

Dr. Simon Adams is Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect. Established in 2008 with the support of international human rights leaders, including former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, as well as supportive governments and organizations such as Refugees International, Human Rights Watch and International Crisis Group, the Global Centre is the world's leading research and advocacy organization for advancing the international norm of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) at the United Nations and beyond. The Global Centre works to prevent mass atrocity crimes – genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing – throughout the world.

Dr. Adams has worked extensively with governments and civil society organizations in South Africa, East Timor, Rwanda and elsewhere. Between 1994 and 2002 Dr. Adams worked with Sinn Féin and former IRA prisoners in support of the Northern Ireland peace process. He is also a former member of the international anti-apartheid movement and of the African National Congress in South Africa.

Dr. Adams is the author of four books with a focus on international conflict. He has also written for the New York Times, The Australian, Huffington Post, International Herald Tribune, News24 (South Africa), O Estado de S. Paulo (Brazil), Los Angeles Times and many other publications. Dr. Adams has appeared as an expert commentator on Al-Jazeera, BBC World News, ARD and Deutsche Welle News (Germany), China Global Television Network and numerous other media.

Dr. Adams studied at the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa and at the University of New South Wales in Australia, where he received his Ph.D. His senior academic appointments include serving as Pro Vice Chancellor (International Engagement) at Monash University, Australia's largest public university and as Vice President of its South African campus between 2008-2010.

Among his other commitments, Dr. Adams is Vice Chairman of the International Advisory Board of Skateistan, an award-winning non-profit organization dedicated to using skateboarding to expose Afghan, Cambodian and South African children to educational and leadership development opportunities.