



## ***Marie-Joëlle Zahar***

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Marie-Joëlle Zahar is Professor of Political Science, Director of the Research Network on Peace Operations and Fellow at the Centre for International Research and Studies at the Université de Montréal.

From March 2013 until August 2015, she served as Senior Expert on Power Sharing on the Standby Team of Mediation Experts at the UN Department of Political Affairs where she remains on the UN mediation roster. In 2017, she was a senior expert in the Office of the Special Envoy of the United Nations for Syria.

A graduate of McGill University, her research interests span the dynamics of civil war and the politics of conflict-resolution. A non-resident Senior Fellow with the International Peace Institute (New York) and a member of the Folke Bernadotte Academy's research working groups (Sweden), Professor Zahar has held a number of visiting appointments, including at the Université Lyon II (France), the Institut d'études politiques de Lyon (France), and Stanford's Center for International Security and cooperation.

Professor Zahar has extensively published on the violence of non-state armed actors, the dynamics of power sharing in post-conflict contexts and the interactions between local and international actors in peacebuilding processes. Funded by the United States Institute of Peace, her most recent research (with Sara Helmüller, swisspeace) focuses on mediators' (mis)use of civil society's inclusion in peace processes.