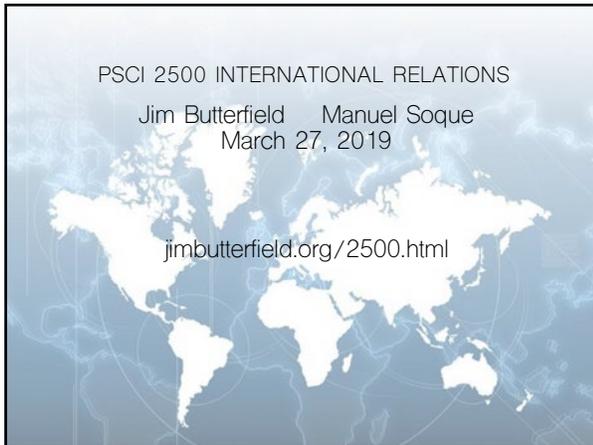


PSCI 2500 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
 Jim Butterfield Manuel Soque
 March 27, 2019
 jimbutterfield.org/2500.html



Today

- Humanitarian intervention.
- Humanitarian assistance.
- Current Events Wednesday: North Korea.

From last time...

- ... know for the final exam:
 - What is the liberal tradition in human rights?
 - How has international law evolved to protect human rights?
 - Why is the International Criminal Court weak?
 - Why do some countries reject universalism?
 - Be prepared to give examples.
- *Rely on the book, not just class!*

International Relations and Human Rights

- So where does that leave us if human rights are being violated somewhere?
- Is humanitarian intervention possible?
- Point of clarification:
 - Humanitarian **assistance** is common (e.g., after natural disasters). *Does not violate sovereignty.*
 - Humanitarian **intervention** is to stop conflict and is rare. *May violate sovereignty.*

Intervention: UN Peacekeeping

- Multinational armed force.
- Only after cease-fire has been accepted.
- Troops are posted between warring factions.
- Can only defend themselves, not take offensive action.

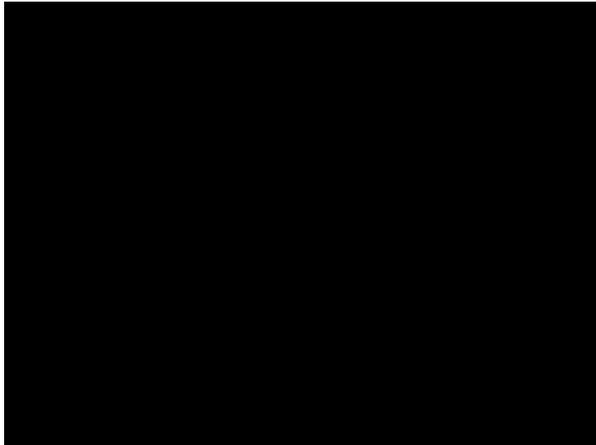
Japanese peacekeeping troops in South Sudan



Intervention: **** Responsibility to Protect (R2P)**

- 2005 UN Agreement that the international community can violate sovereignty to stop conflict.
- Can be invoked in cases of:
 - genocide
 - war crimes
 - crimes against humanity
 - ethnic cleansing
- Requires decision of Security Council.

Jennifer Welsh, UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, 6 min video
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAdSoll2OHA> →



R2P

- "Sovereignty no longer exclusively protects States from foreign interference; it is a charge of responsibility that *holds States accountable for the welfare of their people.*"
- "The duty to prevent and halt genocide and mass atrocities lies first and foremost with the State, but *the international community has a role that cannot be blocked by the invocation of sovereignty.*"

<http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/responsibility.shtml>

Has R2P ever been invoked for military intervention?

Yes. Once. In Libya.

Muammar Qaddafi of Libya
Seized power in 1969.

Airline Bombing 1988
259 killed.

The Arab Spring* erupts in Libya, 2011.



* The Arab Spring: a series of protests that toppled several dictators.

Civil war breaks out.



Qaddafi threatens mass killings of opposition.



The Security Council approves a resolution invoking R2P.



Air strikes by NATO based on UN resolution.



Qaddafi is killed in the conflict.



Libya and R2P

- R2P turned into regime change (beyond the scope of R2P).
 - NATO: Events on the ground were beyond our capacity. But atrocities were stopped.
 - Critics: R2P was just cover for NATO powers to do what they wanted to.



R2P Now

- Has not been used since Libya.
- R2P blocked in Syrian civil war. Why?
 - Who approves the invoking of R2P?
 - The UN Security Council.
 - What are the voting rules of the Security Council?
 - 9 votes for with no P5 veto.
 - Russia and China claimed that R2P was used to eliminate Qaddafi, an enemy of the West. No repeat in Syria.

R2P Now

- R2P blocked in Syrian civil war.
 - Roughly a quarter million deaths.
 - 50% of population displaced or refugees.



Group Discussion

- What human rights do you consider to be universal, if any?
- How much accommodation should be made, if any, for cultural and religious interpretations of human rights?

