

Forum Social Mundial 2003 – World Social Forum
**The World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy and the
Responsibility to Protect**

Summary Report

The World Social Forum, held in Porto Alegre, Brazil from January 23-28, 2003, offered a valuable opportunity to raise awareness of the concept of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) amongst the more than 100,000 NGOs in attendance, to distribute the ICISS Report and other information materials, to solicit ideas regarding a potential NGO role in promoting and operationalizing the concept of R2P, and in developing an interest in future involvement in this issue.

WFM-IGP participated actively in the Forum, organizing a seminar on the Responsibility to Protect, raising the issue and mentioning the ICISS Report from the floor at as many seminars, panels and workshops as possible, and distributing both the ICISS Report and WFM-IGP materials on the Responsibility to Protect in four languages. Many important contacts were made, in particular with Latin American NGOs, and the commitment of major human rights organizations such as Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and the Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme to be involved in this effort was significantly strengthened.

WFM-IGP accomplished the following during the four days of our attendance:

I. Materials Distributed:

- 300 copies, including 100 in English, French and Spanish, of the ICISS Report
- 4,000 copies, including 1,000 in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, of a 3-page overview of the Responsibility to Protect, explaining the key issues, highlighting the ICISS Report, emphasizing the need for NGO engagement in these issues and inviting communication with WFM-IGP (a sample in English and Portuguese is attached)
- 4,000 copies, including 1,000 in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, of a flyer advertising the WFM-IGP seminar on the Responsibility to Protect, with additional copies posted in highly visible areas at the Forum

II. Media interviews given on the Responsibility to Protect:

- Radio France International (RFI)
- Die Zeit, a German weekly paper

III. Other media outlets/independent journalists with whom meetings were held and to whom information was provided:

- Reuters
- Inter Press Service
- New York Times
- Radio Brazil
- Terra Vive
- Libération (France)
- Marie Claire, editorial desk
- Carta Maior, Brazilian daily paper (Sao Paulo)
- Die Tageszeitung, Brazilian daily paper (Porto Alegre)
- Priscila Siqueira, independent Brazilian journalist (Sao Paulo)
- Alejandro Kirk, independent Brazilian journalist (Porto Alegre)

IV. Seminar organized by WFM-IGP on the Responsibility to Protect:

Title: The Protection of Civilians – Can Intervention be Justified?

Speakers:

Sidiki Kaba, President, Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (FIDH), Senegal

Alirio Uribe Munoz, President, Colectivo de Abogados Jose Alvear Restrepo in Colombia; Vice President, FIDH

Rory Mungoven, Advocacy Director, Human Rights Watch

Jayne Stoyles, World Federalist Movement – Chair

V. Other panels, seminars and workshops at which WFM-IGP's Executive Director spoke and mentioned the Responsibility to Protect concept, inviting participation in its operationalization:

Pela Plena Implementacao dos Direitos

Aloysius Irudayam, Dalit Human Rights Campaign, India

William Pace, Estados Unidos

Cecilia Brigui, CISL, Italia

Gigi Francisco, DAWN, Filipinas

Ignacio Saiz, Amnesty International, Inglaterra

Lea Tsemel, Alternative Information Center, Israel/Palestine

Rande Sinure, Al Haaq / Law Service of Man, Palestina

Sidiki Kaba (facilitador), FIDH, Senegal

Title: Globalization of Justice: the International Criminal Court
Organization: Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (FIDH); en
prospection. Ce seminaire s'integre dans le prolongement du seminaire sur les droits
economiques, sociaux et culturels, organise par le CRID et don't la FIDH est partenaire

Title: Review of Initiatives for In-Depth Democratization and Global Governance
Organization: World Federalist Movement, The Global Democracy Experiment, World
Citizen Foundation, Alliance 21, and UBUNTU

**VI. Panels, seminars and workshops attended by WFM-IGP at which points
were raised from the floor about the Responsibility to Protect, materials were
distributed and contacts were made:**

Title: Alternatives to Militarization and War
Tariq Ali, Paquistao, Palestine
Samir Amin, Egypt
Medea Benjamin, USA
Istvan Meszaros, UK

Title: Democratic Strategies to Resolve International Conflicts
Betty Murphy, Dominican Sisters of Springfield, USA
El Karri, Basque country
Chris Nineham, Globalize Resistance, UK
Guillermo Kerber Mas, Conselho Mundial de Igrejas, Uruguay
Magdala Velasques, Red de Mulheres del Sur Occidente, Colombia
Michel Warchawsky (facilitador), AIC, Israel

Title: Administration of Conflicts
Organization: Instituto de Ajuda ao Aluno Carente; Marcos Henrique Achado

Title: For a Global Peace
Organization: Movimiento Humanista

Title: United Nations Reform – Transparent, Democratic and Participatory
Organization: Peter-Hesse-Foundation – Solidarity in Partnership

Title: Fighting War: Alternative Ways to Security
Organization: Transform!

Title: Resisting Militarism: The Power of Youth
Organization: JustAct: Youth Action for Global Justice; OCAE (Organization of
Continental Latin American Students), JustAct youth delegation

Title: The Nonviolent Peaceforce: Civilian Peacekeeping instead of Military Peacekeeping

Organization: The Nonviolent Peaceforce

Title: Globalization, War, and Militarism, Women's Response

Organization: International South Group Network

Title: Violence Against Women is Endemic

Organization: Amnesty International

Title: Feminist Attac International Workshop

Organization: ATTAC Sweden

Title: International Conflicts

Organization: Associacao de Estudos de Direito Internacional

Title: Parties, NGOs and Social Movements – Different Political Logistics?

Organization: Rosa Luxembourg Foundation, Jose Maria Gomez (CLASCO and the University of Rio do Janeiro, Argentina/Brazil)

Title: A Culture of Peace is Possible – Interactive Peace Training

Organization: PeaceBoat

VII. Other events at which WFM-IGP raised the issue of the Responsibility to Protect:

UBUNTU eminent persons meeting

Host: Frederico Mayor - UBUNTU

Participants: William Pace - WFM, Martin Khor, Director– Third World Network, Vicky Corpuz Tauli – Third World Network, and Evelyn Herfkens, Executive Director – Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Human Rights Experts meeting:

An informal meeting at the Cultural Center of international human rights groups, including Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme and human rights lawyers

VIII. Contacts made:

- many leading NGOs from Latin America, for example the Movimiento de derechos humanos from Brazil, which has a network of 40 Brazilians human rights NGOs; several NGOs and academics from Colombia; other NGOs and individual activists from Chile, Peru, Argentina, Uruguay, Ecuador and Venezuela

- NGOs and other civil society groups from countries in Africa (including Angolophone, Francophone and Lusophone countries), Asia and the Middle East
- the numerous high level officials of the Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme in attendance, including its President and several Vice-Presidents and board members
- many high level officials of Amnesty International's International Secretariat