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Conflict Prevention: The Untapped Potential of the Business Sector

Andreas Wenger and Daniel Möckli

Despite intensive international efforts in the area of conflict prevention, there is still little agreement about how civil wars (as well as interstate wars) might best be averted—and the many attempts at preventive action have not been strikingly successful. The authors of *Conflict Prevention* offer a new perspective, arguing that such efforts could be much more effective if they incorporated the private sector.

After establishing a historical and analytical context, Wenger and Möckli examine the qualities that the business sector could bring to bear in the prevention of deadly intrastate conflict. They then propose specific ways in which businesses might be engaged in prevention efforts and show why it is in the interests of corporations to participate. Calling for a multisectoral approach—involving states, international organizations, NGOs, and corporations—they demonstrate that the business sector has both the means and the motivation to ensure the long-term success of prevention efforts.

Andreas Wenger is professor of international security policy and deputy director of the Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ). His publications include *Nuclear Weapons into the 21st Century*, *Russia's Place in Europe*, and *International Relations: From the Cold War to the Globalized World*. **Daniel Möckli** is research assistant at the Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research, ETHZ. He is author of *Neutralität, Solidarität, Sonderfall: Die Konzeptionierung der schweizerischen Aussenpolitik der Nachkriegszeit, 1943-1947*.

CONTENTS: Introduction. Toward a Culture of Prevention. Assessing Conflict Prevention Today. Bringing In the Business Sector. Corporate Conflict Prevention: Ways of Engagement. Conclusion: Business as a Strategic Partner in Conflict Prevention.

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