

1.3 The objectives of the Policy Guide

The objectives of this Policy Guide are to:

1. *Inform* relevant protection actors about the normative, institutional and operational scope of R2P and POC;
2. *Clarify* the relationship between R2P and POC, including their points of intersection and divergence (with a specific focus on the needs of policy makers and practitioners); and
3. *Provide* practical guidance regarding when, how and by whom R2P and POC might be implemented.

1.4 The structure of the Guide

After this Introductory *Part One*, *Part Two* conducts a comparative analysis of R2P and POC, overviewing the basic nature, divergences and convergences of each principle. This Part considers in detail the scope of each principle, their main actors and the “when and how” of their application.

Part Three describes the normative frameworks – the legal instruments and modalities – of R2P and POC. While an exhaustive treatment of all the legal instruments that are implicated in R2P or POC is not the intent, the aim of this section is to provide a comprehensive picture of the key principles and legal regimes relevant to R2P and POC. This comprehensive picture is crucial for a full understanding of the normative makeup of R2P and POC. A focus on just one set of legal instruments – the UN Charter, or International Humanitarian Law, for instance – can give a misleadingly narrow idea of the legal and political obligations of States and other actors. Contemporary international law is made up of a large and overlapping array of legal instruments, and it is only with full awareness that an accurate picture of the legal situation emerges.

Part Four details the institutional structures that have responsibility for R2P and POC. Again, while an exhaustive account is not possible, the aim is to provide a fairly comprehensive picture. A focus on only the major agents – the UN Security Council and Secretariat for instance – provides too narrow an understanding of how different institutions contribute to civilian protection. R2P and POC both rely for their proper functioning on a network of mutually supporting States, institutions and actors. If either principle is to provide real protection to vulnerable persons, it will be because the principles have been *mainstreamed* throughout the work of a substantial array of different institutions across the national, regional and global levels.

Part Five turns to the implementation of R2P and POC. Here attention is placed on the operational aspects of, and interactions among, the two principles and the institutions and agents – whether global, regional or national – that act on them. Part Five considers four key questions of implementation and operationalization:

1. *Efficacy*: How can the institution better fulfil its specific role?
2. *Mutual Support*: How can the institution coordinate with other actors to contribute to a larger protective environment?
3. *Will*: How can the will of actors in the institution be mobilized to improve protection outcomes?
4. *Role development*: How can the institution as a whole be enrolled into adopting protective policies and objectives?