



Simon J. A. Mason

Simon J. A. Mason is a senior researcher and head of the [Mediation Support Team](#) at the Center for Security Studies (CSS). He has been working in the Mediation Support Project (MSP, a joint project between the CSS and swisspeace, supported by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)) since 2005 and in the Culture and Religion in Mediation project (CARIM, supported by the Swiss FDFA) since 2011.

He holds a Doctorate in environmental science from ETH Zurich and is a trained mediator, accredited by the Swiss Mediation Association SDM. Between 2002 and 2004, he co-organized a series of dialogue workshops between Egyptians, Ethiopians, and Sudanese on cooperation in the Eastern Nile Basin. Simon J. A. Mason has contributed to training workshops on conflict, negotiation, and mediation for people living in conflict contexts (e.g. Sudan and Palestine) as well as at various policy related and academic institutions (e.g. Addis Ababa University, the Egyptian Ministry of Water Resources, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies in Malta, the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and at the ETH Zurich). He also co-organizes the peace mediation course of the FDFA and is one of the coordinators of the Mediation Support Network.

His main research interests lie in the use of mediation in peace processes; the use of mediation in conflicts where religious and cultural issues play a role, and the nexus between environment, natural resources and conflict.