

THE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL & PUBLIC LAW (CIPL)
ANU COLLEGE OF LAW PRESENTS:



PUBLIC SEMINAR

THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT (R2P): The White Man's Burden?

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Friday, 7 August 2009, 1-2pm
Phillipa Weeks Staff Library
ANU College of Law (Bldg 5), Fellows Rd, ANU
The Australian National University

Please RSVP (by cob Wednesday 5 August) to E: rsvp@law.anu.edu.au
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This event is free and open to the public.

What is the status in international law of the first limb of the 'Responsibility to Protect', ie the statement of the 2005 World Summit Outcome that:

'Each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means. We accept that responsibility and will act in accordance with it.'

Does this statement have the status of a customary norm? Does it conflict with the widespread state practice of Third World states opposing enforcement of human rights norms? Does this opposition show a lack of *opinio juris* for the proposition that states accept a responsibility to protect their populations?

Is the first limb of R2P just a clever formulation barely concealing the entrenched opposition in the Third World to the enforcement of human rights norms? Has R2P really 'solved' the contentious issue of humanitarian intervention?

Kevin Boreham has been teaching at the ANU College of Law since 2002. Kevin is convening International Law of Human Rights and lecturing in International Law in 2008-2009.

The views expressed in this seminar are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.

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