

**Higher Purpose Forum: Perspectives on the Crisis in Gaza - Dr. Drissa Kone, William Haines and Andrew Wilson**

James Edgerly  
November 13, 2023



Exploring  
important  
questions  
together

**Presentation & Discussion Series**  
**Tuesday, November 21 @ 7:00 PM EST via ZOOM**  
*(Registration Required)*  
Co-Hosted with  
HJ International Graduate School (formally UTS)



**Panel Presentation & Discussion**  
**"Perspectives on the Crisis in Gaza"**

Dr Drissa Kone - Adjunct Professor of Peace Studies, HJI  
Dr. Andrew Wilson - Professor of Scriptural Studies, HJI  
William Haines - Unificationist Pastor, North London, UK

**Followed by Participant Discussion and Concluding Remarks by**  
**Dr. Thomas Walsh** - President, HJ International Graduate School

[ZOOM Registration Link \(New\)](#)

---

Dear

Mark your calendar and join us on **Tuesday, November 21** for a meeting on the crisis in Gaza. This HPF meeting will be co-hosted with the HJ International Graduate School of Peace and Public Leadership (HJI).

Our three person panel will present principled perspectives on the **recent tragic events in Southern Israel and the Gaza Strip**. They will offer insights into possible

avenues forward, bringing an end to the conflict, sowing the seeds of permanent peace and a hopeful future with respect for the human rights of all.

Following our **participant discussion period**, concluding remarks will be offered by **Dr. Thomas Walsh**, President HJ International Graduate School



## Panelists

### Dr. Drissa Kone

Dr. Kone was raised in Côte d'Ivoire, earning a degree at Cocody Univ. Surviving civil war, prison, and torture he came to the U.S. in 2008. Dr. Kone earned an MDiv and DMin at UTS, focusing on transformational leadership and management of cross-cultural conflict. He also earned an MA in diplomacy from Norwich University.

Dr. Kone was the chaplain at Barrytown College and pastor of the Belvedere Family Church. He is an Associate Professor of Conflict Resolution and Ministry at HJI.



### Dr. Andrew Wilson

Dr. Wilson's writings cover diverse topics ranging from religion and peace to character education to the theory of the spirit world. He participated as a scholar in numerous *Middle East Peace Initiatives* in Israel and the Occupied Areas.

He authored *World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts*, now a standard text for interfaith scholarship. His second volume of *World Scripture* has been adopted as one of eight official textbooks of Unificationism.

Dr. Wilson is Professor of Scriptural Studies and Director of Scriptural Research at HJI. He earned his BA at Harvard University, a Master's in Theology from the Harvard Divinity School, a PhD from Harvard University, and a Doctorate in Religious Education from the Unification Theological Seminary.



### William Haines

William Haines a member of the Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain. He co-authored a series of textbooks for spiritual and moral education

