The United Nations and the Responsibility to Protect: The Current State of Play and Options for Expanding the R2P “Toolkit”

Date: Wednesday February 16, 2011
Time: 12:00 noon
Place: Palais Imperial, 311-313 Dalhousie St., Ottawa
Cost: $30 for luncheon and presentation
$5 for presentation only
(For presentation only, please plan to arrive by 12:45. Coffee and tea will be available.)

Reservations: group78@web.net or 613-230-0860 by Monday February 14, 2011. We regret that late registrations cannot be accepted.

The group is required to pay for those who reserve but do not come. Therefore, individuals who do not cancel their reservations at least 24 hours before the luncheon will be billed $30.

The Responsibility to Protect is an evolving norm with tremendous potential to advance the international community's capacity to address the threat of atrocity crimes and to advance the United Nations' role in effective peacebuilding. Since its formal adoption during the 2005 World Summit, R2P has met with both enthusiasm and skepticism. Where does it stand today? What momentum is moving it forward; what obstacles does it face? What practical measures need to be created or enacted to make it a reality? What would a robust R2P "tool-kit" look like? What steps is civil society taking - or could take - to help build capacity and trust for the full implementation of the norm?

Dr. Robert Zuber is director of UN-based Global Action to Prevent War and the Project for a UN Emergency Peace Service. He also serves as consultant, adviser or board member to a wide variety of non-profit, policy and educational organizations, including Green Map System, Our Humanity in the Balance, and the Paris-based human rights organization FIACAT. Based in Harlem and educated at Yale and Columbia Universities, he has written and spoken extensively on diverse human security issues and has organized workshops and conferences in over 25 countries on topics from small arms proliferation and civilian protection to women's participation in peace processes and peacekeeping reform.