

**CENTER FOR
CIVILIANS IN CONFLICT**
RECOGNIZE. PREVENT. PROTECT. AMEND.

Matt Wells, Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC)

Matt works on Africa and Peacekeeping at CIVIC, with a particular focus on South Sudan. He has undertaken extensive field research on the recent conflict in South Sudan, examining issues including the targeting of civilians by armed actors; the protection of civilians by the UN peacekeeping mission; and civilian perspectives on the peace process and transitional justice. He is the author of three recent reports on South Sudan: *A Refuge in Flames: The February 17-18 Violence in Malakal POC* (April 2016); *"Those Who Could Not Run, Died": Civilian Perspectives on the Conflict in South Sudan* (February 2016); and *Within and Beyond the Gates: The Protection of Civilians by the UN Mission in South Sudan* (October 2015). In addition to South Sudan, he works on broader U.N. peacekeeping reform efforts related to the protection of civilians.

Prior to joining CIVIC, Matt was an Africa Researcher at Human Rights Watch, where he led work in Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Liberia, Zambia, and Guinea-Bissau. In Côte d'Ivoire, he documented and reported on war crimes and crimes against humanity during the country's post-election crisis in 2010-2011. He has also worked for human rights organizations in Liberia and Argentina.

Matt has been widely quoted, including by the *New York Times*, CNN, the Associated Press, NPR, and the BBC, and has published several dozen reports and opinion pieces on a variety of human rights and transitional justice issues in Africa. He holds a bachelor's degree in history and psychology from Rice University and a law degree from Harvard Law School, where he graduated magna cum laude.