

Dr. Julian Thomas Hottinger

Julian Thomas Hottinger is currently an expert attached to the Human Security Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. After having graduated from the University of Lausanne, he obtained his PhD degree in Political Science and specialised as an International Conflict Mediator at the Canadian International Institute for Applied Negotiations (CIIAN) in Ottawa, and at the Lester Pearson Peace Keeping Centre in Canada.

Julian Thomas Hottinger has worked as an expert and consultant on various projects covering conflicts in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Nicaragua, Northern Ireland, Rwanda and Sri Lanka. Until September 2000, he was the Vice-President of the Second Committee on "Democracy and Good Governance" within the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi, directed by H. E. Julius Kampere Nyerere [until October 1999], and by H. E. Nelson Mandela [until September 2000].

From December 2000 till October 2002, Julian Thomas Hottinger directed a "Constitutional Think Tank Workshop for the Transitional National Government of the Republic of Somalia and the Federative Government of Puntland [North Eastern Somalia]". From October 2002 till April 2004, Julian Thomas Hottinger was one of the Resource Persons for the 1st Committee on "The Federal Charter", within the Somali National Reconciliation Conference in Eldoret & Mbagathi, Kenya.

In January 2002, Julian Thomas Hottinger took part, as an expert, in the negotiating of "The Nuba Mountains Cease-fire Agreement", which was signed in Bürgenstock [Switzerland] by the Government of the Republic of Sudan and the SPLA [Nuba]. From January 2003 till January 2005, he is a member of the "Resource Team" working on the Machakos Peace Protocol/Naivasha Peace Negotiations – between the Government of Khartoum and the SPLM/A- in Sudan, for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development [IGAD] Secretariat.

Until July 2005, Julian Thomas Hottinger is working with the Gerakan Aceh Medeka [GAM], providing input to help prepare their positions on "self-government/self-governance" within the negotiations taking place with the Government of Indonesia, in Helsinki, under the Facilitator President Maarti Ahtisaari.

Up to mid-February 2006, he was attached to the African Union (AU) Facilitation Team in Abuja, working on the Inter-Sudanese Negotiations on the Darfur. From July 2006 till March 2008, he was one of the mediators within the Facilitation Team, in Juba [Southern Sudan], working on the negotiations between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army [LRA].

Currently, Julian Thomas Hottinger is working on various Somali issues, such as the drafting of the Somali Constitution, while helping with the implementation of the Sudanese North/South CPA and the preparation of the Referendum [January 2011] and post-referendum options between the North and South of Sudan. Over the last few months he has also been working on various pre-negotiation preparatory meetings in Indonesia and within the UN on Western Sahara.

Most of his work these last first few months of 2012 has had to do with establishing processes and designing models for future negotiations, while helping parties prepare for future talks.

In parallel, Julian Thomas Hottinger has worked as a member of the standing Hostage Negotiation Team and has collaborated in various activities within this area over the last ten years, mainly within the private sector.