

The Program in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and
The Department of Political Science
Yeshiva University
with generous support from
Humanity United &
The Rick and Darian Swig Philanthropic Fund

invite you to attend

THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT:

*A Framework For Confronting
Identity-based Atrocities*

**MONDAY & TUESDAY
MARCH 10 & 11, 2008**

Jacob Burns Moot Court Room
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law
Yeshiva University
55 Fifth Avenue at 12th Street
New York, NY



Preventing mass atrocities is among the international community's and the United Nations most sacred callings. Regrettably, it is a duty we have not always acquitted well. The killing fields of Rwanda, Cambodia and the Balkans stand silent witness to the brutality that passed unchecked by an international system lacking both the will and the vision to act.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon
New York, October 10, 2007

THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

At the UN's 60th Anniversary World Summit in 2005, one hundred and fifty world leaders made an historic decision: to embrace The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) vulnerable populations outside their own states from genocide and other mass atrocities. UN member states committed themselves to "use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means..." to protect threatened populations. They also agreed to use force only as a last resort. The UN Security Council has since endorsed R2P in resolutions concerning the protection of civilians in armed conflict and peacekeeping in southern Sudan and Darfur.

The responsibility to protect doctrine is multidimensional. Simply, it requires that when a state is either unwilling or unable to fulfill its responsibility to protect its own populations, UN member states are obligated to take action to minimize human suffering. Most importantly, it involves the responsibility to prevent such atrocities from occurring, and if prevention fails, it requires states to react and rebuild.

The R2P doctrine is one of the most significant steps toward preventing genocide and other mass atrocities since the Nuremberg Trials. However, there has been little momentum to act on or even decide when we are facing an R2P situation. Moreover, R2P evolved in direct response to genocide and ethnic killings, and yet the ethnic dimensions of mass atrocities continue to be elided when contemplating the proper response; Iraq and Burma are but two examples. R2P's application to identity-based issues of mass atrocities thus deserves special attention.

The conference seeks to provide a forum to conceptualize the normative legal and political content of R2P; to examine the R2P framework against identity-based atrocities including ethnic conflict and genocide and to address the political and operational challenges to the implementation of R2P. The proceedings will be published at a later date.

CONFERENCE PARTNERS

International Crisis Group
Minority Rights Group International
Institute for the Study of Genocide
Institute for Global Policy

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND CLE

Registration is free, but you must reserve in advance. The conference is offered for Continuing Legal Education credits. Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law is a NYS Accredited CLE provider. We have been approved for 16 CLE credits: 15 credits in Professional Practice and 1 credit in Ethics.

Please send registration details by March 7 to:

Sheri Rosenberg
r2pconference@gmail.com
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law
55 Fifth Avenue, Room 935, New York, NY 10003
212.790.0455

When registering please indicate your name, affiliation, address, phone number, email address, **and whether you are applying for CLE credits.**

LUNCHEON AND KEYNOTE

There is a \$25 fee per person to attend the luncheon and keynote speech on Tuesday, March 11.

Please send a check made payable to Cardozo School of Law if you plan to attend the luncheon along with your registration information.

For Conference updates

visit www.cardozo.yu.edu/R2PConference



THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT:
Confronting Identity-Based Atrocities



MONDAY, MARCH 10

- 8:30 am Continental Breakfast – Registration
- 9:00 am Welcome: David Rudenstine
Dean, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law
- Opening Remarks: Edward C. Luck
UN Special Advisor for the Responsibility to Protect and
Vice President and Director of Studies, International Peace Academy
- Ramesh Thakur, Distinguished Fellow
Center International Governance Innovation
University of Waterloo, and ICISS Commissioner
- 9:45 am **The Evolution of the Responsibility to Protect Doctrine**
Hurst Hannum, Professor of Law and Codirector
Center for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution
The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University
- Heidi Hulan, Counselor, Political Affairs
Canadian Mission to the UN
- Carsten Stahn, Legal Officer
International Criminal Court and
Associate Professor, Swansea University, UK
- Donald Steinberg, Vice President for Multilateral Affairs
International Crisis Group
- Chair: Sheri P. Rosenberg, Professor of Law
Director, Program in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies
Cardozo School of Law
- 11:30 am **The Politics of the Atrocity Regime**
Herbert Hirsch, Professor of Political Science
Virginia Commonwealth University

Brian Rathburn, Professor of Political Science
Indiana University

Hans-Jorge Strohmeyer, UN Chief of Policy Development & Studies Branch
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Jon Western, Professor of International Relations
Mount Holyoke College

Chair: Bryan Daves, Professor of Political Science
Yeshiva University

1:00 pm Lunch Break

2:30 pm **Understanding Ethnic Conflict and Identity-Based Atrocities**

Alan Kuperman, Professor of Political Science
University of Texas

Brendan O'Leary, Lauder Professor of Political Science and
Director, Penn Program in Ethnic Conflict
University of Pennsylvania

John Packer, Professor and Director of the Human Rights Centre
University of Essex

Chair: Jack Snyder
Robert and Renée Belfer Chair in Political Science
Columbia University

4:30 pm **Minority Protection in Conflict Prevention and Rebuilding**

Chris Chapman, Conflict Prevention Officer,
Minority Rights Groups International

Joseph Marko, Professor of Law
University of Graz

Knut Vollebaek, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and
former Foreign Minister of Norway

Chair: Mirna Adjami, Equality and Citizenship Legal Officer
Open Society Justice Initiative

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

8:30 am Continental Breakfast

9:00 am **Preventing Identity-Based Atrocities**

Barbara Harff, Professor of Political Science Emerita
US Naval Academy, and
former Distinguished Visiting Professor
Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Clark University

Michael Lund, Senior Associate for Conflict and Peacebuilding
Management Systems International, Inc.

Sheri P. Rosenberg, Professor of Law
Director, Program in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies
Cardozo School of Law

Chair: Iain Levine, Program Director
Human Rights Watch

11:00 am **Rebuilding after Identity-Based Atrocities**

Clive Baldwin, Senior Legal Advisor
Human Rights Watch

Dina Haynes, Professor of Law
New England College of Law

William O'Neill, Former Chief of the UN Human Rights
Field Operation in Rwanda and
Director, Legal Department,
UN/OAS International Civilian Mission in Haiti

Ralph Wilde, Professor of Law
University College London

Chair: Paige Arthur, Deputy Director of Research
International Center for Transitional Justice

12:30 pm **Luncheon and Keynote: Harold Koh**

Dean, Yale Law School and
former Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy,
Human Rights, and Labor

2:00 pm **International and Regional Organizations**

David B. Carment, Professor of International Affairs
Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University

Victoria Holt, Senior Associate
Henry L. Stimson Center

Edward C. Luck
UN Special Advisor for the Responsibility to Protect and
Vice President and Director of Studies
International Peace Academy

Sarah Wikenczy, Advocacy and Armed Conflict Specialist
International Women's Program
Open Society Institute

Chair: Elizabeth Radziszewski, Professor of Political Science
Yeshiva University

4:00 pm

Applying the Responsibility to Protect to the Situation in Burma

Camilla Buzzi, Project Coordinator
Norwegian Church Aid

Jared Genser, Associate, DLA Piper, led the team commissioned by
Vaclav Havel and Desmond Tutu to produce "A Threat to the Peace:
A Call for the UN Security Council to Act in Burma"

Brian Joseph, Director, South and Southeast Asia
National Endowment for Democracy

Aryeh Neier, President, Open Society Institute

Chair: Nicole Deller, Director of Programs
Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect
Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies

5:30 pm

The Way Forward

Dr. W. Andy Knight, Executive Director
Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect and
Professor, University of Alberta

6:30

Reception