



Conference: The Responsibility to Protect: Re-Energizing the Key Players

*Convened by The Simons Foundation under the auspices of the Simons Visiting Chair
in International Law and Human Security, Simon Fraser University*

Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue, Simon Fraser University
580 West Hastings Street, Vancouver
22-24 March 2017

Program

Wednesday, 22 March

Asia Pacific Hall

1800-1930 **Public Lecture and Dialogue: R2P Stocktake: Achievements & Challenges**
Professor the Hon. Gareth Evans, AC, QC

Thursday, 23 March

Strategy Room 420

0900-0915 **Welcome Remarks**
Jennifer Allen Simons, The Simons Foundation
Gareth Evans, Conference Chair

Panel Sessions

Up to four panelists to make framing presentations each session (5-10 mins max each), followed by interactive discussion in which all conference participants are expected to engage. Gareth Evans will chair all sessions.

0915- 1030 **Panel 1: Review of Impact of R2P to Date**

More than a decade after its adoption at the 2005 UN World Summit, how well has R2P succeeded as a normative framework, a catalyst for institutional change, a preventive framework and a reactive framework? What are the main challenges for its consistent and effective implementation? Does the original concept still stand up or does it need modification? How should R2P continue to intersect with ongoing debates regarding human rights, peacekeeping and humanitarian crises?

Simon Adams
Lloyd Axworthy
Ramesh Thakur
Abi Williams

1100-1230 **Panel 2: UN Secretary General and Secretariat Role**

What difference can the new UN Secretary-General make to the future of R2P as both a mobilizing principle and a meaningful guide to action? How can the UN Secretariat play a stronger role in implementing R2P and the “Human Rights Up-front” agenda? Are any changes needed to the structure and processes of the Special Advisers’ Office? How important, if at all, is R2P to the reform and revitalisation of the UN?

Edward Luck
Ivan Šimonović
Jennifer Welsh

1230-1330 **Lunch**
Hamber Foundation Boardroom 470

1330-1430 **Panel 3: Permanent Five Role – the P3**

How important have the P3 been to the development of R2P? Is there a danger in R2P being perceived as “P3” project? What responsibility, if any, do the P3 bear – given the widespread perception of overreach in the implementation of the Libyan mandate in 2011 – for the paralysis of the Security Council in the face of atrocity crimes in Syria? What can the P3 contribute to the restoration of consensus in the Security Council in cases that may require military intervention? What can we expect from the US with the Trump administration? Does the veto restraint proposal have a future?

David Hannay
David Pressman

1430-1530 **Panel 4: Permanent Five Role – the P2**

How fair is the perception in the West of the P2 as R2P opponents and spoilers, given that China and Russia have both voted for some 50 R2P resolutions in the Security Council? What does the strategic clash between the P3 and the P2 over Libya and Syria mean for R2P’s future? Are the two countries on the same or different pages in their approach to R2P? What can the P2 contribute to the restoration of consensus in the Security Council in cases that may require military intervention?

Ruan Zongze
Ekaterina Stepanova

1600-1700 **Panel 5: Canada’s Role**

Given that Canada played a crucial role in the genesis of R2P and its adoption at the 2005 UN World Summit, and now that “Canada is back” at the UN, what more can it contribute once again to ensuring the effective implementation of the norm? Other key “middle power” governments were also instrumental in building support for R2P after 2005 and in constructing a “community of commitment” to help its transformation from principle to practice: how can that commitment be re-energized?

Roméo Dallaire
Heidi Hulan
David Malone
Allan Rock

1900-2200 **Dinner: Presentation of *The Simons Foundation Award for Distinguished Global Leadership in the Service of Peace and Disarmament***
Spanish Ballroom, Rosewood Hotel Georgia

Friday, 24 March

Strategy Room 420

0900-1030 **Panel 6: BRICS and Global South Role**

Given that, since the start of the new century, India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) have played an increasingly prominent part in global politics, including as members, with China and Russia, of the BRICS group, what role can and should they play in the future of R2P? To what extent have they reconnected R2P to its political roots in the Global South? What can they contribute to the restoration of consensus in the Security Council in cases that may require military intervention? What is the future in this respect of Brazil's "Responsibility while Protecting" (RWP) proposal?

Patrick Luna
Doc Mashabane
Hardeep Singh Puri

1100-1230 **Panel 7: Civil Society Organizations and Academics Role**

Have academic critiques on balance helped, hindered or been irrelevant to the evolution of R2P? How significant has been the advocacy and support role of civil society organizations? What role can and should they respectively play in re-energizing global commitment to R2P? How important is it to counter the perception that R2P is a state-centric or UN-only idea, and what can civil society organizations contribute in that respect?

Alex Bellamy
Keith Porter
Tom Weiss

1230-1330 **Lunch**
Hamber Foundation Boardroom 470

1330-1500 **Panel 8: Conclusion** - Discussion of priorities for next steps