

DANIEL J. GERSTLE

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CAREER SUMMARY

Program Director, Emergency Coordinator, Filmmaker, Researcher, & Writer | Having coordinated emergency programs responding to war and disaster around the world, including relations ranging from UNICEF to ECHO, then produced many kinds of research, media, and communications, I'm now seeking a new organization to achieve further impact for the public good. My work has been covered by the [BBC](#), [Rolling Stone](#), [CNN](#), [Euronews](#), [The New Yorker](#), [The Atlantic](#), [WNYC](#), [VICE](#), [Aljazeera](#), and [The Guardian](#).

MASTER'S LEVEL EDUCATION

2003-2005. **Master of International Affairs in Humanitarian Management & Health** | *Columbia University*, School of International and Public Affairs & Mailman School of Public Health, combined coursework for Refugee Health Program. Included three fellowships: the Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship (Serbian/Bosnian/Croatian), Julie J. Kidd Fellowship in Peacebuilding Research (Afghanistan & Tajikistan), and the Harriman-Pepsico Fellowship in Former Soviet Research (Azerbaijan & Armenia).

2003. **International Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance** | *Center for International Humanitarian Cooperation*, Fordham University, New York. Covered all levels of humanitarian assistance, including intensive courses with UNHCR, UNICEF, MSF, IRC, and others.

1991-1996. **Bachelor of Arts in History, Certificate in Creative Writing, & Certificate of Russian & East European Studies** | *University of Cincinnati*, Ohio. Dean's List. Included *study abroad-Bosnia*, *study abroad-Ukraine*, *Kharkov State University*, *Internship, STORY Magazine*, and *Internship, Conversa Language Center*.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

2009 – 2023 | **Executive Director/ Producer/ Consultant** | [Humanitarian Bazaar](#). Led, produced, and consulted on not-for-profit projects focused on how people survive war and disaster supported by partners UNDP, USDOS/CVE, Gov't of Somalia, Danish Refugee Council, Oxfam and more. Highlights include:

- [2022-2023. CLEAR Global / Translators Without Borders](#). Served as first Curator / Editor of the Yasno humanitarian information gateway, an Oxfam-funded search enhancer for nonprofits across the Ukraine regional emergency. Early partners included
- [2021-2022. Emergency migration advisory](#). Responded to overlapping Afghanistan and Ukraine emergencies to advise and assist families and team members escaping mass violence toward asylum.
- [2019-2020. SyriaUntold](#). Consulted on development of Syrian media platform, including developing grants and proposals to European Endowment for Democracy (EED), International Media Support-Denmark (IMS), Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), Heinrich Boll Stiftung (HBS), and more (Germany)

- 2013-2020. War Survivors Advisory. Research and development of civilian protection tools for aid agencies (Germany, Bosnia, Ukraine, Syria, and Afghanistan)
- 2012-2023. Somali Sunrise. Feature film documentary about threatened peace activists returning to Somalia (UNDP, US Embassy, Freemuse, Somalia, Kenya)
- 2018-2019. Civil Military Training. Guest trainer on humanitarian organizations for civil and military cooperation (Academy for Crisis Management, Emergency Response, and Civil Protection, Germany)
- 2017. Development Consultation. Provided support to design project (Caritas-Swiss in Bosnia)
- 2016. Peer Counseling the Afghan Way. Manual on prevention of gender-based violence (Danish Refugee Council, Afghanistan, 2016),
- 2012-2013. Somali Sunrise Concert Tour for Peace. Included also the historic Mogadishu Music Festival, as well as the Journey of Peace in Dadaab, media and events for youth outreach for mitigating violent extremism, (UNDP, US Embassy, Kennedy Center, Cultures of Resistance, Somalia, Kenya, 2012-2014)
- 2011. Adeso Africa. Produced documentary (Adeso Africa, Somalia, Kenya, S Sudan, 2011-2012)
- 2011/ 2013. Sound Central Festival. Historic music festival in Kabul, (Afghanistan, 2011/2013),
- 2010. Filming Violence. Documentary short film (Oxfam International, United States, 2010),
- 2009-2012. Helo Magazine. Online literary nonfiction magazine (global, 2019-2012),_and others

2015 Jan- 2015 Aug | **Head of Emergency Programs/ Acting Security Coord.** | People in Need, Ukraine.

- Led field team in emergency response, providing food aid, hygiene, shelter, and livelihood support to vulnerable people on both sides of the crisis in eastern Ukraine; co-led donor relations, hosting head of European Commission/ ECHO; US, Dutch, Czech ambassadors; SIDA, and created security plan and team.

2008-2009 | **Program Director** | Relief International-Iraq, ft. Jordan, Palestine, Afghanistan.

- Coordinated countrywide peacebuilding and conflict mitigation project in Iraq, helped review and oversee field program development via USAID, BPRM, ECHO, etc, in Jordan, Palestine, and Afghanistan.

2001-2008 | **Humanitarian Consultant & Researcher** | Various roles overlapping graduate school

- 2008. Consultant on Food Security & Livelihoods, UNOCHA/ UNDP-Sudan.
- 2007. Consultant on Child Justice National Survey, UNICEF/ UNDP-Somalia.
- 2006. Community Development Prog Coordinator, Int'l Medical Corps-Russia/ Chechnya.
- 2005. Consultant on Emergency response, Adeso Africa, Somalia.
- 2001-2. Aid for Disabled, Full Circle of Choices, Berkeley, California.

1998-2001 | **Refugee Services** | International Rescue Committee

- 2000-2001. Resource Developer/ Volunteer Coordinator for refugees, San Jose, California, U.S.
- 1999. Shelter Rehabilitation & Repatriation, Apprentice, Horadiz, Azerbaijan.
- 1998-1999. Refugee Caseworker, Split, Croatia, with research across Bosnia.

1991-1998 | **Career Development** | Multiple

- Administrative Assistant | University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA (1997-8).
- Human Resources Assistant | Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass, USA (1996-7).
- Creative Writing Study | Prague Summer Writer's Workshop, Charles University, Czechia (1996).
- Russian Language Study | Kharkiv State University, Ukraine (1995).
- Magazine Editorial Intern | STORY Magazine, Cincinnati, USA (1995).

HUMANITARIAN-RELATED PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS

2023. **Humanitarian Bazaar Magazine** | Afghanistan: Valley of Chameleons. Women's Rights Future.
2021. **SyriaUntold** | A Decade of Attacks on Syria's Hospitals & the Medical Staff Who Learned to Survive.
2016. **Danish Refugee Council** | Peer Counseling the Afghan Way. Manual on Legal Aid for Reducing Violence against Women in Afghanistan. (Translated to Dari & Pashto)
2013. **Rolling Stone (Middle East)** | Syria: Rock in a Hard Place.
2012. **Rolling Stone (Middle East)** | Iraq: Killings Spark Fear Within Iraq's 'Emo' Subculture.
2012. **Rolling Stone (Middle East)** | Somalia: The Rise of Waayaha Cusub.
2011. **Humanitarian Bazaar Magazine** | Somalia: The Things We Ate When Responding to Famine.
2010. **New America Media** | Afghanistan Can't Afford a Future Without Women at the Table.
2010. **Humanitarian Bazaar Magazine** | Iraq: Conjuring Peace in the Tigris Valley.
2009. **Humanitarian Bazaar Magazine** | Sudan: Cutting Through the Fog of War in Khartoum.
2008. **UNOCHA & UNDP** | Enhancing the Food Security & Livelihood Sector in Sudan. Report.
2007. **UNDP & UNICEF** | Under the Acacia Tree. Legal Aid for Children in Somalia.
2007. **The Guardian** | Somalia: Aid Workers Under Attack.
2007. **Transitions Online** | Azerbaijan: Fields of Peril.
2006. **Journal of Peacebuilding & Development** | Bridging the Panj. Forging a Peacebuilding and Livelihoods Strategy on the Afghan-Tajik Border, Issue 2/3.
2005. **Journal of International Affairs** | The True Cost of Aids, Macroeconomics of HIV/AIDS, Issue 58/1.
2004. **Eurasianet** | Fighting Hunger & Heroin on the Afghan-Tajik Border.
2004. **Journal of International Affairs** | The Pamir Paradox. Water Insecurity & Hunger, Issue 57/2, Fall.
1999. **International Rescue Committee** | A Bosnian War Quick Reference.

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