



International Peace Academy



## **Economic Agendas in Armed Conflict: Defining and Developing the Role of the UN**

A Symposium Sponsored by  
The Government of Norway  
Co-organized by the International Peace Academy and  
the Fafo Institute for Applied Social Science

Monday, 25 March 2002  
8:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m.  
Millennium Hotel New York U.N. Plaza  
New York, New York  
44<sup>th</sup> Street & First Avenue  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Dag Hammarskjöld Room

8:30 Breakfast

09:00 Inaugural Addresses: **H.E. Ms. Louise Fréchette**, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations  
**The Honorable Jan Petersen**, Foreign Minister of Norway

09:15 Welcome & Opening remarks: **David M. Malone**, President, International Peace Academy  
**Mr. Jon Hanssen-Bauer**, Director, Fafo Institute for Applied International Studies

09:30 Session 1 Economic Agendas & Armed Conflict: Identifying Issues and Challenges

There are a wide variety of economic activities that fuel civil wars. Some are licit, others clearly criminal, some are necessary to civilian welfare, while others are manifestly predatory. Although a number of these activities directly feed armed hostilities, most economic behavior contributes to conflict in more diffuse and indirect ways. This complex reality presents policy-makers with the two-fold challenge of accurately assessing the impact of discrete economic behaviors on conflict dynamics and of designing effective policy responses.

What are the main types of conflict-promoting economic activities? What role do economic factors play in causing and prolonging armed conflict? What challenges do they pose for conflict-prevention, conflict resolution, and post-conflict reconstruction?

- Chair: **David M. Malone**, President, International Peace Academy
- Speakers: **Dr. Paul Collier**, Director, Development Research Group, World Bank  
**Mr. Patrick Alley**, Director & Co-Founder, Global Witness  
**Dr. Mats Berdal**, Director of Studies, International Institute for Strategic Studies
- Discussant: **H.E. Mr. Adolfo Aguilar Zinser**, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations
- 10:30 Session 2 Regulating Conflict-Promoting Economic Activities: Tools and Strategies
- Both licit and illicit forms of trade, production, and investment have been found to fuel armed conflict, but in distinctive ways. How is complicity defined for each type of activity? What strategies and tools have been developed to regulate them? Are there areas where these activities overlap and where common legal codes, policy strategies, and policy tools may be applied?
- Chair: **H.E. Mr. Wegger Christian Strømmen**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations
- Speakers: **Dr. Virginia Haufler**, Professor of Government, University of Maryland  
**Mr. Ian Smillie**, Partnership Africa Canada, and former member of UN Experts Panel on Sierra Leone  
**Mr. Jonathan Winer**, former Assistant, Department Secretary of State for International Law Enforcement, US State Department
- Discussant: **H.E. Mr. Alfonso Valdivieso**, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations
- 11:45 Break
- 12:00 Session 3 Assessing Recent UN Initiatives
- Recently, the UN has recognized various linkages between resource and financial flows and armed conflict. Important UN initiatives include: Security Council-sponsored sanctions regimes and Experts Panels, UN Conventions against Transnational Organized Crime and Global Terrorism, and the UN Global Compact's effort to engage Private Sector actors on issue of peace and security. In what ways have these initiatives strengthened UN Capacity? Could these initiatives be expanded to develop a more comprehensive normative and policy framework?
- Chair: **David M. Malone**, President, International Peace Academy
- Speakers: **H.E. Mr. Stewart Eldon**, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations

**Ambassador Mr. Juan Larrain**, Chair, United Nations Monitoring Mechanism on Sanctions against UNITA

Discussant: **H.E. Ms. Claudia Fritsche**, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the United Nations.

1:00 Summation: Policy Lessons for the UN

Co-chairs: **H.E. Mr. Wegger Christian Strømmen**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations  
**David M. Malone**, President, International Peace Academy

An agenda for a response to the problem of economies which sustain conflict is emerging at the UN. Which sorts of activities may be best addressed by the Security Council, by other UN agencies, regional organizations, or member states? (e.g. UN sanctions regimes and the work of the Expert Panels / monitoring mechanisms). How can the UN assist regional and sub-regional organizations to strengthen their capacities and develop a coordinated policy response?

1:15 Close