

Stephen J. Rapp is a Senior Fellow for the Prevention of Genocide at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and a Senior Fellow for International Justice at the Center for National Security of Georgetown Law School. He was previously a Fellow of Practice at the Institute for Ethics, Law, and Armed Conflict of Oxford University (2019-2025), and the Drinan Visiting Professor of Human Rights at Georgetown Law (2017-2018).

He is the Chair of Commission of for International Justice & Accountability and a board member of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, Physicians for Human Rights, the International Bar Association Human Rights Institute, Inter-Just, and several other nongovernment organizations active on human rights and international justice.

During the administration of President Barack Obama, he was Ambassador-at-Large heading the Office of Global Criminal Justice in the US State Department (2009-2015).

Rapp was the Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) where he led the prosecution of former Liberian President Charles Taylor (2007-2009). He served as Senior Trial Attorney (2001-2005), and as Chief of Prosecutions (2005-2007) at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). At the ICTR, he headed the trial team that achieved the first convictions in history of leaders of the mass media for the crime of direct and public incitement to genocide.

He was United States Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa (1993-2001). He received his BA degree from Harvard, and his JD degree from Drake.