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I. Sudan: Abuses in Abyei continue; calls for UN peacekeepers to access the region

Escalating violence in disputed region of Abyei has resulted in the [displacement](#)

of approximately 60,000 people as stated by OCHA on 30 May. [UNHCR reported](#)

on 31 May that the area is nearly emptied of its population and that over a third of local huts had been burnt down with many others destroyed and looted. [The northern army dispatched](#)

tanks to Abyei on 21 May and government officials, such as Sudan's UN Ambassador Daffa-Alla Ehag Ali Osman, stated that the north [will not withdraw](#)

until an agreement is signed regarding the security of the area. [UN human rights chief, Navi Pillay, condemned](#)

the attacks on 24 May and urged all parties to reach an immediate solution to the crisis to avoid descending the region into further conflict. [Satellite images](#)

, obtained and analyzed by the Satellite Sentinel Project on 25 May, show the razing of whole villages and the indiscriminate bombardment by northern military aircraft. [The Enough Project declared](#)

that the images provide evidence that

war crimes

and

crimes against humanity

have been committed. Parties representing the governments of North and South Sudan [met](#)

in Addis Ababa on 30 May under the facilitation of the African Union and agreed to establish and jointly monitor a demilitarized Common Border Zone. Although a significant first step, the Common Border Zone does not deal with the contested issue of Abyei, which must be resolved to prevent further conflict in the region and ensure a peaceful transition as South Sudan becomes independent on 9 July.

1. New Visual Evidence of Government of Sudan War Crimes in Abyei

Enough Project

29 May 2011

(...) The Satellite Sentinel Project (SSP) has released new visual evidence that the Government of Sudan has committed grave violations of the Geneva Conventions and other war crimes, some of which may also constitute crimes against humanity. The totality of evidence from satellites and ground sources points to state-sponsored ethnic cleansing of much of the contested Abyei region, says SSP. The evidence is being conveyed to the International Criminal Court and the UN Security Council. (...)

(...) SSP's recent imagery and reporting documents the destruction, and confirms the positioning in Abyei town of at least 10 Sudan Armed Forces main battle tanks, mobile artillery, heavy equipment transports, infantry fighting vehicles and trucks capable of rapid forward deployment, in addition to other assets within striking distance.

"Harvard Humanitarian Initiative's analysis of international humanitarian law has concluded, based on DigitalGlobe satellite imagery, that gross violations of the Geneva Conventions and other other laws of war have been perpetrated by the Government of Sudan," said Harvard Carr Center Executive Director Charlie Clements, MD. "Tens of thousands of civilians have been displaced. Approximately one-third of all civilian structures in Abyei town have been razed. The Sudan Armed Forces used disproportionate force and indiscriminately targeted civilians." (...)

See [full article](#)

See SSP [report](#) on Abyei.

2. Stop Abyei Abuses, Hold Forces Accountable

Human Rights Watch

26 May 2011

(...) The Sudanese government urgently needs to halt looting and destruction of civilian property by its forces in the town of Abyei and hold those responsible to account, Human Rights Watch said today. The government should allow United Nations peacekeepers access to the entire Abyei area, Human Rights Watch said.

Just weeks ahead of Southern Sudan's formal separation from the rest of the country, the northern-based Sudanese army on May 21, 2011, effectively took control of the disputed border territory. The action violates the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement and other agreements between the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) and the southern ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). (...)

(...) Although the attacks on Abyei have drawn wide condemnation from the UN, African Union, European Union, United States, and other concerned governments, the Sudanese government has continued to allow its forces to carry out serious human rights violations.

The international community should keep up strong and unified pressure on Sudanese leaders to end Sudan's dangerous and illegal campaign and should not normalize relations with Sudan under these conditions, Human Rights Watch said. (...)

(...) The full impact of the violence in Abyei, including civilian casualties and the number and whereabouts of displaced persons, is not known. The United Nations peacekeeping forces, which have a mandate to protect civilians in imminent danger, remained inside their compound during the military attacks. The shelling damaged UN property and wounded two soldiers, and unknown gunmen fired on UN helicopters on May 25. Since the attack, peacekeepers have patrolled within the town of Abyei in anti-personnel carriers for protection from armed militia who continue to roam the area and loot with impunity.

The UN peacekeepers should increase and widen their patrols, Human Rights Watch said. Their civilian human rights staff should investigate and document the full impact of the violence on civilians, including loss of homes and property and other human rights violations and press for accountability. (...)

See

[full article](#)

II. Côte d'Ivoire: both sides accused of committing atrocities

Although the political standoff and conflict ended in Côte d'Ivoire with the arrest of Laurent Gbagbo, the country is still experiencing a humanitarian crisis as tens of thousands of people remain

[displaced](#)

and in Western regions aid organizations, with the exception of the International Committee of the Red Cross, are unable to access civilians without military escorts. In an interview with France 24 on 23 May, Alassane Ouattara

[called](#)

for Gbagbo to be held accountable for crimes committed before his arrest; however an Amnesty International (AI)

[report](#)

released on 25 May states that forces loyal to both parties, committed acts that constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes. The report also identifies the failure of the UN Mission in Côte d'Ivoire to protect civilians in Duékoué where hundreds of UN forces were based one kilometer away. The UN

[responded](#)

to AI's findings, stating that UNOCI did not have the capacity to save every Ivoirian but that the force acted as it could to protect civilians. Further allegations against Ouattara loyalists, including the Forces Nouvelles under the command of current Prime Minister Guillaume Soro, were made in a Human Rights Watch (HRW)

[news release](#)

issued on 2 June. HRW states that Ouattara's forces overseen by Soro have killed over 100 Gbagbo supporters or people believed to be loyal to the former president since April. Accounts of crimes committed during the six month political conflict as well as reports documenting continued violations of human rights illustrate the need for further investigation to hold accountable those responsible for gross human rights abuses.

1. Gbagbo Supporters Tortured, Killed in Abidjan

Human Rights Watch

2 June 2011

(...) Armed forces loyal to President Alassane Ouattara have killed at least 149 real or perceived supporters of the former President Laurent Gbagbo since taking control of the

commercial capital in mid-April, 2011, Human Rights Watch said today. Pro-Gbagbo militiamen killed at least 220 men in the days immediately preceding and following Gbagbo's arrest on April 11, when the nearly four-month conflict drew to a close.

Between May 13 and 25, Human Rights Watch interviewed 132 victims and witnesses to violence by both sides during the battle for Abidjan and in the weeks after Gbagbo's arrest. Killings, torture, and inhumane treatment by Ouattara's armed forces continued while a Human Rights Watch researcher was in Abidjan, with clear ethnic targeting during widespread acts of reprisal and intimidation. (...)

(...) Recommendations

To President Alassane Ouattara:

1. Demonstrate that promises of impartial and credible prosecutions of grave crimes are meaningful by ensuring immediate investigations into killings, extrajudicial executions, and torture committed by the Republican Forces in Abidjan. Hold those responsible accountable, including commanders who oversaw the crimes, regardless of their military rank.
2. Put commanders implicated in serious abuse on administrative leave, pending investigation.
3. Make publicly clear that anyone detained - including former Gbagbo militia implicated in grave crimes - is to be treated humanely in accordance with Ivorian and international law
4. When cordon and search operations are conducted by the Republican Forces, ensure that police, gendarmes, or UN and French peacekeepers are included.
5. Seek the assistance of key international donors in assessing the capacity of the Ivorian justice system to prosecute grave crimes and addressing the weaknesses identified.
6. Provide complete access to all detention facilities to international monitors and members of the human rights division of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire, including access that allows detainees to describe the conditions of their treatment without the presence or interference of the Republican Forces.
7. Cooperate fully with the ICC, including arresting suspects, if the court prosecutor opens an investigation of crimes committed in Côte d'Ivoire.

To the UN Security Council:

1. To bring light to atrocities committed in the past decade in Côte d'Ivoire, publish the 2004 Commission of Inquiry report when the 2011 Commission of Inquiry report is presented before the Human Rights Council in June. Failure to do so continues to send the signal that certain people deeply implicated in war crimes and other grave abuses, are being shielded from justice.

To the United Nations Operations in Côte d'Ivoire:

1. Increase significantly patrols, including joint patrols with the Republican Forces, in Yopougon, particularly in vulnerable pro-Gbagbo neighborhoods like Koweit, Yaosseh, Kouté, and Abobo-Doumé.

2. Visit detention centers daily, particularly in Yopougon, and demand access to prisoners without interference by the Republican Forces.

See full [news release](#) . **2. Both Sides Responsible for War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity** Amnesty International 25 May 2011 (...) Forces allied to both former Côte d'Ivoire President Laurent Gbagbo and incumbent Alassane Ouattara committed war crimes and crimes against humanity during six months of deadly violence following disputed elections, Amnesty International said in a report released today.

They looked at his identity card and shot him dead: Six months of post-electoral violence contains shocking testimonies from victims and witnesses to massacres, rapes and manhunts and concludes that forces loyal to both parties committed serious violations of international humanitarian law.

"Human rights violations are still being committed against real or perceived supporters of Laurent Gbagbo both in Abidjan and in the west of the country," said Gaëtan Mootoo, Amnesty International's West Africa researcher.

"Alassane Ouattara's failure to condemn these acts could be seen as a green light by many of his security forces and other armed elements fighting with them to continue. Alassane Ouattara must publically state that all violence against the civilian population must stop immediately." (...)

(...) The mass violations committed by all parties in the last six months have left thousands of victims, their families and large sections of the population scarred and traumatised.

Amnesty International is urging the new authorities to urgently re-establish the rule of law and the people's trust in impartial security forces.

Without justice for all victims regardless of their political affiliation or ethnic group, any appeals for reconciliation runs the risk of foundering on an unstable and unsatisfactory compromise that could lead to more bloodshed and vengeance in the future. (...) See full [press release](#) . See AI [report](#)

III. Libya: HRC Commission of Inquiry released; Libyan government accused of committing atrocity crimes

A [report](#) submitted to the Human Rights Council (HRC) on 1 June by the International Commission of Inquiry, established to investigate alleged violations of international humanitarian law in Libya, states that Libyan government and opposition forces have committed crimes against humanity

and war crimes since the start of the crisis. The Commission

[stated](#)

that the government committed acts that fall under crimes against humanity including murder, torture, enforced disappearance and sexual abuse. Violations amounting to war crimes include intentionally attacking protect persons and targets such as civilians and medical units. The Commission received fewer reports relating to human rights violations carried out by opposition forces; however the report concluded that the opposition did commit some acts which would constitute war crimes. The HRC is scheduled to

[consider](#)

the report on 6 June.

The report of the International Commission of Inquiry comes at a time when coalition forces have reaffirmed their support for the Transitional National Council (TNC) and NATO's campaign. The European Union (EU)

[opened](#)

an office in the rebel-held city of Benghazi on 22 May and the foreign policy chief, Catherine Ashton, stated that the EU will offer support to Libyan institutions and the economy. G8 members, who met from 26-27 May, declared in the

[G8 Declaration](#)

that Gaddafi must step down as members of the Libyan government, "failed to fulfill their responsibility to protect the Libyan population and have lost all legitimacy." NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, has also used language that calls for Gaddafi to be removed from power,

[stating](#)

that "the question is not if Gaddafi will go but when." On 31 May it was announced that NATO would be

[renewing](#)

its mission in Libya for an additional 90 days. Debate continues on whether Gaddafi's removal from power is an appropriate measure, as well as if this action falls under the RtoP framework and mandate established under UN Security Council Resolution 1973. It is important to reiterate that all states have a responsibility to protect their populations from mass atrocities and that a range of tools exist under the RtoP framework to prevent and respond to the committal of crimes, with force as a last resort.

The actions of the NATO mission has been called into question by the African Union (AU) in its [Decision on the Peaceful Resolution of the Libyan Crisis](#)

released following an extraordinary session held on 25 May 2011. The Decision stated that the Assembly stressed the obligation of all Member States of the United Nations and the other concerned international actors to fully comply with the letter and spirit of Security Council Resolutions 1970 and 1973. The Assembly expressed its "concern at the dangerous precedence being set by one-sided interpretations of these resolutions, in an attempt to provide a legal authority for military and other actions on the ground that are clearly outside the scope of these resolutions and at the resulting negative impact on the efforts aimed at building an international order based on legality." The AU recalled that African states are those that bear

the impact of the Libyan conflict and expressed “surprise and disappointment at the attempts to marginalize the continent.”

1. Report of the International Commission of Inquiry

Human Rights Council

1 June 2011

(...) In its resolution 1970 (2011), the Security Council referred the situation in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court pursuant to the Rome Statute. It has therefore vested primary jurisdiction with respect to the determination of criminal responsibility with the International Criminal Court. It is in this perspective that the commission has consulted with the Court, but has not to date shared information about its findings. The determination of individual criminal responsibility and command responsibility for both sides requires further investigation and corroboration of certain facts ascertained by the commission. Nonetheless, in the present report, the commission identifies a number of violations that have led it to the conclusion that international crimes, and specifically crimes against humanity and war crimes, have been committed in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The commission has found that there have been acts constituting murder, imprisonment, other forms of severe deprivation of physical liberty in violation of fundamental rules of international law, torture, persecution, enforced disappearance and sexual abuse that were committed by Government forces as part of a widespread or systematic attack against a civilian population with knowledge of the attack. Such acts fall within the meaning of “crimes against humanity”.

The commission has found that there have been many serious violations of international humanitarian law committed by Government forces amounting to “war crimes”. Under the listing of “war crimes” in the Rome Statute applicable to non-international armed conflict, the commission has identified violations involving violence to life and person, outrages upon personal dignity in particular humiliating and degrading treatment, intentionally directing attacks against protected persons and targets including civilian structures, medical units and transport using the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions.

The commission also received considerable information concerning indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian objects (including protected objects, such as mosques, buildings of cultural significance and hospitals) and attacks on humanitarian related personnel and transport; further investigation would, however, be required to determine whether those attacks on civilians and civilian objects amounted to “intentional targeting” within the meaning of the Rome Statute. Further investigation would also be required in relation to whether children under 15 years of

age were conscripted into or enlisted in armed forces or groups, or used them to participate actively in hostilities, as well as into allegations of rape during the conflict.

The consistent pattern of violations identified creates an inference that they were carried out as a result of policy decisions by Colonel Qadhafi and members of his inner circle. Further investigation is required in relation to making definitive findings with regard to the identity of those responsible for the crimes committed. The commission received some information concerning individual perpetrators of crimes, but more investigation is also required on this issue.

The commission received fewer reports of facts that would amount to the commission of international crimes by forces connected with the opposition. It has established that some acts of torture and cruel treatment and some outrages upon personal dignity in particular humiliating and degrading treatment have been committed by opposition armed forces, in particular against persons in detention, migrant workers and those believed to be mercenaries. Under the Rome Statute, those that occurred during the period of armed conflict constitute war crimes. Further investigation would be required into alleged acts of rape and into whether children under the age of 15 years were conscripted into or enlisted in armed forces or groups, or used them to participate actively in hostilities.

See
[full report](#)

IV. Syria: Systematic and deliberate attacks on civilians

*Systematic and indiscriminate attacks on civilians by government forces in Syria may amount to **crimes against humanity**, one of the four crimes Member States committed themselves to preventing with the adoption of the Responsibility to Protect. UN human rights officials have condemned the government led attacks on civilians and called for an immediate end to the violence. The Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and RtoP issued a [statement](#) on 2 June reminding President Assad and his government of their responsibility to protect the population. The Advisers declared that grave human rights violations such as deliberate attacks on civilians, mass arrests, and forced disappearances must immediately cease and be investigated. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, which as of 27 May was still awaiting access by the government to send an investigative team, expressed its deep concern about the situation and urged President Assad to grant entry to the human rights office.*

The situation in Syria continues to

[deteriorate](#)

as over 1,000 people have been killed and 10,000 arrested since protests demanding political change started on 15 March. The city of Rastan has experienced increased violence with over 50 people reportedly

[killed](#)

since a military operation started over the weekend of May 28. As recently as 3 June Syrian human rights groups

[reported](#)

that indiscriminate attacks on civilians in the city of Hama by government security forces, including snipers, left over ten dead. Dozens of children have also been

[killed](#)

since the start of the political protests, causing activists to call for 'Children's Friday' protests to be held 3 June. Opposition groups have

[called](#)

for President Assad to resign and, after meeting in Turkey, approximately 300 activists issued a communiqué demanding Assad to relinquish power to one of Syria's vice-presidents and for free elections to be held.

1. Special Advisers Issue Press Release on the Situation in Syria

Office of the Special Advisers on the Responsibility to Protect and the Prevention of Genocide

2 June 2011

(...) The Special Advisers on the Responsibility to Protect and the Prevention of Genocide are gravely concerned at the increasing loss of life in Syria as a result of the continued violent suppression of anti-government protests. We remind the Government of Syria of its ongoing responsibility to protect its population, as all Member States of the United Nations committed to do in the 2005 Summit Outcome Document, and as confirmed in subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

We are particularly alarmed at the apparently systematic and deliberate attacks by police, military, and other security forces against unarmed civilians taking part in the last two months of protests. (...)

(...) The deployment of armed forces and the use of live fire, tanks and artillery in response to peaceful protests, and the targeting of residential areas where protests have taken place, are unacceptable under any circumstances. In addition to the deaths of protestors, there have also been reports of mass arrests, arbitrary detentions, disappearances and other serious human

rights violations in the towns where protests have taken place.

The systematic and widespread attacks that are alleged to have taken place in Syria appear primarily to have targeted the civilian population. This underscores the need for an independent, thorough, and objective investigation into all alleged violations of international human rights law. (...)

See full
[press release](#)

2. Syria: Crimes Against Humanity by Syrian Security Forces

Human Rights Watch

1 June 2011

(...) Systematic killings and torture by Syrian security forces in the city of Daraa since protests began there on March 18, 2011, strongly suggest that these qualify as crimes against humanity, Human Rights Watch said in a report released today.

The 57-page report, "['We've Never Seen Such Horror': Crimes against Humanity in Daraa](#)," is based on more than 50 interviews with victims and witnesses to abuses. The report focuses on violations in Daraa governorate, where some of the worst violence took place after protests seeking greater freedoms began in various parts of the country. (...)

(...) The Syrian government should take immediate steps to halt the excessive use of lethal force by security forces, Human Rights Watch said. The United Nations Security Council should impose sanctions and press Syria for accountability and, if it doesn't respond adequately, refer Syria to the International Criminal Court. (...)

Read the
[full report](#)

V. Other Country Situation Updates

1. Kenya: ICC Rejects Kenya bid to Halt Election Violence Probe

BBC News

30 May 2011

(...) Judges from the International Criminal Court have ruled against a Kenyan government request to halt a probe into violence following the 2007 elections.

The ICC said Kenya had failed to prove it was investigating six suspects accused of masterminding the violence.

The accused, including Finance Minister Uhuru Kenyatta, deny they committed crimes against humanity during the unrest in which some 1,000 people died.

ICC officials are in Kenya to discuss how to protect witnesses in the cases.

Officials in Nairobi had argued that the adoption of a new constitution and other reforms had opened the way for Kenya to prosecute those responsible.

But the judges at The Hague said they had failed to prove the local authorities were investigating the six suspects so far named. (...)

See the
[article](#)

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See the
[ICC press release](#)

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2. Mladic Arrest Shows Ending Impunity Requires United Action – UN Prosecutor

UN News

1 June 2011

(...) The arrest of Ratko Mladic after he spent 16 years on the run demonstrates that “ending impunity requires a united front,” the chief prosecutor of the United Nations war crimes tribunal for the Balkan conflicts said today, pledging that the Bosnian Serb wartime military figure would receive a fair trial. (...)

(...) Serge Brammertz

[told journalists](#)

in The Hague, where the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia is based, that Mr. Mladic’s transfer yesterday to the custody of the ICTY was significant for international justice.

“His arrest confirms that no one can count on impunity for war crimes,” Mr. Brammertz said, noting that just one person – Goran Hadžic, who led a self-proclaimed breakaway state within Croatia – out of a total of 161 indicted by the tribunal is still at large. (...)

(...) Mr. Mladic, who served as a colonel general and as commander of the main staff of the Bosnian Serb army during the Balkan conflicts, is facing charges of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

The indictment against him, which was amended today, includes allegations about his role in the notorious killing of more than 7,000 Muslim men and boys in the supposedly “safe haven” of Srebrenica in 1995 and in the protracted and deadly siege of the city of Sarajevo between 1992 and 1995. (...)

See

[full article](#)

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3. How We Dined with Mladic and Failed our Duty

Adam LeBor

Financial Times

26 May 2011

The writer is the author of ‘Complicity with Evil: The United Nations in the Age of Modern Genocide’

(...) But if Gen Mladic and the Gaddafis likely share a destination in the dock on charges of crimes against humanity, there the similarity between Bosnia and Libya ends. The uprising in Libya began in mid-February. A month later, the Security Council passed UN Resolution 1973, authorising a “no-fly zone” and “all necessary measures” to protect civilians. Western military advisers are working with the rebels. Nato planes are bombing Col Gaddafi’s forces. Even attack helicopters may now be despatched. How the permanent representative of Bosnia-Herzegovina – ironically, one of the 10 members to vote in favour of 1973 – must have longed for such decisive action in the Bosnian war.

That war broke out in spring 1992 and ended in 1995, with the signing of the Dayton Accords. By that time, more than 100,000 were dead, and many more had been ethnically cleansed. The Bosnian Serbs set up a network of concentration camps and for more than three years freely laid siege to Sarajevo. It was only at the end of August 1995 that Nato finally launched waves of airstrikes against the Bosnian Serbs. Gen Mladic’s military machine rapidly collapsed.

Consider too the contrast within the UN Secretariat over Bosnia and Libya. There was none of today’s readiness for action; indeed quite the opposite, even though UN observers had reported back about the build-up of forces for some time before Gen Mladic launched his onslaught on Srebrenica on Thursday July 6 1995. (...)

(...)Srebrenica guilt still festers in western chancelleries and so it should. Douglas Hurd, the former UK foreign secretary, recently expressed regret over the arms embargo that prevented the Bosnians from defending themselves – an embargo he for years demanded be maintained. Had we in Bosnia shown a fraction of the resolve now on display in Libya, 8,000 men and boys would likely still be alive. Libya’s freedom is being bought with Bosnian blood. That one of those most responsible for spilling it now faces justice is meagre recompense. (...)

Source: Financial Times (Subscription Required)

VI. Upcoming Events and Reports from past events

1. Exchange of Views on preventing Genocide and Mass Atrocities

European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights

To be held: 14 June 2011

3:15pm – 4:30pm

Room: PHS 4 B 001

European Parliament, Brussels

Draft Programme

The exchange of views will focus on the work of the UN Special Advisers with regard to the prevention of genocide and to the responsibility to protect, and how their work relates to some of the major crises taking place today. In a continuing effort to strengthen the UN's role in the area, in 2004 the then Secretary-General proposed creating a Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide who would be supported by the High Commissioner for Human Rights but who would report directly to the Security Council, making clear the link, which is often ignored until too late, between massive and systematic violations of human rights and threats to international peace and security. The post, now occupied by Dr Francis DENG, was subsequently upgraded to a full-time post in line with efforts to further strengthen the UN's genocide-prevention capacities. In 2008 the current Secretary-General appointed Dr Edward C. Luck as Special Adviser, his work to include the responsibility to protect, as set out by the General Assembly in paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome document. Mr. Luck's primary role involves conceptual development and consensus building, to assist the General Assembly to continue consideration of this crucial issue. We will also hear from Mr György Tatar of the Foundation for the Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities on the initiative of the Hungarian Presidency relating to genocide.

Speakers

Dr Francis Deng,

UN Special Advisor for the Prevention of Genocide

Dr Edward C. Luck,

UN Special Advisor on the Responsibility to Protect

Mr György Tatár,

Chair of the Board of Trustees, Foundation for the Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities

Representative of the European External Action Service (EEAS)

The exchange of views can be followed
[online](#)

2. Public Hearing on the Occasion of the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights

To be held: 15 June 2011

9.30am – 10.30am

Room: PHS 4 B 001

European Parliament, Brussels

Draft Programme

Introductory remarks by
Ms Heidi Hautala,
Chair

World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) representative

on overall challenges in the fight against torture worldwide

Amnesty International representative

on trade in torture instruments

Ms Hina Jilani

, human rights activist and a founding member of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan and the Women's Action Forum

on torture and counter-terrorism with a focus on UN prospective

Discussion

Concluding remarks by
Ms Heidi Hautala,
Chair

The hearing can be followed
[online](#)

3. The United Nations and Regional Challenges in Africa

University of Pretoria

To be held 13-15 July 2011

The Department of Political Sciences and the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation (Uppsala) in cooperation with the Embassy of Sweden in Pretoria are proud to announce a conference on *The United Nations and Regional Challenges in Africa – 50 years after the death of Dag Hammarskjöld*.

A detailed programme and invitation will be distributed towards the latter half of June.

Speakers will include:

Francis Deng, Festus Mogae (tbc), Jan Pronk, Ove Bring, Carlos Lopes, Frene Ginwala, Kwesi Aning, Laurie Nathan and Monica Juma

Enquiries:
henning.melber@dhf.uu.se

maxi.schoeman@up.ac.za

See the
[conference announcement](#)

4. The Role of Regional and Subregional Arrangements in Strengthening the

Responsibility to Protect

The Stanley Foundation

Conference Report

May 2011

(...) On May 11, 2011, the Stanley Foundation convened a large array of UN member state representatives, key UN Secretariat and regional organization officials, and independent experts for a brainstorming meeting designed to focus attention on the role of regional and subregional arrangements in strengthening the responsibility to protect (R2P). (...)

(...) Given the upcoming General Assembly informal interactive dialogue scheduled for July 12, 2011, on "The Role of Regional and Subregional Arrangements in Implementing the Responsibility to Protect," the Stanley Foundation's May meeting sought to explore further the potential for regional contributions to protect against genocide, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. It was designed to elicit substantive input from member states, UN officials, and independent experts for the pending secretary-general's report, as well as General Assembly consideration of the subject in July. (...)

Read the
[conference report.](#)

5. Francis Deng and John Prendergast on Genocide Prevention

Enough Project

24 May 2011

(...) Under-Secretary General Francis Deng, the United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, and Enough Co-Founder John Prendergast engaged in a [conversation on genocide prevention](#) in a panel hosted by the U.N. Department of Public Information and Facing History and Ourselves. In the two hour-long discussion, Deng and Prendergast reflect on the tools and capacity the international community has developed in the ongoing effort to keep the 'never again' pledge. (...)

See the video of the conference
[here](#)

