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# UN Peacekeeping and Human Rights: The Problems and Possibilities of Military Interventions

Thursday, July 1st  
9:00-11:00 am

at the Ansari Africa Center, Atlantic Council  
1101 15th Street, NW 11th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

## Forum Details:

As they have become more ambitious, UN Peacekeeping operations have grown into ever more complex and difficult undertakings. Peacekeeping missions such as MONUC in the Democratic Republic of Congo have expanded to include offensive operations in active conflict zones. These operations have been designed to deter militias, but the cost to civilians has been enormous. Meanwhile, human rights conditions grow ever bleaker. This forum will explore the challenges of warfare for UN Peacekeeping troops and the need to balance efforts to keep the peace while protecting the population. It will also explore the possibility of military engagement as a tool for ending impunity in Eastern Congo. Is there a role for peacekeeping and MONUC in building human security and preventing human rights abuses?

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## Speakers:

**Major General (ret.) Patrick Cammaert**, Former Commander of the Eastern Division, MONUC

**Colonel (ret.) Thomas Dempsey**, Deloitte Consulting LLP

**Jon Elliott**, Africa Advocacy Director, Human Rights Watch

## Moderator:

**Tony Gambino**, Independent Contractor

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## Speaker Bios

**Patrick Cammaert** - Major General (ret) Patrick Cammaert has a distinguished military career in both The Netherlands with the Royal Netherlands Marine Corps and the United Nations, where he served as Sector Commander in Cambodia (UNTAC), as Assistant Chief of Staff in Bosnia/Herzegovina (UNPROFOR), as Force Commander in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE), as Military Advisor to the Department of Peace Keeping Operations (DPKO), and as General Officer Commanding the Eastern Division in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC).

Since his retirement from the military in 2007, he has been an effective expert advocate with regard to issues such as leadership in crisis circumstances, international peace and security, civil-military cooperation in peace support operations, peacekeeping, and security sector reform. Major General Cammaert has advised the senior management

of UN Department for Peace Keeping Operations (DPKO), UN Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) on strategic planning issues such as Integrated Training Development, the protection of civilians under immediate threat of physical violence and the sexual gender based violence (SGBV) in armed conflict. Major General Cammaert also has advised the Dutch Government on strategic planning for peace support operations in Africa and Afghanistan, the Dutch Minister for Foreign Development on logistic and financial support to DRC and Burundi and the Vietnamese Government on peacekeeping and SGBV.

In 2008, Major General Cammaert was awarded the Carnegie-Wateler Peace Prize. He serves as Chairman of the Dutch Foundation for Refugees, and is a member of the advisory board of the Mukomeze Foundation, which helps women and girls who survived rape and other forms of sexual violence in Rwanda.

**Thomas Dempsey** - Thomas Dempsey, Colonel, U.S. Army (ret.) is a Specialist Master with Deloitte Consulting LLP specializing in security sector reform, rule of law, and African regional studies. He served from 2007 to 2009 as the Professor of Security Sector Reform with the U.S. Army Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute (PKSOI). Previously, he directed the reconstitution and training of the Liberian Ministry of National Defense as part of the joint U.S.-Liberian Security Sector Reform Program. His areas of expertise include defense and military reform, civil law enforcement capacity building, rule of law, homeland security and consequence management. Colonel Dempsey also has several years of experience working in both the Middle East and in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Colonel Dempsey retired from the position of Director of African Studies in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the U.S. Army War in August of 2006 following a 31-year military career as an Infantry officer. He has served as a strategic intelligence analyst for Africa at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and as Chief of Africa Branch for the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C. Prior to his final assignment to the War College, Colonel Dempsey was the U.S. Defense Attaché for Liberia and Sierra Leone, stationed in Monrovia, Liberia. He is an editor of and contributing author to *Civil Power in Irregular Conflict* (2010), authored a monograph entitled *Counterterrorism in African Failed States* (2006), and has published articles in *Brassey's Defense Analysis*. Mr. Dempsey has a BA in History from Wichita State University, an MA in African Area Studies from UCLA, and an MMAS in Theater Operations from the School of Advanced Military Studies at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He is currently a Doctoral Candidate in Public Administration at Penn State, Harrisburg.

**Jon Elliott** - Jon Elliott is Africa Advocacy Director at Human Rights Watch. Based in DC, he is responsible for advancing the organization's recommendations on Africa with African, U.S. and European governments, institutions and media. Jon was a diplomat in the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (equivalent of the State Department) from 1991 to 2007. He served as Deputy High Commissioner to Kampala from 2003-05, head of the FCO's Zimbabwe Section from 2001-02 and of its North-West Africa Section, where he was also responsible for Mediterranean policy, from 1999-2001. He has also served at the British Embassies in Tokyo and Paris, and worked on Asian and European dossiers for the FCO during his career.

## Moderator Bio

**Tony Gambino** - Tony Gambino was a Peace Corps Volunteer in the then-Zaire from 1979-1982. He has served on the staff of the Select Committee of Hunger of the House of Representatives and as Public Policy Director for InterAction. During most of the 1980s and early 1990s he worked on Central Africa as a volunteer for Amnesty International. In 1994, he joined the State Department, working in the office of the Under Secretary for Global Affairs and later in the Bureau of Public Affairs. From 1997 to 2004, Mr. Gambino worked for USAID, first as Congo Coordinator, then as Great Lakes Coordinator, and finally as USAID Mission Director for the Congo (2001-2004). He has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and is now a self-employed consultant. Mr. Gambino was stationed in Goma as an election observer for the Carter Center.

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