

# United Nations Reform: Inefficiencies of the Responsibility to Protect Bobby Powell

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## What is R2P?

- Doctrine adopted in 2005 in response to violations in Rwanda and the Balkans

- A state's sovereignty does not protect them from international intervention when HR violations are occurring in their borders

- Libya, Cote d'Ivoire, Sudan, Yemen, Darfur



UN Peacekeeper, 2004



Darfur genocide camp, 2006



Colin Powell's infamous UN speech, 2003



Syrian bombing, 2013

## Proposed Reform

- Unanimous Security Council vote to void P-5 veto

- Small, standing UN military force for faster response

- Redefine criteria to approve humanitarian intervention

## What is wrong with R2P?

### P-5 interests

- Private interests of world super powers
- Veil of humanitarianism
- USA in 2003
- USSR in 1979

### No standing army

- UN relies on member states to lend aid and support
- Lack of willingness
- Improper resources to implement

### Legal precedent

- UN Charter restricts violence yet R2P calls for it
- Hypocrisy
- Who ranks higher? UN or State?

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