

Seminar on
Preventing and Responding to Genocide and Mass Atrocities

27-28 June 2011
Geneva Centre for Security Policy
Geneva, Switzerland

The Seminar

This seminar entitled “*Preventing and Responding to Genocide and Mass Atrocities*”, organized by the Office of the United Nations Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect in collaboration with Geneva Centre for Security Policy, will be facilitated by national and international experts in the field of genocide prevention and mass atrocities studies.

The seminar will consist of presentations and group discussions focusing on key aspects of prevention and response, both at the international and at the domestic level. It will include a discussion on the function and methodology of the United Nations early-warning mechanism on genocide and mass atrocities; a socio-historical approach to understanding the process of mass violence and the legal, human rights and political-science strategies to prevent and respond to mass atrocity crimes.

Participants will be invited to reflect on how Member States, regional organizations and civil society could contribute to prevention and protection of populations at risk.

About the Office of the Special Advisers:

The Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect acts as a catalyst to raise awareness of the causes and dynamics of genocide, to alert relevant actors where there is a risk of genocide and mass atrocities, and to advocate and mobilize for appropriate action.

Since 2009, the Office has implemented a series of specialized seminars on genocide prevention and mass atrocities for UN staff, government officials and civil society in Asia, Europe, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East.

Guest Speakers:

Dr David J. Simon is a lecturer in the Department of Political Science, Yale University, Acting Director of the Genocide Studies Program and a member of the Council on African Studies.

Dr Rama Mani is a Senior Research Associate at the Centre for International Studies (University of Oxford), the Director of the Global Project 'Responsibility to Protect: Southern Cultural Perspectives' and a Councillor of the World Future Council.

Dr Khalid Koser is the Academic Dean of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and Head of the New Issues in Security Programme.

Dr Adam Jones is an Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science, University of British Columbia and the Executive Director of Gendercide Watch.

For more info about the Office of the Special Adviser:
www.un.org/preventgenocide/adviser