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Volume 18

Issue 1 *Evidence-Based Approaches to  
Preventing Genocide and Mass Atrocities*

Article 3

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10-2-2024

## Editors' Introduction

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### Recommended Citation

(2024) "Editors' Introduction," *Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal*. Vol. 18: Iss. 1: 1–2.

DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.5038/1911-9933.18.1.2002>

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/gsp/vol18/iss1/3>

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## Editors' Introduction

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This special issue, "Evidence-Based Approaches to Preventing Genocide," edited by Jamie Wise and Kristina Hook, represents a major step forward for the field of genocide and mass atrocity prevention.

The closely related fields of international development, humanitarianism, conflict management and resolution, and human rights advocacy broadly defined, have seen significant advancements in methodologies and practices to measure impact and document success. For many reasons, too many to address here, the field of genocide studies and prevention has not kept pace with developments in the literatures of these closely linked subfields fields (see, for example, the [Better Evidence Project](#) at the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School, George Mason University; the [Peace Accords Matrix](#) at the Kroc Institute, University of Notre Dame; and the Alliance for Peacebuilding's [Learning and Evidence initiative](#)). Wise and Hook, in the introduction to the special issue, do important first work to clear a path for the field to begin conversations on evidence-based approaches to genocide prevention, which are crucial for effective genocide and atrocity prevention.

The issue begins with a note from the Special Adviser of the United Nations Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, Alice Wairimu Nderitu, and proceeds to chart cutting-edge evidence-based approaches to evaluating prevention tools, risk forecasting and early warning, resilience and structural prevention, international approaches to atrocity prevention, and local approaches to atrocity prevention. The authors, who range from leading scholars to emerging stars in the field, bring to the issue diverse disciplinary backgrounds, and many speak to issues of genocide prevention from the vantage point of closely linked fields, including conflict resolution, peace studies, human rights advocacy, and international humanitarian law.

The editors wish to thank George Mason University's Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy, and the Philosophy Department, for hosting planning workshops for this issue, and for providing excellent research assistants (Webby Applegate and Carly Chier) who contributed greatly to the issue. As always, thank you also to our anonymous peer reviewers.

*Douglas Irvin-Erickson*, George Mason University  
*Shannon Fyfe*, Washington & Lee University School of Law

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The editorial team wishes to thank all the authors in this edition of GSP, and believe the content mirrors the ongoing quest of scholars and practitioners to study genocide and, in doing so, help to understand and thereby prevent the crime. In this edition we welcome new voices to GSP, and we are pleased to publish some more established voices. We think readers will enjoy the eclecticism of the edition and hope this diversity inspires others to submit similarly thought-provoking articles and essays.

*Jeff Bachman*

*Daniel Bultmann*

*Sabah Carrim*

*JoAnn DiGeorgio-Lutz*

*Shannon Fyfe*

*Douglas Irvin-Erickson*

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