

MEDIA STATEMENT

Approved for Public Release

Date: Tuesday, 04 February 2025

UNISA experts available for commentary on the 2025 State of the Nation Address (SoNA)

The President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa will deliver the 2025 State of the Nation Address (SoNA) on Thursday, 06 February 2025 at 19:00.

This will be the first State of the Nation Address (SoNA) of the 7th Administration and under a Government of National Unity (GNU) since the advent of democracy and democratic elections in 1994.

The address is also coming at a time where South Africa is dealing with diplomatic issues such as the current developments in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as well as “South Africa teething diplomatic relations with United State of America (USA)”, which have generated significant interest from the public and pundits alike.

As per standing practice, the University of South (Unisa) will avail several of its academics and expert commentators to provide thought leadership and expert opinion on a variety of topics related to the SoNA as well as the political and socio-economic landscape in general.

The following are the academics and experts who are available from Unisa.

NAME	FIELDS	CONTACT DETAILS
Dr Benny Lekubu	Law	082 555 3148
Professor BB Senokoane	Politics	072 390 4724
Prof. Dirk Kotze	Politics	012 429 6512 / 082 789 7401
Adv. Siphon Mantula	Public and International Affairs	079 565 7799
Prof. Rudolph Zinn	Crime	012 433 9417 / 082 341 3849
Prof. Hendrick Lochner	Police Practice	012 433 9313 / 072 238 1441
Ms. Lefatshe Moagi	Gender Studies, Political Philosophy, International Relations (English and Setswana)	084 371 4787
Prof. Mlungisi Phakathi	Governance, Political Conflicts and Transformation (Isizulu and English)	072 037 9218
Dr. Mahlogonolo Thobane	Crime	012 433 9523 / 073 079 0817
Prof. Everisto Benyera	Energy International Diplomacy	079 079 2434
Prof. Anja du Plessis	Water Crisis	073 113 1664
Prof. Ramodungoane Tabane	General Education issues	082 706 8568



Prof. Richard Meissner	Politics surrounding water management at national and local government. -Water security. -International river basin politics e.g The greater Ethiopia Renaissance Dam (English)	071 677 6262
Ms. Jacolize Meiring	Economy/Happiness Index	082 354 5777
Mrs Sanet Solomon	Politics, Governance and Political Transformation, Political Conflicts (English)	082 316 1847
Prof Buhle Dube	Law, Public and International Affairs	064 907 1502

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