

Making the Difference: Strengthening Capacities to Respond to Crises and Security Threats Conference organized by the European Commission

Brussels, Belgium 3 – 4 June 2009 Sapna Chhatpar from the ICRtoP Secretariat participated in a panel entitled “Responsibility to Protect-Making the Concept Operational”, as part of the biannual conference sponsored by the European Commission called “[Making the Difference: Strengthening capacities to respond to crises and security threats](#)”

Mr. Gareth Evans, President and Chief Executive of International Crisis Group chaired the panel. The other five panelists include Ms Corlett Letlojane, Director, Human Rights Institute of South Africa; Mr Andrew Rathmell, Deputy Director, Directorate for Strategy and Policy Planning, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Prof Gary Bass, Princeton University; and Ms Kirstin De Peyron, Acting Head of Unit for UN affairs, Directorate General for External Relations, European Commission.

The six panelists covered a range of topics, including overall context and history of the norm, main challenges in operationalizing the norm, perspectives and recommendations from civil society, an introduction to the work of the European Commission on operationalizing RtoP, and perspectives from an EU Member State.