

**Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution**



Working Paper No. 15

**Ripe for Contribution?  
The Falklands-Malvinas War  
and the Utility of  
Problems-Solving Workshops**

Christopher Mitchell  
August 2000

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**George Mason University**

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## About the Author

Christopher Mitchell is currently the Drucie French Cumbie Professor of Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University where he teaches both Masters and Doctoral programs at the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (ICAR).

He received his undergraduate and post-graduate education at University College, London, and his Ph.D. from the University of London in 1972 for a study of the Kenyan-Somali conflict in the Horn of Africa.

Since then, he has held research and teaching appointments at the Centre for the Analysis of Conflict, University College, London; at the London School of Economics; at the Universities of Surrey and Southampton; and at City University, London, where he became Professor of International Relations in 1985. He joined the faculty of ICAR in 1988 and was Director of the Institute between 1991 and 1994.

As a consultant and facilitator, he has worked on conflicts in Northern Ireland, Spain, Cyprus, Transcaucasia, the Middle East, and Africa.

His main fields of academic interest include international mediation and peacemaking processes, particularly the practical development of problem solving approaches to protracted conflicts; the causes, dynamics, and resolution of major ethno-nationalist conflicts, especially those that become "internationalized"; and the termination of protracted conflicts, with particular reference to those in Africa.

He has published numerous papers and articles on all these topics, and is the author of *The Structure of International Conflict* (Macmillan/St. Martins Press, 1981); *Peacemaking and the Consultant's Role* (Gower Press, 1981); (with Michael Banks) *A Handbook on the Analytical Problem Solving Approach* (Frances Pinter, 1996); and *Gestures of Conciliation* (Macmillan/St. Martins Press, 2000). In addition to these works, he has edited *International Relations Theory* (Frances Pinter, 1978) with A.J.R. Groom; *In the Aftermath: Anglo-Argentine Relations Since 1982* (University of Maryland, 1988) with Walter Little; and *New Approaches to International Mediation* (Greenwood Press, 1988) with Keith Webb.

## About the Institute

The Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, has as its principal mission to advance the understanding and resolution of significant and persistent conflicts among individuals, communities, identity groups, and nations.

In the fulfillment of its mission, the Institute conducts a wide range of programs and outreach. Among these are its graduate programs offering the Doctoral and Master of Science in Conflict Analysis and Resolution, clinical consultancy services offered by individual members of the faculty, and public programs and education that include the annual Vernon M. and Minnie I. Lynch Lecture Series.

The Institute's major research interests include the study of conflict and its resolution, the exploration and analysis of conditions attracting parties in conflict to the negotiating table, the role of third parties in dispute resolution, and the application of conflict resolution methodologies in local, national, and international settings. The Institute's Applied Practice and Theory Program (APT) develops teams of faculty, students, and allied practitioners to analyze and address topics such as conflict in schools and other community institutions, crime and violence, jurisdictional conflicts between local agencies of government, and international conflicts.

The Northern Virginia Mediation Service (NVMS) is affiliated with the Institute and provides conflict resolution and mediation services and training to schools, courts, and local agencies and practitioners in communities across Northern Virginia and the Washington metropolitan area.

For more information, please call (703) 993-1300 or check the Institute's web page at [www.gmu.edu/departments/ICAR/](http://www.gmu.edu/departments/ICAR/).

































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