

## STEVE MCDONALD

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Steve McDonald is currently a Global Fellow of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, a freelance writer, and international consultant. Until recently, he was the Director of the Africa Program and the Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity at the Wilson Center in Washington, DC, where he worked from 2002 to 2014. McDonald helped to design, initiate and manage the Center's leadership capacity building and post-conflict resolution programs in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Liberia.

A specialist in African affairs, McDonald has focused primarily on democracy and governance, human resource development, conflict resolution and transformation, peace building and policy formulation for Africa. McDonald has a Master's Degree in African Politics from the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies, and has lived in and worked with Africa for 45 years. McDonald began his career in Africa in 1970 as an Embassy Officer in the US Embassy in Kampala, Uganda. His ten years in the Foreign Service also included serving as Political Officer in the US Embassy in Pretoria, South Africa, and as Desk Officer for Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Sao Tome and Principe. During these years, he served as support staff to the Anglo-American Initiative on Rhodesia that led to Lancaster House and the Zimbabwean settlement and the Five Power negotiations on Southwest Africa/Namibia.

After leaving the Foreign Service in 1980, McDonald moved to the non-profit sector where he headed the US-South Africa Leader Development Program and Aspen Institute's Southern Africa Policy Forum and, then, served as Executive Vice President of the African-American Institute. McDonald has also taught the Francophone African course at the Foreign Service Institute, done conflict resolution work in Northern Ireland and Brazil, served as a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council of the US, managed the African Program for the National Endowment for Democracy, done consultancies with DFI International, the Center for International Understanding, USAID, Human Sciences Research Council in New York, and the Goals for Americans Foundation.

Throughout his career, McDonald has done many media interviews, including radio, TV, magazine and newspaper. He began a blog in 2011, Africa Up Close, to which he contributes regularly (<http://africaupclose.wilsoncenter.org/>). McDonald has published, edited and written for *Africa Report*, a monthly news magazine of AAI, and the *Washington Report on Africa*, a monthly newsletter published independently. He has contributed to many newspapers and magazines. Among his most recent publications are: "Have US Priorities in Africa Changed? Do Security Concerns Trump Others?" Harvard International Review, Spring 2015; "Outsmarting Apartheid," a chapter in a book edited by Daniel Whitman (SUNY Press, April, 2014); "Central African Republic: Should the World Pay Attention?" *The Mark News*, September 15, 2014, (online, Toronto Canada); "Can the Africa Union Stabilize Africa," in *Global Brief*, Winter 2013, (Glendon School of Public and International Affairs, Toronto, Canada); "Africa's Long Spring," in the *Washington Quarterly*, Winter 2012; "Changes in US Policy on Africa in

the Obama Administration: What Will It Mean for AFRICOM?’ a chapter in *African Security and the African Command: Viewpoints on the US Role in Africa*, Edited by Terry Buss, Joseph Adjaye, Donald Goldstein, Louis Picard (Kumarian Press, July 2011); *Democracy and Peace-Building: Re-thinking the Conventional Wisdom*, coauthored with Howard Wolpe in *The Round Table*, Vol. 97, No. 394, February 2008 (Routledge, London); *Burundi’s Transition: Training Leaders for Peace*, coauthored with Howard Wolpe in the *Journal for Democracy*, Volume 17, No. 1, January 2006 (Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore); *Rebuilding Peace and State Capacity in War-Torn Burundi*, coauthored with Howard Wolpe, et al, in *The Round Table*, Vol. 93, No. 375, July 2004 (Carfax Publishing, London); and, *Participate in the African Renaissance*, coauthored with Francis Kornegay and Chris Landsberg, a chapter in *What Does the World Want from America?* edited by Alexander T.J. Lennon, 2002, (MIT Press, Cambridge MA).