



Dr. Ben Hoffman

Dr. Ben Hoffman is a specialist in negotiation, mediation, and peacebuilding. He obtained a B.A. and M.A. (Psychology) from Wilfred Laurier University, an M.A. in International Relations from Tufts University, and a Ph.D. from York University, UK. He also specialized in International Peacemaking at the Harvard Law School Program on Negotiation. Ben's interest in mediation began in correctional services in Northern Ontario when as Deputy Regional Director he helped manage a hostage taking incident, and was trained as a hostage negotiator and then as a mediator. His practice in conflict resolution and violence prevention grew over the last 30 years to include healing and restorative justice work in a variety of national and international settings. From 2000 to 2003, he was Director of the Conflict Resolution Program at The Carter Center, acting as President Jimmy Carter's representative, focusing on implementing the Nairobi Agreement between Sudan and Uganda; engaging the Lord's Resistance Army to release abducted child soldiers; and orchestrating extensive efforts to end the nineteen year old war in Sudan. When he was with The Carter Center he worked on international mediation in many countries, including Romania, Ukraine, Venezuela, Equator, Sudan, Indonesia, Thailand, and Uganda. In this capacity he worked with many high profile people including Presidents Hugo Chavez, AlBashir and Museveni. As President and CEO of the Canadian International Institute of Applied Negotiation he directed a "best practices" political violence prevention and reconciliation project in Guinea-Bissau, West Africa.

Dr. Hoffman is called upon to provide mediation, peacebuilding strategy advice, and to lecture and guest speak to a wide range of clients throughout the world. He lectures regularly at ZIF, Berlin, in the Swiss Peace Mediation Course and he is a mediation coach for the OSCE.