

The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) Core Group in Geneva, the Permanent Missions of Australia, Ghana, Hungary, Nigeria, Rwanda and Uruguay, with the support of the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Graduate Institute and the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect have the honour to invite you to mark the

**TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT (R2P)**

At a high-level event during Geneva Peace Week to discuss

**IMPLEMENTING R2P IN THE GENEVA CONTEXT – A FOCUS ON PREVENTION**

19 November 2015, 11am to 1pm; Room XX, Palais des Nations

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the unanimous endorsement of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) by world leaders at the 2005 UN World Summit. As outlined in the Outcome Document, each State has the responsibility to protect its own population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes (Pillar 1). The international community should, as appropriate, encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility (Pillar 2). In extreme cases where a State is manifestly failing to prevent atrocities, the international community should be prepared to take appropriate collective action in accordance with the UN Charter to halt these crimes (Pillar 3).

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of R2P provides a unique opportunity to advance and promote greater cooperation on the implementation of R2P, particularly its preventive aspects, by Geneva-based organisations. The UN Secretary-General's reports on R2P have consistently highlighted the importance of preventing atrocity crimes through capacity building, early warning and strengthening accountable and inclusive national institutions. Geneva-based organisations play a crucial role in this regard. Investing in prevention is particularly relevant given the proliferation of humanitarian crises we face today.

On the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and to highlight further the role of Geneva in promoting human rights and preventing atrocities, the Core Group is pleased to facilitate a high-level panel discussion to bring together heads of both Geneva and New York-based UN agencies, States, regional organisations and civil society. This interactive discussion will identify ways to strengthen cooperation on existing prevention mechanisms, including the UN Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes. The Panel will also explore ways to mainstream R2P through the work of Geneva-based agencies and organisations and to advance the development and implementation of prevention strategies. Panellists will be invited to discuss how their respective organisations and governments contribute to implementing R2P, particularly Pillars 1 and 2.

Introductory remarks by Michael Møller, Director-General, United Nations Office in Geneva

Opening Message sent from Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary-General

Panel Discussion moderated by Simon Adams, Executive Director, Global Centre for R2P

- Jennifer Welsh, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on R2P
- Volker Türk, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- Davide Rodogno, Professor of International History, Graduate Institute
- Elisabeth Decrey Warner, Executive President, Geneva Call

Concluding Video Message by Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Other States with relevant R2P experience, civil society and regional organisations to speak from the floor in an interactive dialogue