

Dr. Laura Davis

Dr. Laura Davis is a writer and consultant based in the Democratic Republic of Congo. She specializes in transitional justice and peacebuilding, with a particular focus on efforts to promote justice for human rights violations during peace mediation. She works mainly with non-governmental organizations and government agencies, often in highly complex security environments. She has extensive field experience, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition to her consultancy practice, she is a Post-doctoral Associate Researcher at the University of Ghent, Belgium, and an Associate with International Alert.

Laura has provided technical expertise on transitional justice to peace processes, and has served as a resource person for mediators from regional organizations. She contributed transitional justice assistance to the National Dialogue Conference in Yemen in 2013, and in 2012, she worked with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Legal Team on the Amnesty Law in Madagascar as part of SADC's mediation of that crisis.

Laura regularly works with peacebuilding NGOs, particularly in Congo, the region affected by the Lords Resistance Army, and in Mali. Laura is an experienced facilitator, project designer and evaluator, and supports organizations in their outreach and organizational development. She has recently served, part-time, as Senior Associate, Policy to the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), contributing to EPLO's policy processes and to the Civil Society Dialogue Network – a project of EPLO, the European Commission and the European External Action Service.

Laura writes extensively on transitional justice and peacemaking, for policy-makers and academia. Her publications – which are available at www.lauradavis.eu - include scholarly articles on transitional justice, mediation, power-sharing, security sector reform, women's engagement in these processes and EU foreign policy. Her book EU Foreign policy, transitional justice and mediation: principles, policy, practice is the first to examine EU engagement in peace and justice and will be published by Routledge in June 2014.

Before becoming a consultant, Laura worked for the Belgian Development Agency as a for the International Center for Transitional Justice in Kinshasa (DRC) and in Brussels, and for Search for Common Ground. She has co-chaired the Human Rights and Democracy Network of NGOs in Brussels, and served on the Steering Committee of the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office.