



## Long Biography: Dr. Shelly Whitman

Dr. Shelly Whitman is the Executive Director of the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative. Prior leading to the Dallaire Initiative since 2010, her academic career had her teaching in International Development Studies and Political Science at Dalhousie University and Deputy Director of the Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, Saint Mary's University and the University of Botswana. Her research interests broadly focus on issues related to peace, development and human security. Specifically Dr. Whitman has conducted research on small arms and light weapons in Southern Africa, gender and conflict, children and conflict, the international criminal court, the Great Lakes region and peace and reconciliation efforts in post-conflict societies.

From 2000-2002, Dr. Whitman worked as the Head of Research on the inter-Congolese dialogue, under the direction of Former Botswana President, Sir Ketumile Masire. Previous to this post, she was a Research Consultant at UNICEF, NY and worked under the direction of Ambassador Stephen Lewis on the OAU Rwanda Genocide Report.