The Interdisciplinary Seminar on Conflict and Violence

promotes interdisciplinary exchanges among faculty and graduate students interested in the topics of conflict, violence and peacefrom a wide range of departments across campus

John Prendergast

Stopping Genocide and Mass Atrocities by Stopping the War Profiteers



John Prendergast

is a human rights activist and best-selling author who has focused on peace in Africa for over thirty years. He is the Founding Director of the Enough Project, an initiative to end genocide and crimes against humanity. He is also the Co-Founder of The Sentry, a new investigative initiative focused on dismantling the networks financing conflict and atrocities.

John has worked for the Clinton White House, the State Department, two members of Congress, the National Intelligence Council, UNICEF, Human Rights Watch, the International Crisis Group, and the U.S. Institute of Peace. John is the author or co-author of ten books including Not On Our Watch: The Mission to End Genocide in Darfur and Beyond

and The Enough Moment: Fighting to End Africa's Worst Human Rights Crimes.

ABSTRACT: Unchecked greed is the primary driver of conflict and mass atrocities in Africa. Most often, it manifests itself in the form of violent kleptocracies, in which governments are hijacked by networks of senior officials, military officers, bankers, mining and oil company representatives, and arms dealers. Conventional foreign policy approaches have failed to address the hell on earth that these networks have created. The principal vulnerability of the networks is their exposure in the international financial system, as most corrupt actors use that system to move their money and hide their wealth. The tools of financial pressure that have been honed in the aftermath of 9/11 hold great promise for countering the kleptocrats that are destroying parts of Africa through war and resource pillaging. Examining how those policies can be used and how a hopeful political constituency is being built is a major focus of this presentation.

Thursday, February 16, 2017 2:00 - 3:30 P.M. Campus Center Room 917

Open to everyone Refreshments served
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