

Curriculum Vitae – Dr. Achim WENNMANN

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PROFILE

- Entrepreneur academic who works across policy, practitioner and research communities to enable critical thinking, facilitate partnerships and find solutions.
- Expert on the political economy of violent conflict and the economic dimensions of peace processes, with over 100 publications in the peace and security field.
- Co-founder of Geneva Peace Week and the Peace Talks Initiative, and incubator of over a dozen initiatives in the peace and global governance sector focusing on strategic development, fundraising and process & network performance.
- Active member of Geneva's policy community where he is known as a convenor, facilitator, and advisor.
- Fluent in German, English, French, and Spanish.

WORK HISTORY

Current positions at the Geneva Graduate Institute

- **Director of Strategic Partnerships, Directorate** (since July 2021). In this position, I have the overall responsibilities to lead on the development of strategic partnerships in support of the vision and mission of the Institute; to facilitate collaboration around emerging topics and initiatives at the research-policy interface; and to provide strategic advice to the Director relevant for the overall positioning and competitiveness of the Institute.
- **Professor of Practice, Nagulendran Chair in Peace Mediation, Interdisciplinary Programmes** (since 1 April 2024). In this position, I deliver the course *Conflict Resolution and Peace Mediation in Times of Radical Uncertainty* (6 ECTS) in the Interdisciplinary Programmes and direct the Summer School Module *The United Nations in a Changing World* (2 ECTS since 2021). Key research areas: the political economy of conflict and peace, the economic dimensions of peace mediation, political settlements in cities, and the peace mediation sector, especially with respect to studying how it adapts to changing conflict dynamics and donor landscapes.

Past positions at the Geneva Graduate Institute

- **Advisor to the Director on strategic development and partnerships** (February – June 2021).
- **Senior Researcher** (2016-2024) & **Researcher** (2006-2015), *Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP)*.
- **Lecturer, Interdisciplinary Programmes** (2020-2024), **Visiting Lecturer** (2015-2019). Past Courses: *Business and Security in Fragile States* (2015-2021), *Trade for Peace* (2022 with Xinyu Yuan), *The Transformation of Armed Groups* (2016-2019).
- **Project Coordinator, Programme for the Study of International Organizations (PSIO)** (2001-2006). Capacity Building in International Relations in the South Caucasus funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

Other past positions

- **Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Geneva, Switzerland** (March 2011-February 2021). Executive position to drive, fundraise and advance a network of peace professionals, knowledge hub, and incubator. Key initiatives:
 - Beijing-Geneva Digital Briefing on Sustaining Peace and Preventive Diplomacy (September 2020-2021)
 - Dialogue on Environment, Climate, Conflict and Peacebuilding (2020-2021)

- LATAM Peace and Security Briefings (2019-2020)
- Towards a Geneva Cities Initiative (2017-2018)
- Working Group on the Confluence of Urban Safety and Peacebuilding (2015-2017)
- White Paper on Peacebuilding (2013-2015)
- Conflict prevention in the context of large-scale business investments (2012)
- **Research Coordinator**, *Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, Small Arms Survey, Geneva (Sep. 2007-Sep. 2008; Oct. 2009-Dec. 2010)*.
- **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. Thesis title: *Conflict Financing and the Recurrence of Intra-state Armed Conflict*.
- 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.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & FUNCTIONS

Current

- Geneva Policy Outlook, Editor (since July 2022).
- Geneva Water Hub, Member of the Advisory Board (since January 2022).
- Commission for Research Partnerships with Developing Countries (KFPE), Member of the Board of Trustees (ad personam, since January 2024).
- Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), Geneva Graduate Institute, Faculty Associate (since 1 April 2024)
- Swiss PeaceTech Alliance: Member of the Steering Committee (since April 2023).

Selected recent advisory roles

- Peace Dividend Initiative, Founding team member and Executive Advisor (2020 to 2024).
- European Union, External Action Service (EU-EAS): Advisor on the economic dimensions of the conflict in Yemen (2020-2022).
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Middle East Africa and Division, Global Relations: Advisor on economic resilience in Yemen. (2021-2022).
- World Economic Forum: Global Agenda Council on Fragility, Conflict and Violence (May 2015-June 2016).

Visiting lectureships

- Ritsumeikan University, College of International Relations, Kyoto, Japan: Visiting Professor, Spring Semester 2023.
- ETH Zürich: Invited Lecturer at the Master of Advanced Studies *Mediation in Peace Processes*. Module on economic dimensions of peace mediation (since 2018).