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GLOBAL CENTRE
FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY
TO PROTECT



WHO WE ARE



The [Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect](#) is the leading international authority on R2P. Since its inception in 2008 the Global Centre has played 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. The Global Centre works with various governments to translate this research into actionable policy.

This document is meant to provide insight into the work of the Global Centre during 2022. Hyperlinked text and images will take you to the Global Centre’s website, published pieces, interviews, social media posts and more.



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2022 the world continued to grapple with multiple conflicts and crises while human rights and multilateral diplomacy remained under threat across the globe. As Russia invaded Ukraine in late February, the number of people forcibly displaced by persecution, conflict, violence and human rights violations rose to a record 100 million; a stark reminder that civilians bear the brunt of harm when parties to conflicts blatantly disregard international rules designed to prevent the hazards of war. This unprecedented number is not only a reflection of the expansion of conflicts where perpetrators are targeting civilians, but also of the longevity of crises preventing displaced populations from returning home.

Russia's invasion on 24 February prompted an unprecedented response by the international community as multilateral and bilateral action by global institutions and governments were accompanied by widespread condemnation and gestures of political and moral solidarity with the people of Ukraine. Yet, it remains an isolated example as the international community has fallen short in responding to other crises where populations are facing indescribable devastation and atrocities, such as in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar (Burma) and Yemen. These protracted crises, among others on our 'Populations at Risk' list, demonstrate the consequences of inaction and lack of political will. They underline that consistently upholding our responsibility to protect populations from atrocities – no matter who they are or where they are from – is critical to ensuring that the most vulnerable do not pay the price of our indifference.

To this end, throughout 2022 the Global Centre continued to draw the attention of decision-makers to neglected crises by sharing our expert analysis on over 30 countries in publications like *Atrocity Alert* and *R2P Monitor*. Our team mobilized international action through advocacy that bridged the gap between decision-makers and populations affected

by atrocities. The Global Centre was instrumental in the establishment of several investigative mechanisms and in supporting ongoing international efforts to secure justice and accountability.

The expertise of civil society actors has proven to substantively inform discussions among policy- and decision-makers in relation to conflict prevention and upholding the Responsibility to Protect, particularly with regards to articulating needs and priorities of communities directly affected by ongoing atrocities. For a crisis response to be effective, it needs to be transformative, rooted in the needs of affected communities and tied to long-term efforts to further peace, development, and human rights. With that in mind, throughout 2022 the Global Centre worked to ensure that the voices of affected communities, human rights defenders and victim and survivor groups, including women and youth organizations, are included in policy discussions and decision-making processes with the UN and member states. We helped amplify the experiences and expertise of survivor and victim communities from Myanmar, Syria and Venezuela with policymakers at various levels of government and at the UN and beyond.

Following nearly two years of predominately virtual operations due to COVID-19 restrictions, in 2022 we welcomed the opportunity to bring together old and new stakeholders for important discussions on advancing atrocity prevention. During May the Global Centre convened our esteemed International Advisory Board and warmly welcomed two new Board members, Dr. Simon Adams and Dr. Karen Smith. The Global Centre also organized the first-ever “R2P Week” in June to mark the UN General Assembly’s plenary meeting on R2P. Among the signature Global Centre events highlighted in this report were the 10th annual meeting of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points at the headquarters of the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C. and a workshop on the

role of investigative mechanisms in preventing atrocity crimes that brought together 30 delegations in Geneva, as well as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other UN officials. In addition, we also launched an innovative training series, in partnership with UPR Info, on incorporating an atrocity prevention lens in the Universal Periodic Review process for civil society organizations from around the world.

I want to thank those who have supported the Global Centre over the last year. Without your generosity and engagement we would not be where we are today. We look forward to continuing our work with our partners and supporters to help confront indifference and build a world more resilient to atrocities wherever and whenever they occur. Doing so will help us avoid repeating the failures of the past.

Sincerely,



Savita Pawnday
Executive Director

TABLE OF **CONTENTS**



2022 GOALS	6
MOBILIZING ACTION	7
MONITORING & EARLY WARNING	20
COMMUNITIES OF COMMITMENT	22
BREAKING SILOS	28
TRAININGS	36
UN ENGAGEMENT	39
SHARING OUR EXPERT ANALYSIS	45
MEET THE TEAM	48

OUR GOALS

MONITORING

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

MOBILIZING ACTION

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

CHANGING THE NARRATIVE

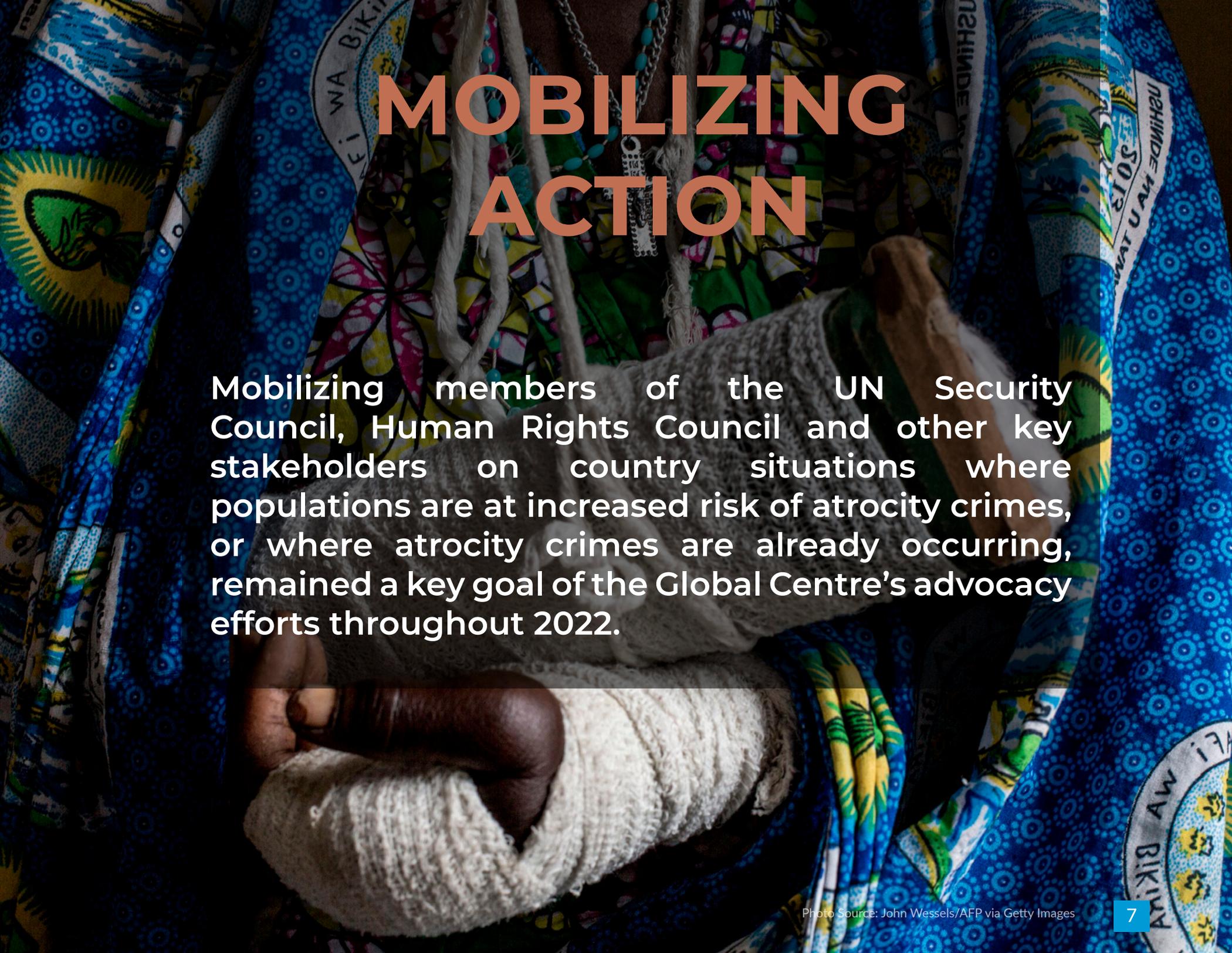
Ensure policymakers understand situations of conflict or widespread human rights violations through the lens of atrocity risks.

BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF COMMITMENT

Help establish and strengthen dedicated institutions, networks and capacities at the national, regional and multilateral level to effectively prevent mass atrocity crimes.

LEVERAGING NETWORKS

Bring affected populations into conversations with policymakers who can influence change.



MOBILIZING ACTION

Mobilizing members of the UN Security Council, Human Rights Council and other key stakeholders on country situations where populations are at increased risk of atrocity crimes, or where atrocity crimes are already occurring, remained a key goal of the Global Centre's advocacy efforts throughout 2022.



AFGHANISTAN

OUR WORK

- 1 TARGETED ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN
- 1 HRC MANDATE RENEWED
- 1 PODCAST EPISODE

Photo Source: Nava Jamshidi via Getty

Since the Taliban took over [Afghanistan](#) on 15 August 2021, they have committed widespread and systematic human rights violations throughout the country, including extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, incommunicado detention and torture and ill-treatment against former government officials and armed forces, media workers and human rights defenders. The Taliban de facto authorities have imposed harsh restrictions on fundamental rights, including sweeping decrees that severely limit women’s rights to fully participate in public and daily life. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and other armed actors also regularly attack minority populations, including the Hazara Shias, other Shia Muslims, Sufi Muslims, Sikhs and others, resulting in more than 2,550 civilians killed or wounded since the Taliban’s takeover. The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan reported that these attacks likely amount to crimes against humanity.

In response to the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan, the Global Centre, alongside 24 other NGOs, issued a [joint call](#) for an urgent debate at the 50th session of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) regarding the women’s rights crisis. The Council subsequently held an urgent debate on 1 July and passed a resolution requesting an enhanced interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan during its 51st session. Prior to this session, the Global Centre conducted private bilateral advocacy with UN member states in Geneva to build support for expanding the mandate of the Special Rapporteur to include the collection and preservation of evidence of human rights violations and abuses. The HRC renewed and expanded the Special Rapporteur’s mandate during the 51st session.

To mark one year since the Taliban took over, the Global Centre released an episode of “Expert Voices on Atrocity Prevention” with Horia Mosadiq, an Afghan human rights defender, journalist and Director of the Conflict Analysis Network.

Recurrent violence perpetrated by armed Islamist groups – including groups affiliated with al-Qaeda and the so-called Islamic State Sahel Province – threatens populations in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger ([Central Sahel](#)) with violations that may amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes. Populations are also facing likely atrocity crimes as a result of attacks by national security forces, as well as conflict between ethnic militias and community “self-defense groups.” At least 2,300 civilians were killed across the Central Sahel in 2022. In 2022 the Global Centre published nine *Atrocity Alerts* on the Central Sahel.

For two years the Global Centre has participated in the People’s Coalition for the Sahel, an informal and diverse alliance of nearly 50 Sahelian organizations and several international NGOs that amplifies Sahelian voices and expertise. The People’s Coalition engages collectively through public statements, private advocacy meetings with key stakeholders and engagement with the media. Persistent advocacy between 2021 and 2022 helped shift the narrative of international stakeholders from a military-first response to one that prioritizes civilian protection and addresses the root causes of conflict.

During June 2022 the People’s Coalition released a [report](#) which evaluated the successes and setbacks regarding the protection of civilians, the fight against impunity and respect for human rights. As part of the People’s Coalition, the Global Centre contributed comprehensive information regarding atrocity risks, as well as recommendations related to civilian harm monitoring mechanisms for the development of the chapter, “Putting the protection of civilians at the heart of the response to the crisis in the Sahel.”

The report was launched on 16 June in Dakar, where members of the People’s Coalition presented the main findings and discussed implementation of the report’s recommendations

CENTRAL SAHEL

OUR WORK

- 1 JOINT REPORT PUBLISHED
- 1 UN PEACEKEEPING MANDATE INFLUENCED
- 1 CONTRIBUTION TO UN EXPERTS

Photo Source: Souleymane Ag Anara/AFP via Getty Images



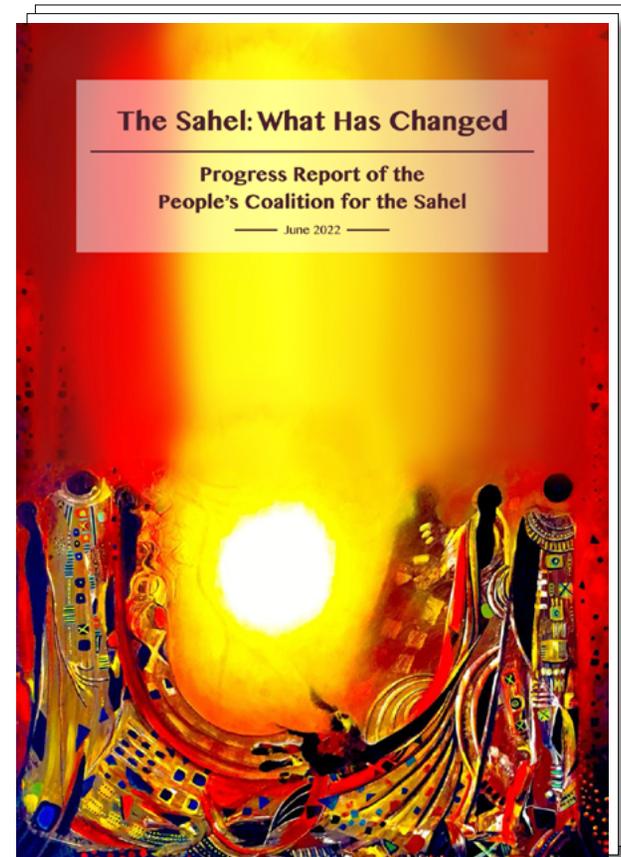
CHRISTINE CALDERA
SAHEL EXPERT

Civilians continue to be the first victims of insecurity, which is spreading at an alarming rate across the Central Sahel. It is imperative that Sahelian governments and their international partners reorient their response to the crisis by implementing a rights-based approach and addressing growing atrocity risks.



with representatives of the governments of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger and other high-level political figures. The release of the report received worldwide media coverage, including BBC, Mali Actu, Sahel Tribune, Voice of America, Deutsche Welle, Le Monde, Le Figaro and Radio France Internationale. The report was shared widely on social media – notably seen by 1.3 million people on Twitter – as well as with the UN Office for West African and the Sahel, members of the Security Council (UNSC), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and with regional authorities and civil society organizations (CSOs).

From April to June, ahead of the mandate renewal of the UN peacekeeping operation in Mali (MINUSMA), the Global Centre also arranged private bilateral meetings with several UNSC members and worked with other NGOs in New York to advocate for a robust protection of civilians and human rights mandate, including more regular human rights reporting and stronger human rights due diligence language. Some of this language was included in the adopted resolution. In September the Global Centre provided a list of recommendations



related to the protection of civilians to the UN Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) for an expert level briefing ahead of the Secretary-General's internal review of MINUSMA.

MYANMAR

OUR WORK

1 TARGETED ADVOCACY
CAMPAIGNS

2 EVENTS

5 JOINT STATEMENTS

Photo Source: STR/AFP via Getty Images

Since [Myanmar's](#) military – the Tatmadaw – overthrew the civilian-led government on 1 February 2021 and declared a state of emergency, security forces have killed at least 2,600 people and over 12,900 remain detained for resisting the coup. UN officials and experts have said that the military has perpetrated likely crimes against humanity and war crimes. Ongoing impunity for the genocide against the Rohingya and past instances of crimes against humanity and war crimes perpetrated by the Myanmar authorities in other regions exacerbates the threat to civilians.

In 2022 the Global Centre published 19 *Atrocity Alerts* on the situation in Myanmar. During an interview on the [Insight Myanmar podcast](#), the Global Centre's Myanmar expert, Liam Scott, provided an overview of how R2P applies to the situation in Myanmar and what the international community should be doing to respond to the crisis in line with their international obligations.

Throughout 2022 the Global Centre advocated for stakeholders to diplomatically isolate the Tatmadaw, halt the flow of arms into Myanmar and deprive the military of financial resources through sanctions on the oil and gas industry. In January the Global Centre helped coordinate a [joint statement](#) from 286 international and Myanmar civil society groups that urged the UNSC to hold an open meeting to discuss the crisis. The Global Centre also facilitated a meeting with the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Myanmar, Noeleen Heyzer, and NGOs working on the crisis.

To mark the one-year anniversary of the coup, Savita Pawnday and Liam Scott authored an [op-ed](#) in *The Diplomat*. The Global Centre, alongside other members of the Asia Justice Coalition (AJC), also issued a [joint statement](#) condemning the military's violence and the international community's inaction on the anniversary. The Global Centre convened a private briefing

with leading representatives of Myanmar civil society and members of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points shortly after the anniversary.

From 21-28 February the International Court of Justice (ICJ) heard preliminary objections raised by Myanmar in *The Gambia v. Myanmar* Rohingya genocide case. The Global Centre, with members of the AJC, issued a [joint statement](#) in March regarding the preliminary objections, noting the high risk of atrocities still facing Rohingya populations. The Global Centre welcomed the ICJ's rejection of the preliminary objections with a [statement](#) on 22 July. In rejecting Myanmar's preliminary objections, the ICJ can proceed with the merits of the case and is one step closer to achieving justice for the Rohingya.

During April, in response to a call for input by the Office of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the Global Centre provided [expert analysis](#) on the impact of the coup on the human rights of children with an atrocity prevention lens. That same month, the Global Centre also contributed to the [submission](#) by the AJC to OHCHR on the impact of arms transfers to Myanmar on the human rights of children and youth. In response to a request for input by the International Labour Organization Commission of Inquiry (CoI) for Myanmar during October, the Global Centre provided analysis on non-observance by Myanmar of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention and the Forced Labour Convention. Savita Pawnday also met with members of the team of the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights in Myanmar in Geneva during November to discuss how to mobilize wider action on Myanmar at the HRC.

August 2022 marked the fifth anniversary of the Rohingya genocide. With members of the AJC, the Global Centre issued a [joint statement](#) commemorating the anniversary

and emphasizing the need for an ICC referral and formal interventions in *The Gambia v. Myanmar* case at the ICJ. Savita Pawnday provided a [video commentary](#) for the legal blog *Opinio Juris*, emphasizing the need for continued international efforts to combat impunity and work toward justice for the Rohingya.

At the end of October the Global Centre, in partnership with the Global Justice Center (GJC) and with the support of the AJC, convened a day-long [private roundtable](#) discussion with human rights defenders and activists from Myanmar and international civil society. The roundtable provided an opportunity for relevant stakeholders to strategize on new paths forward for advocacy on Myanmar in light of limited opportunities for progress through the UNSC and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The following day the Global Centre and GJC also co-hosted a [panel event](#) (below) about what lessons the failure to prevent atrocities in Myanmar holds as states and the UN develop the New Agenda for Peace. Panelists included the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Tom Andrews, and representatives of Myanmar civil society.



The HRC-mandated Col on [Syria](#) has reported more than 130,000 arbitrary detentions, abductions or disappearances since 2011, with the majority attributable to the Syrian government. Following a request in UN General Assembly (UNGA) resolution 76/228, the UN Secretary-General released a study in August 2022 on the situation of missing persons in Syria and recommended that the UNGA establish an independent international institution dedicated to clarifying the fate and whereabouts of missing persons in Syria, as well as supporting victims, survivors and their families.

The Global Centre has worked in partnership with Syrian civil society, including the Truth and Justice Charter Coalition, to ensure that such an institution is created through a stand-alone resolution at the UNGA. In addition, the Global Centre facilitated several regional and global briefings by Syrian survivors and family groups for member states in New York and in capitals on the need for an institution for the missing, including a briefing to the Global Network of R2P Focal Points on 5 July 2022. The Global Centre has also continued to work privately and bilaterally with several key member states to ensure that a cross-regional core group of states support a potential mandate for such an institution. Global Centre staff also participated in closed consultations with OHCHR Beirut on the technicalities of a potential mandate.



**JAHAN
PITTALWALA**
SYRIA EXPERT

For years, millions have been searching for their missing loved ones in Syria. The international community can no longer prolong their suffering and must work towards urgently establishing a dedicated institution to determine the fate of the missing and disappeared in Syria. Families have waited far too long.



Photo Source: Carl Court via Getty Images

UKRAINE

OUR WORK

3 TARGETED ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

1 HRC COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ESTABLISHED

2 PODCAST EPISODES

Photo Source: Vyacheslav Madiyevskyy/Ukrinform/Future Publishing via Getty Images

Since the Russian Federation invaded [Ukraine](#) on 24 February, the conflict has devolved into a full-scale attack on Ukraine's civilian population, displacing millions of people and leaving over 17 million in need of humanitarian assistance. Thousands of civilians have been killed by indiscriminate attacks on residential buildings. Dozens of mass graves have been discovered in areas previously occupied by Russian forces, with Ukrainian officials documenting evidence of thousands of potential war crimes.

The Global Centre responded to the initial invasion by releasing a [statement](#) on the egregious violations of international law and encouraging the international community to take urgent action. Savita Pawnday was also [interviewed](#) by MSNBC on the situation two days after the initial invasion. In subsequent months, all the recommendations included in the Global Centre's statement were adopted, including imposing swift and wide-ranging economic sanctions on Russia and those deemed responsible for the invasion and urgently convening the HRC to establish a Col to assist the International Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine with documenting evidence of atrocities against civilians. Additionally, following a joint NGO campaign of coordinated private advocacy with member states, the UNGA suspended Russia from its seat on the HRC on 7 April.



SARAH HUNTER
UKRAINE EXPERT

Protecting populations in Ukraine from atrocities must be paramount to all political discourse around the conflict. The international community must utilize all avenues to push for an end to this war, provide aid for those in need and pursue justice for the thousands of victims and their families.





The Global Centre published 18 issues of *Atrocity Alert* on Ukraine. In March the Global Centre also published a two-part series of the “Expert Voices on Atrocity Prevention” podcast on the situation in Ukraine. The first episode, with Professor [Alexander Hinton](#), explored Russian President Vladimir Putin’s accusations of genocide in the Donbas region of Ukraine. The second, with [Rebecca Barber](#), discussed what further options were available to UN member states on holding Russia accountable for crimes perpetrated during the invasion. Throughout 2022 the Global Centre worked alongside a coalition of NGOs pushing member states to identify and utilize all avenues of justice for atrocity crimes committed in Ukraine.



On 26 February Ukraine filed a case with the ICJ, asking for the Court’s clarification under Article IX of the Genocide Convention. The ICJ responded with imposing provisional measures, calling on Russia to suspend military operations and for military units to cease advancing, as well as calling on all parties to refrain from actions that may prolong the conflict. The Chief Prosecutor of the ICC opened an investigation into the situation in Ukraine on 2 March. The Global Centre and its partners continue to advocate with member states for the consolidation of justice and evidence collection efforts.



VENEZUELA

OUR WORK

1 EXTENSIVE TARGETED
ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

1 HRC FFM MANDATE
EXTENDED

1 PODCAST EPISODE

Photo Source: Yuri Cortez/AFP via Getty Images

Since 2014 [Venezuela](#) has faced a multidimensional crisis marked by systematic and widespread human rights violations and an unprecedented humanitarian emergency. Venezuelan state agents have perpetrated arbitrary detentions and short-term enforced disappearances, torture and ill-treatment against actual or alleged government opponents in an attempt to silence political dissent. Security forces have also been accused of thousands of extrajudicial executions under the auspices of combating crime. According to an HRC-mandated independent Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) on Venezuela, ongoing state-led violence and repression may amount to crimes against humanity, with policies orchestrated, designed and implemented at the highest level of government.

The FFM is the only international monitoring body mandated to investigate possible atrocity crimes committed in Venezuela, identify those responsible and provide recommendations on necessary cross-regional reform to prevent recurrence. From August 2021 to September 2022 the Global Centre spearheaded a targeted advocacy campaign to ensure the renewal of the FFM, as well as OHCHR’s mandate to report on human rights violations in Venezuela. The Global Centre also participated in a coalition of Venezuelan and international NGOs working in support of the mandate renewal. The campaign included regular engagement with Foreign Ministries and Permanent Missions in Geneva, specifically targeting countries that had previously been part of the core group, as well as other supportive states, to highlight the importance of the FFM in prevention and long-term structural reform, including through the development of confidential papers on political and technical strategies to ensure wider HRC support. These documents were widely used among Geneva delegations as a resource ahead of and during the negotiation process on a possible resolution. The Global Centre also conducted extensive engagement with the European Union (EU) on their role in ensuring continuous

leadership by Latin American delegations, as well as with the United States (US) in providing behind the scenes support.

As part of the NGO coalition, the Global Centre, together with the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR), organized multiple briefings for diplomatic missions in Geneva with Venezuelan and international NGO partners, including Acción Solidaria, Centro de Justicia y Paz (CEPAZ), Provea, Human Rights Watch, the International Commission of Jurists, Amnesty International and others. This included briefings ahead of Venezuela's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in January 2022 to ensure that information collected by the FFM is utilized throughout the wider UN human rights system. The Global Centre also hosted confidential briefings for the EU, as well as with the new core group ahead of the HRC's 51st session, and participated in a press conference to alert international media of the situation in Venezuela. To ensure a common strategy, the Global Centre and other organizations met with the FFM, senior leadership at OHCHR and thematic Special Procedure mandate holders engaged on Venezuela.



Global Centre Venezuela expert Elisabeth Pramendorfer delivers remarks at a side event urging support for the renewal of the FFM at UN Headquarters in Geneva, 26 September 2022.

This also included confidential meetings with OHCHR leadership in Geneva and Caracas to align messaging around the renewal of both the FFM and OHCHR reporting mandates. The Global Centre, together with partner organizations, also organized side events at the 50th and 51st sessions of the HRC.

The Global Centre and ISHR also led on a joint confidential letter by coalition members to thematic Special Procedures mandate holders to ensure their support for renewed investigations, and was part of multiple joint NGO letters, a detailed [Q&A document](#) on the importance of the FFM, and other [public statements](#) and confidential correspondence to Ministries of Foreign Affairs. The Global Centre also participated in the negotiations on the FFM renewal, and some of the language provided by the Global Centre was subsequently included in the final adopted resolution. During the negotiation of the draft resolution, the Global Centre also continued targeted advocacy and outreach to cross-regional HRC members, including countries anticipated to abstain or vote against the resolution. On 7 October the HRC successfully renewed the mandate of the FFM and OHCHR.

The Global Centre has continued working with CSO partners on necessary follow-up action and implementation of the FFM's recommendations. The situation in Venezuela was also discussed during the [10th Annual Meeting of R2P Focal Points](#) in Washington D.C., where the Executive Director of CEPAZ, Beatriz Borges, briefed participants on necessary action to respond to the crisis. Borges was also featured in [Episode 16](#) of "Expert Voices on Atrocity Prevention," during which she highlighted opportunities for confronting the multidimensional crisis in Venezuela.



YEMEN

OUR WORK

1 TARGETED ADVOCACY
CAMPAIGN

4 JOINT LETTERS

NUMEROUS PRIVATE BRIEFINGS
FACILITATED

Photo Source: Mohammed Al-Wafi/AFP via Getty Images

For nearly eight years civilians in [Yemen](#) have suffered from recurrent war crimes and crimes against humanity. Fighting between parties to the conflict has resulted in the death of thousands of civilians since March 2015. More than 19,200 civilians, including over 2,300 children, have been killed or maimed as a result of airstrikes by a Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (UAE)-led international coalition. Following a sustained campaign of diplomatic and political pressure by Saudi Arabia and the UAE, the HRC failed to adopt the mandate renewal of the Group of Eminent Experts (GEE) on Yemen in October 2021. Consequently, there is no international independent mechanism dedicated to monitoring international law violations in Yemen.

Since the termination of the GEE, the Global Centre has led a coalition of Yemeni and international NGOs on strategic advocacy and outreach to push the international community to establish a new criminally-focused mechanism to advance accountability and justice in Yemen. On 18 March the Global Centre hosted an [event](#) on the civilian impact of impunity in Yemen on the sidelines of the 49th session of the HRC. The Global Centre also organized a series of closed regional briefings for states on the current needs related to justice in Yemen, together with Yemeni and regional CSOs.

The Global Centre has also facilitated a series of private targeted communications between Yemeni human rights organizations and UN Special Procedures mandate holders to raise the situation of human rights violations and abuses in Yemen and ensure the need for justice is prioritized. The Global Centre also joined several joint open letters related to Yemen, including on [accountability](#), [enforced disappearances](#), [roads in Taizz](#) and broader [international action](#).

INVESTIGATIVE MECHANISMS SPOTLIGHT: SOUTH SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA

The HRC and other Geneva-based mechanisms are essential for preventing atrocity crimes as these mechanisms are often the first to raise the alarm regarding situations where violations and abuses threaten to deepen or deteriorate into possible atrocity crimes. During 2022 the Global Centre advocated for the continuation of existing investigative mechanisms and played an instrumental role in the establishment of new ones.

Throughout 2022 the situation in [South Sudan](#) vastly deteriorated amidst increased subnational violence. The HRC-mandated Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan (CHRSS), established in March 2016, is tasked with monitoring and reporting on human rights violations, as well as to collect and preserve evidence and identify responsibility. The CHRSS has collected evidence of potential war crimes and crimes against humanity and regularly conducts assessments of the risk of the recurrence of atrocity crimes, including by directly applying the UN's Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes. Since prospects for the expeditious establishment of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan remain dim, the work of the CHRSS is invaluable for potential future prosecutions. In recent years, the government of South Sudan, supported by the Africa Group at the HRC, have led sustained campaigns aimed at terminating the CHRSS.

Prior to the 49th session of the HRC in March, the Global Centre joined a joint advocacy initiative calling upon member states to support the extension of the full mandate of the CHRSS. The Global Centre's South Sudan expert, Juliette Paauwe, also wrote a commentary entitled "[The HRC must not fail again: Renew the mandate of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan](#)." Global Centre staff have also actively participated in negotiations on the draft resolution in

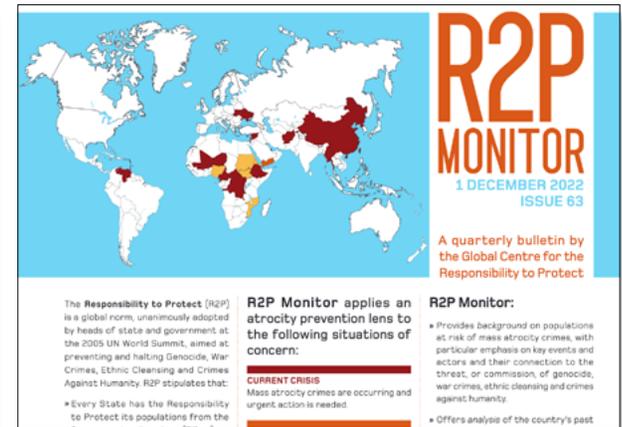
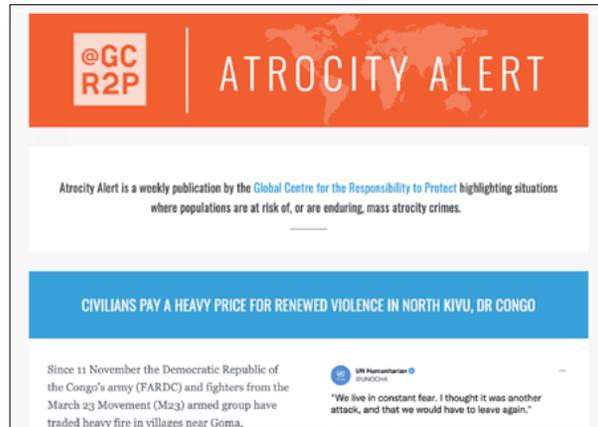
Geneva. On 31 March the HRC renewed the mandate of the CHRSS. During September, on the sidelines of the High-Level Week of the UNGA, Global Centre staff met with the CHRSS and discussed the risk of grave human rights violations and atrocities in South Sudan, avenues for justice and accountability, and the next mandate renewal in 2023.

The Global Centre also conducted targeted advocacy ahead of the renewal of the International Commission on Human Rights Experts on [Ethiopia](#) (ICHREE) at the 50th session of the HRC. The ICHREE was established during a special session in December 2021 following a year of concerted efforts by the Global Centre and a coalition of NGOs in response to the conflict in Ethiopia's northern Tigray region. The conflict has been characterized by the widespread commission of likely war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing, including weaponized access to food, sexual violence, ethnic-based targeting and indiscriminate attacks on civilian populations. The ICHREE is currently the only international mechanism documenting evidence of these crimes. The Global Centre has engaged with the ICHREE during its term, including through private meetings, submitting evidence of atrocities to them and encouraging them to continue highlighting atrocity crimes and risks to populations as identified within the UN's Framework of Analysis of Atrocity Crimes.

Ahead of the HRC's 51st session, the Global Centre joined a joint advocacy initiative calling upon member states to support the renewal of the ICHREE's mandate. The Global Centre also undertook private advocacy to African members of the Council to encourage them to support the initiative. On 7 October the ICHREE's mandate was successfully renewed for a period of one year.

MONITORING & EARLY WARNING

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. Publications like *R2P Monitor* and *Atrocity Alert* provide decision-makers advice on what needs to be done, and by whom, to protect vulnerable populations.



During 2022 the Global Centre issued timely statements on atrocity risks in particular countries, such as on [the situation in Ukraine](#) following Russia's invasion in February and the [Rohingya genocide case at the ICJ](#). The Global Centre also produced and/or signed on to 39 joint letters and NGO statements advocating for action in mass atrocity situations, including populations at risk in the [Central African Republic \(CAR\)](#), [China](#), Myanmar, [Sudan](#) and Yemen, among others.

Since it was first introduced in 2016, *Atrocity Alert* has established itself as a respected and timely source of information, often providing early warning regarding situations where populations are at risk of mass atrocity crimes. The Global Centre has utilized *Atrocity Alert* to highlight crises that are neglected by the international community, as well as landmark advances in international justice for past atrocities.

During January 2022 the Global Centre celebrated 10 years since the launch of its signature publication, *R2P Monitor*. Each quarterly issue of *R2P Monitor* provides analysis of situations where populations are threatened by mass atrocities, as well as an assessment of international efforts to respond and recommendations for addressing risks.

IN 2022:

**47 ISSUES OF ATROCITY ALERT FEATURED
30 EMERGING CRISES**

**R2P MONITOR
FEATURED ANALYSIS ON
19 COUNTRIES**

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF COMMITMENT

Through its work as the Secretariat of several inter-governmental and inter-organizational networks dedicated to R2P, the Global Centre aims to build global capacity through supporting the development of dedicated institutions for atrocity prevention on a national, regional and multilateral level and bringing civil society into conversations with member states.

GLOBAL NETWORK OF R2P FOCAL POINTS

The [Global Network of R2P Focal Points](#) was established in 2010 to improve national and international efforts to prevent and halt atrocities. Since then, through the efforts of the Global Centre, which serves as the Global Network's Secretariat, membership has expanded to include [more than 60](#) senior-level representatives from countries in all regions of the world, as well as two regional organizations – the EU and Organization of American States (OAS).

The Global Centre organized virtual briefings for the Global Network throughout 2022, including with UN officials and experts from countries at risk of atrocities. On 10 February the Global Centre organized a briefing for R2P Focal Points with activists and human rights defenders from Myanmar, as well as a representative from the NUG, who reflected on the international community's response to the crisis in Myanmar and provided practical recommendations on what states can do individually and collectively to respond to the crisis going forward. On 17 May the new UN Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on R2P, George Okoth-Obbo, met with the Global Network for the first time to discuss the priorities of his office and the implementation of his mandate. On 5 July the Global Centre facilitated a meeting between the Global Network, Syrian victim's organizations and the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to discuss the UN Secretary-General's feasibility study on establishing an international independent institution for the disappeared in Syria.



Photos of participants at the 10th annual meeting of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points.



For the first time in three years – due to restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic – the Global Centre hosted an in-person annual meeting of the Global Network. The [10th annual meeting](#), held at the headquarters of the OAS in Washington, D.C., brought together senior officials from governments and regional organizations, the UN Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on R2P and members of civil society to exchange ideas and experiences regarding the effective implementation of R2P.

During the meeting participants considered how regional organizations contribute to the prevention of and response to mass atrocities and how these bodies can be essential tools in establishing hemispheres of peace. R2P Focal Points also reflected upon the experiences of populations in particular atrocity situations – hearing perspectives from those affected by atrocities in Myanmar, Ukraine and Venezuela – and discussed regional and national responses to atrocity crimes. The meeting also featured a panel discussion on the capacity of civil society to mobilize action on R2P and how members of the Global Network can better harness information gathered by civil society in their decision-making. In continuation of discussions at previous meetings, R2P Focal Points also addressed the linkage between R2P and the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda and discussed the gendered dimensions of atrocity prevention, particularly with regard to women, girls and LGBTQIA groups as agents of change.

Throughout 2022 the Global Centre also continued to develop and update the [Manual for R2P Focal Points](#). The manual offers practical guidance and outlines tasks that R2P Focal Points should undertake during their term. During 2022, with the support of the Steering Group, the Global Centre added an Annex on WPS and R2P to the manual.

Photos of participants and Global Centre staff at the 10th annual meeting of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points.

UN GROUP OF FRIENDS OF R2P



The Global Centre serves as the Secretariat for the [Group of Friends of R2P](#) (GoF) in both New York and Geneva. Together with the co-chairs of the GoF, the Global Centre helps to facilitate effective discussions on R2P-related issues, including conflict prevention, human rights development and international justice, through regular meetings with ambassadors and experts from the Group's 56 members.

In New York, under the leadership of co-chairs Botswana, Costa Rica and Croatia, the GoF held three ambassador-level meetings during 2022 and delivered a record six joint statements at UN debates. This included, for the first time, the Group delivering joint statements during Open Debates of the UNSC on the [Children and Armed Conflict](#) and [WPS](#) agendas. Also for the first time, the GoF delivered statements during the general discussion under the [Third Committee's Agenda Item 68 \(a-d\)](#), as well as during the UNGA's [third thematic cluster consultations](#) on Chapter IV of the Secretary-General's Common Agenda, entitled "Frameworks for a peaceful world - promoting peace, international law and digital cooperation." In



Today the Group of Friends of #R2P delivered a joint statement during the #UNSC Open Debate on Children & Armed Conflict #CAAC.

As highlighted in @antonioguterres's annual report on R2P, children are uniquely - & often disproportionately - affected by conflict and atrocities.



4:03 PM · Jul 19, 2022

addition, the GoF delivered joint statements during the UNGA's [plenary meeting](#) on R2P and the UNSC Open Debate on the [Protection of Civilians](#). The GoF also sent a joint submission to the UN Secretariat in response to a request for member states to share their views, priorities and potential recommendations for the UN's "New Agenda for Peace."

As a new feature introduced to GoF meetings this year, the co-chairs invited members who are also on the UNSC to brief the Group on the Council's Program of Work and issues of common interest, such as thematic discussions or country situations.

In the second half of 2022, Costa Rica assumed its role as co-chair of the GoF in Geneva, joining Luxembourg in leading the work of the Group at the HRC. The GoF in Geneva met four times at the expert level and twice at the ambassador level throughout 2022. During an ambassador-level meeting in May 2022, the GoF was briefed by representatives from Iraqi civil society and the Permanent Mission of Iraq on the



Global Centre staff with the co-chairs of the GoF of R2P in New York (L) and Geneva (R).

UN Group of Friends of R2P statement on atrocity prevention @ UNGA 3C

level throughout 2022. During an ambassador-level meeting in May, the GoF was briefed by representatives from Iraqi civil society and the Permanent Mission of Iraq on the Yazidi Survivor Law, which seeks to ensure accountability for victims of genocide and other atrocity crimes committed in Iraq by the so-called Islamic State (Daesh). In November ambassadors also received a briefing from the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mexico on the draft resolution on crimes against humanity at the UNGA. The UN Special Adviser on R2P

and Savita Pawnday also briefed ambassadors in November.

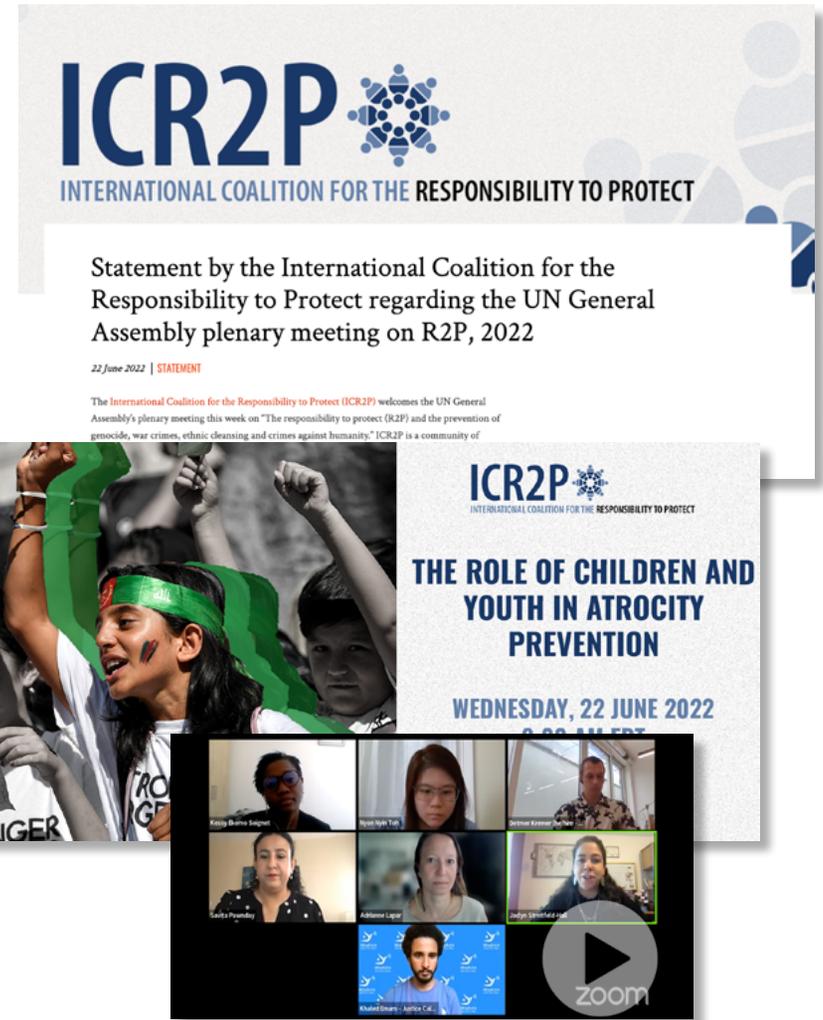
The GoF Geneva delivered joint statements during each regular session of the HRC in 2022. This included statements during the Interactive Dialogues with the Special Rapporteur on [truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence](#) and the Special Rapporteur on [minority issues](#), as well as during the HRC General Debates under [Item 2](#) and [Item 3](#).

INTERNATIONAL COALITION FOR R2P

On 17 May 2021 the Global Centre took over as the Secretariat of the [International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect](#) (ICR2P). Founded in 2009 by eight organizations, ICR2P is a cross-regional network of CSOs and NGOs dedicated to the promotion of human rights, the prevention of atrocities and the effective and consistent implementation of R2P. As a result of concerted outreach by the Global Centre, the Coalition expanded its membership to 63 organizations by the end of 2022.

In its first full calendar year as the new Secretariat, the Global Centre continued to revitalize the Coalition and implemented a full advocacy calendar to the benefit of the membership. On 4 May the Global Centre coordinated a briefing with the new UN Special Adviser on R2P for ICR2P members, with the aim of bridging multilevel advocacy gaps and ensuring the expertise of civil society is centralized in atrocity prevention discussions among policy- and decision-makers. During the first-ever “R2P Week,” ICR2P hosted a side-event on 22 June on the [role of children and youth in atrocity prevention](#).

The Coalition also released two statements in 2022 under the leadership of the Global Centre – one regarding the [UNGA plenary meeting on R2P](#), as well as a [Call to Action for the UNGA](#) during its 77th session. These letters ensured ICR2P stood out as an innovative and powerful voice on situations and themes relevant to atrocity prevention and R2P.



The Global Centre also arranged an Annual General Meeting for all ICR2P members in early December and convened two meetings with the Steering Committee. In order to develop clear programming strategies for the 2023 year, the Global Centre conducted targeted consultations with ICR2P members.

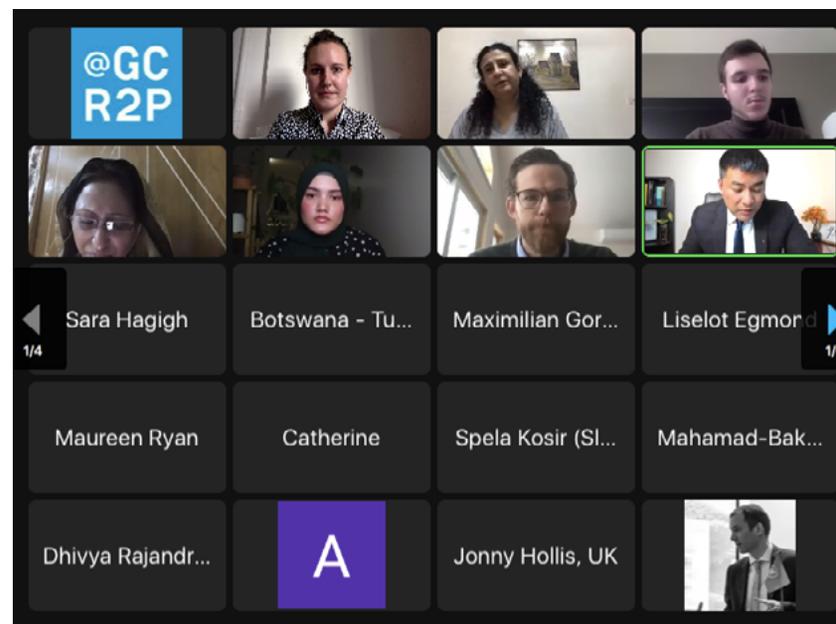
BREAKING SILOS

Acknowledging the multi-dimensional nature of atrocity situations, the Global Centre highlights the linkages between mass atrocity prevention and other issue areas - including human rights protection, conflict prevention, justice and accountability and the Protection of Civilians and Women, Peace and Security agendas - through events, research and advocacy to influence a holistic international response.

MOBILIZATION STRATEGY: ENGAGING WITH LOCAL CIVIL SOCIETY

For the last few years, Global Centre advocacy on country situations has involved amplifying the voices of affected communities and working to ensure the expertise of local civil society can substantively inform discussions among policy- and decision-makers in relation to human rights, atrocity prevention and R2P. By amplifying the expertise of local civil society and affected populations, the Global Centre helps facilitate knowledge sharing that is rights-based and community-informed in order to shape appropriate and effective preventive action, particularly at the national level. Bridging this gap also helps to elevate early warning, as civil society can raise awareness on emerging human rights violations and atrocity risks in countries in which they operate, as well as on ongoing and emerging crises that do not receive sufficient attention and resources from the international community.

The Global Centre amplifies these voices through a number of means, including leveraging our role with existing inter-governmental (R2P Focal Points and GoF) and inter-organizational (ICR2P) networks to create platforms for discussion. During 2022 the Global Centre organized meetings for civil society to educate and update the Global Network of R2P Focal Points about key policy opportunities, including sessions with representatives of the NUG on abuses during Myanmar's ongoing coup and paths forward and with Syrian victim's associations to discuss the need for UNGA support for the creation of an international independent institution for the disappeared in Syria. Several sessions during the 10th



Screenshot of participants of the R2P Focal Points and NUG officials during Myanmar's ongoing coup.



JACLYN STREITFELD-HALL
DIRECTOR OF POLICY & RESEARCH

We cannot fully comprehend the diversity of needs in a country situation without engaging with communities. The Global Centre aims to ensure the voices of local civil society are centered in policy conversations regarding the response to emerging or protracted atrocity situations.



Annual Meeting of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points were devoted to the voices of civil society, including shared perspectives from advocates from Myanmar and Venezuela. Similar opportunities were created for civil society to share views with members of the GoF in New York and Geneva, as well as with the UNSC and EU delegations.

Through methods like these briefings, the Global Centre ensures a holistic approach to our work on building the institutional capacity of governments and civil society to uphold R2P and our advocacy on situations at risk of mass atrocities around the world. In addition to briefings, the Global Centre includes voices of affected communities in all public events we hold on country situations. During 2022 the Global Centre also helped organize several sessions with civil society from particular countries to develop new advocacy strategies to mobilize international action in a manner that respects the needs and perspectives of affected populations. This includes a full-day session organized with GJC in October that brought together voices from numerous communities in Myanmar to chart out steps to take bilaterally, regionally and multilaterally in 2023 to affect change amidst the junta's repressive policies and stalled international action. The closed-door session provided an opportunity for groups to come to the UN in New York and vocalize issues that policymakers need to consider in the year ahead.

The Global Centre also invites individuals from countries with atrocity risks to share their perspectives on our podcast. This year examples of such episodes include our interviews with Nury Turkel, speaking about his experience as an ethnic Uyghur, with Horia Mosadiq, who discussed the targeting of women and religious minorities in Afghanistan since August 2021, and with Beatriz Borges, who shed light on the risks facing civil society across Venezuela.



JUSTICE & ACCOUNTABILITY

On 21 June the Global Centre, together with the Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice, organized a virtual event (right) that brought together international legal experts to explore how the international justice system can be improved, as well as the important role international tribunals, the UN, domestic prosecutions, and various norms and principles, such as R2P, play in deterring and prosecuting atrocity crimes. The discussion examined the range of international justice tools that have been utilized in past and recent conflicts, as well as how lessons learned can inform accountability initiatives related to the conflicts in Ethiopia, Myanmar, Ukraine and elsewhere.

To continue our public conversation on justice and accountability for atrocity crimes, the Global Centre also recorded an [episode](#) of its podcast with former President of the International Criminal Court, Dr. Chile Eboe-Osuji. During the episode Dr. Eboe-Osuji shared insights on the enduring value of R2P as a norm in international law and international relations.



PEACEKEEPING & HUMAN RIGHTS

In recent years the human rights components of the peacekeeping missions in the [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), South Sudan, CAR, Mali and elsewhere have published critical reports via OHCHR documenting human rights violations that may amount to crimes against humanity or war crimes. Due to their position as a joint Department of Peace Operations (DPO) –OHCHR mechanism that is mandated by the UNSC and publishes reports via OHCHR, human rights components of peacekeeping missions provide a rich example of how mechanisms for the maintenance of international peace and security and those for the protection of human rights can be utilized in unison.

On 6 December the Global Centre, together with the Permanent Missions of Canada and Switzerland, hosted a virtual event on “Bridging the Gap between NY and Geneva: Peacekeeping and Robust Human Rights Protection,” to discuss ways to ensure their warnings regarding potential atrocity risks are consistently reviewed by decision makers.



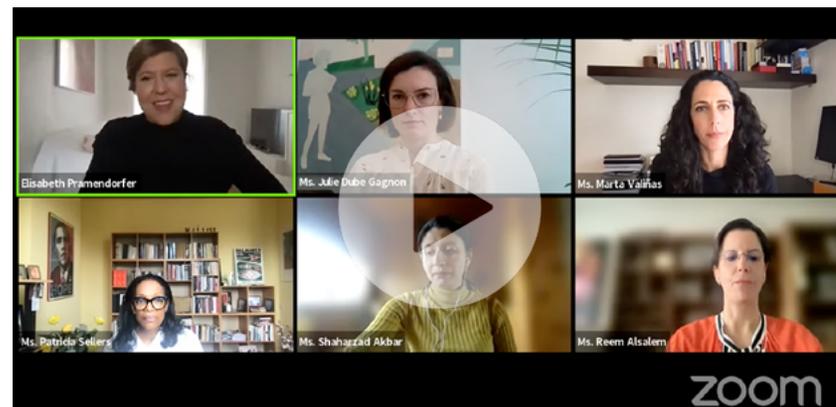
GENDERING THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

Despite some progress in integrating gender within R2P through the lens of the WPS agenda, the institutional frameworks that influence policymakers and actors in the field still often lack a nuanced approach to including women's experiences within atrocity prevention or the inclusion of a gendered lens more broadly. In recent years the Global Centre has undertaken numerous initiatives to bring a more inclusive and intersectional lens to expand the way that the international community approaches gendered issues in the atrocity prevention space.

Throughout 2022 the Global Centre engaged in conversations on gendering atrocity prevention through numerous avenues, including hosting events and working in partnership with other organizations. Together with the UN Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender, on 31 March Savita Pawnday spoke on a panel hosted by one of our partners in the United Kingdom (UK), Protection Approaches, launching their "Queering Atrocity Prevention" paper. During the 10th Annual Meeting of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points there was a panel discussion focused on WPS and Gendering R2P, which featured expert commentary from the US State Department, the Inter-American Commission of Women and the Global Centre's Jaclyn Streitfeld-Hall.

WPS & R2P: Institutionalizing the gender lens in UN Human Rights Council mechanisms

On 30 March the permanent missions of Canada and Liechtenstein to the UN joined the Global Centre in co-hosting an event focused on how HRC investigative and reporting mandates can apply a gender lens to their work. While UN Special Procedures, including Special Rapporteurs or Independent Experts, and HRC-mandated investigative mechanisms, such as CoIs or FFMs, often apply a gender lens when looking at situations at risk of, or experiencing, atrocity crimes, this practice is not yet systematic across the UN human rights system. During the event expert panelists discussed challenges that are faced in incorporating a gender lens, and how the application of the gender lens and WPS agenda within atrocity prevention and investigation efforts can be strengthened.



Annual Evans-Sahnoun Lecture on R2P

On 23 May the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN and the Global Centre co-hosted the Annual Evans-Sahnoun Lecture on R2P. This year's lecture featured a [keynote address](#) by Ms. Pramila Patten, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict. During her remarks the SRSG assessed the parallels in progress on R2P and WPS over the past 15 years, particularly with regard to normative evolution, institutional capacity and operational impact of the two areas of work. The keynote lecture was followed by an interactive panel discussion between SRSG Patten, then Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN, Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason, and several civil experts that was moderated by Savita Pawnday.



Partner workshops on gendering atrocity prevention

Throughout the year the Global Centre and its partners met in New York to strategize around a new approach to gender and atrocity prevention. On 8 July Savita Pawnday and Jaclyn Streitfeld-Hall spoke on panels and participated in a strategy workshop co-hosted by the European Centre for R2P and the Cardozo Law Institute in Holocaust and Human Rights. The discussion brought together experts in international law, gender and atrocity prevention practice and sought to map out ideas on how to better incorporate gender and an intersectional lens into atrocity risk assessment, analysis and response. On 14 November the group convened a second workshop – co-hosted by the European Centre for R2P, the Cardozo Law Institute in Holocaust and Human Rights, GJC and the Global Centre – to launch the second stage of the project.



Podcast episode on gender & atrocity crimes

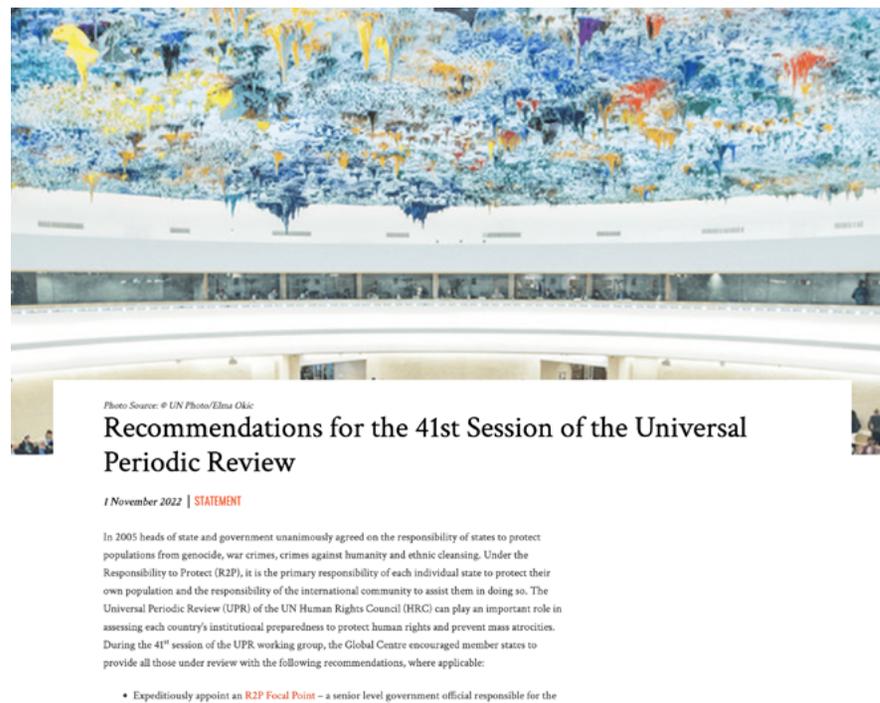
The 15th episode of the Global Centre's Expert Voices on Atrocity Prevention [podcast](#) featured an interview with Patricia Sellers, an international criminal lawyer. During the episode, Patricia explains the unique ways in which gender makes one vulnerable to atrocities, as well as how the landmark judgments at the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia have helped facilitate the future prosecution of acts of sexual violence as war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.



R2P & THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

The UPR can play an important role in assessing each country's preparedness to protect human rights and prevent mass atrocities and provides a unique tool to mainstream and institutionalize structural prevention of atrocity crimes. Yet, a systematic inclusion of the atrocity prevention lens within the UPR has yet to be achieved.

The Global Centre, together with UPR Info and the Permanent Missions of Luxembourg and Sierra Leone, held a hybrid event on 14 December to enhance discussions on how UN member states can utilize the UPR to identify atrocity risks and share best practices to strengthen domestic atrocity prevention. The event was opened by H.E. Ambassador Federico Villegas, then-President of the HRC, and included interventions from the Permanent Representatives of Sierra Leone and the Deputy Permanent Representative of Luxembourg, the Executive Director of UPR Info, as well as the Global Centre's Elisabeth Pramendorfer. The event also complemented the two-year project by the Global Centre and UPR Info on regional training workshops for CSOs on how to include an atrocity prevention lens in their UPR work.



TRAININGS

One tool through which the Global Centre works towards building institutional capacity to implement R2P is facilitating workshops and training programs. Since 2018 the Global Centre has designed and led interactive peer-to-peer trainings on the relationship and added value of R2P and atrocity prevention to UN peacekeeping, the Universal Period Review process and other UN mechanisms.

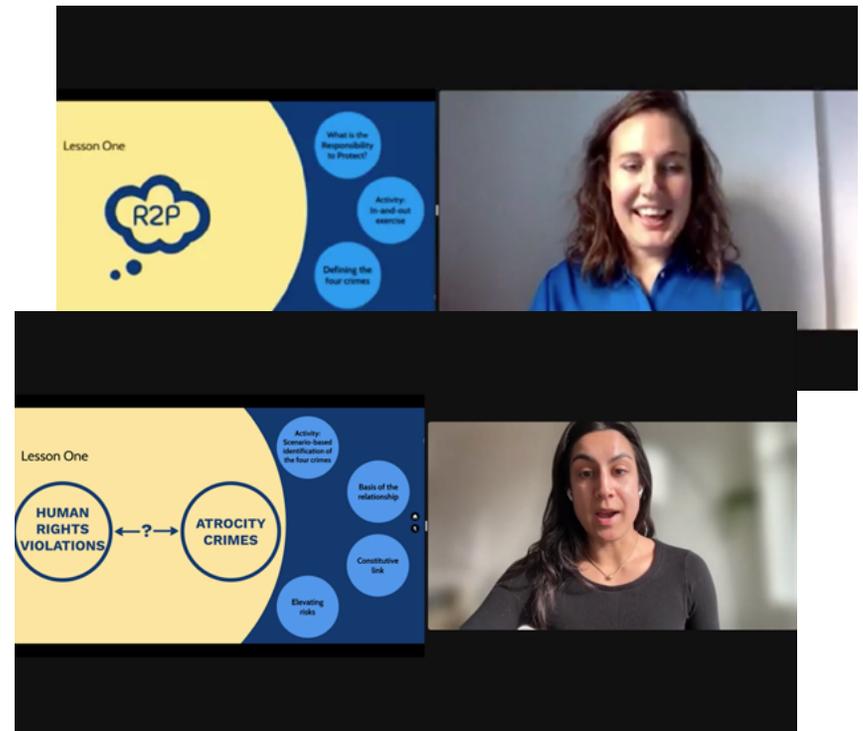


UTILIZING THE ATROCITY PREVENTION LENS IN THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

The UPR provides a unique opportunity for mainstreaming and institutionalizing the structural prevention of mass atrocity crimes by encouraging states to assess and strengthen their national capacities to identify risks of mass atrocities and develop prevention and mitigation strategies. It further allows for the mobilization of international support through technical assistance and capacity building. Throughout each phase of the UPR, CSOs are central in providing information and analysis on the human rights situation of the concerned country, ensuring that governments raise human rights concerns for the countries under review and provide targeted recommendations for structural reform.

Between 2021 and 2022 the Global Centre, in partnership with UPR Info, developed and conducted five regional training workshops for CSOs and human rights defenders from around the world to enhance their capacity to include an “atrocity prevention lens” in their contributions to the UPR process.

The workshop provides a detailed overview of the role of atrocity prevention and R2P in building societal resilience. Through interactive exercises, the workshop teaches participants how to conduct an atrocity risk assessment. Utilizing past case studies, the Global Centre also demonstrated how an atrocity prevention lens was applied in UPRs for particular countries and how to



develop recommendations to address identified risk factors and warning signs. Throughout the course the Global Centre facilitated interactive discussions with participants on how to apply an atrocity lens to their own national contexts and regions and prepare targeted recommendations during the UPR that may mitigate the risk of atrocities.



THE ROLE OF INVESTIGATIVE MECHANISMS IN PREVENTING ATROCITY CRIMES

On 23 November the Global Centre, together with the Permanent Missions of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Principality of Liechtenstein, organized a full-day in-person workshop on the role of HRC-mandated investigative mechanisms in preventing atrocity crimes. Participants included diplomats from 30 cross-regional delegations in Geneva, as well as diplomats from Brussels, Vaduz and The Hague.

The workshop provided an in-depth training on the role of CoIs, FFM and other investigative bodies in combating impunity and contributing to the prevention and non-recurrence of atrocity crimes. The workshop also provided an overview of the role and purpose of HRC-mandated investigative mechanisms, discussing how to maximize their political and technical impact and lessons learned on follow-up action to advance accountability and structural prevention. Panelists included representatives from OHCHR and the Bureau of the HRC, members of investigative mechanisms for Libya, Nicaragua and Burundi, senior diplomats, representatives of civil society, and distinguished experts in international justice and accountability. Savita Pawnday moderated the workshop.



The Global Centre's Elisabeth Pramendorfer delivering remarks during the event.

UN ENGAGEMENT

Building support amongst policymakers for the Responsibility to Protect and its implementation lies at the core of the Global Centre's advocacy efforts. Central to that work is engagement with UN member states through their missions in New York and Geneva, as well as with the UN system more broadly.

FORMAL DEBATE ON R2P



Photo Source: UN Photo/Loey Felipe

The UNGA held its annual [plenary meeting](#) on the “Responsibility to Protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity” from 23-24 June as part of the formal agenda of its 76th session. 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 GoF.

Ahead of the debate, the Global Centre organized various meetings for the UN Special Adviser on R2P, giving him the opportunity to brief member states and CSOs about the UN Secretary-General’s annual report on R2P, including with the GoF in both New York and Geneva, members of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points and ICR2P.

This year’s debate constituted the fifth time the UNGA formally considered R2P – in addition to eight informal interactive dialogues – and was the first meeting since the May 2021 adoption of UNGA [Resolution 75/277](#), within which member



● LIVE at 10 AM the #UNGA begins its annual plenary debate on #R2P! The 2022 Secretary-General’s report on R2P focuses on the role of children and youth in atrocity prevention.

We’ll be live tweeting all day on this 🇺🇳! Follow along here, at #R2PDebate & via @UNWebTV!

#R2PWeek



states decided to include R2P on the annual agenda of the UNGA and formally requested that the Secretary-General report annually on the topic.

During the meeting, 61 UN member states, one observer mission and the EU spoke on behalf of 91 countries. Participants underscored the importance of strengthening domestic and international tools to prevent atrocity crimes and protect vulnerable populations. Many emphasized that translating early warning into early action remains a challenge and highlighted ongoing crises in Myanmar, Ethiopia, Syria, Yemen and elsewhere. Many states used this year’s meeting to condemn the Russian Federation’s invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent mass atrocities committed against civilians. Member states also addressed many thematic concerns, including the topic of the UN Secretary-General’s annual report: the role of children and youth in atrocity prevention, as well as accountability for atrocity crimes, hate speech, incitement, and various cross-cutting issues, such as the Protection of Civilians, WPS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

#R2P Week

20-24 June

During the week of the UNGA debate, the Global Centre organized the first-ever “[R2P Week](#)” to increase the visibility of R2P, the debate and the Secretary-General’s annual report on R2P.

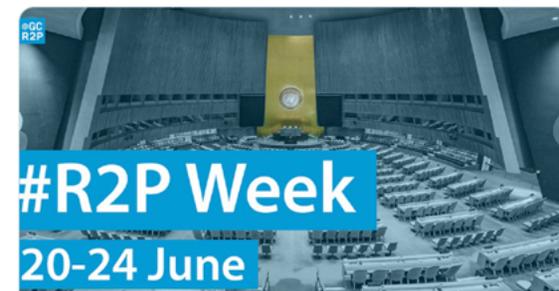
Throughout the week, the Global Centre undertook and led an awareness raising [#R2PWeek](#) social media campaign, focused on educating followers on what R2P is, how it interconnects with other human rights issues and amplifying the events and happenings around the annual debate.

The Global Centre hosted two events during the week focused on justice and accountability and children and youth coinciding with the release of the UN Secretary-General’s report on R2P. A [podcast](#) focusing on children and armed conflict was also released during that week.

Savita Pawnday
@savita_pawnday

Last week was the first-ever [#R2PWeek](#)!

Check out @GCR2P’s overview of [#R2P](#) programming from last week, including event recordings, statements, a new [#EVAPodcast](#) episode and more [📖](#)



globalr2p.org

Jaclyn Streitfeld
@JDStreitfeld

If you’re looking for an inspiring and nuanced take on what Youth are doing to prevent and address ongoing atrocities - or need a fresh perspective on how to meaningfully include their voice, check out the recording of today’s @R2PCoalition event on [#YouthAP](#) as part of [#R2PWeek](#)

GCR2P @GCR2P · Jun 22, 2022

[#CYMI](#) @R2PCoalition’s [#R2PWeek](#) panel on youth and atrocity prevention this morning, the full recording is available on our website below!

[#YouthAP](#)

globalr2p.org/resources/the-...

11:09 AM · Jun 22, 2022



UN ELECTION PROFILES

Each year the Global Centre compiles profiles on each of the newly elected HRC and UNSC members to be released on the day of their respective elections. These profiles provide an overview of each newly-elected member’s engagement with R2P and other issues related to the prevention of mass atrocities. The profiles also provide recommendations for newly elected members on how to maximize the impact of the HRC and the UNSC in preventing and responding to atrocity situations during their term.

On 9 June the UNGA **elected** Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique and Switzerland to the UNSC for the period of 2023-2024. With their election, 8 of the 15 members of the Council in 2023 are “Friends of the Responsibility to Protect” – having appointed an R2P Focal Point and/or joined the GoF in New York and Geneva. Malta and Switzerland also co-sponsored and voted for UNGA Resolution 75/277 on R2P. Japan and Ecuador voted in favor of the resolution while Mozambique did not participate in the vote but supported the resolution via a joint statement by the GoF.

On 11 October the UNGA **elected** Algeria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Georgia, Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Morocco, Romania, South Africa, Sudan and Viet Nam to the HRC for the 2023-2025 term. With the elections of Bangladesh, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Georgia, Germany, Morocco, Romania and South Africa, 23 of the 47 Council members during 2023 will be “Friends of the Responsibility to Protect.”



HRC SUMMARIES

In March 2022 the Global Centre introduced a new format for its summary of atrocity prevention outcomes at the HRC, which is released at the end of each regular session of the Council. The summary covers resolutions adopted at the HRC as they relate to atrocity prevention and R2P, including on country-specific and thematic initiatives, as well as resolutions with a specific reference to R2P. With the new format, the summary now provides a complete overview of all atrocity prevention and R2P-related discussion and action at the HRC. In addition to focusing on direct outcomes of HRC votes, the new format includes analysis of the successes or failures of the HRC in responding to situations at risk of, or experiencing, atrocity crimes. It includes information on atrocity risks detailed in reports or oral updates by Special Rapporteurs or Independent Experts, investigative mechanisms or the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Lastly, the summary provides a comprehensive overview of all thematic reports and discussions, including by thematic Special Procedures or Working Groups, which include atrocity language or refer to the commission of atrocity crimes in specific countries.

NGOWG/SC

The Global Centre has served as the Secretariat of the NGO Working Group on the Security Council (NGOWG/SC) since January 2020. The NGOWG/SC brings together 38 NGOs for briefings with UNSC ambassadors, HRC-mandated investigative mechanisms and high-level UN officials, including the Under-Secretary-Generals of DPO, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and OHCHR. The Global Centre provides a Coordinator, Christine Caldera, who



Christine Caldera
@ce_caldera

Check out @GCR2P's summary on #HRC51, which highlights atrocity prevention outcomes for #CARcrisis & #DRCongo, including the mandate renewals of @UNIECAR1 & the Team of International Experts. These @UN_SPExperts play a critical role in advancing atrocity prevention & #R2P.

 **GCR2P** @GCR2P · Oct 20, 2022

This month #HRC51 wrapped up in #Geneva. During the session member states took action aimed at monitoring and responding to atrocities around the globe.

We've compiled a summary highlighting the outcomes as they relate to atrocity prevention & #R2P

globalr2p.org/publications/a...

11:59 AM · Oct 21, 2022

organizes the briefings and provides other critical assistance and facilitation to members. During 2022 the NGOWG/SC held 20 briefings with UNSC ambassadors, commissioners from investigative mechanisms and high-level UN officials.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS



Global Centre Executive Director delivering remarks during the GAAMAC event (L); meeting with the President of the HRC and Ambassador of Argentina, H.E. Federico Villegas (center left); meeting with the Director for Multilateral and UN Affairs at the UK's Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, Laura Hickey, during the opening of the UNGA in New York (center right); and with the Ambassador of Nigeria, H.E. Abiodun R. Adejola, in Geneva (R).

On the sidelines of the Opening of the UNGA in September 2022, Savita Pawnday met with high-level government officials and civil society leaders to discuss R2P and the unique role and challenges facing civil society for meaningful participation with policymakers. The high-level government officials included individuals from the foreign ministries of Australia, Belgium, Costa Rica, Germany and the UK.

From 31 October to 10 November Savita Pawnday met with ambassadors in Geneva to discuss their work on atrocity prevention at the HRC, including the Permanent Representatives from Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, the EU, Guatemala, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, the UK and the

US. During her time in Geneva, the Global Centre's Executive Director also met with the GoF of R2P and spoke as a panelist at an event organized by Global Action against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC). The event, which the Global Centre co-hosted, discussed the role of non-state actors in atrocity prevention.

From 10-11 November Savita Pawnday traveled to Bern and Vaduz to meet with representatives from the Foreign Ministries of Switzerland and Liechtenstein to discuss existing and future cooperation on advancing atrocity prevention, R2P and accountability for atrocity crimes at the multilateral and national level.

SHARING OUR EXPERT ANALYSIS

Throughout 2022 Global Centre staff continued to provide expert analysis. As COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, staff attended both virtual and in-person events, opening venues for deliberation with key partners in New York, Geneva and around the world. Global Centre staff led discussions at several universities, contributed to graduate-level research projects and spoke at external events, hearings and more. [Here are a few highlights from this past year.](#)

JANUARY

On 11 January Savita Pawnday delivered evidence at a hearing held by the UK House of Commons International Development Committee focused on the UK's atrocity prevention efforts around the globe. Pawnday's remarks centered around successes and failures of R2P, as well as how the UK can better leverage their influence and work more effectively to prevent atrocities at home and abroad.



MAY

Between 9-13 May Savita Pawnday, Elisabeth Pramendorfer and Juliette Paauwe were each invited to teach sessions during the annual summer course at the Dubrovnik Atrocity Prevention School in Croatia entitled Atrocity Crimes Prevention and Human Rights: Implementing R2P. The topics of these sessions included the role of the UN and its organs in relation to atrocity prevention, the situation in Venezuela and the role of CSOs in promoting and advancing R2P.

APRIL

Savita Pawnday participated in a panel discussion entitled "[R2P: Looking Back and Looking Ahead](#)" convened by the Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP) at Binghamton University on 8 April. The panel was part of I-GMAP's Frontiers of Prevention conference. Her remarks focused on the lessons learned over the last two decades, as well as lingering gaps in atrocity prevention.



JULY

Juliette Paauwe and Elisabeth Pramendorfer spoke at a virtual event on 8 July hosted by the Southern Cameroons Women's League. This event explored options to engage the HRC on the situation in Cameroon.



GLOBAL CENTRE IN THE MEDIA

During 2022 the Global Centre consistently engaged with the media through dozens of outlets providing interviews, quotes, op-eds and analysis to viewers and readers across the globe. Global Centre staff and publications were featured on TV, in print and online news and radio shows with journalists in international news outlets, including Al Jazeera (English and Arabic), Associated Press, Foreign Policy, MSNBC, the New York Times, Reuters, Times Radio UK, Voice of America, The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post and dozens of local and regional media, including All Africa, Insight Myanmar, Radio Free Asia and more.

OCTOBER

Jahaan Pittalwala contributed to the "Sustaining Peace: Advancing a Coherent Approach - Discussion Series Session 2: Elements for Consideration under the New Agenda for Peace" organized by the Bahá'í International Community on 11 October. Pittalwala discussed how the New Agenda for Peace should take into account an atrocity prevention lens.



DECEMBER

From 12-13 December Savita Pawnday was invited to participate in the 4th Global Forum Against the Crime of Genocide hosted by the government of Armenia and the Mesrop Mashtots Research Institute of Ancient Manuscripts. During the forum she moderated a discussion on the role and use of new technologies in preventing genocide and advancing accountability efforts.



THANK YOU!

The Global Centre would like to thank our sponsors for their support and continued commitment to prevent or halt atrocities and strengthen the international infrastructure for prevention and accountability.

Collaboration is at the core of our work to effectively and consistently implement the principle of R2P. We thank the governments, international and regional organizations and foundations that supported the Global Centre's work in 2022. The Global Centre's 2022 donors included the governments of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the UK, as well as the OAS, Carnegie Corporation of New York, J. Paul Getty Foundation and several anonymous donors.

We are proud and immensely grateful to partner with such generous donors. In order to continue our work, now, more than ever, the Global Centre needs sustained donor support and partnerships.

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The work of the Global Centre is also supported by a team of dedicated interns. We are grateful for their commitment to upholding human rights and working towards a more just world.

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