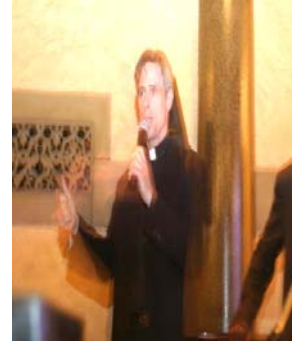


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The Rev. Michael Perry, OFM, a member of the Catholic Franciscan Order, serves as Advocacy Officer for Africa at Franciscans International, an NGO enjoying General Consultative status at the United Nations. Fr. Perry recently served as foreign policy adviser for African Affairs at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and as director of the Cross-Cultural and Mission program at Washington Theological Union in Washington, D.C. He also worked for ten years in the Democratic Republic of Congo as pastor, educator, and director of development projects. Fr. Perry received his Ph.D. in religious anthropology at the Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, UK in 2002.