

R2P REFERENCES IN UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions

Date and Document #	Situation or Issue	Text	
45.	22 December 2025 A/RES/80/220	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<p><i>Recalling</i> the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,"</p>
44.	22 December 2025 A/RES/80/213	Terrorism and human rights	<p><i>Reaffirming</i> the primary responsibility of States to protect the population throughout their territory,"</p>
43.	5 September 2025 A/RES/79/328	Tenth Anniversary of the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of This Crime	<p>"Reiterating the responsibility of each individual State to protect its populations from genocide, which entails the prevention of such a crime, including incitement to it, through appropriate and necessary means, and that fighting impunity for the crime of genocide is an important factor in its prevention,"</p>
42.	17 December 2024 A/RES/79/185	Syria	<p>"demanding that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population,"</p> <p>...</p> <p>"recalls in this regard that the Syrian regime bears primary responsibility for protecting its population;"</p> <p>...</p> <p>"demands that the Syrian regime meet its responsibilities to protect the Syrian population;"</p>
41.	17 December 2024 A/RES/79/181	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<p><i>Recalling</i> the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,"</p>
40.	17 December 2024 A/RES/79/176	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	<p><i>Acknowledging</i> that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes,"</p>

39.	4 December 2024 A/RES/79/122	United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Humanity	<p><i>“Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to prevent and punish crimes against humanity,”</i></p>
38.	23 May 2024 A/RES/78/282	International Day of Reflection and Commemoration of the 1995 Genocide in Srebrenica	<p><i>“Reaffirming its strong opposition to impunity for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes or other violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and emphasizing in this context the responsibility of States to end impunity and, to that end, to thoroughly investigate and prosecute, in accordance with their relevant international legal obligations and their domestic law, persons responsible for such acts, in order to avoid their recurrence...”</i></p> <p>... <i>“Taking note of the role of the Special Advisers to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect, and noting the importance of regular briefings on human rights and international humanitarian law violations as well as on hate speech and incitement in raising early awareness of potential genocide,”</i></p>
37.	19 December 2023 A/RES/78/222	Syria	<p>“demanding that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population,”</p> <p>... “recalls in this regard that the Syrian regime bears primary responsibility for protecting its population;”</p> <p>... “demands that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population;”</p>
36.	19 December 2023 A/RES/78/218	Democratic People’s Republic of Korea	<p><i>“Recalling the responsibility of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,”</i></p>
35.	19 December 2023 A/RES/78/210	Terrorism and human rights	<p><i>“Reaffirming the primary responsibility of States to protect the population throughout their territory,”</i></p>
34.	15 December 2022 A/RES/77/230	Syria	<p>“demanding that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population,”</p> <p>... “demands that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population;”</p>
33.	15 December 2022 A/RES/77/226	Democratic People’s Republic of Korea	<p><i>“Recalling the responsibility of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,”</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS ON THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT</p>			
32.	15 December 2022 A/RES/77/218	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	“ <i>Acknowledging</i> that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes,”
31.	24 December 2021 A/RES/76/228	Syria	“demanding that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population,” ... “recalls in this regard that the Syrian regime bears primary responsibility for protecting its population;” ... “demands that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population;”
30.	16 December 2021 A/RES/76/177	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	“ <i>Recalling</i> the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,”
29.	16 December 2021 A/RES/76/169	Terrorism and human rights	“ <i>Reaffirming</i> the primary responsibility of States to protect the population throughout their territory,”
28.	18 May 2021 A/RES/75/277	The responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity	“ <i>Decides</i> to include in its annual agenda the item entitled “The responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity”,”* <small>*By adopting A/Res/75/277 UN member states decided to include R2P on the annual agenda of the UN General Assembly and to formally request that the Secretary-General reports annually on the topic.</small>
27.	21 January 2021 A/RES/75/258	Promoting a culture of peace and tolerance to safeguard religious sites	“ <i>Reaffirming</i> the primary responsibility of States to protect the population throughout their territories,”
26.	16 December 2020 A/RES/75/193	Syria	“demands that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population” ... “ <i>Demands</i> that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect the population lies with the Syrian regime;”

25.	16 December 2020 A/RES/75/189	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	<p><i>Acknowledging</i> that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes,”</p>
24.	18 December 2020 A/RES/75/190	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<p><i>Recalling</i> the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,”</p>
23.	18 December 2019 A/RES/74/169	Syria	<p><i>demanding</i> that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population,”</p> <p>...</p> <p><i>Demands</i> that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, recalls, in particular, the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilians and combatants and the prohibition against indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, further demands that all parties to the conflict take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, in compliance with international law, including by desisting from attacks directed against civilian objects, such as medical centres, schools and water stations, and refrain from militarizing such facilities, seek to avoid establishing military positions in densely populated areas and enable the evacuation of the wounded and all civilians who wish to leave areas of conflict, including besieged areas, and recalls in this regard that the Syrian regime bears primary responsibility for protecting its population;</p> <p>...</p> <p><i>demands</i> that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population;”</p>
22.	18 December 2019 A/RES/74/166	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<p><i>Recalling</i> the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,”</p>

21.	17 December 2018 A/RES/73/182	Syria	<p><i>“Demands that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, recalls, in particular, the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilians and combatants and the prohibition against indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, further demands that all parties to the conflict take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, in compliance with international law, including by desisting from attacks directed against civilian objects, such as medical centres, schools and water stations, and refrain from militarizing such facilities, seek to avoid establishing military positions in densely populated areas and enable the evacuation of the wounded and all civilians who wish to leave areas of conflict, including besieged areas, and recalls in this regard that the Syrian authorities bear primary responsibility for protecting their population;”</i></p> <p>... <i>“Demands that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including members of ethnic, religious and confessional communities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect the population of the Syrian Arab Republic lies with the Syrian authorities;”</i></p> <p>... <i>“Demands that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect the population lies with the Syrian regime;”</i></p>
20.	17 December 2018 A/RES/73/180	Democratic People’s Republic of Korea	<p><i>“Recalling the responsibility of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice.”</i></p>
19.	17 December 2018 A/RES/73/172	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	<p><i>“Acknowledging that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes,”</i></p>
18.	19 December 2017 A/RES/72/191	Syria	<p><i>“Demands that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, recalls, in particular, the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilians and combatants and the prohibition against indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, further demands that all parties to the conflict take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, in compliance with international law, including by desisting from attacks</i></p>

directed against civilian objects, such as medical centres, schools and water stations, and refrain from militarizing such facilities, seek to avoid establishing military positions in densely populated areas and enable the evacuation of the wounded and all civilians who wish to leave besieged areas, and recalls in this regard that the Syrian authorities bear primary responsibility for protecting its population;”

...

“*Demands* that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including members of ethnic, religious and confessional communities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect its population lies with the Syrian authorities;”

17.	19 December 2017 A/RES/72/188	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<p>“<i>Recalling</i> the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,”</p>
16.	1 December 2017 A/RES/72/17	Effects of terrorist acts directed against religious sites on the culture of peace	<p>“<i>Reaffirming</i> the primary responsibility of States to protect the population throughout their territories,”</p>
15.	19 December 2016 A/RES/71/203	Syria	<p>“<i>Demands</i> that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including members of ethnic, religious and confessional communities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect its population lies with the Syrian authorities...”</p>
14.	19 December 2016 A/RES/71/202	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<p>“<i>Recalling</i> the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice...”</p>
13.	19 December 2016 A/RES/71/198	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	<p>“<i>Acknowledging</i> that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes,”</p>
12.	9 December 2016 A/RES/71/130	Syria	<p>“...the primary responsibility to protect its population lies with the Syrian authorities...”</p>
11.	23 December 2015 A/RES/70/234	Syria	<p>“...the primary responsibility to protect its population lies with the Syrian authorities...”</p>

10.	17 December 2015 A/RES/70/172	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<i>"Recalling the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity..."</i>
9.	11 September 2015 A/RES/69/323	International Day of Commemoration and Dignity for Victims of the Crime of Genocide and the Prevention of This Crime	<i>"Reiterating the responsibility of each individual State to protect its populations from genocide, which entails the prevention of such a crime, including incitement to it, through appropriate and necessary means, and that fighting impunity for the crime of genocide is an important factor in its prevention..."</i>
8.	18 December 2014 A/RES/69/189	Syria	<i>"Also demands that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, including members of ethnic, religious and confessional communities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect the Syrian population lies with the Syrian authorities..."</i>
7.	18 December 2014 A/RES/69/188	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<i>"Recalling the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity..."</i>
6.	18 December 2014 A/RES/69/182	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	<i>"Acknowledging that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes,"</i>
5.	15 May 2013 A/RES/67/262	Syria	<i>"Demands that all parties immediately put an end to all violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving attacks against civilians, also demands that the Syrian authorities immediately end all violations of international human rights law and meet their responsibility to protect the population..."</i>
4.	20 December 2012 A/RES/ 67/168	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	<i>"Acknowledging that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes,"</i>
3.	21 December 2010 A/RES/65/208	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	<i>"Acknowledging that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes,"</i>
2.	14 September 2009 A/RES/63/308	The responsibility to protect	<i>"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General and of the timely and productive debate organized by the President of the General Assembly on the responsibility to protect, held on 21, 23, 24 and 28 July 2009, with full participation by Member States;</i>

2. Decides to continue its consideration of the responsibility to protect.”

1. 16 September 2005
A/RES/60/1

World Summit
Outcome Document

“138. Each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means. We accept that responsibility and will act in accordance with it. The international community should, as appropriate, encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility and support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability.

139. The international community, through the United Nations, also has the responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means, in accordance with Chapters VI and VIII of the Charter, to help to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. In this context, we are prepared to take collective action, in a timely and decisive manner, through the Security Council, in accordance with the Charter, including Chapter VII, on a case-by-case basis and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations as appropriate, should peaceful means be inadequate and national authorities are manifestly failing to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. We stress the need for the General Assembly to continue consideration of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and its implications, bearing in mind the principles of the Charter and international law. We also intend to commit ourselves, as necessary and appropriate, to helping States build capacity to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and to assisting those which are under stress before crises and conflicts break out.”