SPEAKER BIOS



Dr. Thiri Shwesin Aung is a Visiting Scientist at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative. Thiri's research aims to understand the relationships among energy crisis, violent conflicts, climate and land-use change, ecological and hydrological processes, and economic and human health outcomes. Underlying this work is a broad interest in how the impacts of energy geopolitics, conflict, migration, climate and land-use change are distributed among different demographic and socioeconomic groups and how humanitarian strategies can achieve more equitable outcomes. Thiri's research models the impacts of increasing energy insecurity, climate and conflict risks on multidimensional humanitarian crises and the effectiveness of global policies designed to reduce humanitarian impacts. Thiri uses remote sensing and geospatial analysis, machine learning, global simulation models, econometrics such as computable general equilibrium models, and applied statistics.



Sarah Gale is a Technical Advisor with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre working on the Climate and Conflict team. Prior to this she has worked with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as a Delegate in Yemen, Afghanistan and Ethiopia, and the Canadian Red Cross as a Protection Advisor. She completed her Juris Doctor in Canada at the University of Victoria and her Master of Laws in Switzerland at the Geneva Academy of IHL and Human Rights. She has worked with various organizations in multiple conflict and post-conflict contexts prior to joining the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in 2016.



Dr. Will Greaves is Assistant Professor of International Relations at the University of Victoria. His research examines global security theory and politics with respect to climate change, resource extraction, and Indigenous peoples; Canadian foreign policy and Canada-US relations; and the politics of the circumpolar Arctic. Professor Greaves is the author of more than twenty peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and has co-edited two books: One Arctic: The Arctic Council and Circumpolar Governance and Breaking Through: Understanding Sovereignty and Security in the Circumpolar Arctic. His monograph on Arctic security and climate change is forthcoming from University of Toronto Press. He is a Coordinator of the North American and Arctic Defence and Security Network (www.naadsn.ca), and has received research funding from the Department of National Defence, Global Affairs Canada, UVic, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.



Joanna Harrington is a Professor in the Faculty of Law and the inaugural Associate Dean Research for the College of Social Sciences and Humanities. She also holds the Eldon Foote Chair in International Business and Law at the University of Alberta. A law professor for over 20 years, she works on issues of foreign relations law, public international law, human rights, and transnational crime. She is also a co-author of the leading Canadian textbook, International Law: Doctrine, Practice, and Theory, and a long-serving member of the board of directors of the Canadian Council on International Law.