

Bernard Odendaal, CEO, The Fact Foundry

Bernard Odendaal holds a BA Political Science and a Master's Degree in Security Studies from the University of Pretoria. During his professional career he worked as a research assistant at the Institute of Security Studies at the University of Pretoria, where after he worked as a Project Manager at a Competitive Intelligence consultancy. The majority of his professional career was spent at the Defence Decision Support Institute (part of ARMSCOR Defence Institutes). During his time there he performed duties as Project Manager and Defence Analyst. He managed research projects for the SA Air Force and co-developed and lectured on courses at 85 Combat Flying School at AFB Makhado. Other projects included defining the capability needs of the SA Air Force in areas such as Combat ISR and air transport. He also managed projects in the Defence Policy environment and provided inputs to the new South African Defence Review which is being developed at present. In December 2011 Bernard ventured on a new course and started his own geo-strategic consultancy (The Fact Foundry), focussing on the needs of large corporates in South Africa and abroad. He is a keen pilot and obtained his Private Pilot's License in 1993.