



REPUBLIC OF POLAND
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

750 THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL. (212) 744-2506

Check against delivery

STATEMENT BY

***PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
AMBASSADOR BOGUSLAW WINID***

***GENERAL ASSEMBLY
INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE ON
THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT***

NEW YORK, 6 SEPTEMBER 2016

Mr. President,

At the outset, let me thank you for convening this General Assembly interactive dialogue on the important issue of responsibility to protect. We also thank Secretary General Ban Ki-moon for his recent report on this matter and welcome today's presentations by all panelists.

Poland aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and would like to underline some key points in its national capacity.

Mr. President,

Prevention of conflicts lies in the heart of the United Nations activities and it constitutes the very core of responsibility to protect. Conflict prevention is a choice and effort we need to make every day in order to build more peaceful and prosperous societies. Given the current global challenges and threats, it is necessary to consistently increase our capacities for early-warning and prevention both at home as well as at the international level.

Poland has been an active supporter of **mass atrocity prevention policies**. Within the UN framework, we proudly joined over half of the UN Member States and committed ourselves to the Code of Conduct on the atrocity crimes prevention, initiated by the ACT Group. We also endorsed French-Mexican initiative to limit the use of veto by the permanent members of the Security Council in cases of genocide, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

In our opinion, it is also important to recognize and **strengthen linkages between RtoP and other sectors** such as peacekeeping, peacebuilding, women's rights and participation or disarmament. Protection of civilians requires comprehensive prevention policies and measures.

We would also like to recognize the fundamental role played by the civil society actors in advancing and upholding the responsibility to protect since its adoption in 2005.

Mr. President,

We truly believe that time has come to **enhance the implementation of RtoP and mainstream this important concept deeper into the UN activities**. We also concur with those delegations who supported the ideas of including responsibility to protect in the formal agenda of the General Assembly and reaffirming our commitment to RtoP through a new General Assembly resolution.

I thank you.