

# 7th Biennial

## RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

### Conference



May 6–7, 2025

Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

# PROGRAM\*



**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

2025 marks 20 years on from 2005 World Summit when the international community adopted the principle of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing. The Responsibility to Protect has developed from its initial idea, faced the inaction of states and the United Nations Security Council, but has also seen progress in its implementation through 'R2P Focal Points' and in the UN General Assembly, as well as other parts of the UN system, and within regional organisations.

The Responsibility to Protect in Theory and Practice Series is a series of biennial international interdisciplinary conferences established by the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. The series is devoted exclusively to the principle of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P/RtoP), with the objective to create an opportunity for scholars and practitioners to engage in an interdisciplinary academic debate on the theoretical and practical implications of the principle. 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 its applicability in practice.

The first conference was organised in 2013, followed by conferences in 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021 and 2023. This year we organize the conference together with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia.

# 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

## **MONDAY, MAY 7, 2025**

**16:15** Optional program (see last page)

## **TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025**

**8:30-08:55** Registration

**9:00-9:15** **OPENING REMARKS BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA, H.E. TANJA FAJON**

**9:15-10:0** **OPENING PANEL** (Part I)

**10:00-10:15** Group photo

**10:15-11:00** **OPENING PANEL** (Part II)

**11:00-11:30** Coffee break

**11:30-12:00** **Protecting both Free Expression and Victims of Crimes: twin missions**

**12:00-13:00** **R2P FOCAL POINTS PANEL**

**13:00-14:00** Lunch break

**14:00-16:00** **PANEL 1**

**16:00-16:30** Coffee break

**16:30-18:00** **PANEL 2**

**20:00** **Conference Dinner with the keynote by the Special Adviser of the UN Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect, Mo Bleeker**

## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025**

**09:00-10:30** **PANEL 3**

**10:30-12:00** **PANEL 4**

**12:00-14:00** Break for lunch

**14:00-17:00** Optional afternoon program

# Tuesday, May 6, 2025

<b>08:30-08:55</b>	Registration
<b>09:00-09:15</b>	<b>Opening remarks by the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia</b> H.E. Tanja Fajon
<b>09:15-10:00</b>	<b>OPENING PANEL (Part I)</b> <b>Chair: Savita Pawnday</b>  H.E. Tanja Fajon Mo Bleker George Okoth-Obbo Karen Smith
<b>10:00-10:15</b>	Group photo
<b>10:15-11:00</b>	<b>OPENING PANEL (Part II)</b> <b>Chair: Savita Pawnday</b>  Mo Bleker George Okoth-Obbo Karen Smith
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	Coffee break
<b>11:30-12:00</b>	<b>Protecting both Free Expression and Victims of Crimes: twin missions</b>  Frederick M. Lawrence

Opening  
addresses

# Tuesday, May 6, 2025

R2P FOCAL  
POINTS  
PANEL

**12:00-13:00** R2P FOCAL POINTS PANEL

- Roman Kirn
- Marko Rakovec
- Blanka Jamnišek

**13:00-14:00** Lunch break

# Tuesday, May 6, 2025

14:00–16:30 (NON)IMPLEMENTATION OF R2P  
ACROSS THE WORLD

Chair: Vasilka Sancin

PANEL 1

- **The Responsibility to Protect and Russia's War Against Ukraine: Invoking Protection – Waging Aggression**  
Nazarii Stetsyk
- **Nexus between Arab states' conceptualisations of sovereignty and Syria's realities**  
Esmaeil Alsaghir
- **Abandoning Responsibility? The Collapse of R2P in Post-Withdrawal Afghanistan**  
Ramin Mansoory
- **Can Africa Save the Responsibility to Protect from Eventual Collapse?**  
Nicholas Idris Erameh
- **The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) in Africa: Between Sovereignty and Intervention in the Face of Mass Atrocities**  
Abraham Ename Minko
- **Applying R2P to North Korea's human rights situation**  
Kim Tae-Hoon
- **Human Security and the Responsibility to Protect: Addressing the Human Rights of North Korean Women in Asia**  
Ji Hyun Park

16:30–17:00 Coffee break

# Tuesday, May 6, 2025

## PANEL 2

**17:00-18:30 R2P TOOLBOX - CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS**

- **The future Convention on crimes against humanity and R2P**  
Luciano Pezzano
- **Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes and other International Crimes**  
Marko Rakovec
- **Sanctions as a response to R2P**  
Maruša Tekavčič Veber
- **Can R2P address digital warfare targeting critical infrastructure?**  
Kateryna Latysh



# Wednesday, May 7, 2025

09:00-10:30 R2P AND CIVIL SOCIETY

PANEL 3

- **Responsibility to Protect (R2P) framework and its applicability in addressing the impoverishment of civilian populations in conflict zones**  
Michele Cannella and Alice Stillone
- **Public participation in R2P early warning mechanisms**  
Maša Kovič Dine
- **Local Voices, Global Norms: Civil Society and the Responsibility to Protect in Southeast Asia**  
Zain Maulana

# Wednesday, May 7, 2025

## PANEL 4

**10:30-12:00** PRACTICAL CHALLENGES TO R2P

- **Action for Peacekeeping as a mechanism for enhancing R2P norm strength**  
Andraž Melanšek
- **Responsibility to Protect Whom?**  
Khaled Ramadan Bashir
- **Implementation of R2P in outer-space**  
Anže Medževac

**12:00-14:00** Break for lunch

**14:00-17:00** Optional afternoon program

# Monday, May 5, 2025

**16.15–20:00** **Premiere presentation of the documentary "Where have you been?" ("Što te nema?")**

Followed by a conversation with artist **Aida Šehović**, who conceived this project 15 years ago with performances around the world.

Kinodvor (Kolodvorska 13, 1000 Ljubljana)

30 years after the genocide—the first in Europe since World War II—survivors in Bosnia and Herzegovina persist in their quest to find their missing loved ones. "Where Have You Been" traces the homecoming of Bosnian-American artist Aida Šehović and her participatory, nomadic monument to the Srebrenica Genocide. With the monument coming to its final resting place after traveling the world for 15 years, those who remain gather at the site of the atrocities to fill thousands of small ceramic coffee cups in memory of the victims. As they collectively mourn, painful questions endure: What does "never again" mean in a world where perpetrators live with impunity? How do art and empathy help fill the void left by immeasurable loss and trauma?

The film premiered at the 30th Sarajevo Film Festival in 2024.

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**Conference supporters:**



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN  
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS**