

Speakers and moderators



Mykola Tochytyskyi began his diplomatic career in 1993, having occupied various positions in diplomatic service of Ukraine. He was a Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the Council of Europe from 2010 to 2016. In 2016 appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Kingdom of Belgium, Representative of Ukraine to the EU. From May to September 2021 Ambassador-at-Large in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

Since September 2021 Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. From April to September 2024 - Deputy Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine. From September 2024 to July 2025 – Minister of Culture and Strategic Communications of Ukraine. In August 2025 was appointed as Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the Council of Europe. He is an honoured Lawyer of Ukraine (2009), was decorated with Order of Merit, III class (2021) and Order of Merit, II class (2023). He is a graduate of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Institute of International Relations of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (International law) and Geneva Centre for Security Policy.

Pap Ndiaye est Ambassadeur, Représentant permanent de la France auprès du Conseil de l'Europe depuis le 1er août 2023. Historien et universitaire, il a été ministre de l'Éducation nationale et de la jeunesse et directeur général de l'Établissement public du Palais de la Porte Dorée. Il est également, depuis 2013, professeur des universités à Sciences Po Paris.

Auteur très reconnu de nombreux ouvrages et articles en histoire comparée des minorités (Etats-Unis et France) il a été professeur invité dans de nombreuses universités étrangères et a donné des conférences dans le monde entier. Il est chevalier de la Légion d'honneur, de l'ordre national du Mérite et commandeur des Palmes académiques.



Véronique Bertholle est adjointe à la Maire de Strasbourg en charge des relations européennes et internationales et Présidente du groupe de travail France-Allemagne de l'AFCCRE. Véronique Bertholle participe de l'engagement de la ville de Strasbourg envers l'Ukraine depuis février 2022. Elle est représentant de la Chambre des pouvoirs locaux aux Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux du Conseil de l'Europe, membre de la Commission de la Gouvernance et porte-parole

thématique : jeunes.



Maksym Butkevych is a Ukrainian journalist, human rights activist and a war veteran. He holds a degree in philosophy from Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University, and MA in anthropology from the University of Sussex. Butkevych has worked extensively in the media: at Ukrainian TV channels, BBC World Service in London, and co-founded independent Ukrainian radio station Hromadske Radio. He was also advocating for human rights and social justice, assisting refugees, protesting war, discrimination and racism, supporting freedom

of speech and assemblies. After the beginning of Russian full-scale invasion into Ukraine in February 2022, he joined the Ukrainian Armed Forces and was later captured by Russian forces. Within few months he was sentenced by Russian “court” to 13 years of imprisonment in the fabricated criminal case. He was eventually released from captivity in October 2024, after spending 2 years and 4 months in Russian captivity. In 2025 Maksym co-founded a Charitable Foundation “Principle of Hope”. Also in 2025 he was awarded Vaclav Havel Prize by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Collection of his essays has been published in French and German when he was in captivity, furthering his impact on the international stage.

Aminat Suleimanova is the Managing Partner at AGA Partners and an attorney-at-law with over 25 years of experience in dispute resolution, arbitration, and domestic litigation. She is widely recognized for her expertise in family law, international private law, and public international law. Aminat specializes in complex cross-border family disputes, including child return and protection cases, and actively works to safeguard children’s rights in Ukraine and other jurisdictions. Her expertise has led to long-term cooperation with UNICEF, where she contributes to improving Ukrainian child-protection legislation, particularly in the context of Russia’s ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine. Aminat is also deeply engaged in the protection of human rights at both national and international levels, regularly defending the rights before the European Court of Human Rights. She serves on expert working groups focused on legal mechanisms for compensation of war-related damages and the national audit of harm caused by Russia’s armed aggression. She is the first Ukrainian lawyer admitted to the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL). For the past four academic years, Aminat has lectured on Family Law and Trade Law at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University. Her professional achievements include being named *Advocate of the Year 2021 in International Arbitration* by the Ukrainian Advocates’ Association, while AGA Partners was recognized as *Best Arbitration Team in Ukraine* by the Legal Awards 2021.





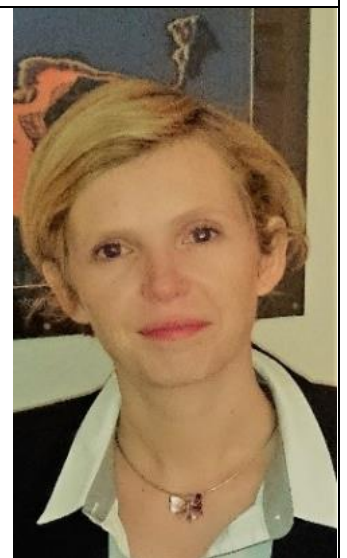
Oksana Pokalchuk is a Ukrainian human rights lawyer, advocate, and international policy expert. She holds a PhD in Law. Oksana previously worked at the European Court of Human Rights. She later served as Executive Director of Amnesty International Ukraine, where she led national and international advocacy campaigns in complex and high-risk environments, focusing on protection of fundamental freedoms, accountability for serious human rights violations, and institutional reform. With more than 18 years of experience, Oksana's work bridges human rights documentation, legal advocacy, and international policy engagement. She currently serves as Co-Executive Director of Truth Hounds, an investigative NGO documenting international crimes committed during Russia's war against Ukraine, including torture, conflict-related sexual violence, enforced disappearances, attacks on civilians, and violations related to the occupation of nuclear facilities. Her work includes strategic engagement with governments,

international organisations, and accountability mechanisms at the UN, ICC, OSCE, EU, and Council of Europe levels. Oksana is actively involved in developing capacity-building programmes for civil society and state investigators, as well as in designing innovative advocacy tools to strengthen international awareness and accountability efforts.

Mme Peggy Ducoulombier est professeur de droit public à l'Université de Strasbourg depuis 2014. Elle est également Vice-Doyen de la Faculté de Droit en charge des relations internationales et directrice adjointe de l'Institut de recherches Carré de Malberg.

Spécialiste de droit européen et international des droits de l'homme et de droit constitutionnel britannique, ses principales recherches portent sur les méthodes d'interprétation de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme et le contrôle de la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme.

Elle s'intéresse également à la comparaison de la protection des droits de l'homme offerte par les différents systèmes régionaux et le système universel.



Antoine Arjakovsky est docteur en Histoire, directeur de recherches au Collège des Bernardins à Paris et Administrateur de la Plateforme de la Mémoire et de la conscience européenne. Il a travaillé pour l'Ambassade de France à Moscou et à l'ambassade de France à Kyiv comme attaché de coopération éducative et culturelle entre 1989 et 2002.

Il est l'auteur d'une vingtaine de livres, dont certains ont été traduits en ukrainien comme son livre de 2014 : "Russie-Ukraine : de la guerre à la paix ?" Parmi ses derniers livres : "Pour sortir de la guerre : Vaincre l'agression russe contre l'Ukraine et la démocratie" (DDB, 2023) et "Qu'est-ce que la science morale et politique ?" (Cerf, 2025).



Christian Jacques est maître de conférences à l'Université de Strasbourg. Il est membre de l'unité de recherche UR 1341 « Mondes germaniques et nord-européens ». Son domaine de recherche porte sur les notions de nation, nationalisme, nationalité et identité, ainsi que sur l'histoire des pays germanophones (XX^e-XXI^e siècles).

Ses travaux se focalisent sur le passé allemand en Europe centrale et sur les modalités et enjeux de patrimonialisation de ce passé, notamment à travers le § 96 (dit « paragraphe culturel ») de la loi fédérale allemande pour les expulsés (BVFG). Ses derniers articles traitent de l'évolution de la géopolitique dans le contexte de la guerre en Ukraine, ainsi que des questions de patrimonialisation en temps de guerre en Ukraine.

Pavlo Pushkar is teaching the European Human Rights Law at the Ukrainian Catholic University of Lviv as well as courses on Responding to Human Rights Violations and on Interaction Between Different Systems of Human Rights Protection at the University of Strasbourg.

He has a PhD in criminal justice and shortened and simplified procedures for settling criminal cases. He is a graduate of Kyiv Taras Shevchenko University Law Faculty (BA and MA in Laws, with honours); the Nottingham University School of Law (LLM in International Law); Queens Mary College University of London (International Arbitration). He is currently pursuing his honorary doctoral research in the area of international law compliance, notably compliance with the rulings of international courts and tribunals.

