

7th Biennial

RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

Conference



May 6–7, 2025

Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

PROGRAM *



 **PF**
UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA | Faculty of Law



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

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 **TWENTY YEARS OF PROMOTING AND IMPLEMENTING R2P BY SLOVENIAN DIPLOMATS**

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

09:30-11:45 **PANEL 3**

11:45-12:00 **Closing remarks**

12:00-14:00 Break for lunch

14:00-17:00 Optional afternoon program

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

08:30-08:55	Registration
09:00-09:15	Opening remarks by the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia H.E. Tanja Fajon
09:15-10:00	OPENING PANEL (Part I) Chair: <u>Savita Pawnday</u> Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect <u>H.E. Tanja Fajon</u> Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia <u>Mo Bleeker</u> Special Adviser of the Secretary General for R2P, 2024-present <u>George Okoth-Obbo</u> Special Adviser of the Secretary General for R2P, 2022-2023 <u>Karen Smith</u> Special Adviser of the Secretary General for R2P, 2019-2021
10:00-10:15	Group photo
10:15-11:00	OPENING PANEL (Part II) Chair: <u>Savita Pawnday</u> Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect <u>Mo Bleeker</u> Special Adviser of the Secretary General for R2P, 2024-present <u>George Okoth-Obbo</u> Special Adviser of the Secretary General for R2P, 2022-2023 <u>Karen Smith</u> Special Adviser of the Secretary General for R2P, 2019-2021
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-12:00	Protecting both Free Expression and Victims of Crimes: twin missions <u>Frederick M. Lawrence</u> CEO, Phi Beta Kappa Society (USA) and Distinguished Lecturer, Georgetown Law (Washington, USA)

Opening addresses

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

12:00–13:00 TWENTY YEARS OF PROMOTING AND IMPLEMENTING R2P BY SLOVENIAN DIPLOMATS

Chair: Savita Pawnday

Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect

- **From Inception to Realization of R2P**
Roman Kirn
Ambassador ret., co-facilitator for para 138 and 139 for the World UN Summit Document in 2005
- **Experiences of the first Slovenian R2P Focal Point**
Marko Rakovec
Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia
- **Last Ten Years of Promoting R2P by the Slovenian R2P Focal Point**
Blanka Jamnišek
Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia
- **Slovenia as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council in 2024–2025**
Matej Marn
Head of the Slovenia's Task Force, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia

13:00–14:00 Lunch break

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

PANEL 1

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

Chair: Vasilka Sancin

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

● **The Responsibility to Protect and Russia's War Against Ukraine: Invoking Protection - Waging Aggression**

Nazarii Stetsyk

Visiting Scholar, University of Vienna and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights (LBI-GMR); Associate Professor, Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (2015–2024)

● **Sovereignty Reconsidered: Regional and Grassroots Approaches with Reference to Syria**

Esmail Alsaghir

PhD Candidate, University of Warwick

● **Abandoning Responsibility? The Collapse of R2P in Post-Withdrawal Afghanistan**

Ramin Mansoori

Director of Policy and Research, ASDEP Organization

● **Applying R2P to North Korea's human rights situation**

Kim Tae-Hoon

President, People for Successful COrean Reunification (PSCORE), and North Korean Human Rights Cooperative (NKHRC)

16:00–16:30 Coffee break

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

16:30–18:00 R2P TOOLBOX - CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Chair: Patrick Butchard

Senior Lecturer in Law, School of Law, Criminology and Policing, Edge Hill University

- **Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes and other International Crimes**

Marko Rakovec

Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia

- **The Toolbox Used in Response to the Syrian Refugee Crisis: Evaluating Türkiye's Policies Through the Lens of the Responsibility to Protect**

Meltem Sarıbeyoğlu-Skalar

Visiting Scholar, Ljubljana University Faculty of Law; Professor, Marmara University Faculty of Law

- **Sanctions as the R2P Toolbox Measures**

Maruša T. Veber

Assistant Professor, University of Ljubljana

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

The responsibility to protect at 20 years: achievements, challenges and ways ahead

Hotel Slon

Slovenska cesta 34, Ljubljana

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

PANEL 3

09:30–11:45 PRACTICAL CHALLENGES TO R2P

Chair: Ljupcho Stojkovski

Associate Professor at Faculty of Law “Iustinianus Primus”, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje

- **Legal consequences of using population attrition techniques in armed conflicts and the risk of Genocide**
Michele Cannella
PhD Candidate in International Law at the University of Palermo
- **Poverty as a Consequence of Population Attrition Techniques in Armed Conflict: An Analysis of the International Legal Duties**
Alice Stillone
PhD Candidate in International Law at the University of Palermo
- **Action for Peacekeeping as a mechanism for enhancing R2P norm strength**
Andraž Melanšek
PhD Candidate, University of Ljubljana
- **Public participation in R2P early warning mechanisms**
Maša Kovič Dine
Assistant Professor, University of Ljubljana
- **Implementation of R2P in outer-space**
Anže Mediževc
Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Ljubljana

11:45–12:00 Closing remarks

12:00–14:00 Break for lunch

14:00–17:00 Optional afternoon program

1495 Days - Ljubljana During World War II

City Museum of Ljubljana

Gosposka 15

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Conference supporters:



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