

# AGENDA

## **Advancing Transatlantic Linkages on Responsibility to Protect and Mass Atrocity Prevention**

**55th Strategy for Peace Conference  
Sponsored by The Stanley Foundation  
October 15-17, 2014  
Airlie Center, Warrenton, Virginia**

The international community is in urgent need of successful, cooperative strategies for preventing and stopping mass atrocities. As recent crises have highlighted, effective international cooperation to save lives and preserve peace and security remains aspirational at best. The right starting point for the cooperation is between like-minded, politically influential, and militarily capable allies and partners, starting with the longtime transatlantic partners of the United States and others who have a record of supporting common security objectives. Those who share the view that preventing atrocities is “a core national security interest and a core moral responsibility” must assess their individual national efforts and coordinate their activities. The United States and its European allies have long enjoyed an important strategic and historical relationship; they have affirmed their commitment to cooperative action to prevent atrocities through such vehicles as the world summit outcome document endorsement of the principle of the responsibility to protect. Yet practical strategies and plans for cooperative action have lagged aspirations.

The Strategy for Peace Conference will explore the current capabilities and gaps of key national and institutional actors on the issue of international action to prevent and halt mass atrocities in the European Union and the United States. In addition, the roundtable will review the degree to which national governments, the European Union and its constituent components, and relevant regional and subregional partnerships have established policies and dedicated resources to the prevention of atrocities. This analysis will form the basis of a policy report containing findings and recommendations for transatlantic and other like-minded governments and institutions to strengthen cooperation in preventing and responding to atrocity situations. The report is intended to assist the United Nations, other international institutions, European governments, and the United States government in formulating practical strategies and plans, as well as to inform the action of civil society on the ground in states in crisis and those states that are in danger of falling into a crisis. The purpose of this Strategy for Peace roundtable is to develop specific, actionable recommendations on cooperation for inclusion in the report.

### **I. United Nations and Atrocity Prevention**

- A. What is the state of UN capabilities for atrocity prevention? What does the UN do well? And conversely, what are the areas of challenge on the issue of genocide prevention and R2P?
- B. Describe the politics around mass atrocity prevention at UNB? How do member states engage about these issues?

- C. How can we work through the UN when the Security Council is paralyzed?
- D. What are the challenges when the UN agrees to take action on mass atrocity prevention?
- E. Are there opportunities for improvements, reforms, or other actions by major, capable powers? How could the Permanent 3 be more effective on this issue?
- F. How could a dialogue among the Permanent 5 on restraint on the use of the veto in atrocity crises be helpful in organizing cooperative responses?
- G. What sources of legitimacy and legality are available if the UNSC is unable to act?

## **II. Mass Atrocity Prevention Framework: The European Union**

- A. What are the preventive mechanisms established in the European Union?
- B. Building national prevention policies among European Union constituencies.
- C. How well does the United States government's approach to atrocity prevention mesh with the European Union's approaches and those in European capitals?

## **III. Development and Atrocity Prevention**

- A. Defining the nexus between development and mass atrocities.
- B. Can an atrocity prevention lens on development assistance foster better prevention strategies?
- C. Can we achieve cooperative development with a mass atrocity prevention lens? What are the risks, challenges, and unknowns?
- D. What are the development approaches to help prevent mass atrocities?
- E. What are the implications for transatlantic cooperation on mass atrocity prevention?

## **IV. Mass Atrocity Prevention in Era of Obama**

- A. A core moral responsibility?
- B. Can the APB compel US government action to prevent or halt atrocities?
- C. What is the role of the APB in US government policy making on atrocity prevention?

D. The Atrocity Prevention Board post Obama.

**V. Evaluating Atrocity Prevention – Case Study: Libya 2012**

A. Analysis of the United States and NATO action in Libya.

B. What are the results of the first test case of R2P?

C. Did Libya doom R2P?

D. Why Libya and not Syria?

E. What lessons can be learned from this intervention?