

Edward Mortimer has worked in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations since 1998, as head of the Speechwriting Unit and also, since 2001, Director of Communications.

Born in 1943 at Burford, England, Mr Mortimer is a British citizen. In 1962, after volunteer service as an English teacher in Senegal, he went up to Oxford University, where he took an MA degree in history and later became a Fellow of All Souls College. Between 1967 and 1985 he worked for *The Times* of London - first as assistant Paris correspondent, then, from 1973, as foreign specialist and leader-writer on Middle Eastern and Mediterranean affairs. In 1987 he joined the *Financial Times*, where he was the main Foreign Affairs commentator (writing a signed column as well as many of the editorials) until he joined the UN in 1998.

Mr Mortimer is the author of several books and pamphlets including *France and the Africans* (1969), *Faith and Power: the Politics of Islam* (1982), *The World That FDR Built* (1989), *European Security after the Cold War* (1992) and *A Few Words on Intervention* (1995); and co-editor of *People, Nation and State: the Meaning of Ethnicity and Nationalism* (1999).