



# Responsibility to Protect in 2011: The cases of Côte d'Ivoire and Libya

## Introduction

Responsibility to Protect (R2P): states have the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity.

- Pillar One: responsibility of the state.
- Pillar Two: in case of the state's failure, responsibility of the international community.
- Pillar Three: decisive and timely intervention in accordance with UN Charter.

## Main research question

Were the interventions made in 2011 in Côte d'Ivoire and Libya in line with the original R2P accounts promoted by the UN and its agencies?

## Analysis

*Based on two tables by the Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities Task Force (2013).*

### Case Study 1: Côte d'Ivoire

Table 1: Long-term Prevention  
**UNSC Resolutions 1464, 1479, 1528, 1609, 1633, and 1721.**

Political	Economic / Social	Legal	Military
1464, 1479, 1528, 1609, 1633, 1721		1464, 1479, 1528, 1609, 1633, 1721	1464, 1479, 1528, 1609, 1633, 1721

Table 2: Direct Prevention of Mass Atrocities.  
**UNSC Resolutions 1946, 1951, 1967, and 1975.**

Political	Economic / Social	Legal	Military
<b>Intrusive:</b> 1975 <b>Negative:</b> 1946, 1975	<b>Negative:</b> 1946, 1975		<b>Positive:</b> 1946, 1951, 1967, 1975 <b>Intrusive:</b> 1946, 1951, 1967, 1975 <b>Negative:</b> 1946, 1967, 1975

### Case Study 2: Libya

Table 2: Direct Prevention of Mass Atrocities.  
**UNSC Resolutions 1970 and 1973.**

Political	Economic / Social	Legal	Military
<b>Intrusive:</b> 1970, 1973 <b>Negative:</b> 1970, 1973	<b>Negative:</b> 1970, 1973	<b>Negative:</b> 1970	<b>Intrusive:</b> 1973 <b>Negative:</b> 1970, 1973

## Conclusions

### Côte d'Ivoire:

Efforts in long-term prevention were made but root causes were not addressed in the resolutions.

Direct prevention was focused on intrusive or negative political and military tools.

### Libya:

Direct prevention was of an intrusive and negative nature, and was largely focused on political and military tools.

### Final R2P considerations:

Both interventions were focused on the third pillar, thus UN actions were mainly of a **militaristic nature**.

This damaged the **norm cascading** process, which became static after the interventions of 2011.