



WHO WE ARE

The Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect is the leading international authority on atrocity prevention and the Responsibility to Protect (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 2023. Hyperlinked text and images will take you to the Global Centre's website, published pieces, interviews, social media posts and more.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH

LAUNCHED THE UPDATED AND REDESIGNED R2P MONITOR



CO-HOSTED THE ANNUAL EVANS-Sahnoun Lecture

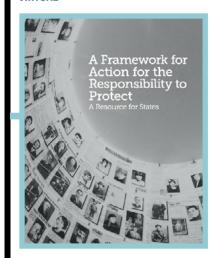
NEW YORK, UNITED STATES



JULY

LAUNCHED THE FRAMEWORK OF ANALYSIS ON ATROCITY PREVENTION

VIRTIIA



OCTOBER

RELEASED A COMMENTARY ON ATROCITIES PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE IN ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY



HOSTED THE 2ND ANNUAL INVESTIGATIVE MECHANISMS WORKSHOP





RELEASED AN URGENT ALERT ON ATROCITY RISKS IN SUDAN

JUNE



CO-HOSTED A MINISTERIAL MEETING ON THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN DURING THE OPENING OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER



RELEASED A STATEMENT ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GENOCIDE Convention and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

DECEMBER



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

turmoil. From the unspeakable horrors unfolding across Sudan and Israel and the Occupied including in Myanmar, Syria and Yemen. Palestinian Territory to the unprecedented number of people forcibly displaced as a result of expanding At a time when the aspirational values enshrined conflicts and the longevity of protracted crises countless populations around the world continued to face the threat of mass atrocity crimes.

Protect have continued to fulfill our mandate to urge and influence the international community to protect vulnerable populations around the world, bolster preventive capacities and pursue accountability for international crimes.

Throughout the year, the Global Centre shared our analysis on more than 30 countries, including through an updated and reinvigorated R2P Monitor long-overdue establishment of a UN mechanism that describes and analyzes risk factors for atrocities in the crises covered. During June we sounded the alarm on rising atrocity risks in Sudan, highlighting the imminent risk of genocide in Darfur. Since October we have reported on the unconscionable I want to thank those who have supported the suffering of populations in Gaza and Israel in various publications and briefings with UN Security Council members and other relevant stakeholders.

This year we also continued to engage with civil society, human rights defenders and affected populations, including survivor communities, as critical partners in our collective advocacy to ensure

In 2023 the world was confronted by extreme their voices were centered in policy conversations regarding the response to atrocity situations,

75 years ago in the Genocide Convention and Universal Declaration of Human Rights are under unprecedented attack, the Responsibility to Protect continues to be the most effective principle around We at the Global Centre for the Responsibility to which the international community can coalesce when vulnerable populations face the threat of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. While there are many reasons to feel despair in the current geopolitical climate, innovative and unprecedented actions taken by states through universal jurisdiction or in the context of filings at the International Court of Justice on the violations of the conventions on genocide and torture, the for Syria's disappeared and the creation of an independent UN mechanism to monitor ongoing abuses in Sudan, can all give us hope.

> Global Centre over the last year. Without your generosity and engagement we would not be where we are. 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.

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 2023.





EVENTS EXTENSIVE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS

IN 2023 THE GLOBAL CENTRE, WORKING ALONGSIDE OPEN SOCIETY JUSTICE INITIATIVE (OSJI), AIMED TO RECRUIT A STATE PARTY TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW) TO LAUNCH PROCEEDINGS AGAINST AFGHANISTAN BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ) FOR VIOLATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 29 OF THE CONVENTION.

The Taliban are perpetuating extreme forms of gender-based discrimination against women and girls by implementing restrictive policies and practices that deny them of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, in violation of CEDAW.

In June 2023 the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation on human rights in Afghanistan and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls determined that the Taliban may be perpetrating gender persecution and gender apartheid as they appear to be governing by systematic discrimination with the intent to subject women and girls to total domination.

ADVOCACY

To facilitate the launch of a case the Global Centre undertook extensive bilateral meetings in New York and in capitals around the world with ambassadors, as well as legal and other specialized experts on the details of such proceedings before the ICJ.



LAUNCHING PROCEEDINGS AT THE ICJ



EVENTS

On 6 July the Global Centre organized a roundtable with 14 member states, Afghan women human rights defenders and several subject-matter experts, including the law firm Foley Hoag and the UN Special Rapporteur, to discuss ICJ proceedings in more detail.

Liechtenstein. persecution of women and girls proceedings.

The Global Centre, alongside in Afghanistan. During the event, OSJI and the governments of 15 foreign and deputy ministers, Albania, Belgium, Cabo Verde, other state representatives, UN Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Women and Afghan women France, Germany, Guatemala, human rights defenders discussed Luxembourg, practical steps to improve the Malta and Spain, co-hosted a situation for women and girls ministerial-level meeting on 19 in Afghanistan, as well as ways September during the opening the international community of the 78th UN General Assembly can support and amplify these on systematic gender-based efforts, including through ICJ









2 ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS UN HRC MECHANISM ESTABLISHED

SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE CONFLICT IN SUDAN IN APRIL, THE GLOBAL CENTRE HAS ENGAGED IN OR LED SEVERAL ADVOCACY INITIATIVES TO SHIFT THE NARRATIVE AND FOCUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TOWARD A ROBUST RESPONSE ROOTED IN AN ATROCITY PREVENTION LENS.

ADVOCACY

The Global Centre has continued to call for both the extension of the UN Security Council (UNSC) arms embargo to all of Sudan and additional targeted sanctions against the Sudanese Armed Forces and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) leadership, as well as companies they own.

At the Human Rights Council (HRC) the Global Centre called for the establishment of an investigative mechanism with a mandate to collect and preserve evidence and identify responsibility for human rights violations and abuses. An emergency session of the HRC in May did not lead to the adoption of a resolution. In April and September the Global Centre joined approximately 100 other organizations in calling for a special session and the establishment of an investigative mechanism.

Before and during the September session of the HRC Global Centre conducted extensive bilateral advocacy with multiple member states in Geneva and in capitals across Europe.

FOLLOWING THIS EXTENSIVE ADVOCACY. WAS ESTABLISHED ON 11 OCTOBER. THE GLOBAL CENTRE JOINED 45 DELIVERED DURING CONSULTATIONS ON THE RESOLUTION

RESHAPING THE NARRATIVE FROM CONFLICT PREVENTION TO ATROCITY PREVENTION

EVENTS & BRIEFINGS







HRC SIDE EVENTS CJUNE, JULY, SEPTEMBER)



FRIENDS OF R2P IN NY & GENEVA



PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNIQUES

Amidst growing reports of ethnically motivated violations perpetrated by the RSF and released an urgent alert to call attention to the imminent risk of atrocity crimes in Darfur. and a member of a Khartoum-based Resistance

Watch sent out two joint communiques on Sudan, one with recommended talking points the international community can take to support for delegations ahead of the HRC's Interactive local populations and address the ongoing crisis. Dialogue with the UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide and the other for delegations ahead of the UNSC meeting on Darfur with International Criminal Court (ICC) Prosecutor Karim Khan.

On 14 August Savita, together with Kate Ferguson from Protection Approaches, published an op-ed with PassBlue as a warning and call to action regarding the ongoing situation in Darfur, where war crimes and crimes against humanity are being

perpetrated and the risk of genocide remains high. On 29 September the Global Centre released Arab militias, on 16 June the Global Centre an episode of the Expert Voices on Atrocity Prevention with Muzna Alhaj, a Sudanese activist Committee. During the episode, Muzna explains During July the Global Centre and Human Rights how the crisis has affected the role Resistance Committees play in their communities and steps



Opinion by Savita Pawnday and Kate Ferguson • August 14, 2023

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EXTENSIVE ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN AT THE HRC

THROUGHOUT THE SECOND HALF OF 2023 THE GLOBAL CENTRE CONDUCTED AN EXTENSIVE ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN AHEAD OF CHINA'S UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) IN JANUARY 2024, TO ENSURE **GOVERNMENTS UTILIZE THE UPR TO HIGHLIGHT AND** RESPOND TO ONGOING ATROCITY CRIMES IN THE SO-CALLED XINJIANG UYGHUR AUTONOMOUS REGION (THE UYGHUR REGION).

bilateral meetings with country delegations across all regions in Geneva. Furthermore the Global Centre highlighted China's abysmal human rights record in the

context of HRC elections in October 2023.

We advocated for action with high-level government officials during UN General

Assembly High Level week. Global Centre

China expert, Elisabeth Pramendorfer, also held

ADVOCACY

The Global Centre submitted a detailed submission to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in July 2023, providing analysis on the ongoing commission of atrocities in the Uyghur Region, as well as targeted recommendations.

PERSONALIZED **CORRESPONDENCES WITH** TARGETED RECOMMENDATIONS AND QUESTIONS SENT TO MEMBER STATES AHEAD OF CHINA'S UPR TO BE HELD IN JANUARY 2024

UTILIZING THE UPR TO RESPOND TO ATROCITIES



EVENTS

On 30 November the Global Centre, in partnership with the governments of the United States (US) and Canada, Uyghur Human Rights Project, Uyghur World Congress, Anti-Slavery Ambassadors and permanent representatives International and the International Service for Human Rights, organized a public event in Geneva at the Palais des Nations.

The event brought together expert panelists event. from civil society and the UN system, including former Special Rapporteur on minority issues

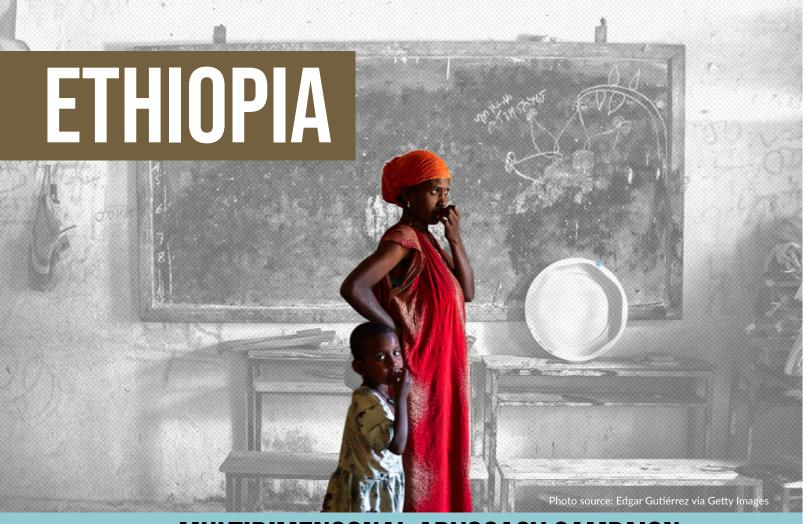
Fernand de Varennes, to discuss the nature. scope and context of continued atrocity crimes in the Uyghur Region and to highlight the unique added value of the UPR process in addressing ongoing state-led persecution.

from the US, Canada and Australia delivered remarks during the event, which was moderated by Savita. Cross-regional delegations, as well as civil society organizations, participated in the









MULTIDIMENSONAL ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

AMIDST A TENUOUS CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT IN TIGRAY AND ONGOING VIOLENCE, THIS YEAR THE GLOBAL CENTRE FOCUSED ON ENSURING CONTINUED REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCRUTINY AND EVIDENCE COLLECTION IN ETHIOPIA.

ADVOCACY

The Global Centre joined over 30 other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in <u>condemning</u> the decision by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to prematurely terminate its Commission of Inquiry into the situation in Tigray without releasing a report.

The Global Centre worked with an NGO coalition calling for the renewal of the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia (ICHREE) during the HRC's 54th session. In addition to extensive bilateral advocacy the

Global Centre sent multiple advocacy and policy recommendation messages to members of the Group of Friends of R2P and the Global Network of R2P Focal Points in capitals and Geneva to underline the importance of the ICHREE's work in documenting atrocities and to amplify their reporting.

In September the Global Centre joined a joint advocacy letter calling for the ICHREE's renewal. Upon the failure of the HRC to put forth a resolution to renew the ICHREE in October, the Global Centre, Physicians for Human Rights, Health Professionals Network for Tigray and the Organization for Justice and Accountability released a joint statement.

Global Centre Ethiopia expert, Sarah Hunter, spoke on a <u>panel</u> during February regarding the humanitarian situation in the country. The Global Centre also released a podcast <u>episode</u> featuring Commissioner Radhika Coomaraswamy following the ICHREE's termination.



ATROCITY RISKS WILL REMAIN IN <u>YEMEN</u> UNTIL <u>release</u>
A PERMANENT TRUCE AND INCLUSIVE PEACE

SETTLEMENT ARE REACHED. THE GLOBAL CENTRE SUPPORTED AND AMPLIFIED YEMENI DEMANDS FOR JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION IN 2023.

ADVOCACY

This year the Global Centre actively participated in and supported the Yemen Justice Network. We supported consultations and the drafting of the Yemen Declaration for Justice and Reconciliation – a common vision for achieving justice and reconciliation in a post-conflict Yemen signed by over 60 Yemeni civil society organizations.

We also guided advocacy strategies among Yemeni partners in the Network for the official online launch event of the Declaration on 26 July. This included leading on the regional NGO press

<u>release</u> in support of the Declaration.

EVENTS & FORUMS

The Global Centre organized two side events at the HRC, one during the Council's 52nd session and another during its 54th session alongside the Permanent Mission of Luxembourg and over 10 other member states, marking the first member state-sponsored side event on justice in Yemen since the termination of the Group of Eminent Experts in 2021.

Additionally our Yemen expert, Jahaan Pittalwala, participated in the Yemen International Forum in The Hague.



ISRAEL & THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY



MULTIPLE PUBLICATIONS | ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

SINCE 7 OCTOBER UNFATHOMABLE HORRORS HAVE UNFOLDED IN ISRAEL AND GAZA, INCLUDING LIKELY WAR CRIMES AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY. THE GLOBAL CENTRE HAS ACTIVELY ADVOCATED FOR A CEASEFIRE AND IS SEEN AS A CREDIBLE VOICE ON THE CRISIS.

ADVOCACY

On 20 October the Global Centre organized a briefing for over 80 member states, including R2P Focal Points, on the situation with speakers from the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, WHO and local NGOs.

The Global Centre has been and continues to be a key part of the ongoing #CeasefireNOW global advocacy campaign, sharing regular messages on social media and with high-level decision-makers. This includes multiple joint NGO letters calling for a ceasefire.

PUBLICATIONS & THE MEDIA

On 27 October the Global Centre produced detailed analysis on likely atrocity crimes and the imminent risk of potential further atrocities in Israel and Occupied Palestine in a commentary. Since the outbreak of the war, Global Centre staff have shared analysis with mainstream media outlets such as Al Jazeera and in policy and academic circles, including at the UN, Yale University and universities across Germany.

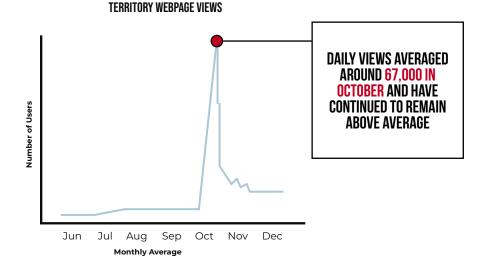


DEMANDING AN UNCONDITIONAL CEASEFIRE IN GAZA

OUR ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY ANALYSIS WAS VIEWED

545,000

IMES IN THE FIRST MONTH OF THI Conflict



9

ATROCITY ALERTS
PUBLISHED FROM 7
OCTOBER - 13 DECEMBER
(ONE EVERY WEEK)



INT ADVOCACY Campaigns



COMMENTARY BY GLOBAL CENTRE STAFF

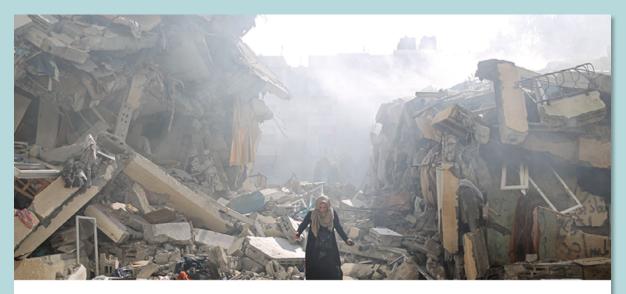


Photo Source: @ Mustafa Hassona/Anadolu Agency via Getty Image:

Atrocities Present, Past and Future – Escalating Crimes and Consequences in Israel and Occupied Palestine

27 October 2023 | COMMENTARY

For the last three weeks, unfathomable horrors have unfolded in Israel and Gaza. Likely war crimes and crimes against humanity have been perpetrated by both Hamas and Israel, and civilians have suffered the gravest consequences as hostilities and besiegement continue without respite.

When Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups launched a coordinated assault in Israel on 7 October, they attacked towns, kibbutzim, other civilian areas and roads across multiple border points, perpetrating



ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN UNGA INSTITUTION ESTABLISHED

WITH 130,000 ARBITRARY DETENTIONS, ABDUCTIONS OR DISAPPEARANCES DOCUMENTED IN SYRIA SINCE 2011. MILLIONS OF SYRIANS HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR THEIR MISSING LOVED ONES. IN 2023 THE GLOBAL CENTRE SUPPORTED SURVIVORS AND FAMILIES TO CREATE A UN INSTITUTION FOR SYRIA'S DISAPPEARED.

ADVOCACY

Throughout 2023 the Global Centre supported and amplified the advocacy of the Truth and Justice Charter groups - a coalition of Syrian victim, survivor and family associations. We facilitated briefings and bilateral meetings with bringing together a core group of states to draft a an institution. resolution. We also supported visits of the Truth and Justice Charter group members to New York.



On 15 June we organized an event in New York which provided an opportunity for Truth and Justice Charter group members to speak directly cross-regional member states with the aim of to UN member states and present the need for

A FIRST STEP IN JUSTICE FOR SYRIA'S DISAPPEARED



The Global Centre also featured Ahmad Helmi, Co-Founder and Manager of the Ta'afi Initiative. on our Expert Voices on Atrocity Prevention podcast, where Ahmad shared his story as a Syrian human rights defender and survivor and highlighted the need for the establishment of a dedicated institution to determine the fate of the missing and disappeared in Syria.



Ahead of the UN General Assembly vote on establishing a mechanism, the Global Centre joined 91 other groups calling upon member states to vote in favor.



ON 29 JUNE THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ESTABLISHED THE INSTITUTION ON MISSING PERSONS IN SYRIA MANDATED TO CLARIFY THE FATE AND WHEREABOUTS OF ALL MISSING PERSONS IN SYRIA, AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO **VICTIMS, SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

ADVOCACY AT THE HRC

AS THE PRIMARY INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS BODY, THE HRC PLAYS AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF MASS ATROCITY CRIMES BY PROVIDING EARLY WARNING AND RESPONDING TO SITUATIONS WHERE POPULATIONS ARE AT RISK OF, OR ARE EXPERIENCING, GENOCIDE, WAR CRIMES, CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY OR ETHNIC CLEANSING.

HRC LETTERS

Ahead of each HRC session, the Global Centre sends a <u>letter</u> to current HRC members, highlighting atrocity prevention priorities and providing in-depth analysis and recommendations for country situations on the agenda where populations remain at risk of atrocity crimes.

Following each HRC session, the Global Centre produces a <u>summary document</u> providing a complete overview of the major outcomes and relevant dialogues from the session as they relate to R2P, atrocity prevention and situations where populations remain at risk of atrocity crimes. In addition to focusing on direct outcomes of HRC votes, the summary includes analysis of the successes or failures of the HRC in responding to situations at risk of, or experiencing, atrocity crimes.

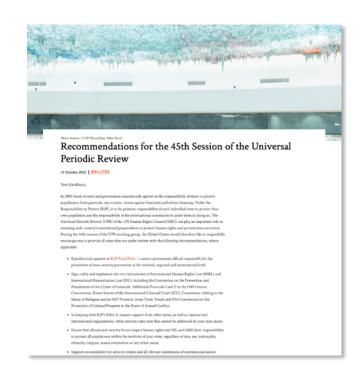




ELECTION PROFILES

Every 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.





UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

The UPR provides a unique opportunity for peer-to-peer assessment of how states are performing on human rights. The Global Centre aims to ensure member states systematically apply an atrocity prevention lens to the UPR process by encouraging participants to assess and strengthen the institutional preparedness of states under review to protect human rights and prevent mass atrocities.

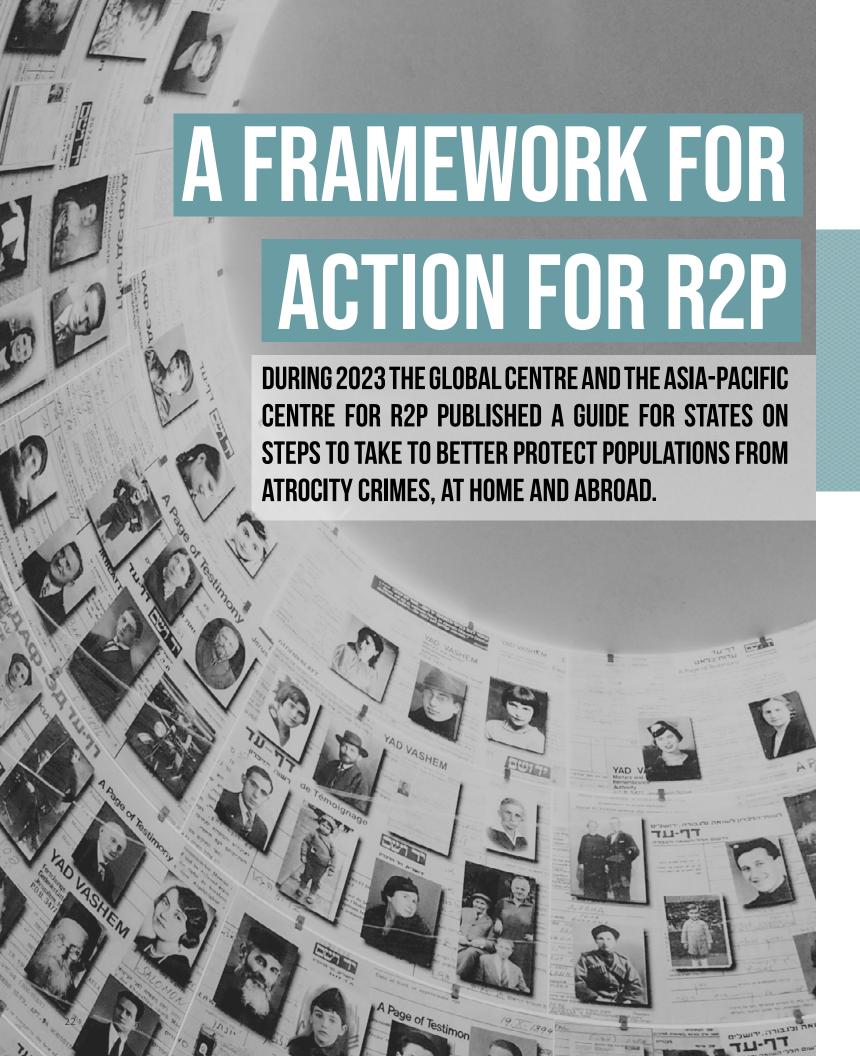
CRISES COVERED IN AN HRC-SESSION PUBLICATION IN 2023

22

PROVIDED STATES UPR RECOMMENDATIONS ON

13

COUNTRIES IN 2023



Despite the established consensus regarding R2P and the imperative to protect populations from builds upon existing expertise from published atrocity crimes, such crimes persist around the world and many of the risk factors for atrocity crimes are trending in the wrong direction. "A respond to atrocity crimes. Framework for Action for the Responsibility to

Protect: A Resource for States" consolidates and works and best practice from states, regional organizations and the UN on how to prevent and

THAT OUTLINES POLICIES AND PRACTICES THEY CAN FRAMEWORK TO ASSESS GAPS AND IDENTIFY IMPLEMENT TO BETTER PREVENT ATROCITY CRIMES OPPORTUNITIES TO ADDRESS ATROCITY RISKS IN YOUR **ACROSS FOUR SPHERES OF ACTION:**

(1) DOMESTIC LAWS, POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONS (2) BILATERAL COOPERATION AND INFLUENCING (3) REGIONAL COOPERATION (4) MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

THE FRAMEWORK PROVIDES STATES WITH A TOOL WE ENCOURAGE ALL STATES TO UTILIZE THIS OWN COUNTRY. AS WELL AS TO UNDERSTAND OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR RESPONDING TO RISKS IN YOUR REGION AND AROUND THE WORLD.

EVENTS

Pacific Centre for R2P co-hosted an event that framework can be utilized to assess gaps and brought together relevant stakeholders, including identify opportunities to address atrocity risks both current and former Special Advisers on the nationally, regionally and around the world. Responsibility to Protect, to discuss the current

On 12 July 2023 the Global Centre and the Asia- state of R2P implementation, as well as how this



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

R2P Monitor is a quarterly publication that applies an atrocity prevention lens to situations where populations are at risk of, or currently facing, mass atrocity crimes. R2P Monitor serves as the cornerstone of the Global Centre's work toward the overarching goal of monitoring and clarifying situations where R2P is applicable.

For each country featured in the R2P Monitor. the Global Centre provides detailed background on the situation, with particular emphasis on broad trends, key events and actors and their connection to the threat; highlights recent developments in the situation that may have increased the risk of mass atrocities or improved the circumstances facing populations; offers analysis of the factors and indicators that have enabled the possible commission of mass atrocity crimes or prevented their resolution; provides an atrocity risk assessment listing five key factors that are contributing to the worsening of the situation or exacerbating risks; and suggests necessary action to prevent or halt the commission of mass atrocity crimes.

IN 2023 R2P MONITOR FEATURED **ANALYSIS ON 24 SITUATIONS.**

NEW TO THE MONITOR WAS HAITI IN ISSUE 66.

FROM PREVIOUSLY STUDIED IN **ISSUE 65.**

IN MARCH THE GLOBAL CENTRE PUBLISHED AN UPDATED R2P MONITOR, WITH A NEW LOOK AND NEW ATROCITY RISK ANALYSIS.

Since the Monitor was created over a decade ago, give policymakers and protection actors a better there has been positive norm development and a understanding of the types of threats different substantial amount of learning around identifying risk factors for atrocities and developing early response should be based on that risk. warning models. In recent years the Global Centre and partners have devoted significant time to With this new section, we hope to raise awareness improving existing risk assessment tools.

As a result, we created the new "Risk Assessment" risks and needs facing particular populations section to provide nuanced analysis that could which are missing from conventional assessments.

populations are facing and what the appropriate

of potential triggers in situations at imminent risk or those with ongoing crimes, as well as the unique



Atrocity Alert is a weekly e-mail providing a concise and accessible bulletin on evolving crises. Within Atrocity Alert the Global Centre highlights situations that may be neglected by the wider international community and provides early warning on situations where atrocity risks may grow if urgent steps are not taken by the government or international community.

Since it was introduced in 2016, 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.



Atrocity Alert No. 376: Israel and the Occupied Palestinia Territory, Nigeria and El Salvador



ADDITIONALLY, WE UTILIZE ATROCITY ALERT TO LINK CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND/OR THEMATIC TOPICS TO ATROCITY RISKS AND PREVENTION FRAMEWORKS. BY ARTICULATING THE LINKAGES BETWEEN DIFFERENT PROTECTION AGENDAS OR THEMATIC ISSUE AREAS. THE GLOBAL CENTRE CONTINUES TO CONTRIBUTE TO CREATING A MORE HOLISTIC APPROACH TO THE PROTECTION OF POPULATIONS. IN 2023 WE COVERED:

THE WAGNER GROUP • HEALTHCARE IN ARMED CONFLICT • THREATS TO JOURNALISTS • CONFLICT INDUCED FOOD INSECURITY CHILDREN & ARMED CONFLICT
 UN PEACEKEEPING
 EDUCATION

UNDER ATTACK • CLUSTER MUNITIONS

WITHIN ATROCITY ALERT THE GLOBAL CENTRE PROVIDES EARLY WARNING ON SITUATIONS WHERE ATROCITY RISKS MAY GROW IF URGENT STEPS ARE NOT TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IN 2023 THIS INCLUDED:

Escalating inter-ethnic clashes in

MANIPUR, INDIA

Arrest of most wanted suspect in the genocide in

RWANDA

crimes against humanity of murder in

IRAN

Possible risks to LGBTQIA+ populations in

UGANDA

ICC resumes crimes against humanity investigation in

THE PHILIPPINES

Deepening human rights crisis in

EL SALVADOR

ATROCITY ALERT IS ALSO USED AS A MEANS OF INFORMING AND ALERTING OUR BROADER NETWORK OF SUPPORTERS ABOUT DEVELOPING SITUATIONS AND RAPIDLY DETERIORATING CRISES WHERE URGENT PREVENTIVE ACTION IS NEEDED. IN 2023 WE HEAVILY HIGHLIGHTED:

14 ISSUES

13 ISSUES

15 ISSUES

10 ISSUES

CRISES COVERED BY THE GLOBAL CENTRE IN 2023



HOW WE USE OUR PUBLICATIONS, INCLUDING R2P MONITOR, ATROCITY **ALERT AND OTHER STATEMENTS TO ELEVATE OUR ADVOCACY.**

focus narrowly on conflict resolution, democracy organizations and media houses, among others. and human rights promotion, or counterterrorism through our regular publications and advocacy from the publication directly in their reporting. campaigns.

in the Atrocity Alert template or stories. For example, in the "More from the Global Centre" section, we featured the Yemen Declaration for to growing risks. Justice and Reconciliation. In Atrocity Alert No. 353, the story on Syria featured the advocacy of Members of various UN country teams have the Truth and Justice Charter ahead of the UN Syria.

In 2023 the Global Centre monitored and analyzed 33 situations, providing high-quality policy recommendations to UN member states regarding situations where R2P is applicable, including via the R2P Monitor. Atrocity Alert. HRC letters and summaries and commentaries. Accurate and relevant situational information

An important part of the Global Centre's work is helps enable an effective preventive response. reframing the narrative around country situations. Our publications are shared with an email to account for atrocity risks and bringing these list of nearly 5,000 subscribers that includes to the attention of policymakers who too often policymakers, ambassadors, civil society

action and programming. The Global Centre aims Media houses with both international and national to enrich the understanding of these actors using reach invite the Global Centre to comment on one of the siloed approaches by ensuring a greater country situations often in response to a story awareness and consideration of atrocity risks published in Atrocity Alert or highlight content

Government officials have acknowledged that Advocacy campaigns are routinely highlighted issues of Atrocity Alert resulted in conversations between capital and embassy staff within a country on how their government should respond

also indicated that Atrocity Alert and R2P General Assembly vote on a draft resolution to Monitor are helpful for understanding the wider establish an institution on missing persons in context in their operating environment and have encouraged their staff to subscribe to the Global Centre's publications.

GLOBAL CENTRE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED IN 2023

GOVERNMENTAL BRIEFINGS ON R2P & ATROCITY PREVENTION

The Global Centre works with governments, civil society and international and regional organizations to develop strategies to effectively prevent and halt mass atrocity crimes and consistently implement the principle of R2P. With this in mind, in 2023 Global Centre staff delivered several quarterly briefings to different governments on atrocity prevention, risk assessment and opportunities to respond to identified risks in several country situations. Briefings targeted a variety of governmental actors and offices, including foreign ministry staff in capitals, embassy staff in countries where populations face atrocity risks and experts at permanent missions to the UN of UNSC and HRC member states.

QUARTERLY EU BRIEFINGS

Starting in 2023 the Global Centre began a three-year project funded by the European Union (EU) to strengthen the capacity of regional organizations and governments to utilize the atrocity prevention lens to identify and respond to risks to populations around the world.

AS PART OF THIS PROJECT, GLOBAL CENTRE STAFF DELIVERED TWO "ATROCITY ALERT BRIEFINGS" **UPDATING ATTENDEES ON:**

CENTRAL SAHEL, ERITREA, ETHIOPIA, ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY. MOZAMBIQUE, SUDAN, VENEZUELA AND YEMEN.



UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBER BRIEFINGS: SWITZERLAND

As part of a project with the government of Switzerland - aimed at enhancing awareness and building capacities during its term on the UNSC the Global Centre organized briefings for experts of the Permanent Mission of Switzerland in New York, as well as colleagues from relevant teams in Bern, on atrocity prevention. These briefings included atrocity prevention related thematic and country-specific areas of action on the UNSC's agenda.

OTHER GOVERNMENT BRIEFINGS

The Global Centre hosted colleagues from the Conflict and Atrocity Prevention Hub in the United Kingdom (UK) Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office.



COMMUNITIES OF COMMITMENT

The Global Centre serves as Secretariat for two inter-governmental groups committed to R2P: the Global Network of R2P Focal Points and the Group of Friends of R2P. The Centre is also Secretariat of the civil society-based International Coalition for R2P.

GROUP OF FRIENDS OF R2P (G0F)



3 AMBASSADOR LEVEL-MEETINGS
2 EXPERT LEVEL MEETINGS
6 UNSC OPEN DEBATE STATEMENTS
1 JOINT LETTER

2 EXPERT LEVEL MEETINGS 8 HRC STATEMENTS 1 JOINT LETTER



INTERNATIONAL COALITION FOR R2P

2 INFORMAL MEMBERSHIP EXCHANGES
1 HIGH-LEVEL BRIEFING
4 JOINT STATEMENTS

R2P FOCAL POINTS

10+ MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS
2 COUNTRY BRIEFINGS
1 JOINT STATEMENT



R2P DEBATE

The 2023 annual UN General Assembly formal debate on R2P took place on 26 and 30 June. This year's debate focused on the linkages between development and atrocities. Fifty-four UN member states, one observer mission and the EU spoke on behalf of 102 countries and two observer missions. The GOF also delivered a joint statement.

Ahead of the debate, on 23 June the GOF convened at the Ambassador-level for a discussion with then UN Special Adviser on R2P, George Okoth-Obbo.

EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

Strengthening Atrocity Prevention Through Technical Assistance & Capacity Building

Virtual | 27 March



During this event, co-hosted by the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN, speakers highlighted how to systematically incorporate an atrocity prevention lens in technical assistance activities undertaken by OHCHR and member states. The discussion also focused on how existing HRC-mandated special procedures and investigative mechanisms can inform technical cooperation and institutional reform within a concerned state.

Evans-Sahnoun Lecture on R2P lew York, United States

New York, United States 15 June



Held at the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN, this year's lecture featured a keynote address by Adama Dieng, Former UN Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. The keynote lecture was followed by a fireside chat. The event also featured remarks from our International Advisory Board Chair, Professor the Hon. Gareth Evans.

Investigative Mechanisms Workshop

Geneva, Switzerland 1 December

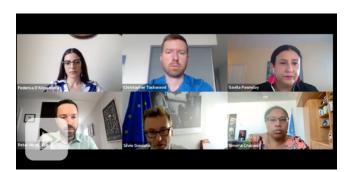


The Global Centre – in partnership with the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Liechtenstein – organized its second annual workshop on HRC investigative mechanisms and atrocity crimes. The workshop had four sessions exploring key themes and challenges of HRC-mandated investigations in the context of their establishment, renewal and operationalization.

BREAKING SILOS

Acknowledging the multi-dimensional nature of atrocity situations, the Global Centre routinely highlights the linkages between mass atrocity prevention and other issue areas, including human rights protection, digital technologies, gender and justice and accountability, through events, research and advocacy to influence a holistic and appropriate international response.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND R2P



On 29 June the Global Centre, together with the Delegation of the EU to the UN, co-hosted a virtual event entitled, "Digital Technologies and Atrocity Prevention."

Speakers highlighted how states can best harness new digital technologies as a tool for atrocity prevention, and aid in countering those utilizing such technologies for malignant purposes. The discussion also focused on the positives and negatives of the role of technology in the atrocity prevention space, highlighting how technology may create new risks that should be accounted for in threat assessments.

SPARKING CONVERSATIONS

The Global Centre also utilizes <u>Expert Voices</u> on <u>Atrocity Prevention</u> to reinvigorate conversations on cross-cutting approaches to atrocity prevention.



Sareta Ashraph, an international criminal barrister, discussed the gendered nature & impact of atrocity crimes across a variety of country situations, as well as the current gaps inhibiting international justice for atrocities perpetrated against marginalized groups.

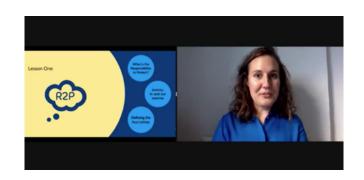


Kate Ferguson & Jess Gifkins explained how Protection Approaches aims to improve intersectional assessments of atrocity risks, including by incorporating the specific vulnerabilities faced by LGBTQIA+ people & other groups within atrocity prevention.



Samuel Emonet of Justice Rapid Response shed light on the critical role of international justice in achieving sustainable peace and the importance of working on justice objectives as early as possible in conflict settings.

TRAININGS



CIVIL SOCIETY TRAINING WITH UPR INFO

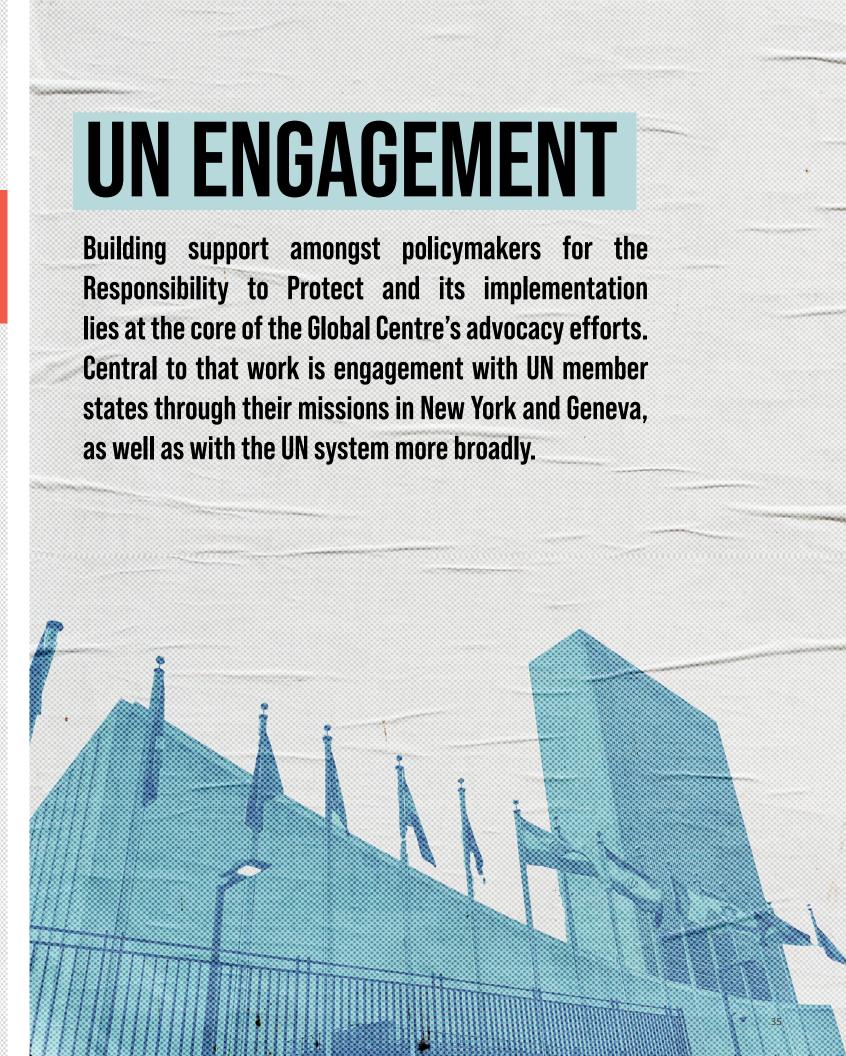
Between 2021 and 2022 the Global Centre, in partnership with UPR Info, developed and conducted a series of training workshops for civil society organizations and human rights defenders from around the world to enhance their capacity to include an "atrocity prevention lens" in their contributions to the UPR process.

The Global Centre and UPR Info conducted four workshops between October and December 2022, including for civil society organizations from Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa and the Asia-Pacific regions. In continuation of this training, the fifth workshop was held from 23 January to 3 February 2023 for civil society organizations from Francophone Africa. In total, more than 166 organizations from around the world were invited to join the workshops.

MORE TO COME IN 2024

THE GLOBAL CENTRE IS
CURRENTLY DEVELOPING
MULTIPLE COURSES FOR
EMBASSY STAFF, CIVIL
SOCIETY, R2P FOCAL
POINTS AND MORE.

COURSES WILL BE OFFERED IN 2024!









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 37 NGOs for briefings with UNSC ambassadors, HRC-mandated investigative mechanisms and high-level UN officials, including the Under-Secretary-Generals of the Department of Peace Operations, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and OHCHR.



DURING 2023 NGOWG/SC HELD

24

BRIEFINGS WITH UNSC AMBASSADORS & OTHER HIGH-LEVEL UN OFFICIALS

BILATERAL ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the year our Executive Director and staff have undertaken numerous bilateral meetings in New York, Geneva and beyond.

On the sidelines of UNGA 78, our Executive Director met with a variety of 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. Government officials included ministers and high level officials from the foreign ministries of Belgium, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, the EU, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, the UK and the US.



BILATERAL MEETINGS BY OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR









PODCAST

Our podcast, *Expert Voices on Atrocity Prevention*, is hosted by our Director of Policy and Research, Jaclyn Streitfeld-Hall. Each month we feature one-on-one conversations with practitioners from the fields of human rights, justice and accountability, atrocity prevention and other related agendas.

In addition to the episodes mentioned throughout this document, our other guests included:

2023 METRICS



3,250+ STREAMS IN 50+ COUNTRIES

IN 2023 OUR STREAMS INCREASED BY

32%



HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTH KOREA



ATROCITY PREVENTION
AT THE HRC



ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE UNSC



75 YEARS OF THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION

SHARING OUR

EXPERT ANALYSIS

In 2023 Global Centre staff participated in 30 external events and university engagements, including:

SARAH HUNTER SPOKE ON A PANEL ENTITLED "CEASEFIRE & HUMANITARIAN CRISIS: UNDERSTANDING THE ETHIOPIAN PEACE PROCESS" HOSTED BY FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY ON 3 FEBRUARY.





SAVITA PAWNDAY PARTICIPATED IN A PANEL ENTITLED "THE EROSION & RESILIENCE OF THE PREVENTION NORM" CONVENED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR GENOCIDE & MASS ATROCITY PREVENTION (I-GMAP) AT BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY ON 14 APRIL.

JACLYN STREITFELD-HALL SPOKE ON THE SITUATION IN MYANMAR DURING THE LAUNCH OF WATCHLIST ON CHILDREN & ARMED CONFLICT'S 7TH ANNUAL POLICY NOTE "A 'CREDIBLE LIST': RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S 2023 ANNUAL REPORT ON CHILDREN & ARMED CONFLICT" ON 19 APRIL.





JAHAAN PITTALWALA SPOKE ON THE PANEL, "WAYS TO ENSURE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE IN YEMEN" AT THE YEMEN INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON 15 JUNE.

SAVITA PAWNDAY PARTICIPATED IN THE MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SUMMIT ON A PANEL ENTITLED "JUSTICE & ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ATROCITY CRIMES," SPEAKING ON JUSTICE FOR ATROCITIES IN UKRAINE, ON 12 OCTOBER.



In 2023 the Global Centre's staff, research or analysis were featured in over 50 news interviews and articles with international, regional and local outlets, including Al Jazeera (English and Arabic), All Africa, Devex, The Guardian, Just Security, Radio Free Asia, Reuters and more. Staff also published external analysis in PassBlue and The Diplomat.



Savita Pawnday interviewed on VOA regarding the situation in Myanmar.



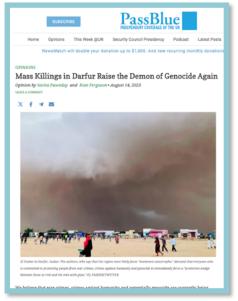
Savita Pawnday interviewed by Al Jazeera Arabic on the crisis in Gaza and Israel.











THANK YOU!

The Global Centre would like to thank our donors for their generous financial support and steadfast commitment to preventing and halting atrocities around the world. From strengthening the international infrastructure for prevention and accountability to building communities of commitment across various forums, collaboration is at the core of our work to effectively and consistently implement the principle of R2P. We are immensely grateful to the governments, international and regional organizations and foundations that supported the Global Centre's work in 2023.

The Global Centre's 2023 donors included the governments of Australia, Canada, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as the European Union, Open Society Foundations, Open Society Justice Initiative, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund and several anonymous donors. Together, with such generous supporters, much-needed human rights change happens. Thank you so much for your continued support and solidarity.

MEET THE TEAM



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Coordinator



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Program Associate



ELI KARETNY
Financial Officer

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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