

Padraig O'Malley is the John Joseph Moakley Distinguished Professor of Peace and Reconciliation at UMass Boston's the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies www.mccormack.umb.edu and author on topics related to divided societies.

Born in Dublin, Ireland, O'Malley is an award-winning author and expert on democratic transitions and divided societies, with special expertise on Northern Ireland, South Africa, and Iraq.

His latest book: *The Two-State Delusion: Israel and Palestine – A Tale of Two Narratives* was published by Viking/Penguin Press in July 2015.

His fifteen year documentation of the transition from Apartheid to democracy in South Africa, *The Heart of Hope* is available at the Nelson Mandela Foundation website: www.nelsonmandela.org/omalley (See complete list of O'Malley's books below.)

His work is archived at the South Africa History Association, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa; the Robben Island Museum, University of the Western Cape, South Africa; and the University of Massachusetts Boston, USA.

O'Malley is also the founding editor of the *New England Journal of Public Policy*, <http://scholarworks.umb.edu/nejpp/> a publication of UMass Boston's John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies.

Books

- O'Malley, P. (2015). *The Two-State Delusion: Israel and Palestine – A Tale of Two Narratives*. NY: Viking/Penguin.
- O'Malley, P. (2007). *Shades of Difference: Mac Maharaj & the Struggle for South Africa* (with a 15,000-word introduction by Nelson Mandela). NY: Viking/Penguin.
- O'Malley, P. (Ed.). (2006). *Sticks and Stones: Living with Uncertain Wars*. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 2006.
- O'Malley, P. (Ed.). (1999). *Southern Africa: The People's Voices*. Cape Town, South Africa: University of the Western Cape.
- O'Malley, P. (Ed.). (1994). *Homelessness: New England and Beyond*. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press.
- O'Malley, P. (1990). *Biting at the Grave: The Irish Hunger Strikes and the Politics of Despair*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1990; Belfast: Blackstaff Press.
- O'Malley, P. (1990). *Northern Ireland: Questions of Nuance*. Belfast: Blackstaff Press.

- O'Malley, P. (Ed.). (1990). *AIDS: Private Rights and Public Interests*. Boston: Beacon Press.
- O'Malley, P. (1983). *The Uncivil Wars: Ireland Today*, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company; London, Dublin and Belfast: Blackstaff Press.
- O'Malley, P. (1971). *Irish Industry: Structure and Performance*. Dublin: Gill & McMillan; New York: Barnes & Noble.

Awards

- Peacemaker's Award, Association of Dispute Resolution, 2010
- The Liberal International Freedom Prize (European Union), 2008
- Eire Society Gold Medal (Boston), 2008
- Dispute Resolution Award, University of Massachusetts Boston, 1992
- Cambridge Peace Prize, 1990
- *New York Times Book Review* 10 Best Books of 1990 for *Biting at the Grave*
- International Association of University Presidents Award, 1985
- Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award for Scholarship, University of Massachusetts Boston, 1985
- President's Award, University of Massachusetts, 1985
- Christopher Ewart-Biggs Memorial Prize for contribution to Anglo/Irish understanding for *The Uncivil Wars: Ireland Today*, 1984

O'Malley's Career as a Facilitator/Convener

1975

Brought 35 people from all parties in conflict in Northern Ireland (NI) including leading paramilitary leaders to the University of Massachusetts Amherst for peacebuilding dialogue

Result: Reached an agreement among paramilitaries not to deliberately target civilians (unfortunately, this agreement was not followed)

1984

Brought together center-stream Catholic and Protestant parties and British ministers governing NI to a forum at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library—the first time they had conversed in a neutral zone

January 1985

Brought all parties from NI (except Sinn Fein’s political arm of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) who were denied visas), Republic of Ireland, and United Kingdom (UK) parliament including ministers from the British government administering NI, members from the Republic of Ireland with portfolios dealing with NI and senior civil servants from both the UK and Ireland to Airlie House, Virginia

Result: Helped facilitate the landmark Anglo Irish Agreement, giving the Republic of Ireland a say in how NI was administered

1987

Cofounded Ireland/Boston Ventures with offshoots of Boston/Galway Ventures and Derry/Boston Ventures

Results: Promoted collaboration between the two cities and their joint annual trade exhibitions in Boston

1992

Brought former Irish Prime Minister Garrett FitzGerald, twelve high level officials from across the sectarian divide in NI, and twelve senior members of the African National Congress (ANC) constitutional committee to the University of Massachusetts Boston to discuss: *“The Role of a Bill of Rights in a Divided Society”*

Result: Established connections between key individuals from two divided societies deep in conflict which have continued to result in follow-up conferences in both jurisdictions

1992-93

Served as a member of a five-person commission, chaired by the Torkel Opsahl, to explore ways forward in NI through the eyes of ordinary citizens

Result: Published its findings and recommendations in *A Citizens’ Inquiry: the Opsahl Report on Northern Ireland* (Dublin: Lilliput Press)

1996

Brought chief negotiators Cyril Ramaphosa (ANC) and Roelf Meyer (former National Party’s Apartheid government), who had successfully concluded the historic settlement in

South Africa (SA) two years earlier, to NI to meet with leaders of all political parties including leading members of the paramilitary militias

Result: Recommended to President Nelson Mandela that the SA government could assist in helping to break deadlocks in NI

1997

Convened a four-day conference in SA with Nelson Mandela's government bringing all parties in stalled negotiations in NI to meet with all the chief negotiators from all parties who had participated in the SA peace process between 1992 -1994

Result: Helped facilitate the Good Friday Agreement in 1998, bringing peace to NI. (After the agreement was signed, all NI parties were effusive in their praise of the contribution the South Africans had made.)

July 2007

Made first of 16 trips in one year to Iraq for peacebuilding meetings

October 2007

Hosted a conference at the University of Massachusetts Boston bringing together key people involved in the reconciliation process in NI with key participants from such processes in Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, and South Africa, all of whom had participated in some form of commission dealings in the past

Result: Formed a support group to continue to assist in the reconciliation process in NI

August-September 2007

Headed up a project with the Institute of Global Leadership, Tufts University, and Crisis Management Initiative (the NGO established by former president of Finland and Nobel Prize winner Martti Ahtisaari) in Helsinki that brought together Iraqi officials and chief negotiators from NI and SA to share experiences of conflict and the processes of peace negotiations and reconciliation. Participants included 16 senior officials from all Sunni and Shia parties including the Minister of National Reconciliation Akram al Hakim, former chief of staff of the IRA Martin McGuinness, and Nelson Mandela's chief negotiator, Cyril Ramaphosa

Result: Reached an agreement which was submitted to their political leaders for ratification

April 2008

Orchestrated a follow up conference in Helsinki attended by 37 of the most senior leaders in Iraq, representing all political factions, parties, and tribal sheikhs, including the Awakening

Councils; *“The Helsinki II Conference on Iraq”*

Result: Developed an outline of an agreement

July 2008

Concluded six weeks of intensive work in Iraq facilitating the final framework for future inclusive negotiations signed by the 37 political leaders and tribal sheikhs

Result: Culminated in the Helsinki Agreement, 17 principles outlining the code of political behavior for participation in future negotiations and 15 implementation mechanisms to ensure compliance; announced in Baghdad on July 5, 2008

2008-09

Engaged in conversations in Kirkuk and Boston with members of all the ethnic groups that comprise the Kirkuk Provincial Council (KPC)

Result: KPC endorsed the Helsinki agreement as the framework for future negotiations

April 2009

Convened a three-day conference, Forum for Cities in Transition from Conflict, at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Participants included representatives from four participating cities: Derry/Londonderry, NI; Mitrovica (two municipalities); Nicosia (two municipalities); and Kirkuk (seven members of the Kirkuk provincial council including the chairman and leaders of all ethnic blocs)

Result: Signed a “call to action” agreeing to establish a permanent Forum for Cities in Transition from Conflict

November 2009

Brought together delegations from the Iraq Council of Representatives (ICOR) led by Speaker Ayad Al Samarrai, the Kurdistan Parliament led by Kemal Kerkuki, and the KPC led by Chairman Ali Razgar, for a conference at the ICOR building in Baghdad, Iraq: *“The Helsinki Agreement and the Future of Kirkuk”*

Result: Agreed to meet again

May 2010

Convened the inaugural Forum for Cities in Transition conference in Mitrovicë/Kosovska Mitrovica. Representatives from nine divided cities attended: Derry/Londonderry, Northern Ireland; Nicosia (Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities); Mostar, Beirut;

Jerusalem/Haifa; and Kirkuk. (Kaduna, Nigeria had to cancel at last moment due to a constitutional crisis following the death its president.)

Result: Agreed on more than ten outcomes to assist each other in areas such as policing, water infrastructure, and business development.

May 2010

Facilitated, as a follow up to the November conference in Baghdad, a meeting in Kosovo between the KPC delegation and negotiators from NI

Result: Invited the NI team to visit Kirkuk to discuss further talks on power sharing among the political parties and the public sector

May 2011

Convened the second annual Forum for Cities in Transition conference in Derry/Londonderry. In addition to the cities that attended the 2010 conference, three more cities sent delegations: Ramallah, Mitte (Berlin), and Kaduna (Nigeria)

Result: Agreed on some 30 outcomes, at least half of which are achievable within the cities' capacity and resources, while others are aspirational or require finding new funding sources

October 2012

Convened the third annual Forum for Cities in Transition in Kirkuk, Iraq. In addition to the cities that attended the 2011 conference, two more cities sent delegations: Tripoli, Lebanon; and Baghdad

Result: Agreed on some 30 new outcomes with a renewed promise to engage in previous years' unfulfilled commitments

October 2013:

Convened the fourth annual Forum for Cities in Transition in Kaduna, Nigeria in October 2013.

Results: Agreed on 45 pledges to reduce violence, promote peace and reconciliation, encourage civic participation of all sectors of society including youth and women, and promote economic development and regeneration.

October 2014:

Convened the fourth annual Forum for Cities in Transition in Belfast, Northern Ireland in October 2014

Results: over 30 projects were pledged as the outcomes of the 2014 forum; most importantly, a critical mass of opinion came to the conclusion that the FCT should place greater emphasis on issues germane to Youth – and establishing a permanent Youth forum within the FCT.

Learn more about the Forum for Cities in Transition. <http://citiesintransition.net/>