



Peace, justice and inclusive societies for Sustainable Development

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United Nations Headquarters, New York

SPEAKER BIO



Mr. Michael Collins, Executive Director Americas, Institute for Economics & Peace

Michael Collins is Executive Director Americas of the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), the world's leading think tank dedicated to developing metrics to analyze peace and to quantify its economic value. IEP has pioneered the empirical study of peace, most notably through the annual Global Peace Index, and its research is used extensively by governments, academic institutions, NGOs and multilateral agencies around the world.

In his role, Michael cultivates and develops new institutional and grass-roots partnerships and has been responsible for significantly expanding IEP's impact across the United States, the Americas and the United Nations since 2019.

Before joining IEP Michael oversaw educational, job creation and economic development programs in emerging nations affected by or prone to disaster, where, as a practitioner, he frequently worked with communities affected by poverty and gang violence.

As an expert trainer he has partnered with governments to develop disaster-risk reduction curricula, opened training centers and supervised training courses for vulnerable youth and adults with low literacy levels.

Michael grew up in Spain where he studied electro-mechanical engineering before founding and managing a construction company dedicated to the restoration of historical buildings, many of which were over 300 years old.

He speaks English, Spanish and French and lives in the New York area with his wife and three young children.