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## Author Biographies

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# Contributors

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**Taner Akçam** was born in Turkey in 1953. As the editor-in-chief of a student political journal, he was arrested in 1976 and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment; Amnesty International adopted him as a prisoner of conscience. A year later, he escaped to political asylum in Germany. In 1988 he undertook research in sociology at the Hamburg Institute for Social Research. His first topic was the history of political violence and torture in the late Ottoman Empire and early Republic of Turkey. In 1995 he earned his doctorate from the University of Hanover; since 2002 he has been Visiting Associate Professor of History at the University of Minnesota. Professor Akçam has since lectured and published extensively on the Armenian Genocide; his eleven books and numerous articles in English, French, German, and Turkish include *Armenien und die Völkermord* (2nd ed. 2005); *Dialogue across an International Divide: Essays Towards a Turkish–Armenian Dialogue* (2001); *From Empire to Republic: Turkish Nationalism and the Armenian Genocide* (2004); and the forthcoming *A Shameful Act: The Armenian Genocide and Turkish Responsibility*. He is currently working on a book with Vahakn N. Dadrian, *The Protocols of the Istanbul Military Tribunals on the Investigation of the Armenian Genocide*.

**Gerry Caplan** is an independent scholar and activist who focuses mainly on genocide and African underdevelopment. He has undertaken a series of assignments for the African Union and several UN agencies dealing with the well-being of African children; he was senior adviser to the former UN Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa and chair of the International Advisory Board of the University of Toronto's Special Initiative on AIDS in Africa. He is the author of *Rwanda: The Preventable Genocide* (2000), the comprehensive report of the International Panel of Eminent Personalities appointed by the Organization of African Unity to investigate the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. He has just completed a book titled *The Conspiracy against Africa*, which will be published in 2008 by Groundwood Press.

**Vahakn N. Dadrian** received his undergraduate education in Europe studying philosophy, mathematics, and international law at the Universities of Vienna, Berlin, and Zürich, respectively, and earned a PhD in sociology from the University of Chicago. After serving as visiting professor and professor at universities including Harvard, MIT, Duke, Wisconsin, Florida Atlantic, and SUNY, he retired to pursue full-time research on the Armenian Genocide. That research was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation and the H.F. Guggenheim Foundation, resulting in two monographs published in the *Yale Journal of International Law* and the books *The History of the Armenian Genocide* (now in its seventh printing); *German Responsibility in the Armenian Genocide*; and *Warrant for Genocide: Key Elements of the Turko-Armenian Conflict* (now in its third printing). Currently, he is Director of Genocide Research at the Zoryan Institute.

**Stefanie de Best** received her BSc in biopsychology from the University of British Columbia in 2007. She worked as a research assistant at UBC from 2005 through 2007 on projects related to Holocaust rescuers, affective forecasting, and maternal acceptability for ADHD treatments. Her future research interests include collective

violence, altruism, and resiliency in at-risk youth. She plans to begin graduate studies in psychology in 2008.

**Desmond Fernandes**, of the Campaign Against Criminalising Communities, was formerly a Senior Lecturer in the Geography of Genocide and Human Geography at De Montfort University, Bedford, England. He is the author of *The Kurdish and Armenian Genocides: From Censorship and Denial to Recognition?* (Stockholm: Apec Books, 2007); *The Kurdish Genocide in Turkey* (Stockholm: Apec Books, in press); and various articles on “deep politics” and genocide.

**Maureen S. Hiebert** is a Research Fellow at the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies at the University of Calgary and teaches international relations and comparative politics in the Department of Political Science, University of Calgary. She holds a PhD from the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto; her dissertation, “The Origins of Genocide: Political Culture, Crisis, and the Construction of Victims,” explores the role played by collective identity construction in the perpetration of the Holocaust and the Cambodian genocide. Dr. Hiebert has presented several papers on comparative genocide theory, social constructivism, and collective identity construction at academic conferences for the International Association of Genocide Scholars, the Canadian Political Science Association, the Canadian Sociological and Anthropological Association, the Midwest Political Science Association, and the Annual MAIR Conference at the Munk Centre for International Studies. She has previously taught courses in comparative genocide at the Department of Political Science, University of Toronto, and has given guest lectures on the Cambodian genocide at McMaster University.

**Hikmet Karčić** is a student at the Law Faculty in Sarajevo.

**Rob McCormick** is Assistant Professor of History at the University of South Carolina Upstate. He has recently published on the Balkan Committee and Croatian sculptor Ivan Meštrović, and is currently working on a manuscript dealing with Ante Pavelić.

**Dr. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas**, Emerita, University of Roskilde, Denmark, and Åbo Akademi University, Finland, has written or edited approximately fifty books and almost 400 articles and book chapters, in thirty-one languages, about minority education, linguistic human rights, linguistic genocide, the subtractive spread of English, the relationship between biodiversity and linguistic diversity, and so on. She received the Linguapax award in 2003. For publications, see <http://akira.ruc.dk/~tovesk/>.

A Holocaust survivor from Hungary, **Peter Suedfeld** was educated at Queens College, CUNY, and at Princeton University. He is now Dean Emeritus of Graduate Studies and Professor Emeritus of Psychology at the University of British Columbia. His research focuses on how people cope with challenging environments and experiences, including high-level political decisions, work in polar and space environments, and genocide.

**Professor Daniel C. Turack** of Capital University Law School in Columbus, Ohio, is noted for his expertise in international law and has published extensively at that area. He taught law in Australia, in Canada, and at the University of Mississippi before arriving at Capital University in 1969. Professor Turack offers his expertise to students in the areas of contracts, admiralty, international law, human rights, and international criminal law. He is nationally recognized for his extensive publication record in the area of international humanitarian law.