

Speaker Bio:

Alemayehu Fentaw Weldemariam is a scholar of peace and conflict resolution, comparative constitutional law and design, and constitutional and political theory, with a regional focus on the Horn of Africa. He has published extensively on regional peace and security, Ethiopian law and politics, and foreign affairs and national security policy, bringing together legal analysis, political theory, and historical inquiry.

He holds an LLB from Addis Ababa University, an MS from George Mason University's Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution, where he also studied philosophy, and an MA from the European University for Peace Studies, where he studied with Johan Galtung at Friedensburg Schlaining—the Peace Castle—in Stadtschlaining, Austria. He was a fellow of the Salzburg Global Seminar's program in Peacemaking and Peacebuilding at Schloss Leopoldskron in Salzburg and studied the Great Books at St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland.

He has taught courses in law, international affairs, and political theory at Jimma University and Mekelle University in Ethiopia, the University of Texas at Austin's LBJ School of Public Affairs, Suffolk University's Department of Government in Boston, and Indiana University's Maurer School of Law. He also served as National Peace Advisor with GIZ in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He has delivered talks at institutions including the United States Institute of Peace, the University of California, Santa Barbara's Orfalea Center, Villanova University, and Doshisha University in Japan.

He is currently a PhD candidate at Indiana University, specializing in constitutional law and constitutional design, with minor fields in political philosophy and African Studies. He holds an adjunct professorship at the Maurer School of Law and a fellowship at its Center for Constitutional Democracy.

He served as Managing Editor of *Africa Today*, published by Indiana University Press, and is Associate Editor of *Orbis Africa Journal* and Assistant Editor of the International Association of Constitutional Law's IACL-AIDC Blog. He recently organized the blog's symposium on *Constitution-Building After the Arab Spring: Global Comparative Perspectives*. His recent publications include "Constitutional Reform in Ethiopia," a chapter in *Ethiopia at Constitutional Crossroads*, edited by Aden Addis and others (Tsehai, 2025). Since 2022, he has covered Ethiopia for the annual *Global Review of Constitutional Law*, edited by Richard Albert and others.

He writes frequently for The Conversation, and his commentary has appeared on BBC News, Al Jazeera, and DW's English and Amharic services, as well as in The Africa Report.