



Linköping University



Amsterdam Center for International Law



Five years after its acceptance by the 2005 World Summit, it is time to consider the contribution that the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) has made and could make to the prevention of mass atrocities.

The consensus among the Member States of the United Nations, as reflected in the General Assembly debate in the summer of 2009 is broad but not necessarily deep. While there is considerable general support for R2P along the three pillars suggested by the UN Secretary-General (responsibility of states to protect their own populations, assistance and capacity building and timely responses), fundamental questions remain. For instance: what does R2P add to the already existing obligations of states and to the substantial arsenal of instruments at the possession of the international community to prevent and respond to mass atrocities? Does R2P entail a risk of opening the door to external intervention? And how can R2P be operationalised and implemented in concrete circumstances?

Knowledge of the impact of the principle is limited. Recent practice shows both instances of where the international community succeeded (Kenya) and failed (Darfur) to prevent mass atrocities, but in neither of these cases it is obvious that success or failure could be attributed directly to the use, or lack of use, of the concept of R2P.

The aim of the Conference *R2P: From Principle to Practice* is to discuss selected aspects of R2P with a view to identify the added value of R2P as well as the challenges for the practical application of R2P.

The Conference will have a strong focus on international law. To the extent that R2P finds a basis in international law, this may foster consensus. Likewise, to the extent that states fear for abuse of R2P as legitimizing intervention, it is the development of international legal rules and procedures that may help placate such fears. However, the Conference recognizes that R2P moves beyond international law, and will integrate insights from political science, international relations and moral philosophy.

The Conference will bring together many internationally acclaimed experts on the Responsibility to Protect (R2P), academics as well as policy makers, from all regions of the world. It will identify new research lines that can help to understand and develop R2P, as well as provide concrete ideas that may be used by policy-makers.

RESEARCH CONFERENCES

ESF-LiU Conference

The Responsibility to Protect: From Principle to Practice

Scandic Hotel Linköping Väst, Linköping • Sweden

8-12 June 2010



RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

Chair: Prof. Andre Nollkaemper, Amsterdam Center for International Law, University of Amsterdam, NL

Invited Speakers will include:

Ademola Abass

Professor of International Law & Organisations, School of Law, Brunel University, Uxbridge, UK

Kwesi Aning

Head, Conflict Prevention Management and Resolution Department, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, Accra, GH

Francis Deng

Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities, UN, US

Paola Gaeta

Professor of International Law University degli Studi di Firenze, IT

Edward Luck

Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect, UN, US

Larry May

W. Alton Jones Professor of Philosophy and Professor of Law, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, US

Nicolas Michel

Professor of International Law, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, CH

James Pattison

Lecturer in Politics, School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester, UK

Anne Peters

Professor of Public International Law, University of Basel, CH

Bertrand Ramcharan

Chancellor of the University of Guyana, GY
Senior Fellow at the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, US
Visiting Professor of International Law, Lund University, SE

Adam Roberts

Senior research fellow, Centre for International Studies, University of Oxford

Monica Serrano

Executive Director, Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, US

Sarah Sewall

Founder and MARO Project Faculty Director, Harvard Kennedy School, Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, US

Daphna Shrager

Principal Legal Officer, Office of the Legal Counsel, Office of Legal Affairs, UN, US

Alvaro de Soto

Associate Fellow, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, CH

Ramesh Thakur

Director Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo, CA

Jennifer Welsh

Professor in International Relations, University of Oxford, UK

Application form & programme available from

www.esf.org/conferences/10319

Closing date for applications: 22 March 2010

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