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**Thomas Vonier** FAIA RIBA is president of the International Union of Architects (UIA), the only global organisation representing the world's architects, estimated to number some 3.2 million in all. Thomas has worked on challenges arising from rapid urbanization, regional conflict and insecurity, and changing climate patterns. He participated in COP 21 (Paris) and COP 22 (Marrakesh), as well as in Habitat III (Quito) and the World Urban Forum 9 (Kuala Lumpur). He makes regular media and conference appearances on issues related to the built environment, most recently on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*, speaking on urban security.

Based in Paris and Washington DC, **Thomas Vonier** works with public and private clients to secure commercial and institutional facilities, as well as with municipalities to improve urban security. A board certified security professional, he led ground-breaking work on US embassies and consulates, resulting in landmark recommendations to the US Secretary of State. Thomas served as president of the 90 thousand-member American Institute of Architects. He lectures widely on architecture, and was a research affiliate with the Laboratory of Architecture and Planning at MIT.

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