

Curriculum Vitae – Dr. Achim WENNMANN

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PROFILE

- Achim Wennmann works across research, policy, and practitioner communities to enable critical thinking, facilitate partnerships and find solutions.
- He has over 20 years of experience in strategic management of complex policy and research projects and served in a variety of advisory roles for companies, foundations, international organizations, NGOs, and governments. He is also co-founder of Geneva Peace Week and the Peace Talks Initiative and has facilitated numerous multi-stakeholder processes.
- Having worked with many peace mediators and community workers over the last decade, Achim believes in the merits of dialogue and negotiation for preventing and resolving conflicts, even in the most difficult contexts and with the most difficult actors.
- His academic work has been published in journals such as *Third World Quarterly*; *Global Governance*; *Security Dialogue*; the *International Review of the Red Cross*; *Conflict, Security and Development*; and the *Journal of International Business Policy*, and in edited volumes published by Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press or Routledge.
- Achim has strong diplomatic skills and judgment capacity and is an experienced public speaker and facilitator with an ability to address different audiences on sensitive issues. He speaks English, German, Spanish and French.

WORK HISTORY

Executive Coordinator, *Geneva Peacebuilding Platform*, Geneva, Switzerland (since Mar.2011). Executive position to drive, fundraise and advance a network of peace professionals, knowledge hub, and incubator. The Platform has a mandate to facilitate interaction on peacebuilding between different institutions and sectors, and to advance new knowledge and understanding of peacebuilding issues and contexts. As Executive Coordinator, I have shaped various multi-stakeholder processes:

- Towards a Geneva Cities Initiative (January 2018-present)
- Working Group on the Confluence of Urban Safety and Peacebuilding (Jan. 2015 – Dec.2017)
- Geneva Peace Week (July 2014 – present)
- Geneva Peace Talks (July 2013 – present)
- White Paper on Peacebuilding (October 2013 – March 2015)
- Conflict prevention in the context of large scale business investments (Jan. – Dec. 2012)

Senior Researcher (since 2016) & **Researcher** (2006-2015), *Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP)*, *Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies*, Geneva.

Current research focus

- Adaptation of peace mediation, conflict prevention and peacebuilding practice to changing global, regional and local orders.
- Opportunities and constraints of post-conflict economic development in the nexus of state sovereignty and hybrid political orders.
- Transnational diplomacy of cities and corporations and universities, with a focus on violence reduction and risk mitigation.
- The political economy of violent conflict, peace processes and political transitions.
- Peace and conflict dynamics in Latin America and the MENA region

Past research mandates from a variety of actors, including the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the World Bank, OECD, DFID, PRIO, International Council of Swedish Industry, and Conciliation Resources, and other institutions.

Invited Lecturer, Interdisciplinary Programmes, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (since 2015)

- Peace Mediation in a Changing World (6ECTS since 2019)
- Business and Security in Fragile States (3 ECTS 2015-2017, 6 ECTS since 2018)
- The Transformation of Armed Groups (3 ECTS 2016 & 2017; 6 ECTS 2018 & 2019)
- Capstone Research Projects, Global Security Track (9 ECTS, 2018 & 2019)

Research Coordinator, Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, Small Arms Survey, Geneva (Sep. 2007-Sep. 2008; Oct. 2009-Dec. 2010). Research coordinator and co-editor of Global Burden of Armed Violence 2008 involving 8 research teams in 10 countries.

Project Coordinator, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, June 2001-May 2006. Organization of 9 training courses for young diplomats in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia in the framework of the project “Capacity Building in International Relations in the South Caucasus” in collaboration with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

Corporal, Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Germany, July 1995 - June 1997. Military service at School for Personnel Earmarked for International Assignments, Cologne, Germany; and Generals’ Driver at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), Mons, Belgium.

EDUCATION

- Doctorate in International Relations, Department of Political Science, 2002-2007, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland
- Masters in International Relations, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, 2000-2002 (Diplôme d’Études Supérieures en Relations Internationales)
- Bachelor of Arts in International Relations with Development Studies, 1997-2000, University of Sussex, Brighton, Great Britain
- A-levels (Abitur), German School of Brussels, Belgium, 1982-1995

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Board & committee memberships (selected)

- International Institute for Strategic Studies, London: Visiting Fellow (since November 2018).
- Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, Geneva: Member of the Expert Network (since January 2017).
- Global Governance: Editorial Board of *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations* (2013-2017).
- Peace Research Institute Oslo, Collaborative for Development Action, Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement: Global Advisory Group of the Business and Peace Research Project (since January 2016 – June 2017).
- World Economic Forum: Global Agenda Council on Fragility, Conflict and Violence (May 2015-June 2016).
- Rockefeller Foundation: Scholars Selection Committee of the Bellagio Residency Programme

(January 2010 – July 2014).

- International Council of Swedish Industry: Expert Panel on ‘Leadership for Complex Markets’ (September 2012 – October 2013). Reference Group on ‘Private Sector and Peacebuilding’ (October 2010 – November 2011).
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Team on Funding for Preparedness: Advisory Panel (July 2012 – June 2013).

Doctoral theses

- Member of the Adjudication Committee, Mark B. Taylor, *War Economies and International Law: Regulating the Economic Activity of Armed Conflict*. Faculty of Law, University of Oslo. Defense: 14 December 2017.
- External examiner, Irene Costantini, *Statebuilding Versus State Formation: The Political Economy of Transition in Iraq and Libya*. University of Trento, Italy. Defense: 27 April 2015. Thesis director: Prof. Roberto Belloni.

AWARDS

- Scholarly Residence, Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Centre, September 2009.
- Young Researcher Prize, Awarded by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Paris, and the Process of International Negotiation Network, December 2007.
- Outstanding Achievement Award, Harvard Model Congress Europe, 1994.
- Personality Prize, Public Speaking Union of Belgium, 1993.

LANGUAGES

- German (native), English, Spanish, French.