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**Dr. Alessandro Arduino** is a member of the Advisory Group of the International Code of Conduct Associations for private security companies, an affiliate lecturer at Lau China Institute, King's College London and a visiting professor at Geneva Graduate Institute. He is recognized as a foremost expert on Chinese private security and the author of the reference book on the subject "China's Private Army." Dr. Arduino is known for his unique access to Chinese private security companies and the main actors in the private military. His book *Money for Mayhem: Mercenaries, Private Military Companies, Drones, and the Future of War* (Rowman & Littlefield, October 2023) forecasts what the future of war looks like in a world dominated by private armies.

Previously Dr. Arduino served as a China expert for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Italian Consulate General in Shanghai, co-director of the Security and Crisis Management International Center at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS), and principal research fellow at the Middle East Institute at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Dr. Arduino has been awarded several senior fellowships including Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS CARI), and S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (NTU).

Dr. Arduino is a native Italian speaker and is fluent in English and Mandarin Chinese. He has contributed to several publications including *Foreign Policy*, *Janes Intelligence*, *South China Morning Post*, the *National Interest*, *War on the Rocks*, the *Diplomat*, *Think China SG*, and *Nikkei Asia*. His reputation as a Belt and Road Initiative security expert has led him to work with international organizations, including the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the European Union, OSCE, and NATO. His interviews appear on the pages of renowned media outlets, including the *Financial Times*, *New York Times*, the *Economist*, *BBC Worldwide*, *CNBC Live*, and *Washington Post*.

*Dr. Arduino has not previously testified before the Commission.*