

**The Role of Human Rights, Development Assistance, and Peacekeeping:
Building State Capacity for Atrocities Prevention**

Delegates Dining Room (6, 7, 8), United Nations

1:15 pm - 2:45 pm

4 September 2014

On 8 September 2014, the United Nations General Assembly will hold its 6th annual informal interactive dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect (RtoP, R2P) on the theme of the United Nations Secretary-General's Report "*Fulfilling our Collective Responsibility: International Assistance and the Responsibility to Protect.*" The dialogue will convene Member States, regional bodies and civil society to deliberate on the report, which focuses on RtoP's "second pillar", or the international community's responsibility to assist states to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing. In preparation for the dialogue, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect and the Stanley Foundation have convened an expert panel to further explore three elements of RtoP's second pillar, namely the role of human rights mechanisms and actors to encourage and assist states to prevent atrocity crimes; the impact of development assistance in building state capacity to uphold protection obligations; and the impact of temporary international assistance through the use of peacekeeping and stabilization operations to assist states under stress.

1:15 - Welcome Remarks Building

Keith Porter, President

The Stanley Foundation

1:20 – 2:00 Panel Presentations

Moderator

Patrick Travers, Consultant

United Nations Office for the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect

Panelists

Christen Broecker, Associate Director and Director of Research

Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights

Lawrence Wocher, Senior Atrocity Prevention Fellow

United States Agency for International Development

Alison Giffen, Senior Associate and Co-Director of Future of Peace Operations Program

The Stimson Center

2:00 – 2:40 Discussion

2:40 – 2:45 Closing Remarks

Michèle Auga, Executive Director

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung – New York Office

Speaker Biographies

Christen Broecker

Associate Director

Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights

Christen Broecker carries out research and analysis aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of United Nations human rights mechanisms, including the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the human rights treaty bodies, and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council. Broecker is co-editor, with Felice Gaer, of *The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: Conscience for the World* (Martinus Nijhoff, 2014), an edited volume of articles that is the first systematic examination of the High Commissioner's role and responsibilities. She is co-author, with Michael O'Flaherty, of "The Outcome of the General Assembly's Treaty Body Strengthening Process: An Important Milestone on a Longer Journey," a 2014 policy brief of the Geneva-based Universal Rights Group. She is currently supervising the preparation of a Manual on Human Rights and the Prevention of Genocide, part of a larger JBI project in cooperation with the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect to identify guidance drawn from the findings of UN human rights treaty bodies and special procedures on steps that can aid in the mitigation of human rights-related risk factors for genocide. Broecker received a J.D. and LL.M. in international legal studies from New York University School of Law, where she was an Institute for International Law and Justice Scholar.

Lawrence Woocher

Senior Atrocity Prevention Fellow

United States Agency for International Development

Lawrence Woocher is contributing to USAID's work on the comprehensive U.S. government strategy to prevent and respond to mass atrocities, which President Obama announced in April 2012. Lawrence has been working on early warning, conflict prevention, and the prevention of genocide and mass atrocities for more than a decade. Prior to his USAID fellowship, he was research director of the Political Instability Task Force at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). From 2006-2011, he was a senior program officer at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP). While at USIP, he was a member of the executive committee and lead expert on early warning for the Genocide Prevention Task Force, co-chaired by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former Secretary of Defense William Cohen. Before joining USIP, Woocher was a research fellow at Columbia University's Center for International Conflict Resolution and, concurrently, a consultant on early warning to the Office of the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide. He received a Master's in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School and a Bachelor's in Neuroscience from Brown University.

Alison Giffen

Senior Associate, Future of Peace Operations

The Stimson Center

Alison Giffen is an expert on peace operations and the prevention of violence against civilians, including in its most extreme manifestation: mass atrocities. She has more than 15 years of policy, advocacy and research experience. Giffen joined Stimson in 2009 after working in Sudan to design, implement and coordinate an international NGO's global strategy to secure civilian rights to protection. As a policy analyst

for the Open Society Institute, Giffen promoted multilateral US foreign engagement and US support of UN reform initiatives. She was project director of a groundbreaking study on ex-combatants in Sierra Leone, and was the founding director of the US Office on Colombia, an international coalition of groups monitoring military assistance to and promoting peace and human rights in Colombia. Giffen received her MA in international affairs from the School for International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, and received her BA in diplomacy and world affairs from Occidental College.

About the Organizers

International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect

The International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICRtoP) is a global network of civil society organizations dedicated to advancing RtoP at the international, regional, sub-regional and national levels. For the past ten years, ICRtoP has worked to build a constituency of civil society support for the norm, and the Coalition now has members representing every region, and working in a wide range of sectors including women's rights, conflict prevention, human rights, genocide prevention, and international and regional justice.

www.responsibilitytoprotect.org

Stanley Foundation

The Stanley Foundation seeks a secure peace with freedom and justice, built on world citizenship and effective global governance. It brings fresh voices, original ideas, and lasting solutions to debates on global and regional problems. The foundation is a nonpartisan, private operating foundation, located in Muscatine, Iowa, that focuses on peace and security issues and advocates principled multilateralism. The foundation frequently collaborates with other organizations. It does not make grants. ww.stanleyfoundation.org.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is a German political foundation committed to the advancement of public policy issues in the spirit of the basic values of social democracy. FES has 110 offices around the world and FES New York serves as a liaison between the United Nations, FES field offices and partners in developing countries to strengthen the voice of the Global South. FES New York contributes to UN debates on economic and social development, and on peace and security issues.

www.fes-globalization.org/new_york/

Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

The Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR), established in 2005, works to prevent genocide by building a community of government officials around the world who are educated about contemporary approaches to genocide prevention and who effectively work as a community to build a functional global architecture for prevention and response to mass atrocities and genocide. AIPR does this through educational programs for officials from ministries of justice, defense, foreign affairs, national human rights institutions and militaries and through programs of policy development assistance to their institutions.

www.auschwitzinstitute.org