

## Overview

Students consider the responsibility to protect (R2P) doctrine and the balance between protecting human rights and protecting sovereignty, then propose a new doctrine and write an op-ed article supporting that doctrine.

## Length

Two-three classes

## Materials

- [The Rise and Fall of the Responsibility to Protect](#) (World101)
- Building Blocks Reading List

## Instructional Plan

1. Have students read “The Rise and Fall of the Responsibility to Protect” and, optionally, articles from the reading list about the R2P doctrine, noting how, in different crises, the United Nations has balanced respecting sovereignty with protecting human rights.
2. Have students choose a contemporary crisis and brainstorm how the United Nations might intervene in a way that effectively balances sovereignty with human rights.
3. Assign students to write an op-ed piece supporting their position, drawing on at least two historical examples to support their argument.