

UNU-MERIT CAREER FAIR PROGRAMME

CAREERS BEYOND BORDERS

12 April 2024, 10:00 hrs – 16:00 hrs CEST

or via Zoom

<https://maastrichtuniversity.zoom.us/j/88260636385?pwd=a3p1YzJldVZteCt5dExpVXpZMXNFQT09>

Meeting ID: 882 6063 6385 Password: 375862

10:00 – 10:30	Welcome of Speakers/Guests	(Staff Lounge)
10:00 – 10:30	Students arrival & registration	(Lobby)
10:45 – 11:00	Welcome Remarks	(Conference Room 0.18)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Prof. Dr. Bartel Van de Walle, Director, UNU-MERIT➤ Dr. Julieta Marotta, Director MPP, UNU-MERIT	
11:00 – 12:00	Panel Discussion	(Conference room 0.18)

Journeys to Leadership in International Organizations

In the first session we invite you to embark on an inspiring journey with our panel of distinguished leaders as they share their career paths into prominent international agencies. In this captivating discussion, you'll hear firsthand accounts of the challenges, triumphs, and pivotal moments that shaped their careers. From navigating complex geopolitical landscapes, to driving impactful global initiatives within their work. Our expert panellists will talk about the relevant projects/programmes within their agencies and, how graduates can align personal values and interests within the broader vision of international organisations. In the final 15 minutes engage with our speakers directly during a dynamic Q&A session.

Speakers: (10 – 15 mins presentation followed by a moderated discussion)

- **Marian Blondeel**, Head of Benelux & EU Desk at United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe
- **Liatifa Ibragimova**, Political Administrator at EU Consilium
- **Dr. Vincenzo Vinci**, Social Protection Specialist at World Bank (Online)

Moderator: Dr. Michal Natorski, Assistant Professor, UNU-MERIT

*Reserve 5-10 mins for audience Q&A

12:00 – 13:30 **Networking Lunch**

(Room 0.16/0.17)

13:30 – 14:40 **Panel Discussion**

(Conference room 0.18)

Careers and Networking: Navigating Your Path to International Organizations

The session on "Careers and Networking: Navigating Your Path to International Organizations" offers insights into building a career that addresses global challenges like climate change and social equity. It will cover strategies for starting a career in international organizations, emphasizing essential skills for success. Topics include understanding the sector's landscape, the importance of aligning skills with mission-driven goals, and the role of networking in accessing opportunities. Expert speakers will discuss the recruitment process, highlighting the need for internships, volunteer work, and relevant education. Key skills such as cultural sensitivity, adaptability, and problem-solving will be discussed. The session aims to equip attendees with advice on starting a fulfilling career, stressing perseverance and the importance of continuous learning and professional development.

Speakers: (Guided questions)

- **Dr. Tareq Abuelhaj**, Independent Consultant (Online)
- **Véronique Benoit-Gex**, HR & Partnerships Programme Officer at International Telecommunication Union (Online)
- **Dr. Ana Cristina Calderon Ramirez**, Senior Specialist at Inter-American Development Bank (Online)
- **Veronika Georgieva**, Tendering Officer at European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)
- **Dr. Mutinta Nseluke Hambayi**, Deputy Country Director, UN World Food Programme Rwanda (Online)

Moderator: Dr. Julieta Marotta, Director MPP, UNU-MERIT

*Reserve 5-10 mins for audience Q&A

14:45 – 16:00 **Closing Drinks**

(Conference room 0.18)