of 2009/10. During 2011/12 he served as



Senior Mediation Expert in the Department of Political Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in New York. In that role, he advised on the transitions in Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Yemen and Libya, on the Doha Peace Process for Darfur and on the stabilization of Somalia. He served as a legal advisor to the UN Special Envoy for Syria, Kofi Annan, and he remains a Senior Consultant to the UN Special Advisor on Yemen, Jamal Benomar. He has served as Counsel in major international litigation, including in the International Court of Justice, and as expert in national legal proceedings. He remains an active member of the United Nations Mediation Roster and is a member of the UK Stabilization Unit (FCO, DFID and MoD) cadre of Deployable Civilian Experts. He has been Director of Studies at The Hague Academy for International Law and Visiting Professor in the University of Paris and at other institutions. He is the author, editor or co-editor of some 25 major books and a large number of academic journal articles and book chapters, including: *Commentary on the UN Declaration on Indigenous Rights*, Oxford University Press (2013) ; *Handbook on the Use of Force in International Law*, Oxford University Press (2013) ; *Political Participation of Minorities*, Oxford University Press (2010) ; *Iraq and the Use of Force in International Law*, Oxford University Press (2010) ; *Asymmetrical State Design as a Tool of Ethnopolitical Conflict Settlement*, Pennsylvania University Press (2010) ; *Contested Statehood: Kosovo's Struggle for Independence*, Oxford University Press (2009); *Escaping the Self-determination Trap*, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers (2008); *Negotiating Statehood: The Vienna Negotiations on Kosovo*, Chaillot Paper No. 114, European Union Institute for Security Studies (2008); *The Protection of Minorities in the Wider Europe*, Palgrave, Macmillan (2008); *Institutions for the Management of Ethnopolitical Conflict in Eastern and Central Europe*, Council of Europe Press (2008) ; *Peace Lost: Missed Opportunities for Conflict Prevention in Kosovo*, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers (2008) ; *Settling Self-determination Conflicts*, Nijhoff Publishers (2008) ; *Universal Minority Rights, A Commentary on the Jurisprudence of International Court and Treaty Bodies*, Oxford University Press (2007) ; *Internationalized State-building after Violent Conflict: Dayton after Ten Years*, Routledge (2007) ; *The Rights of Minorities: Commentary on the European Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities*, Oxford University Press, (2005); *Mechanisms for the Implementation of Minority Rights*, Council of Europe Press (2005) ; *Autonomy, Self-Governance and Conflict Resolution*, Routledge (2005).