

Elias O. Opongo, SJ, PhD

Bio

Elias O. Opongo, SJ is the Dean of Hekima Institute of Peace Studies and International Relations (HIPSIR), Hekima University College. Opongo, is a Jesuit priest, a peace practitioner and conflict analyst, and holds PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies from University of Bradford, UK and MA in International Peace Studies from University of Notre Dame, USA. His research focus is in the areas of transitional justice and post conflict reconstruction, ethics of just war, state fragility and militarization of conflicts, religious extremism and violence, state building and community peacebuilding, and extractive industries, conflict and natural resource governance. He runs professional training in conflict resolution, mediation and peacebuilding. He has carried out many research projects in areas of proliferation of small arms, state fragility and conflict in Africa; extractive industries' implications on policy, livelihoods and conflicts in Africa; post-conflict and liberal peace and implications on reconciliation, forgiveness, International Criminal Court, roles of NGOs, religious and cultural institutions, among others. Besides presenting in many public conferences, Opongo has been a visiting scholar at St. Louis University, USA and Georgetown University, USA. Opongo has published books, book chapters and articles on conflict resolution, transitional justice, peacebuilding and Catholic Social Teaching. His book titles include, among others: (2019) *Religious Extremism and Violence in Africa: Reviewing the Practice of Intervention and Inter-religious Dialogue*; (2018) *Pope Francis on Good Governance and Accountability in Africa*; (2016) *Transitional Justice in Post-Conflict Societies in Africa*; (2014) *Catholic Leadership in Peacebuilding in Africa*; (2008) *Peace Weavers: Methodologies of Peacebuilding in Africa*; (2007) *Faith Doing Justice: A Manual for Social Analysis, Catholic Social Teaching and Social Justice*; (2006) *Making Choices for Peace: Aid Agencies in Field Diplomacy*.