Debora Osir Rogo

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Doctoral Candidate in Peace Studies and History, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame
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EDUCATION

2027 (Expected) Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Peace Studies and History
University of Notre Dame – South Bend, Indiana, USA
Dissertation: *The Making of the Kenyan State: Citizenship, Belonging, and Nation Building through the East African Airlift and Aeroflot (1920 – 1980)*
Chair: Paul Ocobock
Committee Members: Jaime Pensado, Nikhil Menon

2024 **Master of Arts (MA) History**
University of Notre Dame – South Bend, Indiana, USA

2009 **Juris Doctor (JD)**
Washington University in St. Louis School of Law - St. Louis, Missouri, USA

2005 **Bachelor of Arts (BA), Political Science**
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill - Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in Academic Journals (Refereed)

2026. (With Julie Hawke, Wesley Hedden, Carolina Hughes) 'Works (un)cited: investigating the persistence of global exclusion in peace studies through citation analysis.' *Peacebuilding*, 1- 19.

2019. (With Hiren Patel, Sebastian Suarez, Thomas F. Burke) 'Patient Characteristics from an Emergency Care Center in Rural Western Kenya.' *Journal of Emergency Medicine* Volume 56, Issue 1, 80 – 86.

2018. (With Sara J Grundy, Lhab Tshering, Stanley W. Wanjala) 'Retinal Parameters as Compared with Head Circumference, Height, Weight, and Body Mass Index in Children in Kenya and Bhutan.' *American Journal of Tropical Medicine*, 99:2, 482-488.

2018. (With Sarah Villegas, Sebastian Suarez, Joseph Owuor) 'Intraoperative awareness and experience with a ketamine-based anesthesia package to support emergency and essential surgery when no anesthetist is available,' *African Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 9(Suppl)), S56-S60.

2017. (With Thomas F. Burke, Sebastian Suarez, Ayla Senay) 'Safety and Feasibility of a Ketamine Package to Support Emergency and Essential Surgery in Kenya when No Anesthetist is Available: An Analysis of 1216 Consecutive Operative Procedures.' *World Journal of Surgery* 41 (12), 2990-2997.

Chapter in Edited Volume (Refereed)

2025. 'Education as a Driver of Positive Peace and "worldmaking" in the era of the Cold War: The Role of the East African Airlift (1959 – 1964) in Kenyan Decolonization, Statecraft, Citizenship and Belonging.' in *The Palgrave Handbook of Peace, Conflict and Security Studies in Africa*, eds. Elias Opongo et al (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2025).

Book Reviews

2025. 'Wanjala S. Nasong'o. Kenya and the Politics of a Postcolony. London: Anthem Press, 2024. Xi-230 Pp. Figures. Tables. Notes. Index $110.00/£80. Hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-83998-027-5.' *The International Journal of African Historical Studies.* Volume 58, 1.

Drafts under Revision

2026. Journal article draft (under revision for resubmission to the *Journal of African History*): 'From Mission to Nation: Quaker Missionary Women, Female Converts, Luyha Schoolgirls and the East African Airlift.'

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

Fellowships

2026–27. Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Notre Dame - $39,000
2021–26. Kroc Institute's Pepe Fellowship, University of Notre Dame - $411,1100
2021–26. Kellogg Institute's Doctoral Fellowship, University of Notre Dame - $30,000
2008. David M. Becker Public Service Fellow, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law

Grants

2025–26. Silas Palmer Fellowship, Hoover Institute, Stanford University - $5000
2025. Association of Graduate Historians (AGH) Professionalization Award, University of Notre Dame - $251.87
2025. Kellogg Institute's Graduate Research Grant, University of Notre Dame - $8,510.87
2024. Frazier Thompson Scholarship's Graduate Research Award, University of Notre Dame - $4,087.21
2024. Graduate Student Government (GSG) Conference Presentation Grant (CPG) - $200
2024. Kroc Institute's Conference Grant, University of Notre Dame - $647.27
2023. Kellogg Institute's Conference Travel Grant, University of Notre Dame - $1,412.03
2023. Kroc Institute's Conference Grant, University of Notre Dame - $895.28
2023. Kellogg Institute's Professionalization Grant, University of Notre Dame - $1,400
2023. Frazier Thompson Scholarship's Professional Development Assistance Award, University of Notre Dame - $1,000
2023. Graduate School Professional Development Award, University of Notre Dame - $300
2023. Kroc Institute's Summer Research Award, University of Notre Dame - $1,990
2022. Kellogg Institute's Conference Travel Grant, University of Notre Dame - $1,194.98
2022. Kroc Institute's Summer Research Award, University of Notre Dame - $1,293
2022. *Pamoja* Initiative Summer Fellowship, University of Notre Dame - $2,165.14
2022. Kellogg Institute's Graduate Research Grant, University of Notre Dame - $5,707
2006-09. Scholar-In-Law Scholarship, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law - $23,000

Awards

2026. Kellogg Institute Award for Outstanding Doctoral Student Contributions, University of Notre Dame
2024. Kaneb Center Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Award, University of Notre Dame
2009. Equal Justice Works Award Honoree, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law
2002-05. Dean's List, UNC – Chapel Hill
2002-05. Minority Academic Achievement Award Honoree, UNC – Chapel Hill

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & INVITED TALKS

Conferences

2025. "'Imagining the Kenyan State: Understanding Conversion and Nationalism Through the East African Airlift and Aeroflot.' *African Studies Association Annual Conference Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, Nov 22 2025.

2024. (With Julie Hawke, Wesley Hedden and Caroline Hughes) 'Do Peace Studies Scholars have an Inclusive Conception of Academic Authority? A gender and socio-economic analysis of Peace Studies

citation practices 2014-2020.' *International Studies Association Conference Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, April 4 2024.

2023. 'Tom Mboya, Democracy and the Women of the East African Airlift, 1959 – 1964.' *African Studies Association Annual Conference Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, Dec 2 2023.

2023. 'The Haven of the East African Airlift (1959 – 1963): A Kenyan Case Study on Decolonization and Capitalism During the Cold War.' *Peace and Justice Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, USA, Sep 16 2023.

2022. 'In Search of Mboya: Understanding Ethnicity and Democracy through Oral Histories of the East African Airlift, 1959 – 1963.' *African Studies Association Annual Conference Meeting*, Philadelphia, PA, USA, Nov 19 2022.

Workshops

2024. '2024 International Ph.D. Workshop in History - Global Dome.' *Global Dome Workshop (University of Notre Dame, University of Heidelberg, University of Edinburgh, University of Virginia and University of Cambridge)*, London, England, Aug 4 – 10 2024.

2023. 'Not Everyone is a Hero: The Role of the Western in Contemporary Understanding of Black Gender Norms.' *Visual Cultures Workshop*, Film Television and Theatre (FTT) Department, University of Notre Dame. Oct 25, 2023.

2022. 'Identifying Grants.' *Office for Grants and Fellowships Lecture Series*, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, USA, May 31, 2022.

2022. 'Grants Workshop for African Graduate Club (AGC).' *Office for Grants and Fellowships Lecture Series*, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, USA, Jan 26, 2022.

Invited Talks

2025. 'Education as a Driver of Positive Peace and "Worldmaking" in the era of the Cold War: The Role of the East African Airlift (1959-1964) in Kenyan Decolonization, Statecraft, Citizenship and Belonging.' *Peace Research Education Seminar (PRES), Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame*, Notre Dame, IN, Nov 21, 2025.

2025. 'Kisumu Smart Cultural Promenade and Trail: A Tech-Driven Heritage System Centering Inclusivity, Cultural Authenticity and Indigenous Knowledge.' *Kisumu Smart Cities Summit*, Kisumu, Kenya (Virtual) Sep12, 2025.

2023. 'Tom Mboya, Democracy and the Women of the East African Airlift, 1959 – 1964.' *Loyola University New Orleans Women's History Month Talk Series* (Virtual), Mar 14, 2023.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Notre Dame, USA

2022–2024. Research Lead, PeaceTech and Polarization Lab (PTAP), Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

2022–2024. Research Assistant, Peace Studies Citation Analysis Project, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

African Institute for Health Transformation, Kenya
2016 – 2022. Administrative and Legal Lead

Personal
2024–Present. Co-founder, Cloud 9 Accelerator.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistanship

University of Notre Dame, USA
2023. Fall. Teaching Assistant for Prof. Paul Ocobock, History Department. '*Global Africa*.' 20 undergraduates.

2023. Spring. Teaching Assistant for Prof. Simeon Lyandres, History Department. '*RasPutin to Putin: Russia's Ravaged 20th Century*.' 21 undergraduates (two sections with 13 and 8 students). Delivered a lecture to the larger class gathering (54 undergraduates) entitled 'A Fight for Africa's Soul: The Cold War, the Third World and Decolonization.' May 1.

2022. Fall. Teaching Assistant for Prof. Ernesto Verdeja, ' Keough School of Global Affairs. '*Foundation of Peace Studies*.' 19 graduate students in the Master for Global Affairs program.

2022. Spring. Teaching Assistant for Prof. John Deak, History Department. '*Nazi Germany*.' 38 undergraduates (two sections with 20 and 18 students each).

Invited Lectures

University of Notre Dame, USA
2024. Fall. (Invited Lecture). 'Research Methods for Global Research.' Keough School of Global Affairs, for undergraduate class, *Archival Documents and Oral History Research.* November 11.

2022. Spring. (Invited Lecture). 'The Puerto Rican Young Lords.' History Department, for undergraduate class, *Youth Activism and & State Repression*. March 31.

Strathmore University, Nairobi, Kenya
2024. Spring. (Invited Lecture). 'The Haven of the East African Airlift (1959 – 1963) and the Aeroflot (1959-1970): A Kenyan Case Study of Ethnicity and Conflict.' *Strathmore Institute of Advanced Studies in International Criminal Justice*, Nairobi, Kenya (Virtual), Apr 30, 2024.

SERVICE

University of Notre Dame, USA
2025–Present. Graduate Student Assistant, Africa Working Group, Kellogg Institute for International Studies.
2021–Present. Planning Committee Member, Pamoja Notre Dame Africa Initiative.
2025–26. Graduate Student Representative, University Committee on Internationalization, Office of the President.
2023–24. Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Association of Graduate Historians (AGH), Department of History.
2023–24. Professional Life Chair, Kroc Docs, Kroc Docs, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.
2022–23. Historian and Executive Board Member, Black Graduate Student Association.
2022. Vice President for Alumni and Partnerships, Africa Graduate Club.

Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, USA
2007–08. Secretary, Black Law Students Association (BLSA).

Spring 2008. Participant, Washington University School of Law Community Service Trip to Argentina.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
2004–05. President of the Organization of African Students' Interests and Solidarity (OASIS).
2003–05. Treasurer, Kaleidascope Magazine.
2003–04. Representative, Masala.

Personal
2018–Present. Founder, *NyarSagam*, Sagam Village, Siaya County, Kenya

SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT

2021–Present. Senior Consultant. Office of Grants and Fellowships, University of Notre Dame, USA.
2016–22. Co-Trustee/Administrative and Legal Lead, African Institute for Health Transformation, Kenya.
2014–21. General Manager, Sagam Community Hospital, Kenya.
2013–21. Consultant, Sagam Community Hospital, Kenya.
2013. Legal Consultant, Judicial and Legal Affairs Section, United Nations – International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda ("UN-ICTR"), Tanzania.
2013. Legal Assistant, Coalition for Reform and Democracy ("CORD") Legal Team, Kenya.
2010–13. Associate Attorney, International Law Institute – African Centre for Legal Excellence, Uganda.
2009–10. Assistant Programmes Coordinator (2009 - 2010), International Law Institute – African Centre for Legal Excellence (ILI-ACLE), Uganda.
Summer 2008. Research Policy Intern, International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), Switzerland.
Summer 2007. Summer Graduate Intern, Legal Resource Centre/Miss Koch Initiative, Kenya.
Nairobi, Kenya Summer 2007
2005–06. Communications and Research Assistant, Gender Public Advocacy Coalition (GPAC), USA.

SKILLS

Experienced in administrative, human resource and financial management;
Experienced in health management (especially in rural and resource-challenged settings), health education, universal healthcare, project implementation and management (especially in post-conflict regions), legal research, legal and report writing (for donor-funded projects), and drafting of proposals (especially for the EU, USAID, WB and AfDB);
Conducted training in areas including International Criminal Law (ICL), public procurement, access to justice, access to health, grant writing, good governance and the human rights-based approach (HRBA) to development;
Working experience in Argentina, Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Sudan, Sudan, Switzerland, Tanzania, Uganda and the USA.

LANGUAGES

Fluent proficiency in English, Kiswahili and Dholuo; basic proficiency in German and French

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

African Studies Association – Member
International Studies Association – Member
Oral History Association – Member

CERTIFICATIONS

2023. August. Certificate of Completion, *Getting Started with Oral History,* Baylor University Institute for Oral History, USA.
2023. June. Diploma, *PhD Course on International Mediation: Theory Cases and Skills,* Research School on Peace and Conflict, Norway.