

# BRANDON HAMBER, Ph.D.

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Professor Brandon Hamber is Director of the International Conflict Research Institute (INCORE), an associate site of the United Nations University based at the University of Ulster. He was born in South Africa and currently lives in Belfast. In South Africa he trained as a Clinical Psychologist and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Ulster. He is currently the Chair of Healing Through Remembering, an extensive cross-community project investigating ways of dealing with the past related to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. He is a Board member of the South African-based Khulumani Victim Support Group. He was also co-founder of the Office of Psychosocial Issues based at the Free University, Berlin. Prior to moving to Northern Ireland, he co-ordinated the Transition and Reconciliation Unit at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation in Johannesburg. He works mainly in the area of violence, reconciliation, transitional justice and trauma, and co-ordinated the Centre's project focusing on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He was a visiting Tip O'Neill Fellow in Peace Studies at INCORE in 1997/1998. He was also the recipient of the Rockefeller Resident Fellowship (1996) and was a visiting fellow at the Centre for the Study of Violence in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He has consulted to a range of community groups, policy initiatives and government bodies in Northern Ireland and South Africa. He has undertaken consulting and research work, and participated in various peace and reconciliation initiatives in Liberia, Mozambique, Bosnia, the Basque Country and Sierra Leone, among others. He has lectured and taught widely, including, on the International Trauma Studies Programme at Columbia University, New York; the Post-War and Reconstruction Unit, University of York; the Psychosocial Training Programme with the Group for Community Action, University of Madrid, and at the University of Ulster. He has written extensively on the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the psychological implications of political violence, and the process of transition and reconciliation in South Africa, Northern Ireland and abroad. He has published some 40 book chapters and scientific journal articles, and edited the book entitled *Past Imperfect: Dealing with the Past in Northern Ireland and Societies in Transition*, which was published by INCORE/University of Ulster. His latest book *Transforming Societies after Political Violence: Truth, Reconciliation, and Mental Health* was published by Springer in 2009.

## **Qualifications:**

BA (Hons) MA (Clin. Psych) Ph.D.