

Global Norm Evolution and the Responsibility to Protect

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Non-western powers like Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa have begun to claim a greater say in shaping global norms. Their growing assertiveness adds to the contestation of global norms that is likely to become the rule rather than the exception as the world shifts toward a new normative order. In stark contrast, the scholarship on global norms fails to illuminate conflictive, non-linear interactions and remains tied to Western-centric, unidirectional and linear-teleological models of norm diffusion. We seek to address this gap by analyzing global norm evolution and normative conflict, focused on a crucial case: a 'responsibility to protect' individuals from mass atrocities. This emerging and contested norm challenges the foundations of the existing global order and sparked an intense global debate that holds relevant insights far beyond sovereignty, non-interference and human rights. The project is coordinated by the Global Public Policy Institute in Berlin and implemented jointly with partners at Oxford University (Dr. R. Soares de Oliveira), Frankfurt University (Prof. Dr. C. Daase), Peking University (Prof. Z. Haibin), Jawaharlal Nehru University (Prof. C.S.R. Murthy), Fundação Getulio Vargas (Prof. M. Spektor) and Central European University (Prof. X. Kurowska).

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