



# **AFTER LIBYA: THE ETHICS OF MILITARY INTERVENTION REVISITED**

THE ETHICS OF HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION



**A ONE DAY COLLOQUIUM AT CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD**

10<sup>th</sup> February 2012



## After Libya: the Ethics of Military Intervention Revisited

THE ETHICS OF HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION

Christ Church, Oxford

Friday 10 February 2011

As part of a collaborative series between Christ Church, Oxford, and the International Security Programme, Chatham House, Professor Nigel Biggar, Director McDonald Centre for Theology, Ethics & Public Life, and Iain Mathewson, Associate Fellow, Chatham House invite you to attend a one-day colloquium at **Christ Church, Oxford on Friday 10 February 2012.**

The end of the Cold War renewed the possibility of proportionate military intervention in sovereign states with a view to saving civilians from grave and massive harm. Shamed by Rwanda and Srebrenica, and provoked by Kosovo, the international community at the turn of the century began to discuss formally changing international law to affirm a 'responsibility to protect', and to permit military intervention for humanitarian purposes. With the invasion of Iraq, however, the momentum for legal reform seemed to run out of steam. Nevertheless, eight years later in 2011, the UN authorised a NATO intervention in Libya.

While the ongoing economic crisis may serve to diminish western appetite and capacity for expensive military intervention, the prospect of imminent humanitarian disaster will always give rise to difficult choices for those states with the military capability to make a difference and the voice of electorates to demand pre-emptive responses.

Our colloquium will take stock of where 'the responsibility to protect' now stands in international law and politics; consider the ethics of military intervention in terms of the just war tradition and in the light of Iraq and Libya; and assess how the NATO campaign in Libya has affected the prospects of future military intervention for humanitarian purposes.

The meeting will begin with a coffee reception at 9am and will finish at 4pm.

The meeting will be held under the Chatham House rule:

*When a meeting is held under the Chatham House rule participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speakers, nor that of any other participant may be revealed.*

The Ethics of Humanitarian Intervention

**After Libya: the Ethics of Military Intervention Revisited**

**Christ Church, Oxford  
10 February 2011, 09.15 – 17.00**

**AGENDA**

9.00 - 9.25am – **Arrival Reception and Welcome**

9.30 – 11am - **Session I: "The Responsibility to Protect": its fate in the UN and its standing in international law**

11 - 11.30am - Tea and Coffee

11.30 – 1pm - **Session II: Military intervention in the light of just war thinking**

1 – 2.30pm – Lunch

2.30 – 3.45pm - **Session III: NATO's intervention in Libya: reflections on the rights and wrongs**

3.45 - 4pm – **Closing Remarks**