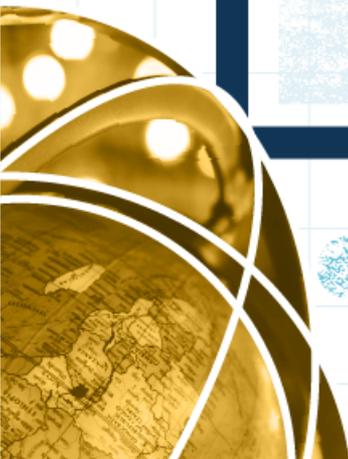




FELLOWSHIP



FELLOWS 2022-2023



Julia Rodriguez



Blagoje Gledovic



Guli Bekurishvili



Wafa' Nimri



Cristina Camacho



Shahrukh Khan



Bruna Toso



Chansambath Bong



Folake Olagunju



Adam Kyomuhendo



Ngumnesah Ndefru



Boitshepo Mogorosi



Lourino Alberto Chemane



Chifundo Sohaya



Peter Mmbando





One of my goals is to cooperate with responsible state authorities and NGOs in order to mobilise joint efforts and take active measures to raise cyber awareness in Georgia. I am determined to bring knowledge acquired through the fellowship to Georgia and create more opportunities for local communities.



Guli Bekurishvili, Georgia

Guli Bekurishvili is a Young European Ambassador (YEA) from Georgia, and the OSCE – UNODA Scholar for Peace and Security 2022. She holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. Her research interests include international security, global governance, and emerging technologies, with an emphasis on the impact of cybersecurity.



Cyber diplomacy is a completely new subject to Cambodian diplomats, scholars, and the public. As Director of the first and only think-tank in Cambodia working on cyber diplomacy alongside the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I have the unique opportunity to shape and contribute to establishing Cambodia's international cyber diplomacy and engagement from the outset. I plan to use the knowledge gained during the fellowship to bring fresh perspectives to my country, drawing mainly from the EU's model and strategy.



Chansambath Bong, Cambodia

Chansambath Bong is Deputy Director at the Centre for Inclusive Digital Economy (CIDE), Asian Vision Institute (AVI), a policy think tank based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. He is currently a lecturer at the Institute for International Studies and Public Policy (IISPP), Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP). Before his current positions, Sambath was a Fulbright scholar at Kansas State University, where he received his MA in Security Studies in 2020. He is interested in Cambodian foreign and security policy, cyber diplomacy, and the geopolitics of cyberspace and emerging technologies.





I am eager to build bridges, expand my network and share my expertise in diplomatic affairs. Cybersecurity is a cross-cutting issue that concerns us all - the private, public and individual sectors. This fellowship will allow me to better contribute to Ecuador's engagement in current debates and share concerns with the multistakeholder community.



Cristina Camacho, Ecuador

Cristina Camacho is an Ecuadorian Foreign Service diplomat, currently working at the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the European Union. In the area of international partnerships, she has worked with several European projects in the fields of cybersecurity and cybercrime, bringing capacity-building programs and expert assessment to Ecuador. She participates in the Ecuadorian Working Group for Ecuador's accession to the Budapest Convention and supports the work of the National Committee on Cybersecurity. Cristina is passionate about strategic communication, foreign policy, and cyber diplomacy.



I believe that this fellowship will help me better contribute to the work that our policy community is doing to speed up the digital transformation and the promotion of digital technologies. I hope it will also allow me to learn from other countries, especially with regard to the legal frameworks they use to support the rapid growth of digital services.



Lourino Alberto Chemane, Mozambique

Lourino Alberto Chemane is an Assistant Professor at Eduardo Mondlane University and Chairman of the Board of the National Institute of Information and Communication Technology (INTIC), the ICT regulator in Mozambique. He has extensive experience in the field of ICT and is currently a member of the delegation of Mozambique in the Ad-Hoc Committee consultations for a UN convention on Cybercrime. He was part of the team that prepared the ratification of the Malabo Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection by Mozambique and is currently working on the country's accession to the Budapest convention.



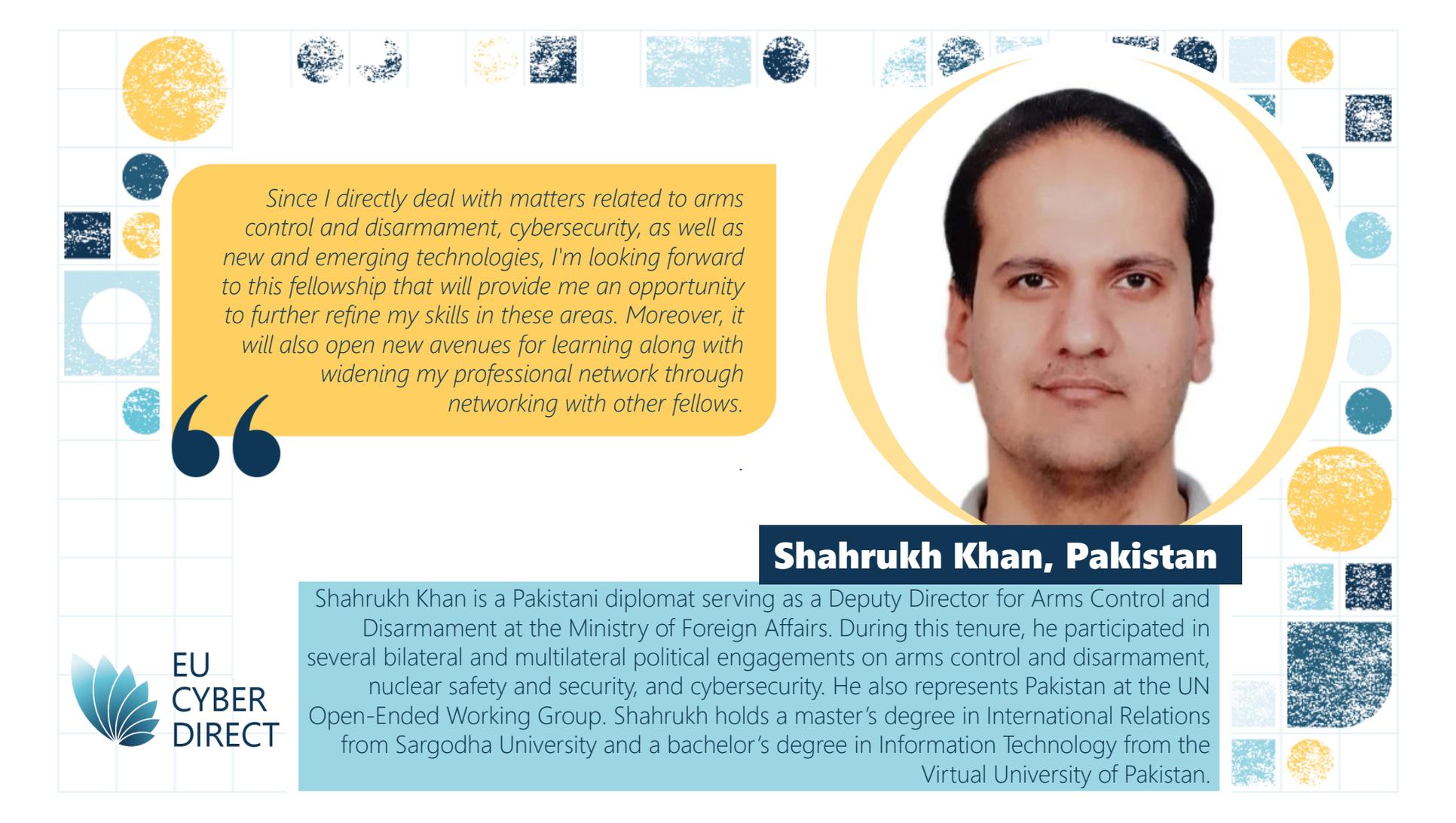
With this fellowship, I expect to deepen my knowledge of cyber issues, establish new contacts and connections with fellow professionals and experts in the field, and participate in international fora to develop multilateral instruments and approaches to countering cybercrime and cyber defence. The fellowship will contribute to my professional development and career, possibly opening new opportunities within national institutions and international organisations.



Blagoje Gledovic, Montenegro

Blagoje Gledovic is a lawyer and diplomat from Montenegro, currently serving as a Senior Advisor in the Ministry of Justice. During his 13-year-career in civil service, he worked on international relations, rule of law and security policy. Blagoje served as a diplomat in the Mission of Montenegro to the EU in Brussels, where he was in charge of rule of law, justice and home affairs. He contributed to accession talks with NATO and continuously engaged in the EU accession negotiations for Montenegro. He is an alumnus of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies.





Since I directly deal with matters related to arms control and disarmament, cybersecurity, as well as new and emerging technologies, I'm looking forward to this fellowship that will provide me an opportunity to further refine my skills in these areas. Moreover, it will also open new avenues for learning along with widening my professional network through networking with other fellows.



Shahrukh Khan, Pakistan

Shahrukh Khan is a Pakistani diplomat serving as a Deputy Director for Arms Control and Disarmament at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During this tenure, he participated in several bilateral and multilateral political engagements on arms control and disarmament, nuclear safety and security, and cybersecurity. He also represents Pakistan at the UN Open-Ended Working Group. Shahrukh holds a master's degree in International Relations from Sargodha University and a bachelor's degree in Information Technology from the Virtual University of Pakistan.



The fellowship will equip me with the necessary knowledge and diplomatic skills to meaningfully participate in highly complex multilateral discussions in the cyber domain. I intend to apply those skills back home after the completion of the fellowship to establish a one of a kind digital academy where I will help train young lawyers, practitioners, and the public at large so that Uganda will have an interested, passionate and dedicated group of young technocrats and activists who will lead Africa's meaningful participation in these multilateral discussions.



Adam Kyomuhendo, Uganda

Adam Kyomuhendo is an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Uganda. He is a member of the Uganda and East Africa Law Societies and Director at Artificial Intelligence Initiative – Africa, a non-profit organisation that campaigns against digital authoritarianism and supports fair and accountable use of technologies, as well as inclusion and diversity.

In the global south and especially in Africa there is a need to strengthen the diversity of the multistakeholder model by creating opportunities for individuals from underserved and underrepresented communities to become active participants in cyber and digital developments. This is why I will apply and share the knowledge and skills learnt during the fellowship with my community in Tanzania through workshops and training with the government, private sector, academia, NGOs, and CSOs.



Peter Mbanda, Tanzania

Peter Mbanda is the Founder and Executive Director of the non-governmental organisation Digital Agenda for Tanzania Initiative (DA4TI). He advocates for internet governance, digital rights and digital inclusion policies. He is also a trainer, linguist and researcher who contributes to policy development in multi-stakeholder processes.



I see this fellowship as an opportunity to transition from a technical perspective of information technology, networks, and cybersecurity to an overarching policy approach. I am relatively new in the policy analysis field and would like to improve my skills to be able to advise the government by the end of the programme.



Boitshepo Mogorosi, Botswana

Boitshepo Mogorosi has a background in IT systems administration and currently works as a Policy Analyst at the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services of Botswana. In the past, she worked as a Network Security Officer with a focus on network operations security policies.



This fellowship is an opportunity to discover cyberspace governance through the lens of the European Union. It will help me strengthen the knowledge needed to better advise my government and even engage African regional organisations in current UN negotiations or in the implementation of future conventions. In the long run, I hope to become one - if not the first - Cameroonian cyber diplomat. While waiting to make this major goal a reality, I would like to create a network of women cyber diplomats in Africa.



Ngumnesah Ndefru, Cameroon

Ngumnesah Ndefru is a Diplomat and Foreign Affairs Officer at the Ministry of External Relations of Cameroon. She has been dealing with disarmament issues with a particular focus on cyberspace governance. She is a fellow of the first cohort of UN Women in Cyber and has attended the Open-Ended Working Group and Ad-Hoc Committee on Cybercrime since 2020. Ngumnesah also works as a consultant for WILPF-Cameroon and as a strategic advisor for the Cyber Diplomat-LLC.



Wafa' Nimri, Jordan

Wafa' Nimri is General Manager for the Levant at Protection Group International, a cybersecurity services and training company, and is part of the Secretariat of the UK-Gulf Women in Cybersecurity Fellowship Programme. Wafa' previously worked at the Ministry of ICT in Jordan and is founder of Write Pilot, a digital marketing agency for women entrepreneurs. She holds a master's degree in Diplomacy and International Law from Lancaster University, UK. Her background in international law was instrumental in leading Arab women to attend the 3rd substantive session of the UN Open-Ended Working in May 2022.

The fellowship will build and strengthen my knowledge on subjects that are important for the future national interests of countries and will further consolidate my position as an emerging expert in cyber. I hope that engaging in this programme will provide me with an interesting angle to start developing the synopsis for my PhD.



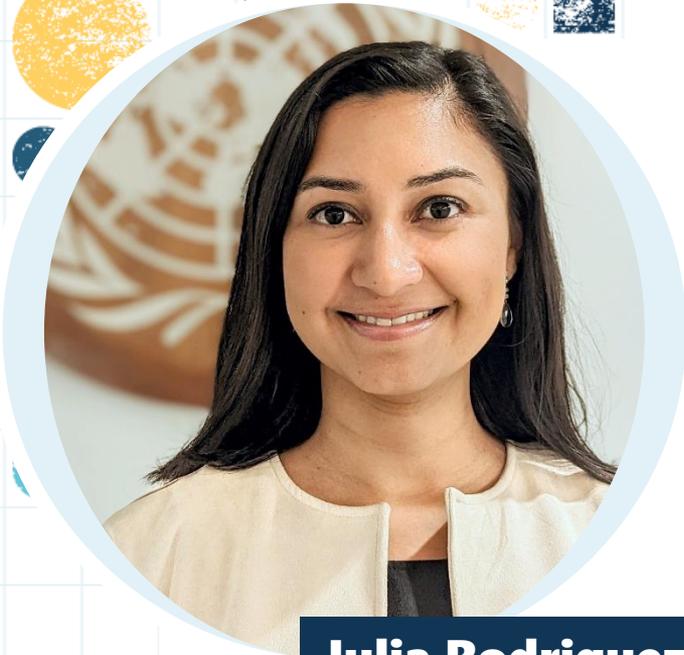
The fellowship will provide me with the necessary foundations to engage with ECOWAS member states and promote the need for collective responsibility and cooperation across the region.

At the end of the fellowship programme, I expect to be able to provide support in building national digital diplomatic capabilities.



Folake Olagunju, Nigeria

Folake Olagunju is the Program Officer for Cybersecurity, Internet and eApplications at ECOWAS, where she leads activities related to cyber issues.



The knowledge and experience that I will gain throughout this fellowship programme will tremendously help me to strengthen and establish a career in cyber diplomacy, and also to actively engage in the current multilateral discussion at the United Nations on security and ICTs and cybercrime.



Julia Rodriguez, El Salvador

Julia Rodriguez is a diplomat in the field of disarmament and international security. She has a special interest in the field of information and communication technologies and digital security. She is currently actively participating in the multilateral processes that are advancing dialogue on the responsible behaviour of states in cyberspace, deepening the understanding of existing and emerging threats on information security, CBMs, capacity building, and cyber cooperation among States and the establishment and implementation of a more structured forum to discuss cyber issues within States.



I am interested in learning about regional and multilateral approaches to counter cybercrime and more specifically in comparing and contrasting the approaches employed in Africa and those adopted by the EU and its member states. I am also looking forward to interacting with senior EU officials to learn best practices and how African states can scale up their engagement to advance the continent's priorities.



Chifundo Sohaya, Malawi

Chifundo Sohaya is a Research Analyst for peace and security for the Malawian Government. He holds an Executive Master in Global Public Diplomacy and Sustainable Development from Luiss Guido Carli University, Rome, Italy and a Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security from Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, Accra, Ghana. His areas of expertise include conflict mapping and analysis, conflict prevention and resolution strategies, peacebuilding, and geopolitical risk analysis.





Bruna Toso, Brazil

Bruna Toso is currently a Technical Advisor at the Brazilian Network Information Center (NIC.br). She holds a PhD in International Strategic Studies from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), a master's in International Strategic Studies from the same university, and a bachelor's degree in International Relations from the Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM).

As a professional working in a multistakeholder environment where I am constantly requested to provide advice on internet governance and cyber matters, I hope this fellowship will provide the tools to enhance my knowledge of critical cyber issues debated in international fora. Besides, I believe that the fellowship will open my horizons and allow me to better understand different points of view on key cyber issues, thus helping me build new bridges.



About EU Cyber Direct

EU Cyber Direct – EU Cyber Diplomacy Initiative supports the European Union’s cyber diplomacy and international digital engagements in order to strengthen rules-based order in cyberspace and build cyber resilient societies. To that aim, we conduct research, support capacity building in partner countries, and promote multistakeholder cooperation. Through research and events, EU Cyber Direct regularly engages in the discussions about the future of international cooperation to fight cybercrime and strengthen criminal justice systems globally.

About the EU:CD Fellowship



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EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP

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