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Civil Society Organizations Supporting Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention at the Multilateral Level

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CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING GENOCIDE AND MASS ATROCITY PREVENTION AT THE MULTILATERAL LEVEL

JENNIFER SMYSER, DIRECTOR OF POLICY PROGRAMMING, THE STANLEY FOUNDATION

SEPTEMBER 19, 2014
THE STANLEY FOUNDATION AND GENOCIDE & MASS ATROCITY PREVENTION

• Through its programming, the Stanley Foundation advances multilateral action to create fair, just, and lasting solutions to critical issues of peace and security.

• We see effective human protection as a central peace and security need.

• We believe genocide and mass atrocities can be prevented.

• The international community needs a strong and full tool box of preventive approaches and mechanisms.

A FOCUS ON PRE-CRISIS PREVENTION
ENGAGEMENT WITH POLICY ACTORS

The United Nations

- Office of the Special Advisers
  - Adama Dieng, Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide
  - Jennifer Welsh, Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect
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The United Nations (continued)

- Annual report of the Secretary-General on the responsibility to protect
  - 2014 report—”Fulfilling our collective responsibility: international assistance and the responsibility to protect”
- Civil society input and feedback
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The United Nations (continued)

- Annual General Assembly informal interactive dialogues
  - Engagement of member states leading up to the dialogue
  - Direct civil society involvement
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State-led Initiatives

• Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes
  • a state-led initiative to prevent mass atrocity crimes
  • focuses on prevention at the national and regional level
  • supports states engaged in preventing mass atrocity crimes and it assists states that are considering developing preventive strategies
  • serves as a platform for exchange and dissemination of learning and good practices
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State-led Initiatives (continued)

- Latin American Network on the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Crimes
WHY?

Civil society involvement can strengthen national, regional, and international policies and efforts.

Civil society can be a part of the institutionalization and normalization of genocide and mass atrocity prevention.

Civil society can aid the efforts to deepen engagement and build consensus.

Civil society can help fill analytical gaps and bring better definition to policy approaches, tools, and mechanisms.

Civil society can be champions for successful efforts.

Civil society can provide needed accountability.