

## **2021 UCT BOOK AWARD**

*Words are Weapons: Inside ISIS's Rhetoric of Terror*

**Philippe Salazar**

**Distinguished Professor in Rhetoric**

**Department of Private Law, Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town**

As noted by French Academy “Immortal” and philosopher Barbara Cassin, “Salazar’s book is unique in its careful grasp of extreme Islamic propaganda as a global rhetoric and it helps us understand how the electronic age may well be our own ethical undoing in the face of new totalitarianisms”. This concurs with Cheryl Glen, Distinguished Professor of Rhetoric and Women Studies at Penn State University, who highlights that “*Words are Weapons* illuminates the Caliphate’s rhetorical power, showing us Westerners all the ways we do not understand”. Robert Hariman, Professor of Rhetoric at Northwestern, Chicago, sums it up: “Instead of using the usual clichés about civilisation and barbarism, he argues for understanding, and replaces certitude with discernment”.