Extraordinary Professor Alpaslan Özerdem

Professor Özerdem is Co-Director of the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, UK, which is home for 60 full-time researchers. With over 20 year field research experience in Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, El Salvador, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liberia, Nigeria, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Turkey, he specializes in conflict resolution, mediation, peacebuilding and conflict transformation.

He has also taken an active role in the initiation and management of several advisory and applied research projects for a wide range of national and international organisations such as the United Nations and international NGOs. He also runs tailor-made and in-country professional training programmes for a wide range of audiences from humanitarian aid practitioners to civil servants and policy makers. Professor Özerdem also is also a frequent speaker and workshop leader for events organized by the private sector, higher education institutions, international organisations and governmental authorities.

Professor Özerdem has undertaken numerous research projects that were funded by the UK's Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC) (faith-based conflict prevention); British Academy (youth and peacebuilding); US Institute of Peace (reintegration of ex-combatants); and various EC funding schemes (conflict transformation and leadership). He has been granted over £ 1million as research income over the last five years. He has supervised over 20 doctoral research and 150 Masters Degree projects and teaches not only in the UK, but also in India, Italy, Norway, Thailand and Turkey.

He has published extensively (14 books and numerous journal articles, book chapters and op-eds) and amongst other, is author of Post-war Recovery: Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (2008); co-author of Managing Emergencies and Crises (2011); co-editor of Child Soldiers: From Recruitment to Reintegration (2011); co-author of Peace in Turkey 2023: The Question of Human Security and Conflict Transformation (2013); co-editor of Human Security in Turkey (2013); co-author of Youth in Conflict and Peacebuilding: Mobilization, Reintegration and Reconciliation (2015); co-editor of Local Ownership in International Peacebuilding (2015); co-author of Peacebuilding: An Introduction (2015); and co-editor of Conflict Transformation and the Palestinians: The Dynamics of Peace and Justice under Occupation (2016).

Professor Özerdem is Chair of the annual Istanbul Human Security Conference since 2011 and organizes Global Peace Workshop for young peacebuilders since 2013. He sits in editorial boards of a number of academic journals as well as acting as Peace Studies Co-Chair of the International Studies Association, Peer Review Member of the UK's Economic & Social Research Council, and an Invited He is also President of Centre for Strategic Research and Analysis (CESRAN), a UK based think-tank and recipient of the 2015 International Peace Medal of the Peace Corps of Nigeria. Finally, he received his Professor Extraordinary in Politics title by Stellenbosch University in 2017.