



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Hearing

Human Rights Violations in Sudan

Panel I Bios

Ms. Catherine A. Wiesner, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population Refugees and Migration



Catherine Wiesner assumed the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary in February 2012, overseeing the Offices of Assistance Programs for Africa, Multilateral Coordination and External Relations, and International Migration. Ms. Wiesner served previously as Principal Director to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs at the Pentagon (2009-2012). Prior to government service, Ms. Wiesner worked as a practitioner and consultant in the fields of humanitarian assistance, peace process, and post-conflict programming.

Ms. Wiesner's most recent overseas post was in Sudan, where she worked for the UN Children's Agency (UNICEF) in a variety of roles, including in Juba on the mediation team for the 2006-2008 peace talks between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army, in Khartoum on the design and implementation of the child DDR program mandated by the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), as well as North-South IDP return issues, and the initial emergency response in Darfur in early 2004.

From 2001 to 2003, Ms. Wiesner directed all of the International Rescue Committee (IRC)'s programs for war-affected children and adolescents in Sierra Leone. Ms. Wiesner also worked with the IRC's emergency response team, traveling to Jordan, Kuwait and Iraq in the spring of 2003, Liberia in the summer of 2003, and Indonesia in January 2005 after the Tsunami.

Previously, between 1997 and 2000, Ms. Wiesner interned with USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance in Washington, DC, worked for the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) in Geneva and Ethiopia, and for Save the Children in Zimbabwe.

Ms. Wiesner holds a B.A. in Comparative Area Studies from Duke University, and earned a Masters degree in Public Policy in International Security and Political Economy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Steven Feldstein, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor



Steven Feldstein is a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL). He is responsible for DRL's work in Africa, international labor affairs, and international religious freedom.

Previously, Mr. Feldstein served as the Director of the Office of Policy in the Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning at the U.S. Agency for International Development and was responsible for guiding strategic planning and operations, providing high-level policy direction on emerging issues and priority areas, and shaping USAID's policy leadership in the development community.

From 2007-2011, he served as Counsel on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (under former Chairmen Joe Biden and John Kerry) where he oversaw a portfolio that included oversight over all U.S. foreign assistance agencies, budgets and programs, State Department management and operations, and international organizations. He has also worked at the State Department for the Under Secretary for Economics and Business Affairs, as well as with the International Rescue Committee in Rwanda and Croatia. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors for the Society for International Development – Washington Chapter, and has taught at American University's School of International Service. He is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations and received his J.D. from Berkeley School of Law and his A.B. from Princeton University. He was born and raised in Bloomington, Indiana.

Panel II Bios

Former Rep. Tom Andrews, President, United to End Genocide



Tom Andrews is President and Chief Executive Officer of United to End Genocide. A former Congressman from Maine, Tom most recently served as National Director of Win Without War, a coalition of forty national organizations promoting a more progressive national security strategy that calls for prudent use of military engagement.

A long-time advocate of democracy and human rights in Burma, Tom has worked closely with the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma, facilitated the creation of the European Burma Network and served as General Secretary of the Nobel Peace Laureate Campaign for Aung San Suu Kyi. Tom is a Senior Advisor to the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs,

chaired by former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Tom was elected to the Maine House of Representatives in 1982, the Maine Senate in 1984 and the United States House of Representatives in 1990. Tom also served as president of New Economy Communications, a not-for-profit organization providing strategic planning and communication services to individuals and groups advancing labor and human rights issues.

Jonathan Loeb, Fellow, Africa Division, Human Rights Watch

Jonathan Loeb has conducted research on conflict in Darfur, Sudan and supported conflict resolution efforts for the past eight years. He has served as Managing Director of the NGO 24 Hours for Darfur, an advisor to the African Union-United Nations Joint Mediation Support Team for the Darfur peace process, a Visiting Professional at the International Criminal Court, and a consultant for the Centre for Humanitarian and the Humanitarian Policy Group at the Overseas Development Institute. Jonathan is currently the Alan R. and Barbara D. Finberg Fellow at Human Rights Watch. He holds graduate degrees in law and philosophy.

John Prendergast, Founding Director, Enough Project



John Prendergast is a human rights activist and best-selling author who has worked for peace in Africa for nearly thirty years. He is the Founding Director of the Enough Project, an initiative to end genocide and crimes against humanity affiliated with the Center for American Progress. John has worked for the Clinton White House, the State Department, two members of Congress, the National Intelligence Council, UNICEF, Human Rights Watch, the International Crisis Group, and the U.S.

Institute of Peace. He has been a Big Brother for over 25 years, as well as a youth counselor and a basketball coach. John is the author or co-author of ten books.

With George Clooney, he co-founded the Satellite Sentinel Project, which aims to prevent conflict and human rights abuses through satellite imagery and forensic investigations of stolen assets that fuel violence. With Tracy McGrady and other NBA stars, John launched the Darfur Dream Team Sister Schools Program to fund schools in Darfurian refugee camps and create partnerships with schools in the United States. Through the Enough Project, he conceived the Raise Hope for Congo Campaign, highlighting the issue of conflict minerals that fuel the war there. John is an advisor to Not On Our Watch, the organization founded by George Clooney, Matt Damon, Don Cheadle, and Brad Pitt.

John appears in the motion picture “*The Good Lie*,” starring Reese Witherspoon. He is a primary subject of the book by Jane Bussman, “*A Journey to the Dark Heart of Nameless Unspeakable Evil*.” He is also beginning a project on the Congo with actor Ryan Gosling and New Yorker writer Kelefa Sanneh.

John has been awarded six honorary doctorates. He is or has been a visiting professor at Yale Law School, Stanford University, Columbia University, Dartmouth College, Duke University, and others.

John has appeared in four episodes of *60 Minutes*, for which the team won an Emmy Award, and helped create African stories for two episodes of *Law and Order: Special Victims Unit*, one focusing on the recruitment of child soldiers and the other on rape as a war strategy. John has also traveled to Africa with NBC's *Dateline*, ABC's *Nightline*, The PBS *NewsHour*, CNN's *Inside Africa*, and *Newsweek/The Daily Beast*. He has been profiled in *The New York Times Magazine*, *Vanity Fair*, and a number of other publications, and has appeared in several documentaries including *Blood in the Mobile*, *Sand and Sorrow*, *Darfur Now*, *3 Points*, and *War Child*.