



**SYMPOSIUM - MAY 13 2022**

# **Preventing and combating trafficking of conventional weapons**

**Challenges and lessons learnt  
in the Indo-Pacific region**



# SYMPOSIUM VIA ZOOM

## INSTRUCTIONS

### JOINING THE ZOOM SYMPOSIUM

**STEP 1:** Click on the link you received from communication@irsem.fr.

**STEP 2:** Connect to your Zoom Account.

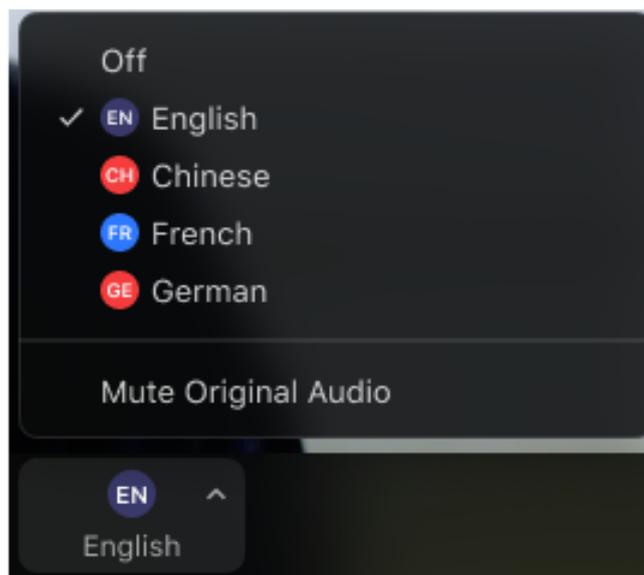
**STEP 3:** Enjoy the symposium.

### USING LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

**STEP 1:** In your meeting/webinar controls, click Interpretation.



**STEP 2:** Click the language that you would like to hear.



**STEP 3:** (Optional) To hear the interpreted language only, click Mute Original Audio.

# SYMPOSIUM

## "Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Conventional Weapons" CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION

13 May 2022

9:00 – 4:00 p.m. (UTC+2)

Illicit arms' trafficking constitutes a threat to international peace, security and stability. Combating this traffic is a priority for France, especially in the Indo-Pacific region. Consisting in the large area between Djibouti and Polynesia, the Indo-Pacific is a central hub for international trade but also for various traffics that can fuel terrorism and organized crime, often transiting via sea routes. France, which has established a defense-oriented Indo-Pacific strategy in 2020, has made this region an external policy priority of its presidency of the Council of the EU in the first half of 2022.

In this context, the seminar will be an opportunity to explore the topic of arms trafficking in the Indo-Pacific area and related issues. It will aim at providing food for thought on these issues, strengthening dialogue between key French and international stakeholders and developing proposals for action.

### AGENDA

#### **9:00 AM: RECEPTION OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE MILITARY SCHOOL AND LAUNCH OF THE ONLINE MEETING**

#### **9:30 AM: PRESENTATION OF THE FULL-DAY PROGRAMME**

Marjorie Vanbaelinghem, Deputy-Director, Institut de Recherche stratégique de l'École Militaire (IRSEM)

#### **9:30 AM: INTRODUCTION**

Bertrand Le Meur, Director for the defense strategy, prospective and counter-proliferation, Directorate General for International Relations and Strategy (DGRIS) of the French Ministry of Armed Forces.

#### **10:15 AM: FIRST ROUNDTABLE – OVERVIEW OF ARMS TRAFFICKING IN THE INDO-PACIFIC AND EFFORTS TO COMBAT IT**

This roundtable will take stock of arms trafficking in the region and efforts to combat it, including through the regulation of trade: trafficking sources and methods, transfer control, transit control, customs control.

#### **1 - "Detecting and Addressing Arms Diversion"**

Himayu Shiotani, Head of International Policy, Conflict Armament Research (CAR)

#### **2 - "L'UE et la régulation du commerce des armes classiques en Indopacifique: passé et avenir" (in French)**

Benjamin Hautecouverture, Technical director, Expertise France

#### **3 - "Trafic d'armes à feu et crimes connexes en Asie : menaces passées et futures" (in French)**

Marie-Pierre Arnold, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer (Firearms Control Expert), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

#### **4 - "The Importance of a Comprehensive Approach to Tackle Illicit Arms and Ammunition Trafficking"**

Theò Bajon, Associate Researcher, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

#### **Moderator:**

Jean-Claude Brunet, Ambassador – Transnational Criminal Threats, French ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs



**1&:30 AM - 1:00 PM:** *Lunch break*

**1:00 PM: KEYNOTE SPEECH - THE SECURITY DIMENSION OF THE FRENCH STRATEGY IN THE INDO-PACIFIC**

Cyrille Poirier-Coutansais, Research Director, Centre d'Études stratégiques de la Marine (CESM)

**1:30 PM: SECOND ROUNDTABLE - LIGHT WEAPONS TRAFFICKING IN THE INDO-PACIFIC: MARITIME ISSUES**

This roundtable will focus on the risk of maritime diversion associated with certain "sensitive" goods that are difficult to control/trace: law of the sea, maritime security, floating armories, piracy, organized crime, terrorism.

**1 - "Feedback on capacity-building training on small arms and lights weapons in South-East Asia"**

Andrew Reynolds, Small Arms and Light Weapons Project Coordinator, World Customs Organization (WCO)

**2 - "Le trafic des armes en Somalie" (in French)**

Gregory Robin, Expert in Arms trafficking and explosives in the Indo-Pacific region, Robin Smith Consulting

**3 - "Preventing Illicit Arms Flows: A capacity building perspective on the UN arms embargo on North Korea"**

David Atwood, Consultant, Small Arms Survey

**4 - "Piracy and floating armories - a legal conundrum" (on Zoom)**

Lydelle Joubert, Expert in International piracy and arms smuggling in the Western Indian Ocean, Stable Seas

**Moderator:**

Marianne Péron-Doise, Researcher North Asia (Japan, Koreas) and International Maritime Security, Institut de Recherche stratégique de l'École Militaire (IRSEM) (on Zoom)

**3:00 PM:** *Coffee break*

**3:15 PM: KEYNOTE SPEECH**

Enrique Manalo, Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations, Republic of the Philippines (on Zoom)

**3:45 PM: CONCLUSION**

Édouard Jolly, Researcher Theory of Armed Conflicts, Institut de Recherche stratégique de l'École Militaire (IRSEM)

## SYMPOSIUM

# “Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Conventional Weapons” CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION

## PANELISTS



**Marjorie  
Vanbaelinghem**

Mrs. Marjorie Vanbaelinghem is the deputy director of the Institute for Strategic Research of the Ecole Militaire (IRSEM). She is an alumna of both the Ecole Normale Supérieure (1998-2003), a school reputed in Humanities, and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (2010-2012), the French State's public management school. The latter school's curriculum included Economy and public Law and professional experiences such as internships at the French Embassy in Tokyo, at the French aeronautical firm Safran as well as in the local French administration.

She had also previously completed a PhD in History, Culture and Literature of the English-speaking world (focusing on British modern and contemporary art) as well as studied as an exchange student at The University of Berkeley, California.

Mrs. Vanbaelinghem started her career in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2009 as desk officer for arms control and OSCE military dimension in the strategic affairs directorate, and then took charge of the dossier of military operations in the Middle East and Afghanistan. She then moved on to become Head of the Business Support and Innovation Office, in the Global Economy and Business Directorate.

As far as embassy positions are concerned, Mrs. Vanbaelinghem has held the position of First Secretary, in charge of defense affairs, at the French Embassy in London, on a short-term support mission, in 2012. She was then appointed as Second Counsellor, political advisor, in charge of EU and defense affairs at the French embassy in Madrid, Spain (2015 to 2017), and then became the Head of the Press and Communication office at the same institution (2017-19).

She is multilinguistic – fluent in English and Spanish and proficient in Italian and Japanese.



**Bertrand  
Le Meur**

L'Ingénieur général de l'armement hors classe, Bertrand Le Meur is the Director for the defense strategy, prospective and counter-proliferation within the French Ministry of Armed Forces. As such, he leads the works of the ministry on strategic analysis, global defense doctrine and analysis of global tendencies affecting the environment. He also proposes the associated political and capability guidelines.

Before joining the Directorate General of International Relations and Strategy, Bertrand Le Meur served as deputy-director of international, strategic and technological affairs within the General Secretariat for National Defense, after a long career within the Directorate General of Armament (DGA).

Bertrand Le Meur is a Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honour and an Officer of the National Order of Merit.

He graduated from the École Polytechnique and from the École Nationale Supérieure des Techniques Avancées.



**Himayu Shiotani**

Himayu Shiotani is the Head of International Policy at Conflict Armament Research. He currently serves as a Policy Advisor to the Chair of the United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Conventional Ammunition. Himayu has a decade of experience in the United Nations in designing research strategy and providing policy advice on international security and disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control. Prior to his time at Conflict Armament Research, Himayu was the Head of the Conventional Arms Programme at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). Himayu's expertise include regulation of the global arms trade, armed violence reduction, explosive risk mitigation and weapon and ammunition management. He has field experiences in Central, East, West and Africa, the Middle East as well as in South and East Asia. Prior to his work with UNIDIR, he was a Research Associate at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) in Monterey, California, specialising in countering chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRNE) threats. He holds a Master's degree in International Policy Studies, with a Certificate in Nonproliferation Studies, from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies.



**Benjamin  
Hautecouverture**

Benjamin Hautecouverture is maître de recherche at the Fondation pour la recherche stratégique (Foundation for Strategic Research, FRS). He is also a technical director at Expertise France (for the European Union sensibilization program on the Arms Trade Treaty). He is a senior fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute. He is one of the founders of the European Union Non-proliferation and Disarmament Consortium. He was a lecturer at Sciences Po Paris and at École Polytechnique in Paris.

For twenty years, his areas of work have included the study of strategic relations between States, nuclear deterrence, non-proliferation and disarmament (weapons of mass destruction and conventional weapons), the armament proliferation and dissemination phenomenon, as well as export control. He has also worked on the European Union's challenges and perspectives in the field of defense and security.

He has authored several collaborative works and regularly publishes articles on major international security issues.



**Marie-Pierre  
Arnold**

Marie-Pierre ARNOLD joined UNODC in 2018. She is currently a Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer in the Firearms Trafficking Section of the UNODC Brussels Liaison Office. Previously, Marie-Pierre was a political affairs officer at the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), in Lomé, Togo. Marie-Pierre also worked for several years as a legal officer for Interpol as well as for the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

She holds a Masters in International Law from the Sorbonne University and a Masters of Political Sciences specialized in security and defense, from the Lyon III University.



**Theò Bajon**

Theò Bajon is an Associate Researcher in the Conventional Arms and Ammunition Programme of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR).

He is currently pursuing a PhD in International Security and Defence. He holds a master's degree in International Expertise and Risks at the University of Lyon 3, a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Europe from the University of Avignon, and is a former student of the Aix-en-Provence Military Highschool.

He previously worked with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) as a Project Associate on the implementation of national action plans in the framework of the Caribbean Firearms Roadmap, and with the United Nations Development Programme within the Inter-Agency Working Group on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (IAWG-DDR) as a UNV on monitoring DDR processes around the world.

He speaks English, French, Occitan, Spanish and Catalan.

His research interests focus on the issues related to conventional disarmament processes in general as well as weapons and ammunition management and more specifically in conflict and post-conflict settings, as well as the role of regional organisations and sub-state actors in these processes.



**Jean-Claude  
Brunet**

Ambassador, Special Representative for transnational criminal threats  
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs – Paris – FRANCE

Mr. Jean-Claude Brunet is in charge of coordination and support relatively to transnational organized crime threats, especially concerning the fight against illicit small arms and light weapons trafficking. He chairs various steering committees dedicated to cooperation on these subjects and also oversees the preparation and participation to major international conferences.

In June 2018, he chaired the 3rd Review Conference of the UN program of action on small arms and light weapons and currently co-chairs the Initiative to coordinate the fight against firearms traffic in the Western Balkans. From 2019 to 2020, he was the French member of the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Conventional Ammunition.

Over the course of his career within the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Brunet gained experience in the fields of strategic and security affairs, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and control of sensitive exports. He has worked at the Permanent Representation of France to the United Nations in New York and at the European External Action Service in Brussels. He then was a deputy director in charge of industrial affairs and control of sensitive exports and chaired the Conventional Arms Export Control (COARM) group in Brussels in 2008. From 2004 to 2007, Mr. Brunet was a Consul General of France in Munich.



**Cyrille P.  
Coutansais**

Cyrille P. Coutansais is the Research Director of the Marine Center of Strategic Studies (CESM). He is also the editor-in-chief of the *Études Marines* review and a lecturer in charge of a maritime economy course at Sciences Po. He authored numerous works, including the *Atlas des Empires maritimes* (2013, reedited in 2016).



**Andrew Reynolds**

Andrew Reynolds is the project coordinator for the Small Arms and Light Weapons Programme of the Security Programme of the World Customs Organization. He has worked in this area for the MENA and Asia-Pacific regions.

Previously, he worked in capacity building for the UK Government in West Africa assisting in border control matters and had spent almost thirty years working for the Customs authority of the United Kingdom.



**Grégory Robin**

Grégory Robin is an independent consultant specialized in the analysis of threats related to traffics and to the use of arms and explosives devices. He currently leads the development of the regional counter-improvised explosive devices strategy of the Security program of the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). He is also an advisor for the bureau of UNOPS Peace and Security Cluster and for various UNMAS programs.

His works and analyses focus on the study of transnational threats related to the use of arms and explosives devices by armed groups in the Middle-East, Central Asia, Eastern and Western Africa.

He is a graduate from the Bordeaux École supérieure de Chimie et de Physique and studied contemporary criminal threats at the Paris II University.



**David Atwood**

David Atwood has worked in various capacities with the Small Arms Survey since 2012. He is currently a consultant focusing on the Survey's project on UN arms embargo on North Korea. David was a senior advisor to the Small Arms Survey from 2012 to 2015.

He served as Representative for Disarmament and Peace for the Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva from 1995 to 2011 (and Director from 2004 to 2011). He was a co-founder of the Geneva Forum and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform.

He holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of North Carolina and an MA from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

From 2017 to 2020 he was an instructor at the Paris School of International Affairs (Sciences Po), teaching a course on the UN and disarmament.



**Lydelle Joubert**

Lydelle Joubert is a researcher at Stable Seas on global piracy and counter-piracy efforts and contributes research on transnational organized crime and terrorism. She has been the author of the annual State of Maritime Piracy report since 2019. She is an expert for the UNODC's Global Maritime Crime Programme, the U.S. Naval War College, and the Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa (SIGLA) at the University of Stellenbosch. She joined One Earth Future's Stable Seas program in November 2018 and became part of Stable Seas when it evolved into an independent entity in May 2021.

Lydelle brings first-hand experience in the private security sector and the South African military, as well as seagoing experience as a volunteer in search and rescue at the National Sea Rescue Institute in South Africa. She has been invited to talks and piracy presentations for the Global Counter Terrorism Forum (GCTF), the South African Navy, UNODC, UNOCT, USNWC, the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, and others.

She holds an MA in International Relations from the University of Pretoria, South Africa.



**Marianne  
Peron-Doise**

Associated Research Fellow at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS).

Graduate from the Institut d'Études Politiques (IEP) d'Aix-en-Provence and from the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Marianne Péron-Doise is a research fellow at the Institute for Strategic Research at the Military School (IRSEM) since 2015. Her work focuses on the geopolitical issues in the Indo-Pacific, especially on security and defense issues in North-East Asia (Japan, Korean peninsula), on global maritime security issues, on emerging navies and naval forces, on the main sea theaters (Indian Ocean, China Seas, Pacific Ocean).

Marianne has been a visiting fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs (Tokyo) and at the National Institute for Defense Studies (ministry of Defense, Tokyo).

She is a lecturer at Sciences Po Paris and at the Université catholique de Lille.



**Enrique A.  
Manalo**

ENRIQUE A. MANALO (born July 21, 1952) is a Filipino diplomat and presently the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations.

He served as Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs (Acting Foreign Minister) of the Philippines from March 9 to May 17, 2017.

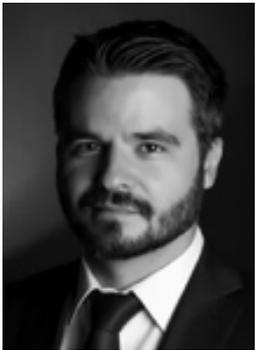
He was also Undersecretary for Policy of the Department of Foreign Affairs from 2016 to 2020 and from 2007 to 2010.

He has represented the Philippines and has served as chairman of various international meetings and conferences. While Acting Foreign Secretary, he chaired the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in April 2017. He also chaired various ASEAN Senior Officials Meetings, especially during the Philippine Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2017.

Ambassador Manalo has also chaired meetings in a number of UN bodies, and has led the Philippine Delegation in a number of multilateral, regional and bilateral meetings.

He has previously served as Philippine Ambassador to the United Kingdom from 2011 to 2016; Non-Resident Philippine Ambassador to Ireland from 2013 to 2016; Philippine Ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg and Head of the Philippine Mission to the European Union from 2010 to 2011; and Philippine Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Philippine Mission to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva from 2003 to 2007.

He is a recipient of three (3) Philippine Presidential Awards, the Gawad Mabini Award with the rank of Grand Cross (Dakilang Kamanong), the Order of Sikatuna with the rank of Grand Cross (Datu) (Gold Distinction) and the Order of Lakandula with the rank of Grand Cross (Bayani).



**Édouard Jolly**

Édouard Jolly joined the Institute for Strategic Research in 2018 as researcher in theory of armed conflicts and philosophy of war. His work focuses on all components of organized violence, particularly on the conduct of hostilities in contemporary armed conflicts. The main goal of his research consists in improving our understanding of what is called "war" in the 21st century and to develop appropriate conceptual distinctions.

He was previously a postdoctoral research fellow of the ERC GRAPH project ("The Great War and Modern Philosophy"), hosted by the Husserl Archives at the Institute of Philosophy of KU Leuven (Flemish Belgium). Qualified\* in political science (CNU 04) and philosophy (CNU 17), Doctor of Philosophy (University of Lille, 2013), he is originally specialized in 20th century German philosophy. His PhD dissertation focused on the critique of nihilism in the works of Heidegger's students, with an exegetical work centered on Anders's writings.

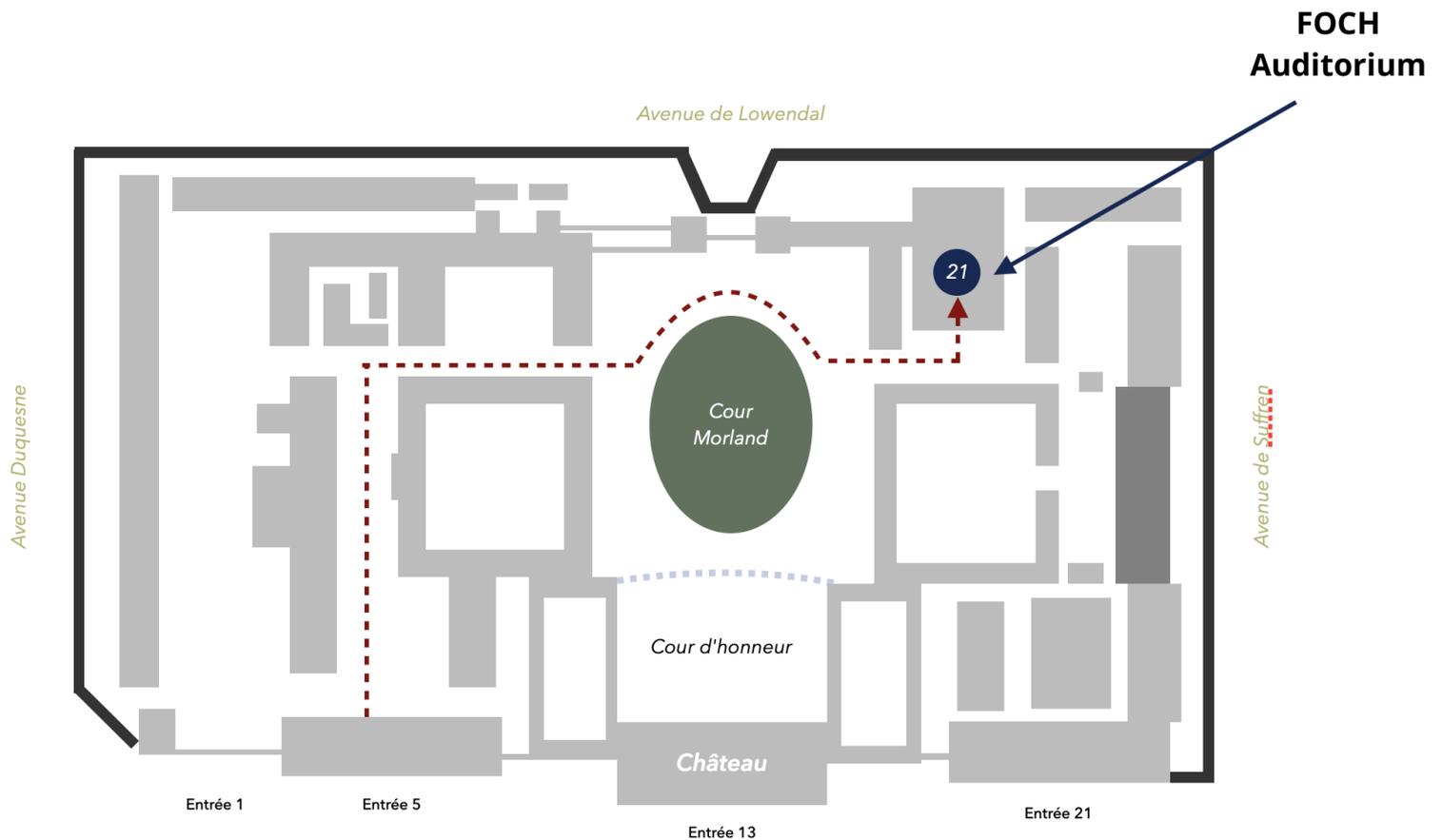
He taught at the KU Leuven, at Sciences Po Lille and at the Department of Philosophy of the University of Lille, first as contractual PhD candidate and then as an ATER (Temporary Research and Teaching Attaché). He now teaches in the Higher Military Education, at the Ecole de Guerre, and is in charge of the master seminar "War and Peace, introduction to strategic studies" at the Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas University.

He received training both at the École de Guerre-Terre (the 132nd promotion, land level operations) and École de Guerre (the 28th promotion, joint level operations).

He is also a team member of the research project ANR « ARMY » (CEVIPOF – Sciences Po, IRSEM) which analyzes the involvement of the military in the management of the COVID-19 crisis in France, Europe and USA.

\* This "qualification" procedure by the National University Council (CNU) is a prerequisite to apply for any university position in France.

# MAP OF THE MILITARY SCHOOL



## REMINDER:

- Welcoming coffee, lunch break and the afternoon break will take place next to the FOCH auditorium
- Entrance will be at 5, place Joffre, 75007 Paris, France