

SOPHIE RUTENBAR

EXPERIENCE:

- Brookings Institution**, Visiting Fellow Sept 2023-present
- New York University, Center for International Cooperation**, Visiting Scholar Sept 2023-present
- United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH)**, Planning Officer Nov 2019-present
- Developed and implemented a three-year strategic plan for the entire UN system in Haiti, working with 17 UN agencies to define key priorities for sustaining peace and execute joint program strategies.
 - Coordinated a UN system-wide process to identify key indicators for Haiti benchmarks requested by the Security Council and develop relevant targets and baselines for a monitoring and evaluation framework.
 - Member of front office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, frequently serving as her Special Assistant, while supporting the Chief of Staff with management, budget preparation and coordination.
 - Led UN-wide drafting process for regular reports to the Security Council on Haiti.
- United Nations Dept. Peace Operations, Policy Planning**, Political Affairs Officer July 2017-Nov 2019
- Project manager for new technologies project to bring data-driven, tech-enabled peacekeeping to conflict settings. Researched key tools, organized multi-day workshops. Laid the foundation for departmental strategy.
 - Department representative to the Secretary-General's peace and security reform, Sept 2017-July 2018. Co-wrote report on reform vision and helped negotiate options for new structures.
 - Served as secretariat for the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping, liaising with Member States, helping organize official meetings and events, and drafting concept and meeting notes.
- United Nations Dept. of Field Support**, Communication & Coordination Officer Feb 2016-April 2017
- Executed strategic communications for a top-priority change management initiative to implement supply chain management. Developed/implemented a communications strategy, including conducting stakeholder analyses, creating communication tools and originating key messages.
- United Nations High-Level Panel on Global Response to Health Crises**, Officer Apr 2015-Jan 2016
- Helped design and led management of the Panel's program of work, including establishing workplans, planning research requests and roundtables, and organizing weeklong meetings in New York, West Africa and Geneva.
 - Analyzed aspects of recent pandemics, including the spread of misinformation, and drafted relevant report text.
- United Nations Dept. Peacekeeping Operations, Policy Planning**, Associate Expert Mar 2013-Mar 2015
- Informed the future of UN peace efforts as departmental focal point for the Secretary-General's High-Level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations. Carried out and analyzed a survey of 20,000+ UN peace operations staff, developed departmental position papers, and analyzed Member State positions.
 - Carried out two temporary deployments to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), July-August 2013 and February-March 2014. Researched and wrote lessons learned reports on mission crisis management and protection of civilians responses after the outbreak of civil war in December 2013.
- AECOM International Sudan/South Sudan**, Program Analyst, Juba, South Sudan Jan 2011-Jan 2013
Implementing partner for USAID's Sudan/South Sudan Transition and Conflict Mitigation (SSTCM) program.
- Lead for all reporting, including drafting, reviewing and finalizing multiple quarterly and annual reports and other deliverables to USAID standards. In this regard, managed master database of USAID grants. Also prepared press releases, information sheets, success stories and talking points about program activities.
 - As lead for all program monitoring and evaluation, tracked program implementation and carried out first large-scale, multi-grant cluster evaluations, informing USAID approaches to conflict mitigation in South Sudan.

The Carter Center, Medium- & Short-Term International Observer, South Sudan Nov 2010-Jan 2011

- Monitored voter registration and polling processes for the referendum on South Sudan's independence.

Peace and Stability in Southern Sudan Conflict Assessment, Assistant, London/Sudan Sept 2009-Jul 2010
UK DFID- and Pact Sudan-funded field-based assessment of existing and potential causes and triggers of violence.

- Led semi-structured interviews with officials and civil society members, focus groups with women and youth, questionnaires with community members and participatory methods including school drawing exercises.
- Conducted quantitative data analysis and helped write and edit final report, entitled "*Southern Sudan at Odds with Itself: Dynamics of Conflict and Predicaments of Peace*," informing DFID strategy for peacebuilding in southern Sudan.

Africa Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies, intern, Washington, DC Aug-Dec 2004

- Developed ideas, planned and arranged logistics for hosting meetings with high-profile foreign policy speakers.
- Researched & gave CSIS briefing: "Peacekeeping on an Unprecedented Scale: UN Force Expansion in Congo."

EDUCATION:

With merit, M.Sc., **London School of Economics and Political Science**, London, UK
January 2010: Human Rights. Fully funded by the Marshall Scholarship.

M.A., **Department of War Studies, King's College London**, London, UK
January 2009: Conflict, Security & Development. Fully funded by the Marshall Scholarship.

Magna cum laude, B.A., **Collegium V Honors College, The University of Texas at Dallas**, Richardson, TX
May 2006: Government & Politics, conc. Global Politics. Fully funded by the Eugene McDermott Scholarship.

LANGUAGES: English, native; French, fluent; Kreyol, basic. 2014 UN Language Proficiency Exam in French.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

Protecting Humanity from Future Health Crises: Report of the High-Level Panel on the Global Response to Health Crises. UN Executive Office of the Secretary-General. January 2016.

Survey of Good Practice of the Socioeconomic Impacts of Peacekeeping Missions. UN DPKO/DFS. February 2015.

Southern Sudan at Odds with Itself: Dynamics of Conflict and Predicaments of Peace. LSE Development Studies. July 2010.

HONORS/ACHIEVEMENTS:

- International Affairs Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations 2023-2024
- Security Fellow, Truman National Security Project 2021-present
- First Junior Professional Officer (JPO) from the USA to work in the UN Secretariat 2013-2015
- British Marshall Scholar - Highly competitive UK government-funded graduate school scholarship 2007-2009
- Harry S. Truman Scholar - U.S. government scholarship for future public service leaders 2005
- Eugene McDermott Scholars Program, University of Texas at Dallas 2002-2006