

The conflict in the Balkans also highlighted the issue of humanitarian intervention. A passage from the UN Secretary-General's Millennium report, "We the Peoples," is worth repeating: "Few would disagree that both the defence of humanity and the defence of sovereignty are principles that must be supported. Alas, that does not tell us which principle should prevail when they are in conflict. Humanitarian intervention is a sensitive issue, fraught with political difficulty and not susceptible to easy answers....Armed intervention must always remain the option of last resort, but in the face of mass murder it is an option that cannot be relinquished."