

Thomas Perriello
Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa

Term of Appointment: 07/06/2015 to present

Tom Perriello is the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa.

Mr. Perriello previously served as Special Representative for the Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review, a Congressman from Virginia, Special Advisor to the Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, a conflict analyst, and CEO of Center for American Progress Action. He has worked and conducted research in a dozen countries and taught courses on transitional justice at the University of Virginia School of Law and University of Sierra Leone.

Mr. Perriello was elected to the US House of Representatives from Virginia's Fifth District. He served on the Veterans Affairs Committee and received distinguished marks from the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Association. He was a founding member of Leader Hoyer's National Security Working Group, and received the Truman National Security Project's annual award for wise leadership on foreign policy. He also advocated strongly for a national energy and climate strategy.

Outside of government, Mr. Perriello has co-founded and managed justice entrepreneurship platforms and faith-based organizations advancing human rights, poverty reduction and sustainability. He supported the peace processes in Sierra Leone and Darfur and has conducted periodic research in Afghanistan on justice and security. Since early 2011, he has conducted field research and analysis on reformist movements and leaders in Egypt and the Middle East independently and as Counselor for Policy to the Center for American Progress.

He is from Charlottesville, Virginia, and is a graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School.