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## Recent and upcoming events on RtoP and prevention of mass atrocities

*2013 has only just begun and there are already several events on the Responsibility to Protect (RtoP, R2P) and mass atrocities prevention taking place throughout the world.*

*Do not hesitate to get in*

[contact](#)

*with ICRtoP should you have additional questions about any of the events listed below or if you would like us to publicize your organization's upcoming work on our website, listserv and social media channels.*

### I. Recent Events

- 1 – 3 February, (Munich) - 2013 Munich Security Conference: Breakout Session on the Responsibility to Protect
- 1 February (New York) – Panel Event on Hate Speech and Incitement to Genocide; *US Holocaust Memorial Museum, UN Office on Genocide Prevention and RtoP, UN Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection on the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression and Permanent Mission of Norway to the UN*

### II. Upcoming Events

- 12 February (Toronto) - Ryerson Conference on Preventing Atrocities; *Canadian International Council*
- 12 February (Beirut) -Lecture on Exploring the Responsibility to Protect Doctrine: Perspectives from the Global South with Dr. Rama Mani; *Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs*

- 16 February (Toronto) - The Responsibility While Protecting: Emerging Powers and the Future of R2P;  
*Canadian Centre for the Responsibility to Protect and Munk School of Global Affairs*
- 26 February (New York) - Deconstructing Prevention: The Theory, Policy, and Practice of Mass Atrocity Prevention;  
*Cardozo School of Law's Program in Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies, Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation*
- 26 February (New York) - Ethics Matter: A Conversation with Roméo Dallaire;  
*Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs*
- 28 February (Melbourne) – Lecture on Ending Mass Atrocities in the 21st Century;  
*Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation at Monash University*
- 18 March (London) - Call for Papers and Conference – Beyond Responsibility to Protect: Towards Responsible Use of International Law?;  
*McCoubrey Centre for International Law at the University of Hull*
- 11 – 12 April (Ljubljana) - Responsibility to Protect in Theory and Practice Conference;  
*Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana*

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**[I. Recent Events](#)**    **1. 2013 Munich Security Conference: Breakout Session on the Responsibility to Protect**    1-3 February 2013 Munich, Germany    **T**  
*The Munich Security Conference, which took place this year from 1-3 February 2013, is an annual meeting which brings together senior government, international and civil society figures from around the world to discuss current and future security challenges.*

*The agenda of the Conference this year included a breakout session entitled, “Does R2P have a future”. The session featured a panel of experts and was chaired by Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Former Under-Secretary General of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Chairman of the White Paper Commission on French Defence and National Security, Paris. Panelists included Louise Arbour, President and Chief Executive Officer, International Crisis Group, Brussels, Belgium; Dr. Fatou Bensouda, Chief Prosecutor, International Criminal Court, The Hague, Netherlands; Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence, Ottawa, Canada; Louise Mushikiwabo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Republic of Rwanda, Kigali; and Stephen Rapp, United States Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues, Office of Global Criminal Justice, Washington, D.C.*

**Read full**

[press release](#)  
and  
[event program](#)

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See Peter MacKay's  
[statement](#)

. ICRtoP will compile panelists' statements as they are made available on our  
[website](#)

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## 2. Panel Event on Hate Speech and Incitement to Genocide

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection on the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression and Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations

1 February 2013

United Nations New York Headquarters

*On 1 February, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection on the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression and Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations organized a panel discussion on hate speech and incitement to genocide.*

*Opening remarks and the keynote address were provided by Ambassador Geir O. Pedersen, Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations, and Mr. Adama Dieng, United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, respectively.□ Panellists -*

**Frank LaRue**

*, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression;*

**Susan Benesch**

*, Genocide Prevention Fellow, US Holocaust Memorial Museum and□ Founder, Dangerous Speech Project, World Policy Institute;*

**George Weiss**

*, Founder, Radio La Benevolencija Humanitarian Tools Foundation□ (La Benevolencija); and A*

**idan White**

*, founding Director, Ethical Journalism Network*

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*discussed*

*the distinction between hate speech and incitement to violence, challenges and tools related to monitoring incitement to genocide and policy approaches and tools to address offensive speech that do not infringe on freedom of expression.*

Read a

[press release](#)

on the event from the Permanent Mission of Norway to the UN and

[event information](#)

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A panel event on the same topic was held in Washington, DC on 5 February; read more

[here](#)

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## [II. Upcoming Events](#)

### 1. Ryerson Conference on Preventing Atrocities

Canadian International Council

12 February 2013

Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada

*The, Canadian International Council will host a special conference at Ryerson University on the prevention of atrocities. The event will feature an international panel of experts, including ICRtoP member, the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies. Participants will include*

*Jeremy Kinsman, former Canadian Ambassador, Director of Democracy Support project for the Community of Democracies; Clint Curle, Canadian Museum for Human Rights; Michael Abramowitz, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's Center for the Prevention of Mass Atrocities; Stefanie Frease, Professor, University of Washington, independent consultant, and former Special Advisor to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY); Jill Sinclair, Assistant Deputy Minister for Policy, Department of National Defence and ex-Executive Director of the R2P Commission; Robert LaGamma, President, Council for a Community of Democracies, Washington, D.C ; Frank Chalk, Director of the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies; and Kyle Matthews, Senior Deputy Director, Will to Intervene Project, Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies.*

**See further information**

[here](#)

## **2. Lecture on Exploring the Responsibility to Protect Doctrine: Perspectives from the Global South**

Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon

12 February 2013

*Dr. Rama Mani, Councilor of the World Future Council, and a Board member of the Foundation for the Future, will give a lecture entitled “Exploring the Responsibility to Protect Doctrine: Perspectives from the Global South” at the American University of Beirut.*

From the organizers: The talk will address the “Responsibility to Protect” and International Intervention as it relates to the Arab World. It will discuss the findings of Dr. Mani's co-edited book,

*Responsibility to Protect: Cultural Perspectives from the Global South*

with Thomas Weiss (Routledge 2011). Dr. Mani will be using a comparative approach drawing on her experience on the subject and her work on transitional justice, conflict transformation and peace building.

### **See further information**

[here.](#)

## **3. The Responsibility While Protecting: Emerging Powers and the Future of R2P**

Canadian Centre for the Responsibility to Protect and Munk School of Global Affairs

16 February 2013

Campbell Conference Facility, Munk School of Global Affairs, Toronto, Canada

*The Canadian Centre for the Responsibility to Protect and Munk School of Global Affairs have organized a conference on the Responsibility to Protect and the role of the emerging powers.*

From the organizers: A decade since its birth, the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) principle has made remarkable progress as an emerging international norm. However, it remains hotly

contested, and even rejected, in the eyes of some UN member states. (...) One attempt to improve the track record of the principle, and thereby expand its global consensus, has emerged in Brazil's ["responsibility while protecting"] RwP proposal. (...) How should governments, scholars, civil society and students understand the implications of this proposal? This conference will address: 1) the meaning of RwP for the emerging R2P norm and, 2) the unique role BRICS can play in mobilizing international intervention.

*Ambassador Afonso José Sena Cardoso*

*from the Consul General of Brazil in Toronto will give the keynote address, and will be followed by two panels on "Assessing Brazilian Leadership and RwP" and "BRICS and the R2P".*

*Among others, Gilberto Rodrigues, from Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES), an*

*ICRtoP Steering Committee Member, will participate during the conference.*

### See further information

[here.](#)

## 4. Deconstructing Prevention: The Theory, Policy, and Practice of Mass Atrocity Prevention

Benjamin Cardozo School of Law's Program in Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies, Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

26 February 2013

Cardozo School of Law, New York, United States

*Benjamin Cardozo School of Law's*

*Program in Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies and the*

*Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation, an ICRtoP member, will hold a conference on the theory and practice of prevention. Senator Roméo Dallaire will give a keynote speech during the event, and will be followed by four panels. Conference partners include the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs and Institute for the Study of Genocide.*

From the organizers: Over the past decade, the prevention agenda has expanded to include conflict prevention, protection of civilians, genocide prevention, atrocity prevention, transitional justice, and the Responsibility to Protect. While this expansion is welcome, it does not come without its challenges. The rapid growth in policy response and civil society advocacy has left little time for critique and self-reflection. The prevention field's underlying assumptions and goals have remained for the most part under-examined and under-theorized.

This conference seeks to reveal an understanding of atrocity prevention, defining its parameters and rationalizing its relationship to related disciplines and agendas. It will result in an edited volume serving as an authoritative work on the state of the field of prevention. (...)

**See further information**

[here.](#)

## **5. Ethics Matter: A Conversation with Roméo Dallaire**

Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs

26 February 2013

New York, United States

*This event is part of the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs' "Ethics Matter" series. It is already sold out, but you can watch the live [webcast](#)*

From the organizer: (...) In this "Ethics Matter" conversation, former UN commander and current Canadian Senator Roméo Dallaire will discuss how his own efforts to prevent genocide in Rwanda have defined his current views on conflict prevention, the responsibility to protect (R2P), and the need to put humanity before political and economic interests. (...)

Lt. Gen. Roméo Dallaire has emerged as one of his generation's most candid proponents of international intervention in the face of mass atrocity. He will discuss the ethical and moral issues that have defined his career and his life-long struggle to forge a global will to intervene on humanity's behalf. (...)

**See further information**

[here.](#)

## **6. Ending Mass Atrocities in the 21st Century**

Holocaust and Genocide Studies program at the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation at Monash University

28 February 2013

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

***The Monash Wallenberg Oration delivered at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia explores important themes in Holocaust and genocide scholarship, and is named in memory of Raoul Wallenberg, who risked his life to save Jews during the Holocaust. This year, Dr. Simon Adams, Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect and Special Advisor to the Monash-Oxfam Partnership will give the oration.***

From the organizer: In the half century after the Holocaust, 'Never Again' was never more than an empty promise. The international community failed to stop the genocide in Cambodia, dithered as crimes against humanity were committed in Bosnia, and passively watched as a million people were killed in the Rwandan genocide. Shamed by these failures, in 2005 the largest gathering of heads of state and government ever assembled, meeting at the United Nations World Summit, unanimously adopted the 'Responsibility to Protect' (R2P). R2P is a commitment to protect all human beings from crimes against humanity, genocide, ethnic cleansing and war crimes. But what is required for R2P to have meaning, save lives and prevent mass atrocities in the twenty-first century? (...)

**See further information**  
[here](#)

## **7. Call for Papers and Conference – Beyond Responsibility to Protect: Towards Responsible Use of International Law**

McCoubrey Centre for International Law at the University of Hull, United Kingdom

Deadline for abstracts: 18 March 2013

*The McCoubrey Centre for International Law at the University of Hull in the United Kingdom has issued a call for papers to be presented at a conference, entitled "Beyond Responsibility to Protect: Towards Responsible Use of International Law?", in London in June 2013. Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be sent to the Centre by 18 March.*

From the organizer: The key idea is that international law increasingly requires states not only to abstain from breaking the law, but also to pro-actively protect common interests or values of the international community. Seen from this perspective, sovereignty is not merely about rights, but

also (perhaps, primarily) about duties; in particular, that States have a responsibility to take steps to prevent breaches of international law, especially the commission of heinous crimes.

The principal aim of the Conference is to explore these ideas in greater depth. An equally important goal is to critically evaluate and challenge the concept of R2P. Two approaches are of interest. One way would be to reject the narrow definition of R2P and question why R2P is only considered in the context of States, as an attribute of sovereignty. (...) A second critical approach is to question the entire legal basis for R2P. Such a deconstructive approach could challenge the legal basis in positive international law of what may be seen as another expression of the ideology of *droits-de-l'hommisme*. (...) **See further information [here](#).**

### **8. Responsibility to Protect in Theory and Practice Conference**

Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

11-12 April 2013

*This conference is being held with support from the Embassies of Sweden, and the United Kingdom, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.*

From the organizers: "Responsibility to Protect in Theory and Practice" is the first conference devoted exclusively to the concept of Responsibility to Protect (R2P/RtoP) in this part of the world, with the objective to create an opportunity for scholars and practitioners to engage in an interdisciplinary academic debate on the theoretical and practical implications of the concept of Responsibility to Protect (R2P). The conference will be organized as a forum where international legal experts and researchers will have the opportunity to participate in a discourse with international political scientists to advance the scientific research on the issues related to R2P and the applicability of the concept in practice.

More than 90 speakers and poster presenters from almost 40 countries and international institutions will discuss issues regarding R2P in 3 parallel panels each day.

A meeting of regional R2P focal points will be held in Slovenia a day before the conference (April 10, 2013) and the regional R2P focal points will participate at the conference in a separate panel on the first day (April 11, 2013). (...) **See further information [here](#).**