

## Your Quarterly Update

December 2018

*Dear Friends of Conflict Dynamics,*

*As we approach the end of the year, I am delighted to share with you some inspiring updates on our work. These are stories of resilience and determination ... of progress and opportunities towards peace and less suffering.*

*From inspiring women working for peace in Somalia, to helping people get access to food, water and medical services in East Africa, to protecting children affected by wars, to supporting youth in building peace in Sudan. In all of these, there is opportunity and hope.*

*I am entering 2019 with energy and optimism for the positive change we can bring in the world. Walk with me, with Conflict Dynamics, on that journey. Happy New Year.*

**Gerard Mc Hugh**  
Founder and President



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### How YOU can give peace this holiday season

**Hidden Figures: Supporting Somali Women for Peace.** Conflict Dynamics has partnered with GlobalGiving through the end of the year to increase the impact of your donation and spread awareness on the need for women to participate in peacemaking from their own community to the world stage. By donating to our program page, you can help make a difference in the lives of Somali women and contribute to a more peaceful and prosperous Somalia in 2019. [Read their story.](#)



### SPOTLIGHT

#### Rukiya Abdulrahman, Program Officer, Somali Program

Rukiya Abdulrahman is a Program Officer in the Conflict Dynamics Somali program.

Growing up between Nairobi and Mombasa, Rukiya was exposed early on in life to Kenya's amazing multiculturalism, its different forms of dress, its wide range of culinary traditions and its different religious practices. Rukiya learnt to cherish diversity and to be sensitive to and tolerant of different ways of living. She came to see the world through the eyes of others, and in doing so gained a better understanding of herself and the world around [her](#).

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#### Humanitarian Access and Negotiations

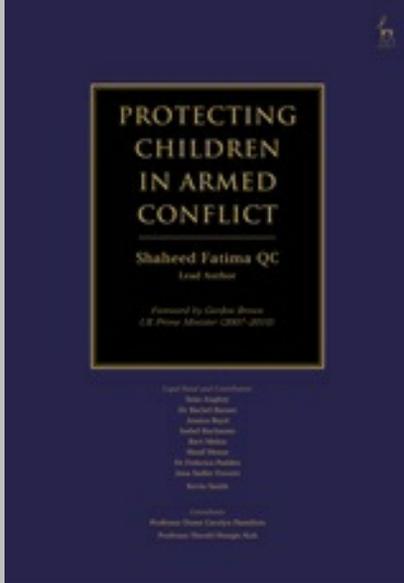
The [Humanitarian Access and Negotiations Team](#) recently completed an exploratory visit to Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 19-23 November, during which they met with more than 50 people ranging from authorities, diplomats, analysts, humanitarians, religious interlocutors, civil society members, activists, and others.

This trip is the beginning of an initiative between [Conflict Dynamics](#) and the Swiss Embassy in Cameroon to enhance humanitarian access in conflict-affected areas of the country. Further engagement in the country will support humanitarian practitioners in developing and implementing approaches to humanitarian access and negotiations by directly and constructively engaging national authorities and other actors who influence access.



#### Sudan Program

In recent weeks the people of the Sudan



have been facing intensifying economic and political challenges and uncertainty; this, compounding the unresolved conflicts in parts of the country. This makes Conflict Dynamics' work all the more relevant at this time.

In October, CDI facilitated a workshop with representatives of various Sudanese groups exploring how electoral systems can improve inclusion in governance. CDI also supported ongoing mediation efforts during October to December 2018, and has been working with Sudanese youth on approaches to building peace.

[More.](#)

### **Children in Armed Conflict Accountability Initiative**

Conflict Dynamics is proud to have contributed to groundbreaking work of the Inquiry on Protecting Children in Conflict; headed by Shaheed Fatima QC and chaired by the former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

The report, Protecting Children in Armed Conflict, calls for reforms in international law to protect children including “a comprehensive legal instrument and civil accountability mechanism governing the protection of children in armed conflict”. One of the report’s main points is that “even where there are existing substantive protections for children in conflict, lack of compliance and lack of enforcement is undermining accountability”.

It is clear that greater accountability for violations against children will combat the culture of impunity and shows how important and timely the work of our CAC team is! Read the full press release [here](#) and find the book available for purchase [here](#).

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**Where was Conflict Dynamics this fall?**

# FRONTLINE NEGOTIATIONS

## CENTRE OF COMPETENCE ON HUMANITARIAN NEGOTIATION

Conflict Dynamics' President Gerard McHugh and Senior Program Manager Emmanuel Tronc participated and presented at the 3rd Annual Meeting of Frontline Humanitarian Negotiators: Engaging with Communities on the Frontlines. They led a session on "Practitioners and Counterparts in Humanitarian Engagement."



CDI presented at the BICC Breaking Cycles of Displacement conference at the end of November on "Internal displacement in peace processes and agreements."



Conflict Dynamics' Nairobi office attended the Rotary Day at the UN in Nairobi November. The theme this year was "Youth Innovation: Crafting Solutions to Emerging Challenges."

## Conflict Dynamics in 2019



Throughout 2019, Conflict Dynamics International will be celebrating 15 years of service and we hope you will join us in the festivities! Follow us on social media to keep up to date with announcements and events for our friends and supporters in cities all over the world. Feel free to send your pictures and memories of working with CDI, attending our trainings and events, and what CDI means to you, we would love to hear from you (*email [kmurray@cdint.org](mailto:kmurray@cdint.org)*)! #CDIturns15

**DONATE and join us in our work**

*Our regular digest of governance and peacebuilding scholarship - click image above to sign up!*



*Happy New Year!*

Stay connected for news and events on CDI's upcoming 15 year anniversary March 2019!

*Conflict Dynamics is an innovative, independent, high impact not-for-profit organization seeking to prevent and resolve violent conflict and alleviate human suffering through dialogue, convening, mediation, technical support, and humanitarian policy development.*

This Peace and Humanitarian Action update isn't what you signed up for from Conflict Dynamics? Click unsubscribe anytime to opt out of our list of interested people.

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