

Fifth Open Debate on the Protection of Civilians: 27 May 2008 The fifth open debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict was held on 27 May 2008. The delegates in the Security Council Chamber condemned all violations of international law and reaffirmed the inalienable responsibility of sovereign states and the international community to protect their populations. In the course of the meeting, many governments supported the development of RtoP as agreed from the 2005 World Summit. John Sawers, President of the Security Council, re-emphasized on behalf of the Council "the responsibility of States to comply with their relevant obligations to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity and serious violations of international humanitarian law (...)."

To access excerpts of statements on RtoP at the fifth open debate, please view the [following document](#) compiled by the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect.