

Jean-Baptiste  
**JEANGÈNE VILMER**

**French Ambassador to Vanuatu and Solomon Islands**

Embassy of France in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands  
Lini Highway, BP. 60, Port-Vila  
Vanuatu

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French citizen, 46 (born September 25, 1978)  
Married with two children



## Short CV

Current as of November 23, 2024

Educated in France and abroad in three disciplines - philosophy (B.A., M.A., Ph.D.), law (LL.B., LL.M., postdoc) and political science (Ph.D.) - Jean-Baptiste Jeangène Vilmer is the French Ambassador to Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. Previously, he was Director of the *Institut de recherche stratégique de l'École militaire* (Institute for Strategic Research, IRSEM) at the French Ministry of the Armed Forces (2016-2022), Policy Officer in charge of "Security and Global Affairs" at the *Centre d'analyse, de prévision et de stratégie* (Policy Planning Staff, CAPS) at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2013-2016), Banting Postdoctoral Researcher at the Faculty of Law at McGill University in Canada (2011-2013), Lecturer in the Department of War Studies at King's College London in the United Kingdom (2010-2011), Postdoctoral Researcher at the *Ecole Normale Supérieure* in Paris (2010), Postgraduate Fellow at the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale University in the USA (2008-2009), Attaché at the French Embassy in Turkmenistan (2007-2008), and Lecturer at the Department of Philosophy at the University of Montreal (2004-2007).

Honorary Ancien of the NATO Defense College, former nonresident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council's Europe Center, former auditor of the *Institut des hautes études de défense nationale* (Institute of Advanced Studies in National Defense, IHEDN), former member of the Defense Ethics Committee created by the Minister of the Armed Forces, he is the recipient of several awards (including the Maréchal Foch Prize of the Académie française in 2013, and being nominated a Munich Young Leader at the Munich Security Conference in 2018). He is also the co-director of the French-speaking platform LeRubicon.org (in partnership with Warontherocks.com). Author of over 100 articles, including in peer-reviewed academic journals, and about 20 books, he published mostly on international relations and mutations of conflictuality (hybrid threats, information manipulations, influence operations).

## EMPLOYMENT



**French Ministry  
for Europe and  
Foreign Affairs,  
stationed in  
VANUATU**

**Ambassador of France to Vanuatu and Solomon  
Islands**

**Since  
November  
17, 2022**



**Ministry of the  
Armed Forces,  
FRANCE**

**Director of the Institute for Strategic Research**  
(*Institut de recherche stratégique de l'École  
militaire, IRSEM*) – appointed by ministerial decree

**2016-2022**

- **Management of a team of 50 people** with different status: researchers (PhDs in political science, law, geography, economics, philosophy, history), military (general officers, senior officers of the army, navy and air force, military engineers), civil administrators, university professors.

- **Supervision of the written production** (dozens of notes, studies, articles per year) on all geographical and thematic topics.

- **Management of an operational budget of €430,000** (excluding salaries) to finance postdoctoral fellowships, consulting contracts, a hundred missions abroad and a hundred events per year.

- **Event management:** deputy manager of *La Fabrique Défense* (1st edition in 2020, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition in 2022), with 245 partners and 35,000 participants in France and Europe.

- **Missions** in Europe (EU, UK, Belarus, Ukraine), Russia, Turkey, North America (Canada, United States), Asia-Pacific (Australia, China, South Korea, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Vietnam), Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Madagascar, Morocco, Sudan).



**Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs,  
FRANCE**

**Policy Officer on “Security and Global Affairs”  
at the Policy Planning Staff** (*Centre d'Analyse, de  
Prévision et de Stratégie, CAPS*):

**2013-2016**

- Collective security: UN Security Council, Libya, Syria, Ukraine, R2P, veto restraint;

- International law (use of force, self-defense, universal jurisdiction, International Criminal Court), human rights and democracy;

- Targeted killings, armed drones, autonomous weapons;

- Horn of Africa;

- Strategic communication (arguments and counter-arguments, especially on Syria and Ukraine);

- International world order;

- Missions in Europe, North America (Canada, United States), Asia (China, Taiwan), Africa (Morocco, Niger) and South America (Brazil).



**McGill University,  
CANADA**

**Researcher at the Faculty of Law**, McGill Center for Human Rights & Legal Pluralism, Banting Postdoctoral Fellow (Canadian Government Postdoctoral Fellowship) - Research on armed drones, targeted killings and military robotization (autonomous weapons)

**2011-2013**



**King's College  
London,  
UNITED  
KINGDOM**

**Lecturer in International Relations at the Department of War Studies** – Courses: International Relations Theory, Concepts and Methods, Causes of War, War in the International Order.

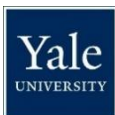
**2010-2011**



**Ecole Normale  
Supérieure de  
Paris, FRANCE**

**Postdoctoral researcher, assistant to the director** – creation of the PSL Research University (*Paris Sciences & Lettres*), organization of the Night of Philosophy.

**2010**



**Yale University,  
UNITED STATES**

**Postgraduate Fellow** (Ph.D. student) at the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies - working on a doctoral dissertation on humanitarian intervention under the supervision of prof. Thomas Pogge.

**2008-2009**



**French Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs,  
stationed in  
TURKMENISTAN**

**Attaché to the French Embassy in Turkmenistan,  
Ashgabat**

**2007-2008**



**University of  
Montreal,  
CANADA**

**Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy** – Courses: Critical Thinking and Argumentation, Introduction to Ethics.

**2004-2007**

## EDUCATION

2015-2016 - 68th Defense Policy Session of the Institute for Advanced National Defense Studies (IHEDN) - title conferred by Prime Ministerial Decree, Paris, France

2013 - Postdoctoral Fellow, McGill University, Canada

2010 - Postdoctoral Fellow, Ecole Normale Supérieure Ulm (today Université Paris, Sciences & Lettres, PSL), France

2009 – Ph.D. in Political Science, School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (*Ecole des Hautes études en sciences sociales*, EHESS) and Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Montreal (joint supervision). Dissertation: *In the Name of Humanity? History, Law, Ethics and Politics of Military Interventions Justified on Humanitarian Grounds*.

2009 - Certificate from The Hague Academy of International Law, The Netherlands, Public International Law Program

2009 - Visiting Fellow, Amsterdam Center for International Law (ACIL), Amsterdam Law School, University of Amsterdam

2008-2009 - Postgraduate Fellow, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, USA

2008 - LL.M. (Master) in International Law, McGill University, Canada

2007 - Visiting Scholar, *Maison Française d'Oxford* (MFO), University of Oxford, UK  
2003 – LL.B. (Bachelor of Laws), Faculty Jean Monnet, University Paris-11 Orsay (now Université Paris-Saclay)  
2001 – DEA (postgraduate degree aimed to prepare for advanced doctoral studies) in Philosophy, University Paris-4 Sorbonne (now Sorbonne Université)  
2000 - MA in Philosophy, University Paris-1 Panthéon-Sorbonne  
1999 - BA in Philosophy, University Paris-1 Panthéon-Sorbonne  
1996 – *Baccalauréat* (college diploma) in Sciences, specialization in Mathematics

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

### Grants and scholarships

- Maréchal Foch Prize of the Académie française (2013)
- Olivier Debouzy Prize of the *Club des Juristes* (French lawyers association) and the law firm August & Debouzy (2012)
- Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship, the most prestigious postdoctoral fellowship program of the Canadian government, ranked 1st out of 70 recipients and 658 international applications (\$140,000 for two years, 2011-2013)
- Aguirre-Basualdo Prize in Law and Political Science from the Chancellery of Paris (€10,000, 2010)
- Prize for the Best Doctoral Thesis of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies of the University of Montreal, Canada (\$1,500, 2010)
- Prize for the Best Doctoral Thesis in International Relations, University of Montreal, Canada (\$1000, 2010)
- Dean's Honor List, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, University of Montreal, Canada (2009-2010)
- Jean-Walter Zellidja Fellowship, *Académie française* (€7000, 2008-2009)
- MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies Fellowship, Yale University, USA (\$20,000, 2008-2009)
- Oxford Maison française Fellowship, UK (£250, 2007)
- Frontenac Prize, French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (\$13,500, 2006-2009)
- University of Montreal Center for Ethics Research Grant (CREUM, \$7,000, 2006-2007)
- Paule Rolland-Thomas Fellowship, University of Montreal, recognizing the best graduate student in the Department of Philosophy (\$500, 2006)
- Excellence Fellowship, University of Montreal, Department of Philosophy (\$20,000, 2004-2007)

### Other distinctions

- 12th Leaders in Governance Program, Civil Service College, Singapore (August 2019)
- High-level Invitation Program of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (March 2019)
- Munich Young Leaders (high potentials under the age of 40 selected by the German embassies worldwide and then by the Körber Foundation and the President of the Munich Security Conference) (2018)
- First Chair of War Studies in France, Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme (FMSH) (2014-2018)

### Declined Offers

- Associate Professor position with tenure at the Faculty of Philosophy, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Canada (2013)
- Melbourne Law School McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellowship, Australia (\$ 210,000 for three years, 2011-2014)
- Munk School of Global Affairs Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Toronto, Canada (\$ 50,000 for one year, 2011-2012)

## **PUBLICATIONS (selection)**

### **27 books**, including:

- *Le Réveil stratégique. Essai sur la guerre permanente* (with contributions from the French Armed Forces Chief of Staff, General Thierry Burkhard, and Michel Goya, Beatrice Heuser, Olivier Schmitt, Alexandre Jubelin), Editions du Seuil, 2024 (240 p.).
- *Les Mondes du renseignement. Approches, acteurs, enjeux*, with Paul Charon (eds.), PUF, 2024 (584 p.).
- *Les Opérations d'influence chinoises : un moment machiavélien*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, with Paul Charon, Editions des Equateurs, 2024 (727 p.).
- *Pour une éthique du renseignement*, PUF, 2023 (170 p.).
- *Imaginaires nucléaires. Représentations de l'arme nucléaire dans l'art et la culture*, with Céline Jurgensen, Odile Jacob, 2021 (378 p.).
- *Les opérations extérieures de la France*, with Julian Fernandez, CNRS Editions, 2020 (335 p.).
- *Théories des relations internationales*, Que sais-je ?, PUF, 2020, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2023 (128 p.).
- *Dictionnaire de la guerre et de la paix*, with General Benoît Durieux and Frédéric Ramel (eds.), PUF, 2017 (1500 p., 300 entries, 200 contributors).
- *La Responsabilité de protéger*, Que sais-je ?, PUF, 2015 (126 p.).
- *Erythrée, un naufrage totalitaire*, with Franck Gouéry, PUF, 2015 (334 p.).
- *Ethique des relations internationales. Problématiques contemporaines*, with Ryoa Chung (eds.), foreword by Pierre Hassner, PUF, 2013 (474 p.).
- *La Guerre au nom de l'humanité. Tuer ou laisser mourir*, foreword by Hubert Védrine, PUF, 2012 (596 p.).
- *24 heures chrono. Le choix du mal*, PUF, 2012 (168 p.).
- *Pas de paix sans justice ? Le dilemme de la paix et de la justice en sortie de conflit armé*, Presses de Sciences Po, 2011 (304 pages).
- *Turkménistan*, CNRS Editions, 2010 (479 p.).
- *Réparer l'irréparable. Les réparations aux victimes devant la Cour pénale internationale*, PUF, 2009 (200 p.).

### **Policy reports:**

- *Chinese Influence Operations: A Machiavellian Moment*, with Paul Charon, IRSEM, Paris, September 2021, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. October 2021 (654 p.).
- *Information Defense: Policy Measures Taken Against Foreign Information Manipulation*, Atlantic Council's DFRLab and Europe Center, Washington DC, July 2021 (33 p.).
- *Effective State Practices Against Disinformation: Four Country Case Studies*, European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats, Helsinki, 2021 (32 p.).
- *The 'Macron Leaks' Operation: A Post-Mortem*, IRSEM/Atlantic Council, 2019 (58 p.).
- *Information Manipulation: A Challenge for our Democracies*, with Alexandre Escorcía, Marine Guillaume and Janaina Herrera, report by the Policy Planning Staff (CAPS) of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM) of the Ministry of the Armed Forces, Paris, August 2018 (212 p., available for download on both MFA and MoD websites).

### **Over a hundred articles and book chapters**, including:

- "Putin Loses No Matter How This Plays Out, But We Might Too", *War on the Rocks*, 2 mars 2022.
- "Not So Remote Drone Warfare", *International Politics*, 2021 online (republished in vol. 60, 2023, p. 897-918).
- "A French Opinion on the Ethics of Autonomous Weapons", *War on the Rocks*, 2 June 2021.
- "A Matter of Balance: A French Perspective on Limited Strikes", *Ethics and International Affairs*, 34:2, Summer 2020.
- "The Forever-Emerging Norm of Banning Nuclear Weapons", *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 2020 online (republished in 45:3, 2022, p. 478-504).
- "Russia as a hurricane, China as climate change: Different ways of information warfare", *War on the Rocks*, 21 January 2020.
- "A People-Oriented Peace Formula for the Donbass", *The Washington Quarterly*, 42:2, 2019, p. 115-132.

- “The Responsibility Not To Veto: A Genealogy”, *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, 24:3, 2018, p. 331-349.
- “Successfully Countering Russian Electoral Interference: 15 Lessons Learned from the Macron Leaks”, *CSIS Brief, Center for Strategic and International Studies*, Washington D.C., June 2018.
- “Aron’s Oxyrnus International Ethics”, in Olivier Schmitt (ed.), *Raymond Aron and International Relations*, Routledge, 2018, p. 70-92.
- “France and the American Drone Precedent: A Consequentialist Response to a Polemical Critique”, in Daniel R. Brunstetter and Jean-Vincent Holeindre (eds.), *The Ethics of War and Peace Revisited*, Georgetown University Press, 2018, p. 97-116.
- “The French Turn to Armed Drones”, *War on the Rocks*, 22 September 2017.
- “The African Union and the International Criminal Court: Counteracting the crisis”, *International Affairs*, 92:6, 2016, p. 1319-1342.
- “Autonomous Weapon Diplomacy: The Geneva Debates”, *Ethics and International Affairs*, 27 September 2016.
- “Ten Myths About the 2011 Intervention in Libya”, *The Washington Quarterly*, 39:2, 2016, p. 23-43.
- “Frogs of War: Explaining the New French Military Interventionism”, avec Olivier Schmitt, *War on the Rocks*, 14 October 2015.
- “Terminator Ethics: Should We Ban ‘Killer Robots’?”, *Ethics and International Affairs*, 23 mars 2015.
- “Humanitarian Intervention and Disinterestedness”, *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice*, 19:2, 2007, p. 207-216.

**An average of twenty presentations per year since 2006** at international conferences, in France and abroad (Europe, Brazil, Canada, South Korea, China, United States, Madagascar, Morocco, India).

**Frequent parliamentary hearings** since 2010 for the French National Assembly (Committee on National Defense and Armed Forces) and Senate (Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense), and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

**Regular Op-Eds in newspapers**, mostly in French in *Le Monde*. See also “Understanding the Caledonian crisis: A response from the French Ambassador”, *Vanuatu Daily Post*, 26 June 2024; “The Kairos of European Defence”, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 17 February 2018.

**Media experience:** More than 300 interviews (press, radio, television) with international media since 2008 (RFI, France Culture, France Inter, Radio Canada, TV5 Monde, RTBF, France 24, Public Sénat, Canal +, France 5, France 3, *Le Monde*, *Libération*, *Le Temps*, *Ouest-France*, *Le Devoir*, *Il Foglio*, *La Tribune*, *L’Express*, *Sciences humaines*, etc.).

## AFFILIATIONS

- Co-director of Rubicon, a French-language platform for analysis of international issues (LeRubicon.org)
- Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Canada's Network for Strategic Analysis (NSA)
- Member of the Interdisciplinary Center for Nuclear Studies and Strategy (CIENS) of the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Paris
- Member of the International Studies Association (ISA)
- Associate Member of the Raoul-Dandurand Chair in Strategic and Diplomatic Studies at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)
- Honorary Ancien of the NATO Defense College (as a lecturer and member of the Academic Advisory Board 2015-2019)
- Former Nonresident senior fellow, Europe Center, Atlantic Council, Washington DC (2019-2022)
- Former member of the Ethics Committee of the French Ministry of the Armed Forces (2020-2023)
- Founder and former Vice-President of the French Association for Studies on War and Strategy (AEGES)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sciences Po (2 courses per year for 9 years, 2013-2022)**, Paris School of International Affairs, Master in International Security & Master in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action: *International Humanitarian Law* (Lecture, Fall) and *War and the International Order* renamed *War Studies* (Seminar, Spring).
- **Ecole Normale Supérieure Ulm (2015-2020)**, Interdisciplinary Center for Nuclear Studies and Strategy (CIENS), Research Seminar on Ethics and Nuclear Weapons, with Nicolas Roche and Hubert Tardy-Joubert.
- **Université Paris-2 Panthéon-Assas (2015-2016)**, Master in International Relations & Master in Security and Defense: Arms ethics and Geopolitics seminars.
- **Université catholique de Louvain (2014-2016)**, Faculty of Economic, Social, Political and Communication Sciences (ESPO), André Molitor Chair of Political, Administrative and International Reforms: Ethics and the Law of War (Lectures).
- **War College (2014-2015)**: Mentoring of a group of 15 Air Force trainees.
- **Ecole Spéciale Militaire de Saint-Cyr (2013-2014)**, Honour's course: *The Ethics and Laws of War* (seminar for foreign cadets).
- **McGill University (2012-2013)**, Faculty of Law: *International Humanitarian Law* (LLB/LLM, seminar).
- **Université de Montréal (2012-2013)**, Faculty of Law: *International Humanitarian Law* (LLB/LLM, seminar).
- **King's College London (2010-2011)**, Department of War Studies: *War in International Order* (Lecture, BA, Fall and Spring), *Causes of War* (Lecture, BA, Fall and Spring), *Concepts and Methods in International Relations* (Seminar, MA, Spring), *Theories of International Relations* (Seminar, MA, Fall). Supervised one Ph.D. dissertation, 8 MA students, and 2 BA students.
- **Université de Montréal (2004-2007)**, Department of Philosophy: *Critical Thinking and Argumentation* (BA, lecture) and *Introduction to Ethics* (BA, lecture).

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Co-direction of a book series: collection of collective works from the LeRubicon.org platform at Editions des Equateurs (Paris), regularly publishing volumes with around ten authors each (8 volumes published between 2022 and 2024).
- Publication Director of *Champs de Mars. Revue d'études sur la guerre et la paix*, IRSEM's peer-reviewed academic journal, published with the Presses de Sciences Po (2017-2022).
- Reviewer for several academic journals: *International Security* (MIT Press), *Journal of Strategic Studies* (Taylor & Francis), *Review of International Studies* (Cambridge University Press), *International Affairs* (Chatham House), *Global Governance* (Brill), *Canadian Yearbook of International Law* (Cambridge University Press), *African Security Review* (Routledge), *Global Responsibility to Protect* (Brill), *Critique internationale* (Presses de Sciences Po), *Etudes internationales* (HEI Laval), and *Ethics and Information Technology* (Springer).
- Creator and co-director of the TV series analysis collection "*La série des séries*" at the Presses Universitaires de France (PUF, 24 volumes published between 2012 and 2018).
- Co-founder of the AEGES collections: "Guerre et stratégie" with CNRS Editions and "Engagements" with Armand Colin.
- Member of several doctoral dissertations juries in France and abroad.
- Member of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) committee "Imagining the Future of Canada" "to identify the major challenges that Canada will face in a changing globalized world" (2012-2013).

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

### Travel Photography

- 4 photo books published on Djibouti (2017); Eritrea (2015); Danakil, Ethiopia (2011); Turkmenistan (2009).
- Photo essays published in *Grands Reportages*, *L'Express*, *La Chronique* (Amnesty International France monthly), etc.
- Finalist of 2012 Médecins Sans Frontières photo contest with a photo taken in the Danakil Depression (Ethiopia).