



**GLOBAL CENTRE
FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY
TO PROTECT**

A N N U A L
2018
R E P O R T

GLOBAL CENTRE FOR THE

WHO WE ARE

RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

The **Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect** is the leading international authority on R2P. Since its inception in 2008 the Global Centre has expanded and deepened global support for the principle. The Global Centre plays a unique “insider/outsider” role at the United Nations as the only organization carrying out monitoring, research and advocacy on all current and potential mass atrocity situations around the globe, as well as working with the UN and various governments to translate this research into actionable policy.

CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	2
.....	
WHAT IS R2P?	3
.....	
2018 GOALS AND HIGHLIGHTS	4
.....	
R2P AND THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL	6
.....	
MOBILIZING ACTION: SOUTH SUDAN, MYANMAR AND SYRIA	8
.....	
R2P AND THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY	11
.....	
MOBILIZING ACTION: UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGH LEVEL WEEK	12
.....	
R2P AND THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL	14
.....	
MOBILIZING ACTION: ENGAGING HRC INVESTIGATIVE MECHANISMS, MYANMAR AND YEMEN	16
.....	
RESEARCH AND MONITORING	18
.....	
ENGAGING AND EXPANDING THE AUDIENCE	20
.....	
GLOBAL CENTRE ONLINE AND IN THE MEDIA	21
.....	
NETWORKS FOR ATROCITY PREVENTION	22
.....	
IMPLEMENTING AND INNOVATING	24
.....	
2019: THE YEAR AHEAD	26
.....	
MEET THE TEAM	27

A close-up portrait of Dr. Simon Adams, a middle-aged man with a shaved head and light blue eyes, wearing a dark suit jacket, a blue patterned shirt, and a dark tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

Last December the United Nations celebrated the seventieth anniversary of two of its most significant early political achievements – the adoption of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But celebrations in New York, Geneva and elsewhere recognizing this historical landmark occurred at a time when the entire post-1945 structure of human rights, humanitarianism and multilateral diplomacy appeared to be under threat.

Success stories exist, but the scale of international failure in Syria, Myanmar (Burma) and Yemen has contributed to a perception that the ideas and institutions that are supposed to protect human rights and safeguard humanity are simply not working. In 2005 the principle of the Responsibility to Protect was developed as a means of mobilizing “timely and decisive action” by the UN Security Council and amongst the broader international community to prevent or halt mass atrocities. We have made remarkable progress over the last fourteen years in building political support for R2P. Nevertheless, the gap between words and deeds persists.

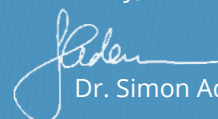
During 2018 the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect worked with our friends and allies at the UN, with international civil society and with various governments on practical measures to prevent mass atrocity crimes, to

protect populations at risk, and to see perpetrators punished. This annual report provides an overview of that work and underlines the fact that R2P remains the most effective principle around which the international community can coalesce when vulnerable populations face the threat of atrocities.

We believe that if we want to avoid endlessly repeating the failures of the past, human rights and humanitarian principles cannot continue to be selectively applied or diluted and discarded. Norms, laws and institutions remain essential. Just as the Universal Declaration and Genocide Convention represent the vision of a world where all human beings can live free and equal in dignity and rights, R2P is a promise to act on behalf of people for whom mass atrocities are not abstract words, but real acts that pose an existential threat to them, their loved ones and their communities.

During 2019 we will remain focused on mobilizing international action and providing practical solutions wherever and whenever people face the threat of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Adams'.

Dr. Simon Adams

WHAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT?

The Responsibility to Protect – **known as R2P** – is an international norm that seeks to ensure that the international community never again fails to halt **genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity**. R2P was adopted by more than 170 heads of state and government at the 2005 UN World Summit and stipulates that all states have a responsibility to protect their populations from these mass atrocity crimes and ensure their prevention.

R2P'S THREE PILLARS:

PILLAR

Every state has the Responsibility to Protect its populations from the four mass atrocity crimes.

PILLAR

The wider international community has the responsibility to encourage and assist individual states in meeting that responsibility.

PILLAR

If a state is manifestly failing to protect its populations, the international community must be prepared to take appropriate collective action, in a timely and decisive manner and in accordance with the UN Charter.

OUR
GOALS
FOR 2018

 MONITOR

Conduct in-depth research and analysis of mass atrocity situations in order to provide high quality policy recommendations to UN member states and international civil society.

 MOBILIZE

Mobilize appropriate international responses to situations where populations are at risk of mass atrocity crimes, particularly through action at the UN Human Rights Council and Security Council.

 BUILD

Continue building dedicated institutions, networks and capacities at the national, regional and multilateral level to effectively prevent mass atrocity crimes.

2018

HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH

1ST PEACEKEEPING TRAINING OF TRAINERS
TAKES PLACE IN ITALY
Vincenza, Italy | 6-9 March

JUNE

8TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GLOBAL
NETWORK OF R2P FOCAL POINTS
Helsinki, Finland | 12-14 June
3RD PEACEKEEPING TRAINING TAKES PLACE
IN INDIA
New Delhi, India | 18-21 June
GROUP OF FRIENDS OF R2P HOLDS ITS FIRST
MEETING WITH UN SECRETARY-GENERAL
ANTONIO GUTERRES
New York | 27 June

AUGUST

4TH PEACEKEEPING TRAINING TAKES PLACE
IN KENYA
Nairobi, Kenya | 27-30 August

OCTOBER

6TH PEACEKEEPING TRAINING TAKES PLACE
IN GHANA
Accra, Ghana | 16-20 October

DECEMBER

GLOBAL CENTRE CELEBRATES THE
70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GENOCIDE
CONVENTION AND THE UNIVERSAL
DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
9 & 10 December
7TH PEACEKEEPING TRAINING TAKES PLACE
IN ARGENTINA
Buenos Aires, Argentina | 11-14 December

FEBRUARY

THE GLOBAL CENTRE CELEBRATES ITS 10TH
ANNIVERSARY WITH ITS DISTINGUISHED
INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

APRIL

GLOBAL CENTRE STAFF UNDERTAKE A FIELD
VISIT TO COX'S BAZAAR, BANGLADESH
16-20 April
2ND PEACEKEEPING TRAINING TAKES PLACE
IN BANGLADESH
Rajendrapur, Bangladesh | 22-25 April

JULY

CONCLUSION OF THE 1ST UN GENERAL
ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON "RESPONSIBILITY
TO PROTECT AND THE PREVENTION OF
GENOCIDE, WAR CRIMES, ETHNIC CLEANSING
AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY" SINCE
2009
UN Headquarters, New York | 2 July

SEPTEMBER

5TH PEACEKEEPING TRAINING TAKES PLACE
IN RWANDA
Musanze, Rwanda | 3-6 September
GLOBAL CENTRE CO-HOSTS FOUR HIGH-
LEVEL EVENTS DURING THE OPENING
SESSION OF THE 73RD UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NOVEMBER

EVENT ON "HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
INVESTIGATIVE MECHANISMS AND
PREVENTING MASS ATROCITIES"
Geneva, Switzerland | 5 November
GROUP OF FRIENDS OF R2P HOLDS ITS
FIRST MEETING WITH THE NEW UN HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Geneva, Switzerland | 27 November



R2P AND THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL

During 2018 the Global Centre continued to work with the UN Security Council regarding R2P and the need to address mass atrocity situations.

UN Photo/Kim Haughton

11 UNSC RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN 2018 REFERENCING R2P

C.A.R | D.R. CONGO
S Y R I A | M A L I
S O M A L I A | S U D A N
S O U T H · S U D A N

Serving as a credible advisor to UN Security Council (UNSC) members, the Global Centre urges the Council to uphold its commitment to R2P and the protection of civilians. It does so by utilizing bilateral meetings with mission experts and Ambassadors, confidential briefings and workshops, letters and statements, and advocating for regular and formal briefings from UN human rights mechanisms in an effort to bring attention to atrocity situations. In 2018 this included private meetings with Council members and targeted advocacy, utilizing the Global Network of R2P Focal Points, regarding a resolution on the conflict in Yemen. The resolution, adopted on 21 December 2018, was the first substantive UNSC resolution on the conflict in three and a half years.

Building a community of commitment

Mobilizing the members of the UNSC that are also members of the broader **Group of Friends of R2P** was a key goal of the Global Centre's UNSC engagement throughout 2018. The Global Centre acts as the Secretariat for the Group of Friends, an informal intergovernmental coalition consisting of 51 UN member states and one regional organization – the European Union. During 2018 there were seven members of the Group of Friends serving on the UNSC, and throughout the year the Global Centre organized four private Permanent Representative-level meetings with these members. The meetings – hosted by the Permanent Missions of France, Peru, Sweden, and the Netherlands – provided Ambassadors with an opportunity to strategize on how best to advance the institutionalization of R2P in the UNSC, and to discuss mass atrocity situations, hear alternative perspectives from civil society and senior UN representatives, and explore possible UNSC action.

Additionally, during 2018 the Group of Friends delivered two joint statements during Open Debates in the UNSC for the first time since the Group's establishment. The statements were delivered during debates on UN Peacekeeping and the Protection of Civilians, and provided the Group of Friends with a key opportunity to highlight to the broader UN membership the linkages between R2P and other protection agendas.

During 2018 the UNSC passed 11 resolutions referencing R2P, including on the situations in the Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Mali, as well as the thematic issues of the protection of civilians in armed conflict and the maintenance of international peace and security.



MEMBERS OF THE UNSC WERE PART OF THE GROUP OF FRIENDS OF R2P



R2P REFERENCES IN UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS AND PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENTS

Resolutions			
Date and Document #	Situation or Issue	Text	
78. 13 December 2018 S/RES/2449	Syria	"Reaffirming the primary responsibility of the Syrian authorities to protect the population in Syria and, reiterating that parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to protect civilians,"	
77. 14 November 2018 S/RES/2444	Somalia	"Recalling that the FGS has the primary responsibility to protect its population, and recognizing the FGS's responsibility, working with the FMSs, to build the capacity of its own national security forces, as a matter of priority..."	
76. 30 October 2018 S/RES/2439	Democratic Republic of the Congo	"Recalls that the Government of the DRC bears the primary responsibility to protect civilians within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, including protection from crimes against humanity and war crimes..."	
75. 30 July 2018 S/RES/2431	Somalia	"Recognizing that the Federal Government of Somalia has the primary responsibility to protect its citizens..."	
74. 13 July 2018 S/RES/2429	Sudan and South Sudan	"Emphasizing that...the Government of Sudan bears the primary responsibility to protect civilians, including women and children, within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, including protection from crimes against humanity and war crimes..."	
73. 13 July 2018 S/RES/2428	Sudan and South Sudan	"Emphasizing that...South Sudan's Transitional Government of National Unity bears the primary responsibility to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity..."	
72. 28 June 2018 S/RES/2423	Mali	"Reiterates that the Malian authorities have primary responsibility to protect civilians in Mali..."	
71. 6 June 2018 S/RES/2419	Maintenance of International Peace and Security	"Reaffirms...that each state bears the primary responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity;"	
70. 24 May 2018 S/RES/2417	Protection of Civilians in armed conflict	"Reaffirming the primary responsibility of States to protect the population throughout their whole territory..."	
69. 27 March 2018 S/RES/2409	Democratic Republic of the Congo	"Recalling that the Government of the DRC bears the primary responsibility to protect civilians within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, including protection from crimes against humanity and war crimes,"	
68. 30 January 2018 S/RES/2399	Central African Republic	"Recalling that the CAR bears the primary responsibility to protect all populations within its territory from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity..."	

List of UNSC Resolutions referencing R2P passed in 2018.

MOBILIZING ACTION

AT THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL

SOUTH SUDAN

UNMISS / Isaac Billy



4.5 MILLION
PEOPLE REMAIN DISPLACED



1,157 CASES
OF CONFLICT-RELATED
SEXUAL VIOLENCE DURING 2018

Since civil war broke out in South Sudan in December 2013, all parties to the conflict have perpetrated war crimes and crimes against humanity. As a result of the conflict, South Sudan remains highly militarized and the proliferation of arms enabled parties to the conflict to pursue a military solution at the expense of political compromise. The Global Centre advocated for the imposition of an arms embargo by the UN Security Council since the civil war first broke out in December 2013. However, when such an initiative was put to a vote in the Council in December 2016, it was not adopted.

During 2018 the Global Centre continued to campaign on this issue and met regularly with the UN Security Council penholder, the United States. Following the decision to propose the arms embargo for a second time, the Global Centre met with members of the Security Council to emphasize the positive implications such a measure could have

for the people of South Sudan. The Global Centre also lobbied members of the Council that had signed the ACT Code of Conduct to uphold their pledge to champion Security Council action against mass atrocity crimes. **On 13 July the UN Security Council successfully adopted the arms embargo.**

Two months later, on 12 September, parties to the conflict signed the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, formally ending the civil war. On 31 October the Global Centre released a statement coinciding with national peace celebrations in South Sudan, calling for an end to impunity.

Additionally, a member of the Global Centre's International Advisory Board (IAB) and former UN Special Adviser on R2P, Ambassador Francis Deng, played a key role in the political process that led to the peace agreement in South Sudan.



UN Women/Allison Joyce



OVER 720,000

ETHNIC ROHINGYA FLED ATROCITIES AND CROSSED INTO BANGLADESH BETWEEN AUGUST AND DECEMBER 2017

Throughout 2018 the Global Centre continued to call attention to mass atrocity crimes perpetrated by the Myanmar security forces against the ethnic Rohingya minority in Myanmar (Burma). On 13 March the Global Centre released a statement emphasizing that a possible genocide had been committed against the Rohingya population in Rakhine State.

During April Global Centre Deputy Executive Director, Savita Pawnday, and Program Manager and Myanmar expert, Nadira Khudayberdieva, travelled to Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh to gain a better understanding of one of the worst cases of atrocity crimes that the world has witnessed so far this century.

Ms. Pawnday and Ms. Khudayberdieva visited Kutupalong in Cox's Bazar – the largest refugee camp in the world – where refugees expressed hope that they might return to their homes in Rakhine State, but

emphasized the importance of receiving citizenship in Myanmar and having their civil and human rights recognized. In Cox's Bazar and Dhaka Ms. Pawnday and Ms. Khudayberdieva also met with civil society representatives and embassy officials involved in the response to the Rohingya refugee crisis, including: Save the Children, the Danish Refugee Council and the Inter-Sector Coordination Group. Additionally, they met with members of the Centre for Genocide Studies at the University of Dhaka and the Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice at the Liberation War Museum, who have collected testimonies from Rohingya survivors.

Upon their return from Bangladesh, Ms. Pawnday participated in a press conference with Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and Fortify Rights and called upon the UNSC to hold perpetrators accountable for crimes against humanity and genocide by referring the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Nadira Khudayberdieva
@aridan13

We spoke to a group of teenage **#Rohingya** refugees in Kutupalong camp, who said they hope to return to their homes in **#Rakhine** state & attend a university. Under the current **#Myanmar's** discriminatory laws that would not be possible. Returnees must be guaranteed access to education



Savita Pawnday
@savita_pawnday

Today we visited the Rohingya refugee camps. The vastness of the camp is staggering. It's all you see when you look in any direction. Yet, it essentially remains a prison for its inhabitants. **#Cox-bazaar**
#Refugees #Rohingya



6:26 AM - 17 Apr
10 Retweets 17
You and Savita F
6:06 AM - 17 Apr 2018
29 Retweets 26 Likes

On 27 August the Human Rights Council-mandated Independent International Fact-Finding Mission (IFFM) on Myanmar reported that the treatment of the Rohingya by Myanmar's security forces amounts to four of the five prohibited acts defined in the Genocide Convention. Given the significance of the report, the Global Centre lobbied several Security Council members to invite the IFFM Chair, Marzuki Darusman, to brief the Council.

Held on the 73rd anniversary of the UN's founding, Darusman's briefing marked the first time that a HRC-mandated investigative mechanism directly briefed the UNSC on an ongoing country-specific situation and highlighted mass atrocity crimes that demand urgent action.

The Global Centre has continued to conduct targeted advocacy urging governments to suspend their assistance to Myanmar's military and to place sanctions on key military officials responsible for atrocities. So far Australia, Canada, the United States, and the European Union have applied such sanctions. The Global Centre also continues to advocate for a UNSC resolution imposing targeted sanctions and an arms embargo on Myanmar.

SYRIA

CIRCUMVENTING THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Throughout the conflict in Syria the UN Security Council has remained paralyzed by the political divisions between its permanent members. In all, twelve vetoes by Russia since 2011 (including six double vetoes with China) have shielded perpetrators of atrocities from accountability and prevented the international community from upholding its responsibility to protect. During April 2018 a Russian veto prevented an independent investigation of a suspected chemical weapons attack in Douma. This vote followed Russia's efforts to end the work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-Joint Investigative Mechanism (OPCW-JIM).

The UNSC's failure to act has helped to normalize chemical warfare in Syria. In an effort to overcome

Council obstruction, the Global Centre joined a campaign calling for innovative action by states parties to the 1992 Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) to strengthen compliance with international law. Along with 23 other organizations, the Global Centre advocated for CWC states parties to enable the OPCW to identify those responsible for using chemical weapons in Syria. Additionally, the Global Centre individually encouraged members of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points to support this initiative and vote in favor of a proposal put forward by the United Kingdom. **On 27 June the decision was successfully adopted at the CWC Conference of States Parties.**

A photograph showing two men in suits seated at a conference table. The man on the left is António Guterres, the UN Secretary-General, and the man on the right is Miroslav Lajčák, President of the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly. They are both looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred green wall.

R2P AND THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Throughout 2018 the Global Centre engaged with the entire UN membership via the UN General Assembly.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres addresses the General Assembly meeting on the responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. To the right is H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the 72nd session of the General Assembly, 25 June 2018. UN Photo/Loey Felipe

Engagement with the entire UN membership is crucial for achieving broad support for the prevention of mass atrocities and the implementation of R2P. The Global Centre utilizes the Group of Friends of R2P as a key partner in this effort. Since its establishment in 2008, the Group of Friends has achieved considerable progress in the promotion of R2P within the UN system. During 2018 the Global Centre convened three meetings of the 52 members of the Group of Friends in New York, which included briefings by senior UN officials including, Secretary-General António Guterres and Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix.

On 25 June and 2 July the UN General Assembly held the first formal plenary meeting on the “Responsibility to Protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and

crimes against humanity” since 2009. Ahead of the debate the Global Centre coordinated an advocacy campaign aimed at bolstering participation by UN member states and suggested talking points to be highlighted in national statements. The Global Centre also assisted in drafting a joint statement by the Group of Friends.

The formal debate had a number of procedural benefits as compared to the previous informal interactive dialogue format. Formal debates allocate more time for member state interventions and provide an opportunity for states to have an on-the-record exchange regarding best practices on the prevention of, and response to, atrocities. This also enables the General Assembly to maintain a full record of the response of states to the Secretary-General’s annual report on R2P.

In light of the debate's success, on 21 September the General Assembly voted to include a supplementary item entitled, "the Responsibility to Protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity," on its agenda for the second year in a row. With Global Centre support, a cross-regional group of nine member states (Afghanistan, Denmark, Guatemala, Japan, Netherlands, Romania, Rwanda, Ukraine and Uruguay) requested the President of the General Assembly include this item in the agenda. Ahead of the vote, the Global Centre and the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect reached out to all 193 UN member states to encourage them to support the initiative. A clear majority of member states voted in favor of its inclusion on the agenda.

79
ON BEHALF OF
113

MEMBER STATES SPOKE AT THE 2018 FORMAL DEBATE ON R2P

MOBILIZING ACTION

AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY



UN General Assembly High-Level Week

Every year the opening of the General Assembly in September provides the Global Centre with an opportunity to highlight developments regarding R2P and discuss strategies for the prevention of mass atrocity crimes. During the opening of the 73rd session, the Global Centre co-hosted three high-level events as well as a lunch with R2P Focal Points who were in New York. Global Centre staff also delivered statements at four other high-level events.



Prosecuting Sexual and Gender-Based Crimes at the International Criminal Court

On 25 September the Global Centre, in collaboration with the ICC and the governments of Belgium, Finland, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Sierra Leone and the United Kingdom, co-hosted a meeting in honor of the 20th Anniversary of the Rome Statute of the ICC. The event highlighted the historic importance of the ICC in holding perpetrators accountable for sexual and gender-based crimes. The event featured a keynote address by ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda.

Human Rights and the Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Strengthening the Bridge Between Geneva and New York

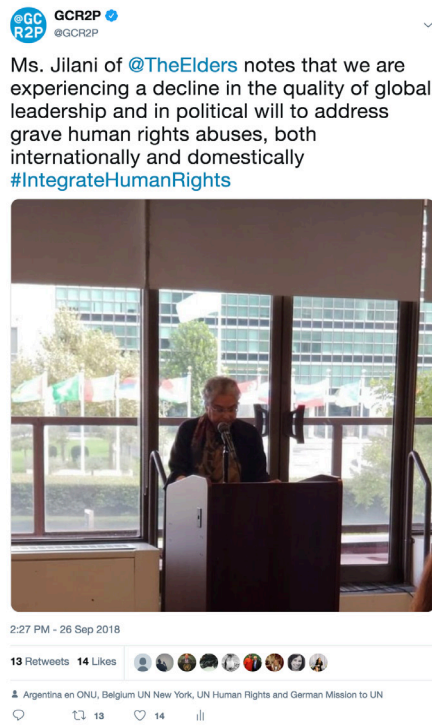
On 26 September the Global Centre, in collaboration with the governments of Argentina, Belgium and Germany, co-hosted a meeting on integrating human rights into discussions and policies of prevention across the UN system. The event featured presentations by Mr. Andrew Gilmour, UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, and Ms. Hina Jilani, former Advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan and Member of The Elders, among others.

R2P in a Peacekeeping Context: How Peacekeeping Operations Can Contribute to Preventing Mass Atrocity Crimes

Currently more than 95 percent of military, police and civilian staff deployed to UN Peacekeeping missions around the world are operating in environments where populations are at risk of mass atrocity crimes. On 27 September the Global Centre, together with the governments of Italy, Qatar and the Netherlands, co-hosted an interactive dialogue at UN Headquarters on how UN Peacekeeping Operations can better protect populations from atrocity crimes. This event featured speakers representing Host States, UN Security Council members, Troop Contributing Countries and the UN Secretariat – including the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Mr. Adama Dieng.



Deputy Executive Director Ms. Savita Pawnday delivered remarks at an event marking the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 26 September 2018.



Ms. Hina Jilani speaking at “Human Rights and the Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Strengthening the Bridge Between Geneva and New York.”



Panellists deliver remarks at “R2P in a Peacekeeping Context: How Peacekeeping Operations Can Contribute to Preventing Mass Atrocities.”

R2P AND THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Throughout 2018 the Global Centre continued to expand its work in Geneva, aiming to strengthen the link between R2P and the work of the Human Rights Council, with particular focus on early warning and prevention of mass atrocities.

UN Photo/Jean-Marc Ferré

9 HRC
RESOLUTIONS
PASSED IN 2018
REFERENCING
R2P

S Y R I A | C . A . R
S O U T H · S U D A N
M Y A N M A R
D . R · C O N G O

The Global Centre believes that the Human Rights Council (HRC) can and should play a more prominent role in implementing R2P through its procedures and mechanisms. Throughout 2018 the Global Centre expanded its engagement in Geneva, aiming to help bridge the gap between the peace and security and human rights agendas. The employment of a full-time staff member in Geneva, as well as securing a permanent office space, has helped further institutionalize the Global Centre's presence in Geneva.

Building a community of commitment

This year the Global Centre continued to work with the members of the **Geneva Group of Friends of R2P** – the membership of which mirrors that of the New York-based group – to implement a Program of Work for 2018. The Group delivered numerous joint

statements during HRC sessions, and held its first meeting with the new High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet. Addressing the Group of Friends in November 2018, the High Commissioner emphasized that structural prevention aimed at halting systematic violations of human rights is an essential component of how states should uphold their responsibility to protect.

The Group of Friends and the Global Centre advocated for the inclusion of strong mass atrocity prevention language in country-specific and thematic resolutions adopted during the three HRC sessions. During 2018 the HRC passed nine country-specific and thematic resolutions referencing R2P, including for situations in Syria, the DRC, Myanmar, CAR and South Sudan. The HRC also adopted a landmark resolution on the protection of human rights in Venezuela.

The Global Centre mobilized member states regarding the Universal Periodic Review process (UPR). Prior to each session, the Global Centre encouraged governments to include specific policy recommendations to states under review, with a focus on tailored recommendations for countries experiencing potential mass atrocities, including Central African Republic, Nigeria, Burundi and Israel/Occupied Territories. In total, at least 45 member states included some of the Centre's suggested recommendations in their UPR submissions in 2018.

The Global Centre also continued to express concern about “clean slate elections,” which threaten to undermine the credibility of the HRC as they do not encourage states to demonstrate their commitment to the highest standards of human rights. Ahead of the 2018 HRC membership elections in October, the Global Centre joined other NGOs in requesting member states not to vote for candidates involved in serious human rights violations, some of which may amount to mass atrocity crimes.

In an effort to bring further attention to the role of HRC mechanisms as a preventative tool, on 5 November



HRC MEMBERS WERE PART OF THE GROUP OF FRIENDS OF R2P IN GENEVA

the Global Centre organized a conference on the role of investigative mechanisms in preventing mass atrocities. During the conference members of HRC mechanisms, civil society activists, representatives from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and member states analyzed factors that enhance the ability of investigative mechanisms to prevent and respond to atrocities.

During the conference participants also evaluated the recent creation of innovative “international impartial and independent mechanisms” for Syria and Myanmar. The discussion addressed the need to expand the international community's practical commitment to accountability and international justice.



Packed house for Global Centre conference on HRC investigative mechanisms, Geneva, Switzerland, 5 November 2018

MOBILIZING ACTION

AT THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL



Dr. Simon Adams meets with UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Michelle Bachelet before her briefing with the Geneva Group of Friends of R2P, 27 November 2018.

Engaging with HRC Investigative Mechanisms

Over the past decade, mechanisms mandated by the HRC to monitor and investigate grave violations and abuses of international humanitarian and human rights law have been established for many situations in which populations are at risk of, or are experiencing, mass atrocity crimes — including Syria, South Sudan, Yemen, Myanmar, Burundi and the DRC. During 2018, the Global Centre took steps to bolster its engagement with these mechanisms.

MYANMAR



OVER 900,000
ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN BANGLADESH

On 27 August 2018 the HRC-mandated Independent International FFM on Myanmar reported that the treatment of the Rohingya by Myanmar's security forces amounts to four of the five prohibited acts defined in the Genocide Convention. The FFM also found that crimes against humanity and war crimes had been committed in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan states. The report of the FFM emphasized that Myanmar's authorities had not upheld their "responsibility to protect the civilian population," and identified alleged perpetrators of these atrocities.

Following the release of the report, the Global Centre engaged in advocacy targeting key Permanent Missions in Geneva and New York, and calling for a credible, independent criminal accountability process. During its 39th session in September, the HRC voted to establish an "independent mechanism to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyze evidence of the most serious international crimes and violations of international law committed in Myanmar." The mechanism will become operational during 2019.



Mohammad Tauheed via Flickr

YEMEN



UN OCHA/Giles Clarke



OVER 16,000
CIVILIANS KILLED SINCE MARCH 2015



OVER 570,000
PEOPLE DISPLACED BY FIGHTING
IN HODEIDAH

The Global Centre also undertook a targeted campaign calling for the renewal of the mandate of the Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen, established in 2017 to monitor and report on the human rights situation and provide guidance on accountability for atrocities. The Global Centre emphasized the ongoing need for independent monitoring as violations of international humanitarian and human rights law continue by all parties to the conflict.

The Global Centre supported the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands, which led the initiative, in their outreach efforts. This included mobilizing members of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points. The Global Centre also joined 55 civil society organizations in writing a letter to HRC members demanding the Council renew and strengthen the Group's mandate. Parallel to these initiatives, the Global Centre also carried out a social media campaign highlighting the perpetration of atrocities in Yemen. On 28 September the HRC voted to renew the Group's mandate.



HRC SECRETARIAT
@UN_HRC

Following

#HRC39 adopts RES on #HumanRights situation in #Yemen Extends mandate of Group of Eminent Experts for 1 year +report at #HRC42. Requests @UNHumanRights #HC to provide assistance, advice & support to enable National Commission of Inquiry to complete its work HC report #HRC40 #HRC42

L.21 - Human rights situation in Yemen					
ABST	AFGHANISTAN	YES	GERMANY	YES	REPUBLIC OF KOREA
ABST	ANGOLA	YES	HUNGARY	ABST	RWANDA
YES	AUSTRALIA	YES	ICELAND	NO	SAUDI ARABIA
YES	BELGIUM	ABST	IRAQ	ABST	SENEGAL
YES	BRAZIL	ABST	JAPAN	YES	SLOVAKIA
NO	BURUNDI	ABST	KENYA	YES	SLOVENIA
YES	CHILE	ABST	KYRGYZSTAN	ABST	SOUTH AFRICA
NO	CHINA	YES	MEXICO	YES	SPAIN
YES	COTE D'IVOIRE	ABST	MONGOLIA	YES	SWITZERLAND
YES	CROATIA	ABST	NEPAL	ABST	TOGO
NO	CUBA	ABST	NIGERIA	ABST	TUNISIA
ABST	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	NO	PAKISTAN	YES	UKRAINE
YES	ECUADOR	YES	PANAMA	NO	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
NO	EGYPT	YES	PERU	YES	UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
ABST	ETHIOPIA	ABST	PHILIPPINES	NO	VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)
ABST	GEORGIA	YES	QATAR		

8:06 AM - 28 Sep 2018

119 Retweets 122 Likes



RESEARCH AND MONITORING

The Global Centre provides policy-relevant research and strategic guidance to governments, UN officials and civil society on how to prevent or halt mass atrocity crimes.

The Global Centre's publications and analysis inform decision makers about situations where action needs to be taken to protect populations from mass atrocities. The **R2P Monitor**, **Atrocity Alert** and other publications, including various statements, policy briefs and the **Occasional Paper** series, have enhanced the Global Centre's reputation as the leading organization doing research on the responsibility to protect and the risk of mass atrocity crimes.

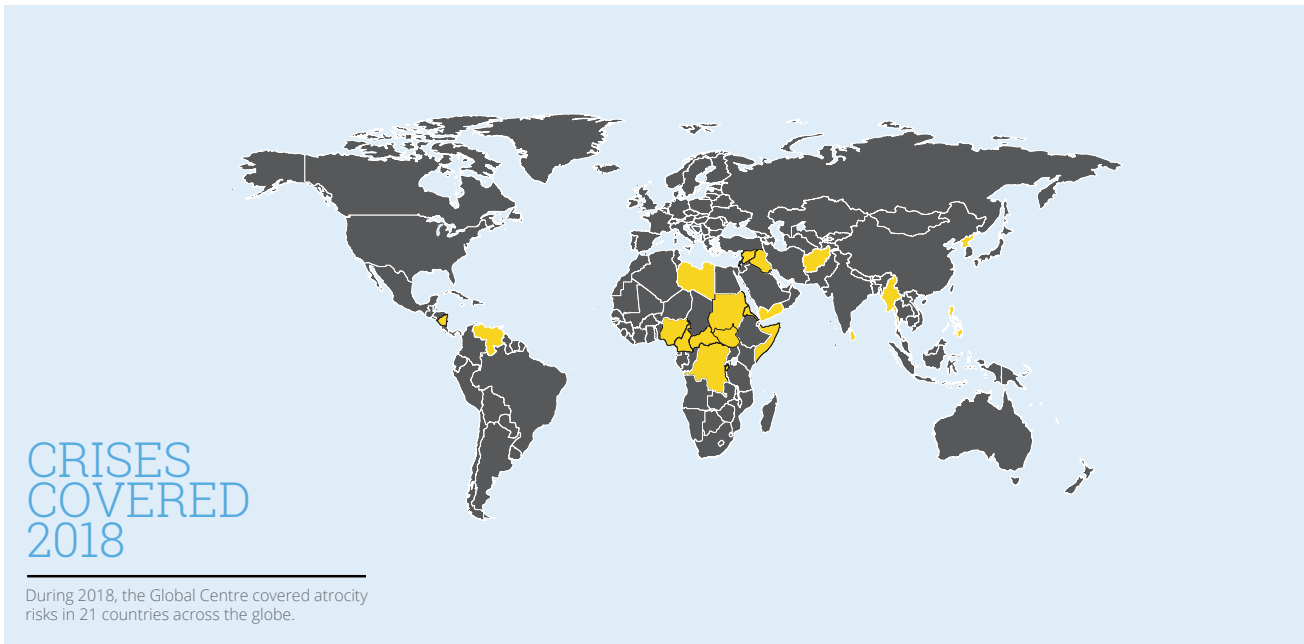
Global Centre publications help shape the narrative around country situations and try to focus the attention of the international community on the risk of atrocities. This includes situations where stakeholders focus narrowly on conflict resolution, democracy promotion or counter terrorism action to the detriment of understanding or appreciating the risk of identity-based conflict.

During 2018 Global Centre staff conducted research and analysis on populations who are experiencing or

are threatened by mass atrocity crimes in Afghanistan, Burundi, CAR, Cameroon, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, DRC, Eritrea, Iraq, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Libya, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, the Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela and Yemen. Through *R2P Monitor* and *Atrocity Alert*, as well as public statements highlighting imminent atrocity risks, the Global Centre tried to mobilize appropriate international action.



The Global Centre's *R2P Monitor*, a bimonthly publication, provides analysis on situations where populations are threatened by mass atrocities as



well as an assessment of international efforts to prevent and respond to them. The *R2P Monitor* is circulated to all UN missions in New York, as well as members of the HRC, and has established itself as a credible source for any diplomat or practitioner who works in the area of mass atrocity prevention. During 2018 the Global Centre released Issues 37-42 of the *R2P Monitor*.

Since it was introduced in 2016 the Global Centre's weekly publication, *Atrocity Alert*, has established itself as a respected and timely source of information regarding recent developments in situations where populations are at risk of, or are enduring, mass atrocity crimes. Each weekly e-mail provides a concise and accessible bulletin on evolving crises and allows the Global Centre to highlight situations that may be neglected by the wider international community, such as Cameroon and Nicaragua. Several governments have indicated that *Atrocity Alert* is regularly re-circulated to relevant Country Desks and Embassies responsible for featured countries. During 2018 the Global Centre released 50 issues of *Atrocity Alert*.

In addition to its work on populations at risk of mass atrocity crimes, the Global Centre also publishes

timely background briefings and event summaries related to the development of the Responsibility to Protect. This includes publishing profiles of all elected members of the UNSC and HRC regarding how their country has implemented R2P and providing guidance on how they can prioritize atrocity prevention during their tenure on these important international bodies.

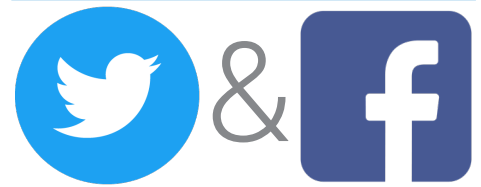
10 GLOBAL CENTRE PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN 2018 INCLUDING ON

C A M E R O O N | I R A Q
 M Y A N M A R
 S O U T H · S U D A N
 S Y R I A

ENGAGING AND EXPANDING THE AUDIENCE

During 2018 the Global Centre undertook a series of social media campaigns aimed at enhancing the visibility of our “Populations at Risk” analysis and recommendations, especially via our weekly publication, *Atrocity Alert*. The campaigns focused on increasing the Global Centre’s social media audience and ensuring that our message was seen around the world by practitioners and other individuals interested in mass atrocity prevention, human rights and the UN. The campaigns were a resounding success, boosting our following on Facebook from 200,000 to over 275,000 and on Twitter from 50,000 to over 62,000.

85,000+



NEW FOLLOWERS IN 2018

AMPLIFYING ATROCITY ALERT

During 2018 the Global Centre carried out a social media campaign to expand the reach of *Atrocity Alert*. Each issue reached an average of 65,000 readers. *Atrocity Alert* No. 127, released on 17 October 2018, was viewed by over 135,000 people making it the most widely received issue of 2018.



In this week’s issue of **#AtrocityAlert**: 12 million face starvation in **#Yemen**, recent massacre highlights ongoing insecurity in **#CAR**, and alleged perpetrators elected on to the **#HRC** → bit.ly/2Af6HHS

#R2P



2:13 PM - 17 Oct 2018

287 Retweets 1,472 Likes



In this week’s issue of **#AtrocityAlert**: Protests, killings and systematic human rights violations in **#Nicaragua**, **#Myanmar** (**#Burma**) journalists jailed for exposing military’s atrocities and no amnesty for atrocities in **#CARcrisis** → bit.ly/AtrocityAlert1... #R2P



3:54 PM - 5 Sep 2018

85 Retweets 570 Likes

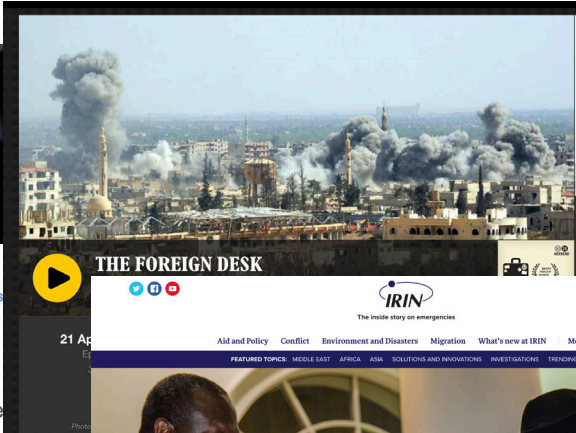


Throughout the year the Global Centre used *Atrocity Alert* to highlight new crises as they arose and quickly addressed developments in Cameroon, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

GLOBAL CENTRE ONLINE AND IN THE MEDIA



During the last year the Global Centre consistently engaged with the media through regularly issued statements on emerging crises and interviews with journalists from outlets such as Al Jazeera (English and Arabic), China Global Television Network, German Public Broadcaster ARD, The Economist and IRIN, among others.



Home Topics **News** Features In Depth C

Who is Martin Griffiths, UN's new Yemen?

#YemenWar

Griffiths brings civilians to same negotiating table as generals and warlords to demonstrate effects of war

Never again, and again Can the world stop genocide?

As the UN convention against genocide turns 70, its failures are tragically apparent





NETWORKS FOR ATROCITY PREVENTION

Building a community of commitment to prevent mass atrocities.

Participants at the 8th Annual Meeting of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points, Helsinki, Finland, 13 June 2018.

Global Network of R2P Focal Points

Throughout 2018 the Global Centre continued its work as the secretariat of the **Global Network of R2P Focal Points**, which is now in its 9th year of existence. The network is comprised of 60 governments, in addition to the European Union, that have demonstrated a commitment to upholding R2P by appointing a senior level official responsible for the promotion of atrocity prevention within their national system. A notable addition to the network during 2018 was Mexico, which also co-hosted the annual meeting of the Global Network.

During June the Global Centre, in partnership with the governments of Finland and Mexico, organized the 8th Annual Meeting of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points in Helsinki. Informed by expert presentations, R2P Focal Points discussed the role of mediation in preventing and halting mass atrocities,

challenges and opportunities for integrating R2P into domestic and foreign policy, and progress on delivering justice for mass atrocity crimes at the time of the 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute.

On 28 September the Global Centre also hosted an annual working luncheon with members of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points who were in New York for the opening session of the UN General Assembly. Attendees were briefed by the UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Adama Dieng, and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Andrew Gilmour, and subsequently held an informal discussion on situations at risk of mass atrocities and policies to mitigate these crises.

Throughout 2018 the Global Centre continued to develop the Manual for R2P Focal Points. The Manual,

which will be formally released during 2019, describes how R2P relates to multiple subject-areas (human rights, development, justice and accountability, etc.) and what actions R2P Focal Points can take to support their government’s efforts regarding mass atrocity prevention. Focal Points are also encouraged to advance the responsibility to protect within their regions and incorporate a “mass atrocity prevention lens” into their day-to-day work. On 10 May the government of Slovenia hosted the Third Regional Meeting of European R2P Focal Points. The Global Centre’s Executive Director, Simon Adams, and Deputy Executive Director, Savita Pawnday, led a session on European action to implement R2P.

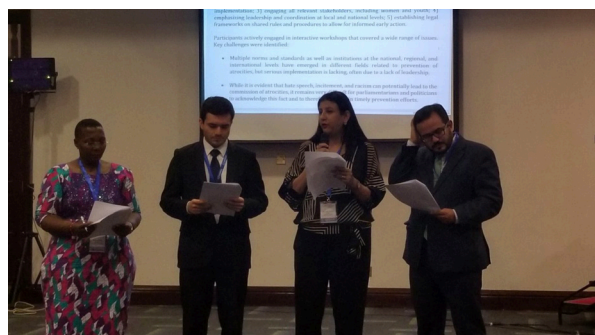
The Global Centre also recognizes the importance of participating in a variety of networks and communities working to prevent and respond to mass atrocities.

Other Networks

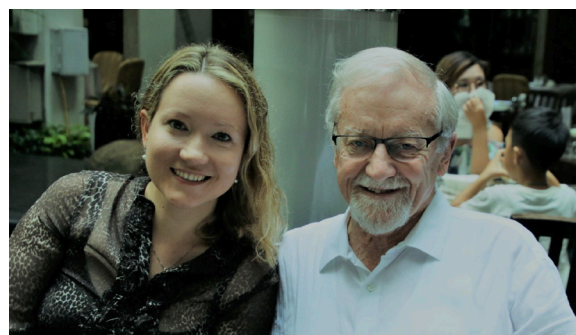
The Global Centre is a member of the steering group of Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC), an inclusive network created in 2013 by States, civil society organizations and academic institutions to provide a platform for the prevention of mass atrocities. During 2018 the Global Centre was actively involved in the GAAMAC III meeting, held on 23-25 May in Kampala, Uganda. The Global Centre also continues to engage with the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention and the Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention.




Participants in the 8th Annual Meeting of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points, Helsinki, Finland, 12 June 2018



Deputy Executive Director, Ms. Savita Pawnday, speaks at a GAAMAC steering group meeting, Kampala, Uganda, 23 May 2018.



Program Manager, Ms. Nadira Khudayberdieva, meets with IAB chair, The Hon. Gareth Evans, on the sidelines of an Asia Pacific Partnership conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 22 August 2018.



IMPLEMENTING AND INNOVATING

Throughout 2018 the Global Centre continued to develop and implement its project on “Peacekeeping, Civilian Protection and the Responsibility to Protect.”

UN Photo/Albert Gonzalez Farran

During 2017 the Global Centre, with the support of the Canadian government, launched a project regarding mass atrocity prevention and pre-deployment training for peacekeepers. Peacekeepers are increasingly asked to deploy to operating environments where the risk factors for mass atrocities are present and/or crimes are already occurring. Recent peacekeeping efforts in South Sudan, DRC, CAR and elsewhere highlight the need for personnel to be trained not just in the protection of civilians, but also in identifying risk factors for atrocities. The Global Centre has worked towards addressing these gaps through a number of activities, including improving threat assessments.

During 2018 the Global Centre facilitated seven regional Training of Trainers (ToT) courses at peacekeeping training centers in Italy, India, Bangladesh, Kenya, Rwanda, Ghana, and Argentina.

The interactive training course aims to introduce participants to R2P and the atrocity prevention lens. Throughout the ToT the trainers participate in activities with the objective of assessing the threat of mass atrocity crimes in various scenarios and determining an appropriate course of action within the mandate of a peacekeeping operation. An accompanying training manual provides participants with the resources necessary to adapt these modules for courses at various peacekeeping training institutions around the world.

The Global Centre is also currently in discussion with the UN Department of Peace Operations on developing a toolkit that can be used by peacekeepers in the field to help determine the risk of atrocities, and then work to actively prevent them. During November the Global Centre hosted a workshop in collaboration with the UN Department



GHANA



ARGENTINA



BANGLADESH



INDIA



ITALY



KENYA

of Peacekeeping Operations, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Office of the Special Advisers on Genocide Prevention and R2P, on “Applying Indicators of Mass Atrocity Crimes in UN Peacekeeping Missions.” During the workshop, practitioners and experts from the UN Secretariat and peacekeeping missions – including representatives of Joint Mission Analysis Centers – as well as civil society, explored how to refine existing tools for situational awareness and threat assessment.



MEET THE TEAM



DR. SIMON ADAMS
Executive Director



MS. SAVITA PAWNDAY
Deputy Executive Director



MS. JACLYN STREITFELD-HALL
Publications Director



MS. NADIRA KHUDAYBERDIEVA
Programs Manager



MS. SARAH HUNTER
Research Analyst
Digital & Social Media Specialist



MS. JULIETTE PAAUWE
Research Analyst



MS. ANNA SAMULSKI
Research Analyst



MS. ELISABETH
PRAMENDORFER
Research Analyst (Geneva)



MR. ELI KARETNY
Grants Manager

GLOBAL CENTRE FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies
The CUNY Graduate Center
365 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5203
New York, NY 10016

Phone: +1 (212) 817-1929
Email: info@globalr2p.org
www.GlobalR2P.org

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

Gareth Evans (Chair), Francis M. Deng, Victoria Holt, Edward C. Luck, Frank Majoor, Edward Mortimer, Gert Rosenthal, Darian Swig, John Torpey and Jennifer Welsh

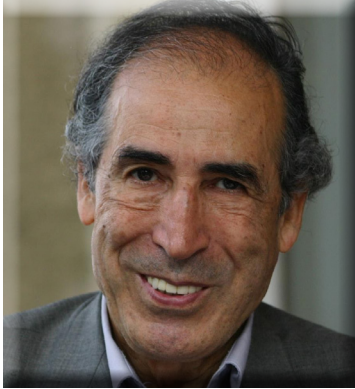
FOUNDING PATRONS

Kofi Annan, Lloyd Axworthy, Jan Eliasson, Lee Hamilton, David Hamburg, Prince El Hassan bin Talal, Sadako Okata, Fidel V. Ramos, Mary Robinson and Desmond Tutu

2018 SPONSORS

Governments of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Carnegie Corporation of New York, J. Paul Getty Trust, along with other anonymous foundations and individual donors.



MOHAMED SAHNOUN | 1913 - 2018

On 20 September former co-chair of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, Mohamed Sahnoun, passed away at the age of 87. A fearless diplomat, Mr. Sahnoun served as Algeria's Ambassador, as the Deputy Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States, and in various capacities at the United Nations, perhaps most notably as the Special Representative to Somalia during 1992. Mohamed was committed to advancing the principle that the world can and should do more to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Mr. Sahnoun also played a leading role in the establishment of the Global Centre during 2008 and as a founding co-chair of our International Advisory Board until the time of his death. Mohamed was a friend of all those who fight for human rights and an enemy of impunity and injustice. May he rest in peace.

GLOBAL CENTRE FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies
The CUNY Graduate Center
365 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5203
New York, NY 10016

Phone: +1 (212) 817-1929
Email: info@globalr2p.org
www.GlobalR2P.org