



Responsibility to Protect the Population of Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh)

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Via Electronic Mail

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Re: Responsibility to Protect the Population of Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh)

Dear Honorable Secretary General, Under-Secretaries, and Special Advisers,

We write to urge decisive action on your part to help protect the lives of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh) **who have been under siege for over two months** because of a blockade of the Lachin Corridor, the narrow road between Artsakh and Armenia and the only viable avenue of egress and ingress between the Armenians of Artsakh and the outside world.ⁱ An open Lachin Corridor is indispensable to keeping 120,000 Armenians in Artsakh safe and, indeed, alive, as it is the only entry point for food, medicine, and fuel, among other necessities of life. The people in

the region are experiencing dire shortages of food and other bare necessities, including medical supplies, electricity, gas, and internet. The blockade has also paralyzed the functioning of administrative and civil infrastructures in Artsakh, such as schools, hospitals, and hospices, creating psychological terror and instability for Armenians living in Artsakh.ⁱⁱ For a full description of the humanitarian consequences, we refer you to the [Report](#) of the Human Rights Defenders of Armenia and Artsakh and urge you to follow updates from the [Artsakh Information Center](#).ⁱⁱⁱ

This humanitarian crisis is a man-made disaster. It has been contrived by agents of Azerbaijan to enable it to (1) extract concessions related to the ongoing conflict in Artsakh and (2) make living conditions unbearable, thereby facilitating the ethnic cleansing of Armenians from the region. In fact, several weeks before the blockade began on December 12, 2022, a senior Azerbaijani official was quoted as saying:

*Diplomatic options have almost been exhausted, what if we were to install a [border] post at the entrance of Lachin and finish the whole process? **How can you breathe with no air?***^{iv}

There have been global condemnations of the blockade and demands on Azerbaijan to lift it. Countries that have called for Azerbaijan to restore free movement across the Lachin Corridor include France^v, Belgium^{vi}, Germany^{vii}, United Kingdom^{viii}, Greece^{ix}, the Netherlands^x, Norway^{xi}, Spain^{xii}, Switzerland^{xiii}, United States^{xiv}, Canada^{xv} and Brazil^{xvi}, to name but a few. The European Parliament adopted a pertinent resolution^{xvii} and the European Court of Human Rights has applied interim measures against Azerbaijan.^{xviii}

Many organizations have sounded the alarm of impending genocide, including Genocide Watch^{xix}, Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention^{xx}, Human Rights Watch^{xxi}, Amnesty International^{xxii}, Freedom House^{xxiii}, and the International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS)^{xxiv}.

On Wednesday, the International Court of Justice issued an [Order](#) on Armenia's Request for the indication of provisional measures in the case of Armenia v. Azerbaijan. The Court observed that "information available to the Court indicates that the disruption on the Lachin Corridor has impeded the transfer of persons of Armenian national or ethnic origin hospitalized in Nagorno-Karabakh to medical facilities in Armenia for urgent medical care" and that "there have been hindrances to the importation into Nagorno-Karabakh of essential goods, causing shortages of food, medicine and other life-saving medical supplies." The Court concluded that "Azerbaijan shall, pending the final decision in the case and in accordance with its obligations under CERD, take all measures at its disposal to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions" but did not direct Azerbaijan to cease orchestration of protests causing the blockade or to refrain from disrupting or impeding the provision of natural gas and other utilities. There is no specific timeline within which Azerbaijan will comply.

Today, Artsakh remains under siege and its population is still under threat. We request that your offices take steps within your mandates to ensure permanent removal of the blockade of the Lachin Corridor and to engage in true peace-building measures, including the deployment of immediate humanitarian assistance, regularly scheduled air-lifts, and peacekeeping missions to protect the besieged civilians.

The Blockade Violates Multiple UN Conventions

The siege of Artsakh violates multiple UN Conventions and the rules of international humanitarian law.

Azerbaijan has violated the rights of the children of Artsakh under the Convention on the Rights of the Child.^{xxv} These include the right to available education (Art. 28), the right of access to health care services (Art. 24), and the right not to be separated from one's parents against their will (Art. 9). Azerbaijan has also violated its obligation under Article 38 to respect the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relevant to the child and to ensure protection and care of children who are affected by an armed conflict.

Azerbaijan's actions also contravene its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights ("ICCPR").^{xxvi}

- Article 6(1) of the ICCPR states, "[e]very human being has the inherent right to life.... No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life." Azerbaijan's blockade of Artsakh has already led to the death of one resident in the region's largest city Stepanakert who urgently required specialized medical care in Armenia but could not leave the region.
- Article 7 of the ICCPR states, "[n]o one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment..." Azerbaijan's indiscriminate and arbitrary blockade subjects the 120,000 residents of Artsakh to cruel, inhuman, and degrading deprivation of the necessities of life, solely due to their ethnicity. For almost two months, markets in Stepanakert have been reporting shortages of food and other essentials.
- Article 12(2) of the ICCPR plainly states, "[e]veryone shall be free to leave any country, including his own." By blockading the Lachin Corridor, Azerbaijan is preventing the people of Artsakh from exercising their right to freedom of movement. Azerbaijan is motivated by ethnic animus against the predominantly Armenian population of Artsakh. By so transparently trapping the Armenians of Artsakh in total isolation and starvation, Azerbaijan flagrantly violates this Convention.
- Article 17(1) of the ICCPR stipulates that no individual be "subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence." Azerbaijan's abrupt, unlawful, and capricious action has separated many families. Due to the sudden blockade, numerous residents of Artsakh remain stranded in Armenia unable to return to their homes in the region. This action by Azerbaijan constitutes interference with these individuals' right to a family and home life free of interference by state parties. Moreover, a prolonged blockade will bring about the permanent displacement of these individuals as they will indefinitely be unable to return to their homes.

In addition to its numerous violations of the ICCPR, Azerbaijan's blockade of Artsakh is also contrary to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination ("ICERD").^{xxvii} On 26 August 2022, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

(“CERD”) issued its Concluding Observations on the Combined Tenth to Twelfth Periodic Reports of Azerbaijan (CERD/C/AZE/CO/10-12) (“Concluding Observations”).^{xxviii} In Paragraph 5(a) of these Concluding Observations, Azerbaijan was directed to “[s]trengthen its efforts to ensure accountability and end impunity...into allegations of violations of human rights against...protected persons of Armenian ethnic or national origin, which include reports of...ill-treatment and arbitrary detention...perpetrated by the Azerbaijani military forces in the context of the 2020 hostilities and beyond.”

Wholly ignoring its obligation under Paragraph 5(b) to “[t]ake immediate steps to provide medical, psychological, material and other support for victims, as well as adequate reparation, including restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition” to the inhabitants of Artsakh, Azerbaijan has launched a new round of unlawful actions against the ethnic Armenians of the region.

Rather than “[a]dopt measures to monitor and combat hate speech, incitement and promotion of racial hatred and discrimination...by its officials and public institutions, targeted at persons of Armenian national or ethnic origin,” as set forth in Paragraph 5(d) of the Concluding Observations, Azerbaijan has unmistakably ignored the guidance issued by CERD.

The Blockade Triggers the Responsibility to Protect and Responsibility to Act

The Responsibility to Protect is a global commitment to prevent and halt genocide, ethnic cleansing, other crimes against humanity and major war crimes. *See* UN General Assembly Resolution 60/1, “2005 World Summit Outcome Document” A/RES/60/1, 16 September 2005, paras. 138-139.^{xxix}

The Responsibility to Protect contains three pillars^{xxx}:

- (1) state responsibility to protect its own population;
- (2) the international community’s duty to assist states in fulfilling their duty to prevent and protect; and
- (3) the international community’s responsibility to take timely and decisive action through peaceful means, failing which it may use more forceful means, in a manner consistent with international law.

Where a country is unable or unwilling to protect its civilians from mass atrocities, then the international community must act swiftly to fill the protection void. States must always overcome the threshold of passiveness, as inaction would contravene the object and purpose of the Responsibility to Protect doctrine and the general principles of international law on which it is based.^{xxxi} The duty to prevent genocide is also codified in the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.^{xxxii}

The Responsibility to Act Fits Squarely within your Mandates

The responsibility to act in these circumstances appears to be well within the purview of your respective mandates.

As the Secretary-General, you are mandated to bring issues or situations threatening the maintenance of peace and security, including those where atrocity crimes are likely to occur or are ongoing, to the attention of other United Nations organs. Since 2009, the Secretary-General has advanced the conceptual and practical development of the Responsibility to Protect through annual reports to the General Assembly and the Security Council.

As Under-Secretary-General for UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, you advise the Secretary-General on peace and security issues globally, while overseeing “good offices” initiatives and field-based political missions carrying out peacemaking, preventive diplomacy and peace-building activities in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Central and Southeast Asia and the Americas.

As Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, you are responsible for coordinating global emergency response to save lives and protect people in humanitarian crises. OCHA advocates for effective and principled humanitarian action by all, for all.

As Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, you are empowered to deploy peace operations to stabilize conflict situations after a ceasefire, to create an environment for the parties to reach a lasting peace agreement, and assist in implementing comprehensive peace agreements.

As Special Adviser of the Secretary General on the Prevention of Genocide, you are mandated to act as a catalyst to raise awareness of the causes and dynamics of genocide, to alert relevant actors where there is a risk of genocide, and to advocate and mobilize for appropriate action.

As Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect, you are mandated to lead the conceptual, political, institutional, and operational development of the Responsibility to Protect.

Under the Responsibility to Protect doctrine, moral and legal obligations have been triggered to prevent atrocities against the Armenians of Artsakh. Failure to act would be a grave dereliction of duty.

We therefore urge you to consider the following actions:

- **Begin a political and humanitarian mission to the region** that would have a civilian protection mandate with adequate financial and humanitarian resources.
- **Establish a fact-finding mission or other appropriate investigative mechanism** to travel to the Lachin Corridor to assess the humanitarian situation on the ground and promote justice and accountability for the violations of international law resulting from the blockade of the Lachin Corridor since December 12, 2022.
- **Coordinate a global emergency response** to save lives and protect people in Artsakh in humanitarian crises.

- **Support the implementation of political conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes that would recognize the right of self-determination of the people of Artsakh.**
- **Hold Azerbaijan accountable for its actions** against the Armenians of Artsakh, and accountable if it fails to comply with the February 22 Order of the International Court of Justice.
- **Request the UN Security Council to refer Azerbaijan to the International Criminal Court**, to hold Azerbaijan accountable for the violations of international law resulting from the blockade of the Lachin Corridor since December 12, 2022, including the crime of genocide for deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction.

We look forward to hearing from you and stand ready to meet with you to discuss these issues.

On behalf of the following concerned non-governmental organizations:

Armenian Bar Association
 Association Française des Avocats et Juristes Arméniens (AFAJA)
 Argentine Armenian Lawyers' Association

ⁱ Based on a 10 November 2020 ceasefire statement between the Republic of Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation, Nagorno-Karabakh was left to be connected to the outside world by a single road, which was to be protected by a peacekeeping contingent of the Russian Federation. Under that statement, there was to be access “along the Lachin Corridor of citizens, vehicles and goods in both directions.”

ⁱⁱ See “The Lachin Corridor: A Looming Humanitarian Catastrophe” dated December 14, 2022, online: <https://evnreport.com/politics/the-lachin-corridor-a-looming-humanitarian-catastrophe/>; Eurasianet, “Supplies begin to run low as Nagorno-Karabakh blockade continues” dated December 19, 2022, online: <https://eurasianet.org/supplies-begin-to-run-low-as-nagorno-karabakh-blockade-continues>; Eurasianet, “Blackouts and food rationing as Karabakh blockade enters second month” January 12, 2023, online: <https://eurasianet.org/blackouts-and-food-rationing-as-karabakh-blockade-enters-second-month>.

ⁱⁱⁱ Human Rights Defenders of Armenia and Artsakh, “Joint Ad Hoc Public Report, The Humanitarian Consequences of Blocking the Only Road Connecting Artsakh with Armenia and the World” dated December 15, 2022. Online: <https://artsakhombuds.am/en/document/976>.

^{iv} Eurasianet, Fears for new Nagorno-Karabakh crisis as Azerbaijan threatens key road link: <https://eurasianet.org/fears-for-new-nagorno-karabakh-crisis-as-azerbaijan-threatens-key-road-link>

^v Asbarez “In Yerevan, French Parliament Speaker Urges Azerbaijan to End Artsakh Blockade”, dated January 14, 2023, online: <https://asbarez.com/in-yerevan-french-parliament-speaker-urges-azerbaijan-to-end-artsakh-blockade/>.

^{vi} See Armenpress “Belgian lawmakers adopt resolution in parliamentary committee condemning Azerbaijani blockade of Artsakh”, February 1, 2023, online: <https://armenpress.am/eng/news/1103037.html>.

^{vii} “In Nagorno-Karabakh, there is a shortage of medicines and food, families are separated, students cannot attend schools due to lack of heating, there is no energy supply. It is important to immediately stop

blocking the Lachin corridor. Russia and Azerbaijan must fulfill their obligations," German Foreign Minister Annalena Charlotte Alma Baerbock said on February 7, 2023. See ArmInfo "German Foreign Minister calls on Azerbaijan to unblock Lachin corridor" dated February 7, 2023, online: https://arminfo.info/full_news.php?id=74387&lang=3.

^{viii} See "Ongoing disruptions to the Lachin Corridor: UK statement to the OSCE" on January 17, 2023, online: <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ongoing-disruptions-to-the-lachin-corridor-uk-statement-to-the-osce>

^{ix} See Tweet from Greece "Greece calls on Azerbaijani authorities to ensure freedom & security of movement & transport, in both directions along the Lachin corridor without any preconditions in compliance with the Tripartite Statement of 09.11.20. Local population should be spared from hardships&distress" dated December 15, 2022.

^x On December 13, 2022, the Parliament of the Netherlands adopted a motion calling for the opening of the Lachin corridor by Azerbaijan. See <https://en.armradio.am/2022/12/14/dutch-parliament-adopts-motion-calling-for-opening-of-lachin-corridor/>.

^{xi} On December 21, 2022, Permanent Representative of Norway Ambassador Mona Juul said in her speech at the UN Security Council meeting "we call on Azerbaijan to guarantee safe movement along the Lachin corridor. It is in nobody's interest to trigger an avoidable humanitarian situation in Nagorno Karabakh." See <https://www.norway.no/en/missions/un/statements/security-council/2022/sc-armeniaazerbaijan2/>.

^{xii} During the plenary session held on December 22, 2022, the Spanish Congress unanimously adopted a statement regarding the blockade of the Lachine Corridor by Azerbaijan and the resulting humanitarian crisis.

^{xiii} "Free movement through the corridor should be restored as soon as possible, and negotiations between Armenia and Azerbaijan should be resumed in order to resolve all pending issues," Ambassador Anna Ifkovits wrote on her Twitter page.

^{xiv} United States State Department spokesperson Ned Price said on December 13, 2022: "We call on the government of Azerbaijan to restore free movement through the corridor. The way forward is through negotiations." See <https://www.state.gov/briefings/department-press-briefing-december-13-2022/>. See Tweet from the Helsinki Commission: "The blocking of trade and transit on the Lachin corridor is contributing to a humanitarian catastrophe in Karabakh, and should be lifted immediately. Azerbaijan has a moral responsibility for ensuring the welfare of Karabakh Armenians" dated January 10, 2023, see https://twitter.com/HelsinkiComm/status/1612832664221896708?fbclid=IwAR1yZuByjfy37k_nA6PoqkPJR5NMwo5oow_9j_59tFVWWlmi7bHz2jpCKI.

^{xv} See Tweet from Canadian government "Canada is closely following the closure of the #Lachin corridor. We call on #Azerbaijan authorities to reopen the corridor and ensure freedom of movement to avoid any potential humanitarian impact" dated December 14, 2022, online: https://twitter.com/CanadaFP/status/1603065230418153477?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etwembed%7Ctwterm%5E1603065230418153477%7Ctwgr%5E587b7491cb537fda24d3c535fa8677691f20144d%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fen.armradio.am%2F2022%2F12%2F14%2Fcanada-calls-on-azerbaijan-to-reopen-the-lachin-corridor%2F.

^{xvi} "Any obstruction jeopardizes the well-being of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh and threatens the reconciliation process between Armenia and Azerbaijan in a conflict that has already cost thousands of human lives," Ambassador Ronaldo Costa Filho, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the UN, said at the UN Security Council meeting on Armenia and Azerbaijan on December 20, 2022, see <https://press.un.org/en/2022/sc15154.doc.htm>

^{xvii} See https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2023-0012_EN.html

^{xviii} First Channel News, "ECHR sent urgent notice to Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to monitor Azerbaijan's implementation of its decision to unblock the Lachin Corridor" dated January 16, 2023, online: <https://www.1lurer.am/en/2023/01/16/ECHR-sent-urgent-notice-to-Committee-of-Ministers-of-the-Council-of-Europe-to-monitor-Azerbaijan->

[s/865047#:~:text=Today%2C%20the%20European%20Court%20of,to%20unblock%20the%20Lachin%20Corridor. ArmenianPress, “The ECHR satisfies Armenia’s request and applies interim measures against Azerbaijan” dated December 21, 2022, online: <https://www.armenpress.am/eng/news/1100248/>.](https://www.armenpress.am/eng/news/1100248/)

^{xix} “Genocide Warning: Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh” dated September 23, 2022, online: <https://www.genocidewatch.com/single-post/genocide-warning-azerbaijan-and-nagorno-karabakh-september-2022>.

^{xx} “Red Flag Alert for Genocide – Azerbaijan” dated August 16, 2022, online: <https://www.lemkininstitute.com/red-flag-alerts-1/red-flag-alert-for-genocide---azerbaijan>; “Red Flag Alert for Genocide - Azerbaijan Update” dated 2 September 19, 2022, online: <https://www.lemkininstitute.com/red-flag-alerts-1/red-flag-alert--for-genocide---azerbaijan-update-2>; “Red Flag Alert for Genocide - Azerbaijan - Update 3” dated October 7, 2022, online: https://www.lemkininstitute.com/files/ugd/391abe_868b3771b026486fba9471cac5df7983.pdf; “Red Flag Alert for Genocide - Azerbaijan Update 4” dated December 3, 2022, online: https://www.lemkininstitute.com/files/ugd/9bc553_379ff0739c994c39ba1cf6d714bab6f9.pdf; “Red Flag Alert for Genocide - Azerbaijan - Update 5” dated December 15, 2022, online: https://www.lemkininstitute.com/files/ugd/391abe_22be692d531c4134817cb6417ccdc931.pdf; “Red Flag Alert for Genocide - Azerbaijan Update 6” dated February 2, 2023, online: https://www.lemkininstitute.com/files/ugd/391abe_7435239752b546bb902db81ab21788c8.pdf.

^{xxi} “Azerbaijan: Nagorno-Karabakh Lifeline Road Blocked, Ensure Access to Essential Goods and Services” dated December 21, 2022, online: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/12/21/azerbaijan-nagorno-karabakh-lifeline-road-blocked>.

^{xxii} On January 11, 2023, Amnesty International tweeted: “Azerbaijan must end the blockade of the Lachin corridor, which has left residents of Nagorno Karabakh without access to essential goods and services. Freedom of movement and protection of economic and social rights for those affected must be ensured,” Amnesty International’s global press office tweeted,” online: https://twitter.com/amnestypress/status/1613202615076020224?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1613202615076020224%7Ctwgr%5E7728af205a3270a5499750670bf52d5d003d75b6%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Farmenpress.am%2Feng%2Fnews%2F1101482%2F.

^{xxiii} On December 14, 2022, Freedom House tweeted: “We call on the int’l community to reiterate its support for negotiations without coercion. Azerbaijan must cease its blockage of the Lachin corridor—the only road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh to the outside world. We are disturbed by reports that Azerbaijan has also cut off the gas supply to Nagorno-Karabakh once again. We call on the Azerbaijani government to restore unhindered gas supplies to the people of the region. Finally, we urge the @OSCE Minsk Group countries and the sides of the Nov. 9, 2020, trilateral statement to take the necessary steps to ensure the rights and security of the population of Nagorno-Karabakh, including their freedom of movement.” Online: https://twitter.com/freedomhouse/status/1603146203293777921?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1603146203293777921%7Ctwgr%5Ee30be0571294353430dc44060d9bbe77802f2a49%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fen.armradio.am%2F2022%2F12%2F15%2Ffreedom-house-azerbaijan-must-cease-its-blockage-of-lachin-corridor%2F.

^{xxiv} International Association of Genocide Scholars Executive and Advisory Boards: Statement Condemning the Azerbaijani Blockade of the Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) dated February 1, 2023, online: <https://genocidescholars.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/IAGS-EB-AB-Statement-on-Azeri-Blockade-of-Artsakh.pdf>.

^{xxv} UN General Assembly, Convention on the Rights of the Child, 20 November 1989, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1577, p. 3, online: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b38f0.html>.

^{xxvi} UN General Assembly, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 16 December 1966, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 999, p. 171, online: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b3aa0.html>.

^{xxvii} UN General Assembly, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 21 December 1965, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 660, p. 195, online: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b3940.html>.

^{xxviii} See online: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/news/2022/08/experts-committee-elimination-racial-discrimination-commend-azerbaijan-its-regional>.

^{xxix} “Each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means. We accept that responsibility and will act in accordance with it. The international community should, as appropriate, encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility and support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability”, “The international community, through the United Nations, also has the responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means, in accordance with Chapters VI and VIII of the Charter, to help to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. In this context, we are prepared to take collective action, in a timely and decisive manner, through the Security Council, in accordance with the Charter, including Chapter VII, on a case-by-case basis and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations as appropriate, should peaceful means be inadequate and national authorities are manifestly failing to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. We stress the need for the General Assembly to continue consideration of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and its implications, bearing in mind the principles of the Charter and international law. We also intend to commit ourselves, as necessary and appropriate, to helping States build capacity to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and to assisting those which are under stress before crises and conflicts break out.”

^{xxx} UN General Assembly, “Implementing the Responsibility to Protect – Report of the Secretary-General”, A/63/677, 12 January 2009.

^{xxxi} Björn Schiffbauer, “The Duty to Prevent Genocide under International Law: Naming and Shaming as a Measure of Prevention”, *Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal*, Vol. 12 Iss. 3 (2018), p. 86.

^{xxxii} Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 78 UNTS 277, 9 December 1948. Article I of the Genocide Convention provides that genocide is a crime under international law that all contracting states undertake to prevent and punish, and Article IX provides the jurisdictional basis for bringing contracting states before the International Court of Justice.