

## Save These Dates! - 18-19 June 2012

### ***Protecting Human Rights: Duties and Responsibilities of States and Non-state Actors***

The Steering Committee of the APSA Human Rights Section, the Council of the IPSA Human Rights Research Committee, and the Executive Council of the ISA Human Rights Section announce their second joint conference on the theme “Protecting Human Rights: Duties and Responsibilities of States and Non-state Actors” to take place on 18-19 June 2012 at the University of Glasgow in Glasgow, Scotland, hosted by the Glasgow Human Rights Network. This conference is timed to coincide with the joint ISA-BISA conference to be held immediately after in Edinburgh (20-22 June).

The 2005 World Summit recognized the responsibility to protect. While this may have, in sense, been a normative revolution, in another sense it was just one more in a long list of human rights responsibilities states have taken on over the last 65 years as the modern human rights regime has developed. Less attention has been focused on the growing number of responsibilities accruing to non-state actors. Further, while the discussion of responsibility to protect, to a large extent, has focused on military intervention, other responsibilities related to post-conflict situations, in particular, have been identified – just as those related to transitional justice and other post-conflict processes. Yet, all of these international declarations and norm-making activities raise as many questions as they answer about the willingness of relevant actors to live up to their responsibilities, as well as potential conflicts between responsibilities. This conference will examine the wide range of human rights duties and responsibilities accruing to state and non-state actors. It will be significantly multidisciplinary in character, being open to legal, philosophical, political and other perspectives.

The conference will examine the following questions and topics, among others:

- What is the nature of human rights responsibilities?
- Have these responsibilities translated into appropriate action?
- How do we define such appropriate action, and who holds these responsibilities?
- How does the international community address conflicting responsibilities?
- What types of human rights responsibilities do non-state actors have?
- What is the relationship between rights, duties and responsibilities?
- Dealing with past wrongs and failed responsibilities

A formal call for papers will be issued later this summer.