

APPG meeting with Alex Bellamy and Gareth Evans launches R2P briefing UNA-UK 16 May 2013

Professor Alex J. Bellamy is Professor of International Security at Griffith University, and was previously the Executive Director of the Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect at the University of Queensland, as well as Professor of International Relations at the University of Queensland. The Honorable Gareth Evans is an international policymaker, former Australian Foreign Minister, and lawyer. He also served as a co-Chair of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS).

On 15 May, the All Party Parliamentary Groups on the United Nations

, Global Security and Non-Proliferation, and on Genocide Prevention, were addressed by the Hon. Gareth Evans and Professor Alex J. Bellamy – two leading experts on the Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

. In a panel discussion chaired by Lord Hannay, both speakers highlighted the progress made on establishing and consolidating the principle of R2P and the challenges of implementing the policy framework it prescribes for the preventing and responding to mass atrocity crimes.

Professor Bellamy emphasised the need to develop a solid institutional basis for implementing R2P and highlighted the importance of coordinating intelligence sharing and early warning mechanisms. He argued that these measures would allow for R2P to be employed as a long-term preventative tool, thus shifting the emphasis away from responsive measures like military intervention.

Mr Evans focused on the implementation of R2P in “hard cases”. He argued that the lack of decisive action on Syria has been a direct result of the international intervention in Libya, which has challenged the fragile consensus on the implementation of R2P. Mr Evans asserted that rebuilding that consensus must be a priority. He therefore stated his support for the tenets of “Responsibility While Protecting” - an amended version of R2P that, among other things, will ensure that future international actions have a clearly defined mandate. (...)

The presentations were followed by a lively question and answer session in which UNA-UK Chairman Sir Jeremy Greenstock took the opportunity to give a firm statement of UNA-UK’s determination to “keep pushing” on R2P, as part of the global effort to increase the force and effect of the norm.

(...)

The meeting served as the launch for UNA-UK’s first policy briefing on R2P, written by

Professor Alex Bellamy. The report, which Mr Evans described as “an admirable and compelling account” of the emergence of R2P, clarifies the principle’s meaning and scope and considers the steps required to implement the norm at the UN Headquarters, within national governments and as part of the international response to emerging crises across the world. (...)

[Read full news.](#)

[Read the full UNA-UK R2P policy brief, written by Professor Alex Bellamy.](#)