

- the decision to resort to force must be made by a legitimate authority (i.e., collectively), reflect a just cause, and be pursued with a morally right intention,
- military intervention must be regarded as a last resort and have a reasonable prospect of success.

However, what happens if there is no single state (or a collectivity of states) willing and able to intervene, asked Adelman? Numerous examples exist when the international community just stood by while grave crimes against humanity were being committed. There is low tolerance levels in democracies for casualties and unwillingness to sacrifice life in far away places. The question of proportionality between the casualties of (mostly) Western armies and the casualties of (mostly non-Western) civilians was also raised. How many Somali lives is one American life worth, asked John Mueller? The high altitude air campaign in Kosovo clearly demonstrated the reluctance on the part of NATO to lose military life at the expense of civilians on the ground. Some participants disagreed with this assessment, pointing to missions where the loss of life is expected and to the existence of soldiers, located in the West, ready to sacrifice their own lives.

The UN may well not be capable of dealing with the shift from interstate to intrastate conflict, some argued. Steve Lee suggested to include Paul Heinbecker, Canada's Ambassador to the UN, in future discussions to share the Canadian experience over the past two years at the Security Council.

There is a need to address the appropriate use of other tools besides military intervention, including diplomatic and economic sanctions. The need for creating a framework (scale) for their use was raised.

Ted Gurr questioned the assumption made by Lieutenant General Nambiar that "the current levels of ethnic, religious, theological, and other such forms of conflict, are not likely to reduce in scope or extent in the foreseeable future." According to Gurr, the levels of conflict are actually on a marked decrease. One reason for this trend, he said, are the initiatives of regional powers and organisations in conflict situations.

Charles Weitz pointed out that conceptualising genocide in terms of grave human rights breaches is too narrow and should include considerations relating to the rights to food and health. Examples abound where a state has deliberately starved masses of people or failed to address the spread of diseases. Currently there exist no mechanisms to address such challenges, despite UN Charter commitments.

Humanitarian Assistance and Peacekeeping

Some doubted the possibility of maintaining neutrality in humanitarian assistance and, especially, in peacekeeping. Suggestions were made that the concept should be dropped from the peacekeeping vocabulary all together since it is virtually unattainable. Issues of neutrality become especially salient during the transition period, with the entry of the World Bank, IMF