



Ms. Sarah Hager

Chair of the Southern Africa Co-Group, Amnesty International, and Adjunct Professor of International Relations at American University

Ms. Hager's early career included provision of trauma therapy services to rape survivors and advocating for women's rights concerns. Ms. Hager later worked in South Africa at the Legal Aid Board and traveled to Russia and Thailand to complete legal research on national and international terrorism policies and the impact of HIV/AIDS policies on women. She published a paper examining the international soft law regarding internally displaced persons, utilizing Zimbabwe as a case example.

Ms. Hager volunteered as a statement taker for the Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Diaspora project and assisted with developing a US based campaign to support the ratification of the African Union Convention for the Prevention of Internal Displacement and the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa for IDP Action. She currently serves as Chair of the Southern Africa Coordination Group at Amnesty International USA, where she supervises Country Specialists in monitoring the human rights and political situation in 12 countries and serves as Country Specialist for Angola, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

Additionally, Ms. Hager is a member of the Amnesty International Working Group on International Justice. Ms. Hager has briefed foreign and US ambassadors, US State Department officials, and Members of Congress on human rights concerns in the Southern Africa region. She also is an adjunct professor of International Relations with American University's School of International Service Graduate Gateway Program. Ms. Hager has a Master's degree in Clinical Forensic Psychology from Drexel University and a law degree from Northwestern University.



Ms. Ann Hollingsworth

Senior Analyst, US Advocacy and Research, International Crisis Group

As Senior Analyst for US Advocacy and Research, Ann participates in targeted advocacy with leading Washington foreign policy audiences, including the State Department, the White House, the Department of Defense, USAID, and Congress, as well as think-tanks and other international organizations. She conveys Crisis Group's analyses and recommendations while monitoring policy implementation and progress. In her role, she works with the Senior VP and Deputy Director in providing strategic analysis relevant to the current political environment of the Washington foreign policy community. She covers all Crisis Group areas of reporting, with primary responsibility for advocacy and research for the Africa portfolio.

Before joining Crisis Group, Ann served in the office of U.S. Senator Ernest F. Hollings, then Chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee. She has participated in disaster relief management in Sri Lanka's tsunami-affected areas and interned with the Public Information Office for the Mayor of Charleston, South Carolina, and for the Medical University of South Carolina. She earned a master's degree in International Development from Tulane University and a B.A. in Communications from the College of Charleston, South Carolina.

Mr. Vukasin Petrovic

Director of Programs in sub-Saharan Africa, Freedom House

Vukasin Petrovic is director of programs in sub-Saharan Africa, the largest and most wide-ranging regional portfolio at Freedom House. He oversees a number of cutting edge programs that focus on voter and civic mobilization, accountability and good governance, support to human rights defenders, and the professionalization of civil society. Mr. Petrovic has over a decade of experience with a range of democracy support programs, including serving as Freedom House's Project Director for Zimbabwe from 2006–2008.

Before joining Freedom House, Mr. Petrovic was a consultant for several organizations, including the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the International Republican Institute (IRI) in Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Africa. His areas of expertise include political communications and marketing, strategic planning and scenario analysis, media and policy development, and civil society strengthening. Mr. Petrovic was a prominent student leader in Belgrade, Serbia during the 1990s and later earned a Master's degree with distinction in Media Studies from City University, London.