

6th Biennial

RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

Conference



May 11–12, 2023

Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

PROGRAM*



Pravna fakulteta
Univerza v Ljubljani

Univerza v Ljubljani



Conference Chair: Professor Dr. Vasilka Sancin,

Head of Department of International Law, Director of the Institute for
International Law and International Relations,

Conference Coordinator: Assistant Professor Dr. Maša Kovič Dine.

*Changes to the program can be made in the run-up to the conference. All the changes will be displayed in the program published on the conference web page. The organizers shall not be liable for any loss, liability, damage or expenses suffered or incurred by any person due to the changes.

About the Conference



The R2P Conference Series

2023 marks a decade since the launch of the first RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT IN THEORY AND PRACTICE CONFERENCE and the beginning of a series of biennial, international and interdisciplinary scientific conferences devoted exclusively to the principle of Responsibility to Protect (R2P/RtoP) in this part of the world. The objective of the conference series is to create an opportunity for scholars and practitioners to engage in an interdisciplinary academic debate on the theoretical and practical implications of the R2P principle. The conference series has been conceptualized and is being organised by Professor Dr Vasilka Sancin as the Conference Chair and Assistant Professor Dr Maša Kovič Dine as the Conference Coordinator, both members of the Department of International Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Ljubljana.

The conferences are organised as a forum where international experts and researchers have the opportunity to participate in a discourse on issues related to R2P and the applicability of the principle in practice.

The first conference was organised in 2013, followed by conferences in 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2021.

The 2023 conference is held under the honorary patronage of the President of the Republic of Slovenia, H.E. Dr. Nataša Pirc Musar.

Conference Organizers

Organizers



**Conference Chair:
Professor
Dr. Vasilka Sancin**

Head of Department of International Law, Director of the Institute for International Law and International Relations, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana



**Conference Coordinator:
Assistant Professor
Dr. Maša Kovič Dine**

Member of the Department of International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

Conference Program Overview

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

- 9:00–09:45** Registration
- 10:00–10:15** **Opening remarks by the President of the Republic of Slovenia, H.E. Dr. Nataša Pirc Musar**
- 10:15 –10:20** **Video Address by the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, H.E. Tanja Fajon**
- 10:20–10:40** **Lecture by the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect**
- 10:40–11:00** Coffee break offered by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Slovenia
- 11:00–13:00** **OPENING PANEL**
- 13:00–14:00** Lunch reception and taking of a group photo
- 14:00–15:30** **PANEL 1: EXPERIENCE AND PROSPECT FOR R2P FOCAL POINTS**
- 15:30–17:00** **PANEL 2: R2P AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL**
- 17:00–17:30** Coffee break and poster presentations
- 17:30–19:30** **PANEL 3: R2P AND CHALLENGES OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW**
- 20:00** **Gala conference dinner at the Ljubljana Castle**

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

- 09:30–11:00** **PANEL 4: AI AND R2P**
- 11:00–12:30** **PANEL 5: R2P AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN: ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES**
- 12:30–14:00** **PANEL 6: INTERVENTIONS AND R2P**
- 14:00–15:00** Luncheon with Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC)
- 15:00–16:30** **PANEL 7: WOMEN AND R2P**
in parallel with
- PANEL 8: R2P AND REGIONAL APPROACHES**
- 16:30–16:45** Coffee break
- 16:45–17:45** **PANEL 9: NATIONAL APPROACHES TO R2P**
- 17:45–18:00** Concluding remarks by Conference Chair
- 18:00** Guided walking tour of Ljubljana

Thursday, May 11, 2023

- 09:00-09:45** Registration
- 10:00-10:15** **Opening remarks by the President of the Republic of Slovenia**
H.E. Dr. Nataša Pirc Musar
- 10:15-10:20** **Video Address by the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia**
H.E. Tanja Fajon
- 10:20-10:40** **Lecture by Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect**
Taking forward uptake and implementation of R2P
George Okoth-Obbo
- 10:40-11:00** **Coffee break offered by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Slovenia**

Opening
addresses

Thursday, May 11, 2023

11:00–13:00 OPENING PANEL

Chair: Dr. Vasilka Sancin

Professor and Head of the Department of International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

- **The Principle of Responsibility to Protect in Times of COVID Pandemic and Heightened Geopolitical Competition: The Case of Ethiopia's Tigray War**

Mehari Taddele Maru

Part-time Professor, School of Transnational Governance and Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute

- **Interests and values – accountability and R2P**

Reka Varga

Associate Professor of International Law, Dean, Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies, University of Public Service, Hungary

- **The War in Ukraine and Its Implications for R2P**

Jan Wouters

Professor of International Law and International Organizations, Jean Monnet Chair ad personam EU and Global Governance, founding Director of the Institute for International Law and of the Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies, KU Leuven

- **Where lies responsibility within the principle of R2P? Reflections on how to strengthen the effectiveness of R2P**

Michael Lysander Fremuth

Professor for Fundamental and Human Rights, Institute for Constitutional and Administrative Law, University of Vienna, Scientific Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute

- **Reviving R2P in a New Era of Gray Zone Conflict**

Michael A. Newton

Professor of the Practice of Law, Vanderbilt University - Law School

13:00–14:00 Lunch reception and taking of a group photo

Thursday, May 11, 2023

14:00–15:30 EXPERIENCE AND PROSPECT FOR R2P FOCAL POINTS

Chair: Dr. Marko Rakovec

Acting Director-General, Directorate for International Law and Protection of Interests, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Slovenia

- Blanka Jamnišek
Ambassador, R2P Focal Point of Slovenia, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Slovenia
- Shara Duncan Villalobos
Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
- Christina Kokkinakis
Deputy Managing Director, Values and Multilateral Relations, European External Action Service
- Elisabeth Pramendorfer
Geneva Representative, Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect

Discussant: George Okoth-Obbo
Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect

Panel 1

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Panel 2

15:30–17:00 R2P AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Chair: Matej Marn (tbc)

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Slovenia

- **Armed Groups and the Responsibility to Protect: analyzing interactions as a driver of mass atrocity crimes perpetrated by armed groups**

Adrian Gallagher

Professor in Global Security and Mass Atrocity Prevention, Co-Director European Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, Editor, Global Responsibility to Protect, Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds

Helena Hinkkainen

Associate Professor in Security, Conflict Studies and Governance, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds

- **R2P and the UN Security Council: The paralyzing impact of the veto power and the need for reform**

Erjon Muharremaj

Vice Dean, Lecturer of Public International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Tirana

- **Non-UN sanctions and the Responsibility to Protect: Legality, Legitimacy and their effect on R2P**

Ljupcho Stojkovski

Assistant Professor in International Law and International Relations, Faculty of Law “Iustinianus Primus Skopje”, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University

- **Rethinking of R2P with the Ecocrime Debate**

Zerin Savasan

Associate Professor, Sub-Department of International Law, Department of International Relations, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Selçuk University

- **The Responsibility to Protect and Women, Peace and Security: Strengthening the UN atrocity risk analysis with gender indicators**

Alba Gerdeci

Head of Rector’s Cabinet and IR Office, Lecturer, Department of Law, Epoka University

17:00–17:30 Coffee break and poster presentations

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Panel 3

17:30–19:30 R2P AND CHALLENGES OF ICL

Chair: Andreas Sauermaier

Institute for Constitutional and Administrative Law,
University of Vienna

- **Possible Responses to Russian Aggression on Ukraine – The place of international criminal justice in the R2P scheme**
Maja Munivrana
Professor, Department of Criminal Law, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb
- **Protecting Ukrainians from Russian Imperialism: Maybe a Special Tribunal for Aggression is the Best Prevention Route?**
Patryk I. Labuda
Swiss National Science Foundation Fellow, University of Zürich
- **Aiding and Abetting – Possible Criminal Responsibility of Platform Providers before the ICC for Facilitating Mass Atrocities**
Andras Hars
Senior Lecturer, Department of International Law, University of Public Service, Budapest
- **Ecocide and the Croatian Criminal Code – Could the proposal to amend the Criminal Code become a reality as an upgrade to the R2P principle?**
Sunčana Roksanđić
Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb
Marija Selak
Associate Professor, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb
- **Responsible Sovereignty – the ‘building block’ of R2P in the fight against conflict-related sexual violence**
Sandra Fabijanić Gagro
Full Professor, Department of International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

20:00 **Gala Conference Dinner
at the Ljubljana Castle**

Friday, May 12, 2023

09:30–11:00 R2P AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Chair: Dr. Vasilka Sancin

Professor and Head of the Department of International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

- **R2P begins at school. Will AI help or hinder?**

Wayne Holmes

Senior Researcher, International Research Centre on Artificial Intelligence under the auspices of UNESCO, and Associate Professor, University College London

- **AI as an important tool to detect/prevent or accelerate online hate speech**

Catherine Van de Heyning

Assistant professor European fundamental rights law, University of Antwerpen

- **Artificial Intelligence and Humanitarian Assistance: Revisiting Principles of Sovereignty and Non-Intervention in the Context of the R2P**

Maruša Tekavčič Veber

Teaching Assistant, Department of International Law Law, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

- **R2P Through the Lens of the EU Artificial Intelligence Act**

Tadeja Urbas

Research Assistant, Department of International Law Law, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

Friday, May 12, 2023

11:00–12:30 R2P AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN: ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Chair: Dr. Laura Guercio

Professor, University of Perugia

Panel 5

- **Video address by Virginia Gamba de Potgieter**

Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children in Armed Conflict

- **How does R2P work in protecting children and preventing violence against them? The R2P and the UN System**

Fausto Pocar

Professor Emeritus of International Law, Private International Law and European Law at the University of Milan

- **In what ways can local and global civil society support the process of R2P?**

Antonino Pola, Legal expert of International Cooperation, Kids Rainbow Organization

Aglia Gallo, International Relations Consultant , CENSIS Centro Studi Investimenti Sociali (Center of Studies on Social Investment)

- **Rethinking the protection of cultural heritage as a right of a child and a tool in the framework of R2P**

Ilaria Pretelli

Senior Research Fellow, Swiss institute of comparative law

Friday, May 12, 2023

12:30–14:00 INTERVENTIONS AND R2P

Chair: Dr. Vittorio Mainetti

Adjunct Professor, University of Milan

- **The Law and Reality of Implementing the Responsibility to Maintain International Peace and Security at the United Nations**

Patrick Butchard

Senior Lecturer in Law, Edge Hill University

- **R2P elements in the conflict in Syria**

Esmail Alsaghir

PhD student in the Law Department, University of Warwick

- **The United States and the Conception of Humanitarian Intervention in the Yugoslav Crisis**

Vladimir Petrović

Research Professor, Institute for Contemporary History

Juliane Prade-Weiss

Professor of Comparative Literature, Ludwig Maximilian University Munich

Dominik Markl

Professor of Hebrew Bible and its Ancient Near Eastern Contexts, University of Innsbruck

- **Untangling the ties between the concept of Responsibility to Protect and the cultural heritage**

Mariafrancesca Cataldo

PhD candidate; IMT school for advanced studies

14:00–15:00 Luncheon with Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC) Chair Sylvia Fernandez de Gurmendi

Friday, May 12, 2023

15:00–16:30 WOMEN AND R2P

Chairs: Devon Knudsen

Policy Advisor, Atrocity Prevention, Bureau of
Conflict & Stabilization Operations
and

Rachel Grand

Gender-Based Violence Policy Advisor within the
U.S. Department of State Secretary's Office of
Global Women's Issues

Panel 7

- **Gender, Civil Society and the Politics of Protection**

Lucy Hall

Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Amsterdam

- **Queering Atrocity Prevention**

Dean Cunningham-Cooper

Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Inequality, University of Sheffield

Jess Gifkins

Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in International Relations,
University of Manchester

- **Protecting Civilians or Colonial Worldviews? A Queer Analysis of UK Debates on Humanitarian Intervention**

Patrik Vernon

PhD researcher, Department of Political Science and International
Studies, University of Birmingham

- **'Until all the powerful are just': Rational masculine protectors, the United Nations and the R2P**

Shannon Mathieu

Teaching Fellow in International Relations and Security, University
of Warwick

16:30–16:45 Coffee break

Friday, May 12, 2023

15:00–16:30 R2P AND REGIONAL APPROACHES

Chair: Dr. Martin Faix

Professor, Vice Dean for International Affairs, Palacky University, Olomouc

- **The European Union's Approach towards R2P: Normative Guiding Principle or Vague Political Objective in its External Relations?**
Moritz Malkmus
PhD candidate and Research Assistant, Goethe University Frankfurt
- **R2P, Sanctions against Russia and EU Law – Is there a legal duty for the EU to support Ukraine?**
Stefan Lorenzmeier
Augsburg University
- **Sub-regionalizing the implementation of R2P in Africa**
Swikani Ncube
Senior Lecturer and Head of Department: Practical Business Law, Faculty of Law, University of Johannesburg
- **Sexual Violence as Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect in Contemporary Asia**
Hokbi Tiun
PhD candidate, University of Ottawa

16:30–16:45 Coffee break

Friday, May 12, 2023

16:45-17:45 NATIONAL APPROACHES TO R2P

Chair: Beti Hohler

Trial Lawyer, International Criminal Court

Panel 9

- **Implementing R2P in the Americas: Pathways to a Regional Mass Atrocity Prevention and Response System**
Jared Genser (video clip)
Special Adviser on R2P to the OAS
- **Responsibility to Protect doctrine and India's Response to Protect Persecuted Minorities in South Asia – the Case of Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019**
Pawan Kumar
Assistant Professor, School of Law, Bennett University
- **An invisible genocide? Atrocity crimes against indigenous peoples in the Brazilian Amazon**
Lucas Ribeiro de Belmont Fonseca
Postgraduate Researcher, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds

17:45-18:00 Concluding remarks by Conference Chair Professor Vasilka Sancin

18:00 Guided walking tour of Ljubljana

Poster presentations

Both days during all the breaks

- **World without Responsibility to Protect**
Rok Kljajić
Teaching Assistant and Doctoral Candidate, Department of International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana
- **R2P in Afghanistan Through the Lens of International Human Rights Mechanisms**
Sugandha Sawhney
Centre for Human Rights Advocacy, Geneva
- **Artificial Intelligence as a means of realizing the Responsibility to Protect in light of threats of the World Wide Web**
Peter Šujica
Undergraduate student, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana
- **Children and R2P**
Nejc Moškon
Patricija Resnik
Eva Prosen
Ana Veljkovič
Master students, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana
- **The relationship between violations and abuses of human rights and the commission of atrocity crimes with example of Uyghurs**
Maruša Levstek
Lovrena Jeromej
Klara Kuhar
Urška Arzenšek
Master students, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana
- **R2P and Natural Disasters – the Case of Haiti**
Gala Martinčič
Janina Mikič
Špela Jenko
Tjaša Žakelj
Master students, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

- **Natural Disaster – Another Justification for the Enforcement of R2P?**
Matevž Jurič
Kaja Leban
Ana Pasarič
Rea Šaina
Master students, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana
- **Should Ecocide be the fifth reason to invoke R2P?**
Mark Jeršič
Tjaša Mučič
Veronika Novak
Laura Pipan
Master students, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana
- **R2P in the Context of Israel's Occupation of Palestine**
Tjaša Marinček
Ema Hojs
Gregor Lipovec
Walter Maj Vidmar
Master students, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

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Conference supporters:



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