

- outlines principles for military intervention, including thresholds required to act, and precautionary principles to ensure that military intervention is justified and treated as an option of last resort; and
- emphasizes the importance of ensuring intervention is proportional to the situation, and properly authorized, resourced, and mandated.

Canada's follow-up to *The Responsibility to Protect*

For Canada, establishing the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty was a first step in a long-term effort to help the international community reach consensus on its role and responsibilities regarding human protection. This includes better defined roles and more consistent responses by the United Nations and the wider international community to large-scale loss of life and large-scale ethnic cleansing.

Canada is currently promoting consideration of the principles of *The Responsibility to Protect* at the United Nations and with governments internationally, as well as with human rights and humanitarian non-governmental organizations, the international policy and think-tank community, foundations, academics, parliamentarians, and the media. Discussions are also being supported at the national and regional level to encourage the widest possible distribution and consideration of the report and the ideas it contains.

In a Jan. 23, 2004, speech at the World Economic Forum, Prime Minister Paul Martin reported Canada's desire to see a broader international consensus on intervention to stop mass atrocities:

“What is required is an open discussion about the need for intervention in situations that offend the most basic precepts of our common humanity. Even more to the point, we need clear agreement on principles to help determine when it is appropriate to use force in support of humanitarian objectives.”