

Speaker's Bios

Riaz Fatyana

Research Director of The Michael Dukakis Institute for Leadership and Innovation, Professor of Government and the Press of Harvard Kennedy School

Mr. Riaz Fatyana is currently the Member National Assembly of Pakistan, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Law & Justice and Convener of the Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs.

He has over 35 years of active political, executive & organizational experience, from student politics to the highest pavilions of governance. He has remained six times as Member of the Assemblies of Pakistan, served three times as the Minister in the Government of the Punjab Province, Pakistan for Education, Finance, Information & Culture. Over the last three decades, he has exhibited political acumen combined with a sense of responsibility & service to the community.



Shandana Gulzar Khan

Member National Assembly of Pakistan, Chairperson Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP), Chairperson Sub-Group on SDG 5- Gender Equality

Ms. Shandana Gulzar Khan holds a bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Peshawar. She received the Lady Noon scholarship from the University of Cambridge and studied International Trade and International Economic Laws at the postgraduate level in 2001. Ms. Khan has worked with the United Nations Development Program, the International Human Rights Law Group and in the lower courts and High Court of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province. She also worked as the Legal Affairs Officer at the Mission and in consultation with senior officers, dealing with the Dispute Settlement Understanding and TRIPS.



Ms. Khan was elected to the National Assembly of Pakistan from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in 2018 Pakistani general election. On 27 September 2018, Prime Minister Imran Khan appointed her as Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Commerce. She was elected as the Chairperson of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians, a network of women members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's parliament and legislatures, for a three-year term in 2019. The election was held at the sixth triennial conference of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians during the 64th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Kampala, Uganda. She is a

member of three Standing Committees of the National Assembly including the Standing Committee on Privatization; Planning, Development and Reform; and Industries and Production. She is also a member of the National Assembly's Special Committee on Agricultural Products

Ali Imran

Senior Expert Club de Madrid

Mr. Ali Imran is a democratic governance expert and a lawyer, working with various national and international organizations for past 20 years on the democracy, governance and human rights issues. Having his academic qualification of Masters in Political Science and Bachelor in Law, he has been working with Pakistan, UK and Asia/MENA region parliaments on parliamentary development, reforms and diplomacy.



He has worked as Country Representative for Westminster Foundation for Democracy UK (2013-2017) to strengthen parliamentary performances in Pakistan and to develop parliamentary linkages for peer learning with Westminster, Scottish & Welsh Parliaments as well as regional assemblies in Asia and MENA regions. He had worked with British Council (2017-18) as Parliamentary Strengthening Lead to support parliaments in Pakistan. As a constitutional lawyer, he has worked on devolution in Pakistan and has done research on comparative analysis of devolution in Pakistan and in UK. He has been associated with the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) as Team Leader, implementing EU funded localisation of SDGs Programme in Pakistan. He is currently working as Club de Madrid Senior Expert in Pakistan.

In the past, he has worked with the Civil Services Academy as Syndicate Adviser, Asia Foundation on Electoral Reforms and with Medecins du Monde, Aurat Foundation, UNFPA, Oxfam Novib and AGHS Legal Aid Cell on human rights and women empowerment issues.

Yves Leterme

Prime Minister of Belgium (2008,2009-2011) and Member of Club de Madrid

Yves Leterme is a former Prime Minister of Belgium. He served as Prime Minister from 2008 and 2009 to 2011 and received the honorary title of Minister of State following his premiership. He received a law degree from Catholic University of Leuven in 1981 and holds degrees in Political Science from Ghent University.

Mr. Leterme served as alderman of Ypres from 1995 to 2001 and was appointed Member of the Belgian



Parliament in 1997. In 2003, he served as the chairman of the Christian People's Party. The following year, he became the Minister-President of the Flemish government and implemented numerous economic and social welfare reforms such as a balanced government budget and improved childcare. Mr. Leterme was appointed to the position of Prime Minister for the first time in March 2008. His first term, however, ended after just 9 months when he tendered his resignation in December. He regained the premiership following a government reshuffle in July 2009. His second term proved to be more fruitful than the first. Mr. Leterme held key bilateral talks with Lebanon regarding foreign relations and strengthened bilateral relations with Vietnam by improving trade relations between the two nations. He also attempted to pass a series of reforms aimed at reducing the language divide that separates French and Dutch speakers in Belgium. Following the end of his second term in 2011, he became the Deputy Secretary-General at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in 2012. In 2016, he took up the position of secretary-general of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).

Mr. Leterme currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Commission of Elections and Democracy on the Digital Age for the Kofi Annan Foundation, founded by 2001 Nobel Peace Prize Winner and former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. He is also a member of the sustainability council for Volkswagen.

Naeem A, Mirza, Executive Director

Executive Director of Aurat Foundation

Mr. Naeem Ahmed Mirza is associated with the Aurat Foundation for the last 23 years and is currently serving as its Executive Director. He oversees and manages key administrative, programmatic and financial functions of the AF, including its outreach networks. He is involved in developing concepts and negotiating project funding, as well as, making representation on behalf of the organization at national, regional and international forums. He is involved in planning, strategizing and implementing strategic organizational obligations to achieve objectives of women's empowerment and democratic governance through research, analysis and lobbying and advocacy with the political parties, legislators and governments on women's human rights, justice and governance issues. He has been actively involved in providing vision and direction to civil society organizations in undertaking joint initiative on issues of common concern.

