

Graeme Smith
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Professional Background

Senior Analyst, 2021 to 2025, International Crisis Group

- Rebuilt operations in Afghanistan after Taliban takeover
- Lead a research team focused on security, politics, and the economic crisis
- Advised cabinet-level officials on regional strategy
- Provided expert testimony to U.S. Congress and European parliaments

Senior Consultant, 2023, United Nations Special Coordinator

- On secondment from Crisis Group, built a team of leading experts to advise H.E. Feridun Sinirlioğlu in his capacity as Special Coordinator
- Drafted the outline of his report about Afghanistan for the Security Council
- Led delegation to Kabul for meetings with Taliban cabinet and other officials

Senior Policy Advisor, 2020 to 2021, Norwegian Centre for Conflict Resolution

- Advised governments on design and implementation of Afghan peace negotiations
- Designed strategy for pragmatic engagement with the Taliban
- Coordinated multilateral efforts to develop policy among international actors

Senior Consultant, 2020, United Nations Development Programme

- Established a risk management unit within the Resident Coordinator's Office in Yemen
- Secured funding from European donors, lead recruitment efforts
- Drafted analysis of risks for all agencies of the United Nations and their partners

Senior Consultant, 2018 to 2020, International Crisis Group

- Lead informal dialogue in support of Afghan peace process
- Presented to donors and other stakeholders in high-level settings
- Drafted reports and other written products on behalf of the Afghanistan team

Political Affairs Officer, 2015 to 2018, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

- Provided advice to senior leadership, lead analytical efforts across units
- Drafted conflict analysis that revised Mission strategy on peace and stability
- Covered issues of domestic politics, security, and reconciliation
- Facilitated dialogue with a broad range of Afghan and international interlocutors

Senior Analyst and Head of Mission, 2012 to 2015, International Crisis Group

- Supervised a team of 12 researchers and support staff in Afghanistan
- Conducted field research in remote parts of the country, including with conflict parties
- Maintained and developed relations with government and corporate donors

Global Investigations Reporter, 2012, The Globe and Mail (Canada)

- Worked with teams of journalists to produce in-depth reports on international affairs

Istanbul Correspondent, 2011, The Globe and Mail (Canada)

- Covered news and politics in the region, including travels to Kandahar and Quetta, research on the Syrian border, and four extended visits to Libya during the civil war

Delhi correspondent, 2010, The Globe and Mail (Canada)

- Wrote a series of articles from Kashmir and rural Pakistan on water management

Kandahar correspondent, 2006 to 2009, The Globe and Mail (Canada)

- Documented the war in southern Afghanistan on a daily basis for three years
- Established an office in Kandahar city, overcoming logistical and security challenges

Moscow correspondent, 2005, The Globe and Mail (Canada)**Reporter, 2001 to 2005, The Globe and Mail (Canada)**

Selected Awards

2013 - Hilary Weston Writers' Trust prize for non-fiction (winner)
2013 - National Magazine Award for investigative reporting (gold)
2013 - National Magazine Award for business reporting (gold)
2009 - Emmy Award for new approaches to news and documentary
2008 - National Newspaper Award for international reporting
2008 - National Newspaper Award for multimedia project
2007 - Michener Award for public-service journalism
2007 - National Newspaper Award for international reporting
1999 - Canadian Association of Journalists' award for investigations

Publications

Ghosts of Afghanistan, 2021, documentary film, winner of three Canadian Screen Awards

The Dogs Are Eating Them Now: Our War in Afghanistan (Knopf, 2013), bestselling book and winner of Canada's richest prize for nonfiction; shortlisted for three other awards; republished in the United States (Counterpoint, 2015) and France (Éditions Hermann, 2015)

"No Justice, No Peace: Kandahar 2005-2009", book chapter, *The Rule of Law in Afghanistan: Missing in Inaction* (Cambridge University Press, 2010)

"What Kandahar's Taliban Say", book chapter, *Decoding the New Taliban* (Hurst, 2009)

Education and Languages

Ryerson Polytechnic University (Toronto) Bachelor of Journalism, 2001

Norwegian Defence International Centre (NODEFIC)

United Nations Ceasefire Mediation Course, 2016

English (native), French (proficient), Dari (beginner), Italian (beginner)