Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies Annual Report – 2016









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Letter from the Director: A review of humanitarian issues in 2016

As we sum up the Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies' (NCHS) activities from the past year, it is also time to take stock of major trends in the humanitarian field from the past year. 2016 did not bring many positive developments in humanitarian terms, quite the contrary: several events shook the core foundations of what we understand humanitarian aid to be and what it should stand for. 2016 was also the year of the first World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), convened by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon. The "One Humanity" theme of the UNSG's report to the WHS resonates as a call for protecting the most fundamental values, at a time where these cannot be taken for granted.

World Humanitarian Summit

The Summit led to more than 3000 commitments to action, and more than a dozen new partnerships to translate the principles of the new Agenda for Humanity launched by Ban Ki-Moon. One issue is how these commitments will be followed up. Another is whether the main ambitions outlined in the agenda are compatible with the core principles of humanitarianism, and if they are fit to face current challenges. This is most notably seen in suggestions at the Summit to bring humanitarianism, development, and peace-building efforts together. Such a development would risk the further blurring of the contours of what constitutes neutral and independent humanitarian action and subsequently raises new questions.

Increased attacks on humanitarian aid workers

The question of neutral and independent humanitarian aid has also been challenged most visibly in Syria, but additionally in conflicts from Afghanistan to Yemen. The deliberate attacks on aid convoys will remain a particularly tragic feature of the war in Syria, but also illustrates a broader trend: as Morten Rostrup, former MSF President, said at a seminar organized by NCHS, from the moment "the doctor of my enemy is my enemy" became a valid, or at least practiced distinction in conflicts, humanitarian aid workers immediately lost their implicit and explicit protection and became potential targets.

These attacks may not be a fundamentally new issue, but the trend has become more explicit over the recent years. The post-9/11 environment and the politics of the "global war on terror" reshaped the operating environment and augmented the risks for individual aid workers and agencies. The high number of aerial or shelling attacks that have struck health facilities in war zones in 2016 indicate that a new form of threat to aid workers and convoys has emerged in the form of deliberate attacks.

Further, these attacks also raise questions about what kind of civil society responses can emerge and can be expected to defend these fundamental principles. The Human Rights field, by the very nature of its causes, has emerged and gained its impact notably through the mobilization of transnational networks, civil society, and human rights organizations. The Humanitarian field, however, has not engaged citizens and had public mobilization in the same way, quite possibly due to the fact that the main institutional defenders, the humanitarian organizations, are weary to engage in any way that can be seen as political mobilization. Humanitarian organizations frequently organize campaigns to attract attention to forgotten crises; however, the deliberate attacks on aid convoys and health facilities has now sparked a new form of mobilization by these organizations, notably MSF and ICRC, with the #StopBombingHospitals and #NotATarget campaign.

Another concern that has emerged in recent years is the use of schools and universities for military purposes in times of conflict and instability. As highlighted through the work of the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA), it is a concern both in terms of how wars are fought and boundaries crossed, but also for the longer term consequences of these wars.

"Crises" in Europe

Further, the theme of this year's WHD, "One Humanity", also resonates as an appeal in the wake of a year where states, notably in Europe, have built new fences and walls to try and seal off borders to prevent people from seeking international protection from entering their territories. European responses to the refugee crisis also shows a reorientation of humanitarian aid – both in concrete budgetary terms, reallocating from humanitarian and development aid budgets to support the reception of refugees and migrants in Europe, as well as to counter and contain migration outside of Europe, but also in terms of what "humanitarian" means: the solidarity and aid towards populations in distress, as a virtue in itself, or something seen with suspicion in a context where migration at the European borders – and at the borders of other rich and stable parts of the world – are increasingly defined as security threats. The space for solidarity appears to be shrinking, and is perhaps the real crisis, as surveillance and control increases.

Looking forward towards 2017

2016 ended on a more hopeful note, with the signing of a peace agreement in Colombia after decades of civil war. The efforts of President Jose Manuel Santos were rewarded with the Nobel Peace Prize, granted as also "a tribute to the Colombian people", and 2017 marks the beginning of the implementation of this agreement. The year also began with a full agenda of humanitarian crises to watch elsewhere, notably Yemen, South Sudan, and Nigeria and the Lake Chad region. The effects of recent political outcomes – Brexit and the election of Donald Trump as the new President of the United States – and those yet to occur, including several important national elections in Europe, will extend to spending and engagement on many humanitarian issues, and also will influence the potential for success within international bodies. NCHS will follow these issues closely, and will continue to invite to critical discussions and call for a knowledge-based policy formulation in the humanitarian field.

Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert

NCHS Director, Research Director & Senior Researcher PRIO

1. Overview

The Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies (NCHS) is established by CMI, NUPI and PRIO, with the aim to promote and facilitate critical and relevant research on humanitarian issues. The Centre has since the beginning been financed through projects funded by the Norwegian Research Council, and has four overarching objectives:

- To produce high quality, policy relevant research on humanitarian issues
- To establish a critical mass of Norwegian scholars working on humanitarian issues, and linking these up with international networks
- To serve as a key partner for discussion and analysis for humanitarian actors
- To stimulate public debate on humanitarian issues

The Centre's activities are organized under the following ongoing and past projects and initiatives:

Completed in 2016

- Armed Violence in Urban Settings; New Challenges, New Humanitarianisms (NUPI and PRIO)
- Courting catastrophe? Humanitarian policy and practice in a changing climate (NMBU)
- Economic Conditions of Displacement (NUPI and FAFO)
- Protection of Civilians: From Principle to Practice (CMI, NUPI and PRIO)

Ongoing

- Aid in crisis? Rights-based approaches and humanitarian outcomes (PRIO)
- Armed Conflict and Maternal Health in Sub-Saharan Africa (PRIO)

- Brazil's Rise to the Global Stage (PRIO and NUPI)
- Conflict of interest? 'Business for peace' as Development air in volatile environments (PRIO)
- Development Aid, Effectiveness, and Inequalities in Conflict-Affected Societies (PRIO)
- The Criminology of Humanitarianism Research Network (UiO, PRIO and UiB)
- Innovations in Peacebuilding: International norms and local dynamics (CMI, MFA and CCR)
- Protection of Civilians: From Principle to Practice (CMI, NUPI and PRIO)
- Violence against women and criminal justice in Afghanistan (CMI and RIWPS)

Past Projects

- The Humanitarian Innovation Lab (PRIO and NTNU)
- The Critical Humanitarian Technology Project (PRIO and NUPI)
- The Significance of Political Organization and International Law for Displaced Women in Colombia: A Socio-legal study of Liga De Mujeres (PRIO)

Under the umbrella of these projects and initiatives, the Centre has held 13 seminars and 3 workshops throughout 2016. These events engaged Norwegian and international academics, policy makers, practitioners and other actors from and with interest in the humanitarian field.

2. People

As of 1 May 2016, the Centre is led by Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (Research Director, PRIO), following Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (Research Professor in Humanitarian Studies PRIO/Professor UiO) and consists of the following members:

Board Members

- Gunnar M. Sørbø (Board Chair, Senior Researcher, CMI)
- Marta Bivand Erdal (Senior Researcher, PRIO)
- Stein Sundstøl Eriksen (Research Professor, NUPI)

CMI Members

- Per Aarvik (Research Assistant)
- Are Knudsen (Senior Researcher)
- Kjetil Selvik (Senior Researcher)
- Astri Suhrke (Senior Researcher)
- Arne Strand (Deputy Director)
- Liv Tønnessen (Research Director on maternity leave)
- Torunn Wimpelmann (Researcher- on maternity leave)

NUPI Members

- Benjamin de Carvalho (Senior Researcher)
- John Karlsrud (Senior Research Fellow)
- Jon Harald Sande Lie (Senior Research Fellow)
- Niels Nagelhus Schia (Senior Research Fellow)
- Ole Jacob Sending (Research Director)
- Joakim Hertzberg Ulstein (Research Fellow)

PRIO Members

- Kaja Borchgrevink (Doctoral Researcher)
- Amanda Cellini (Research Assistant)
- Eric Cezne (Research Assistant)

- Kristoffer Lidén (Senior Researcher)
- Kristian Hoelscher (Senior Researcher)
- Cindy Horst (Research Director, Research Professor)
- Simon Reid-Henry (Senior Researcher)
- Øystein H. Rolandsen (Senior Researcher)
- Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (Research Professor)
- Pinar Tank (Senior Researcher)

The Centre also collaborates with partners from Norwegian and international universities, including:

- Brita Fladvad Nielsen (Postdoctoral Fellow, NTNU, Trondheim, Norway)
- Kjersti Lohne (Postdoctoral Fellow, UiO, Oslo, Norway)
- Julieta Lemaitre (Associate Professor, Universidad de los Andes Law School, Bogotá, Colombia)
- Aziz Hakimi (Guest Researcher at CMI)



Jon Harald Sande Lie (NUPI), Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO), and Alex de Waal at the 'Humanitarian Changes, Humanitarian Challenges and the Protection of Civilians' seminar, 27 April 2016. Photo: Ane Teksum Isbrekken

3. Output Summary

The following sections comprise a summary of the Centre's activities and outputs for the year of 2016. The first section gives an overview of the 26 blog posts published by NCHS members and guest authors. The second section shows the 13 seminars and 3 workshops and roundtables held under the umbrella of the Centre, as well as some of the events planned for 2017. The third section lists the publications produced by NCHS researchers in 2016, as part of ongoing projects or otherwise linked to the field of humanitarianism. The last section outlines the various activities to which NCHS researchers have participated, highlighting their role in serving as key partners for discussion and analysis and stimulating public debate on humanitarian issues.

3.1 Blogs

In order to stimulate public debate on humanitarian issues, NCHS researchers and guest authors contributed with the following blog posts in 2016:

- The humanitarian-development nexus in Northern Uganda
 27 January 2016 – by Jon Harald Sande Lie (NUPI)
- Is the War on Drugs a humanitarian crisis?
 8 March 2016 by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO) and Kristian Hoelscher (PRIO)
- Futureproofing humanitarianism for permanent emergencies: Unpacking the promise of cooperation
 March 2016 – by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
- The GovLab selected readings on data and humanitarian response
 5 April 2016 – by Prianka Srinivasan and Stefaan G. Verhulst

- Tailoring protection of civilians to state capacity: The role of regional human rights protection measures
 14 April 2016 – by Julieta Lemaitre (Universidad de Los Andes) and Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
- Why the veto powers all support protection of civilians (and why they often fail to agree on it)
 29 April 2016 – by Kristoffer Liden (PRIO) and Simon Reid-Henry (PRIO)
- Protection of civilians (PoC): What did we learn?
 5 May 2016 by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
- Insecurity in the humanitarian cyberspace: A call for innovation
 10 May 2016 by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
- Brought up to be a war criminal
 18 May 2016 by Kjersti Lohne (PRIO) and Anette
 Bringedal Houge (UiO)
- The humanitarian quest for accountability:
 Examining the role of UNCHR
 23 May 2016 by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik
 (PRIO/UiO) and Katja Lindskov Jacobsen (University of Copenhagen)
- Against the merger of humanitarianism with development and security
 31 May 2016 – by Kristoffer Liden (PRIO)
- How can innovation deliver humanitarian outcomes? Challenges and approaches for humanitarian innovation policy
 June 2016 – by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO), Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO) and Brita Flatvad Nielsen (NTNU)
- Durable solutions: Five implementation challenges and possible pathways for improvement
 16 June 2016 – by André de Lima Madureira (LSE) and Liliana Jubilut (Universidade Católica de Santos)
- What is the role of law in bringing imaginative and imaginary peace to Colombia?

- 4 July 2016 by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
- Building humanitarian studies: High scores for the Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies in an external review of HUMPOL
 - 8 August 2016 by Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO) and Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
- Reflections on World Humanitarian Day: Old stakes and new challenges for humanitarian aid workers
 - 19 August 2016 by Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO)
- Survey: Most humanitarians favour the use of drones in disaster zones
 - 8 September 2016 by Denise Soesilo (FSD)
- Introductory Post: Nordic Resettlement Series
 12 September 2016 by Amanda Cellini (PRIO)
- Refugee resettlement as humanitarian governance: The need for a critical research agenda
 - 13 September 2016 by Adèle Garnier (Université Libre de Bruxelles), Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO) and Liliana Jubilut (Universidade Católica de Santos)
- Brazilian peacekeeping: Challenges and potentials in turbulent landscapes at home and internationally
 - 26 September 2016 by Eric Cezne (University of Groningen) and Eduarda Hamann (Igarapé Institute)
- The future of refugee resettlement: Will the September summits make any difference?
 28 September 2016 – by Adèle Garnier (Université Libre de Bruxelles)
- Most importantly a Nobel for the Colombian people and the victims of the civil war
 7 October 2016 – by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
- Give us your phone and we may grant you asylum
 - 18 October 2016 by Rocco Bellanova (PRIO), Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO) and Raphaël Gellert (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

- Swedish cultural orientation programs and the notion of the "passive refugee" 16 November 2016 – by Mehek Muftee (Jönköping University)
- The evolution of Danish refugee resettlement policy, 1978-2016
 24 November 2016 – by Katrine Syppli Kohl (SFI)
- Resettlement in contemporary Norway –
 Lessons from a discourse analysis of the
 Norwegian debate on the Syrian refugee crisis
 1 December 2016 by Linn Marie Reklev

3.2 Events

The Centre has also served as a forum for discussion and analysis among humanitarian actors in Norway, and engaged national and international networks working on humanitarian issues to participate in the following events in 2016:

Seminars

- The Big Freeze: Storskog, Russia politics and the end(s) of a humanitarian superpower
 19 February 2016 – at PRIO, Oslo
- Climate change adaptation: The role and influence of humanitarian interventions towards response and prevention
 3 March 2016 at Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Ås
- How can the UN achieve better integration of long-term aid and humanitarian assistance?
 15 March 2016 – at NUPI, Oslo
- Adapting to changing needs? New models for humanitarian aid in an uncertain world
 17 March 2016 – at Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Ås
- Humanitarian changes, humanitarian challenges and the protection of civilians
 27 April 2016 – at Litteraturhuset, Oslo
- Differentiating between Israel and the illegal settlements
 8 June 2016 – at PRIO, Oslo

- Humanitarian point break: Meeting challenges and reshaping action
 - 9 June 2016 at Litteraturhuset, Oslo
- Urban violence international actors and armed violence reduction
 23 September 2016 – at NUPI, Oslo
- Referendum on the peace agreement in Colombia – More politics than peace?
 30 September 2016 – at Litteraturhuset, Oslo
- Bombing hospitals: War crimes and the end of IHL protection
 14 October 2016 – at PRIO, Oslo
- Migration Week 2016
 24-28 October 2016 at Bergen Resource Centre for International Development, Bergen
- Haiti after Hurricane Matthew: Challenges of humanitarian aid
 28 October 2016 – at PRIO, Oslo
- Courting catastrophe? Humanitarian policy and practice in a changing climate conference
 1-2 December 2016 – at Felix Conference Center, Oslo

Workshops and roundtables

- "Towards Professionalization of Humanitarian Action: Bridging the Gap Between Academia and Practitioners" roundtable, World Conference on Humanitarian Studies
 5-8 March 2016 – at Ghion Hotel, Addis Ababa
- Politics of humanitarian aid in Syria
 30 September 2016 at PRIO, Oslo
- Humanitarian Studies Colloquium: The history of development and humanitarian studies in Norway

13 October 2016 - at PRIO, Oslo

For 2017, the following events have been planned:

 Political asylum deceptions: The culture of suspicion

11 January 2017 – at NUPI, Oslo

- The politics of protecting civilians roundtable
 27 January 2017 at NUPI, Oslo
- Humanitarian Studies Colloquium: Building a legal sociology of the humanitarian field 14 March 2017 – at PRIO, Oslo
- Book Launch, "The Good Drone" Endless possibilities for "Doing Good"?
 29 March 2017 – at PRIO, Oslo
- Humanitarian Studies Colloquium: The anthropology of emergencies, rescue and good intentions
 - 19 April 2017 at PRIO, Oslo

3.3 Publications

In addition to the Centre's contribution through blogs and events, NCHS researchers have also produced a number of high quality academic and policy relevant research on humanitarian issues, as part of or inspired by past and ongoing research projects. These publications have been on issues ranging from protection of civilians, emerging humanitarian technologies, migration, refugees and displacement and emerging global powers.

3.3.1 Journal Articles

Cezne, E., Jumbert, M.G., & Sandvik, K.B. (2016). Drones como veículos para a ação humanitária: perspectivas, oportunidades e desafios [Drones as vehicles for humanitarian action: perspectives, opportunities and challenges]. *Conjuntura Austral,* 7(33-34), 45-60.

Dupuy, K., Ron, J., & Prakash, A. (2016). Hands off my regime! Governments' restrictions on foreign aid to non-governmental organizations. *World Development*, 84, 299-311.

Erdal, M.B., & Borchgrevink, K. (2016). Transnational Islamic charity as everyday rituals. Global Networks. Hanafi, S., Knudsen, A., & Flahive, R. (2016). Trial of the status quo: The politics of mediated justice in the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. *Arab Studies Journal*, *24*(1), 68-88.

Horst, C., & Nur, A. (2016). Governing mobility through humanitarianism in Somalia: Compromising protection for the sake of return. *Development and Change, 47*(3), 542-562.

Janmyr, M., & Knudsen, A.J. (2016). Recapturing refugee camps: Hybrid spaces of humanitarianism. Humanity – An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development, 7(3), 391-395.

Knudsen, A.J. (2016). Death of a statesmen – birth of a martyr: Martyrdom and memorials in post-civil war Lebanon. *Anthropology of the Middle East*, 11(2), 1-17.

Lidén, K., Mikhelidze, N., Stavrevska, E.B., & Vogel, B. (2016). EU support to civil society organizations in conflict-ridden countries: A governance perspective from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus and Georgia. *International Peacekeeping*, *23*(2), 274-301.

Sandvik, K.B., & Hoelscher, K. (2016). The reframing of the War on Drugs as a "Humanitarian Crisis": Costs, benefits, and consequences. *Latin American Perspectives*, *09 December 2016*.

Sandvik, K.B., Jumbert, M.G., & Lohne, K. (2016). Drones for good: Conceptualizing the role of drones in global governance. *China International Strategy Review 2016*, Beijing: Long River Press Peking.

3.3.2 Edited Volumes and Books

Sandvik, K.B., & Jacobsen, K.L. (Eds.). (2016). *UNHCR and the struggle for accountability.* London: Routledge. Sandvik, K.B., & Jumbert, M.G. (Eds.). (2016). *The Good Drone*. London: Routledge.

3.3.3 Book Chapters

Jumbert, M.G. (2016). Creating the EU drone: Control, sorting and search and rescue at sea. In Sandvik, K.B., & Jumbert, M.G. (Eds.), *The Good Drone*. London: Routledge.

Jumbert, M.G., & Sandvik, K.B. (2016). Introduction: What does it take to be good? In Sandvik, K.B., & Jumbert, M.G. (Eds.), *The Good Drone*. London: Routledge.

Lidén, K. (2016). The UN and international ethics. In Jubilut, L.L., Silva, J.C.J., & Ramina, L. (Eds.), *The UN at 70: Contributions, challenges and perspectives*. Boa Vista: Editora da Universidade Federal de Roraima.

Lidén, K., & Jacobsen, E.K.U. (2016). The local is everywhere: A postcolonial reassessment of cultural sensitivity in conflict governance. In Burgess, J.P., Richmond, O.P, & Samaddar, R. (Eds.), Cultures of governance and peace: A comparison of EU and Indian theoretical and policy approaches. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Lidén, K., & Sandvik, K.B. (2016). Poison pill or cureall: Drones and the protection of civilians. In Sandvik, K.B., & Jumbert, M.G. (Eds.), *The Good Drone*. London: Routledge.

3.3.4 Policy Briefs and Reports

Cezne, E., & Hamann, E. (2016). *Brazilian* peacekeeping: Challenges and potentials in turbulent landscapes at home and internationally. (PRIO Policy Brief 22). Oslo: PRIO.

de Carvalho, B., Holm, M., & Schia, N.N. (2016). *The protection of civilians and UN Security Council mandates*. (NUPI Policy Brief). Oslo: NUPI.

Fladvad Nielsen, B., Sandvik, K.B., & Jumbert, M.G. (2016). *How can innovation deliver humanitarian outcomes?* (PRIO Policy Brief 12). Oslo: PRIO.

Kindersley, N., & Rolandsen, Ø.H. (2016). Prospects for Peace and the UN Regional Protection Force in South Sudan. *African Affairs (Virtual Issue: Making Sense of South Sudan)*, 1-12.

Lidén, K., & Reid-Henry, S. (2016). What's in it for them? Why the veto powers all support protection of civilians (and why they often fail to agree on it). (PRIO Policy Brief 10). Oslo: PRIO.

Schia, N.N., & de Carvalho, B. (2016). *Being* peacekept? The implicit assumptions that hamper the protection of civilians. (NUPI Policy Brief). Oslo: NUPI.

Sending, O.J. (2016). *Protecting organizations, protecting civilians.* (NUPI Policy Brief). Oslo: NUPI.

Sending, O.J., Reid-Henry, S., & Ullstein, J. (2016). *The city is not the problem*. (NUPI Policy Brief 28/2016). Oslo: NUPI.

Sending, O.J., Reid-Henry, S., & Ullstein, J. (2016). Organizational learning in humanitarian organizations: Lessons learned and ways forward. (NUPI Policy Brief 26/2016). Oslo: NUPI.

Sending, O.J., Reid-Henry, S., & Ullstein, J. (2016). Why humanitarian actors should think in terms of tool boxes rather than mandates. (NUPI Policy Brief 29/2016). Oslo: NUPI.

Strand, A., Benedixsen, S.K.N., Liden, H., Paasche, E., & Aalen, L. (2016). *Programmes for assisted return to Afghanistan, Iraqi Kurdistan, Ethiopia and Kosovo: A comparative evaluation of effectiveness and outcomes* (CMI Report R 2016:2). Bergen: Chr. Michelsen Institute.

Strand, A., Suhrke, A., & Taxell, N. (2016). *Country evaluation brief: Afghanistan* (Country Evaluations Briefs no. 7). Oslo: Norad.

Sørbø, G.M., Schomerus, M., & Aalen, L. (2016). *Country evaluation brief: South Sudan* (Country Evaluations Briefs no. 6). Oslo: Norad.

Tønnessen, L., & al-Nagar, S. (2016). Women and girls caught between rape and adultery in Sudan: Criminal law reform, 2005-2015. (Arabic translation of CMI Report R 2015:10).

3.3.5 Conference Papers

Cellini, A. (2016, 9 June). Settling resettlement: A normative study of Norway, Sweden and the resettlement of Hungarians in 1956/57. Paper presented at the 2nd Postgraduate Conference on Migration, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK.

Cellini, A. (2016, 22 October). The search for creativity in response to crisis: Moving beyond durable solutions. Paper presented at Migration With(out) Boundaries conference, Michigan State University, East Lansing, USA.

de Carvalho, B. (2016, 16 March). *Brazil's Humanitarian Engagement: Does Peacekeeping Pay Off?* Paper presented at the International Studies
Association annual conference, Atlanta, USA.

Jumbert, M.G. (2016, 16 March). The 'Brazilian Way' of Dealing with Force in Multilateral Operations: Connecting Robust Peacekeeping and the 'Responsibility while Protecting'. Paper presented at the International Studies Association annual conference, Atlanta, USA.

Lidén, K. (2016, 5 March). The ethics of the protection of civilians: Beyond intervention and resilience. Paper presented at the World Conference on Humanitarian Studies, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Lidén, K., & Reid-Henry, S. (2016, 17 March). *Do they really care? Protection of Civilians and the Veto Powers in the UN Security Council*. Paper presented at the International Studies Association annual conference, Atlanta, USA.

Lohne, K. (2016, 18 March). *Cosmopolitan legalism, criminal justice and human rights NGOs.* Paper presented at the International Studies Association annual conference, Atlanta, USA.

Lohne, K., & Houge, A.B. (2016, 18 March). *The fight against impunity: the construction of a panacea for sexual violence in conflict?* Paper presented at the International Studies Association annual conference, Atlanta, USA.

Sande Lie, J.H. (2016, 17 March). *The humanitarian-development nexus in Northern Uganda*. Paper presented at the International Studies Association annual conference, Atlanta, USA.

Sandvik, K.B. (2016. 17 March). *Kankuamo (Self) Protection: The Place of Legal Measures in the Protection of Civilians.* Paper presented at the International Studies Association annual conference, Atlanta, USA.

Sending, O.J. (2016, 17 March). *Protection practices and the constitution of the International Community.* Paper presented at the International Studies Association annual conference, Atlanta, USA.

Tank, P. (2016, March). *Emerging powers and conflict-afflicted states*. Paper presented at "Turkey as an emerging donor in humanitarian assistance" seminar, Brookings Institute, Washington D.C.

3.3.6 Analyses and op-eds

Lohne, K., & Houge, A.B. (2016, 15 December). Offer og overgriper i en og samme person. Stavanger Aftenblad.

Lohne, K., & Høgestøl, A.E. (2016, 5 November). Afrikansk flukt fra straffedomstolen. Agenda Magasin.

Sandvik, K.B. (2016, 3 February). The refugee crisis as a global humanitarian challenge. European Council on Foreign Relations blog.

Suhrke, A., & Wimpelmann, T. (2016, 11 June). Veien fra Kabul til Syria. *Bergens Tidende*.

Strand, A., & Paulsen, M. (2016, 14 October). Norge må sikre kvinnerettar – også nå me er i krig. *Dagbladet*.

Sørbø, G. (2016, 8 December). On the importance of solidarity and human rights work. CMI blog.

Sørbø, G., & Hertzberg, M. (2016, 17 January). Et fredeligere Sri Lanka. *Bergens Tidende*.

Tank, P., & Jumbert, M.G. (2016, 26 March). Flyktningavtalen mellom EU og Tyrkia er kostbar – særlig for flyktningene. *Aftenposten*.

Additionally, NCHS researchers have been asked to comment on issues such as Aleppo, attacks on aid workers, improving the humanitarian system, Guantanamo and South Sudan, in *Aftenposten*, *Bistandsaktuelt*, *forskning.no*, *NRK1*, *Scientific Nordic*, *The Guardian*, and TV2.



Photo: Pete Lewis

4. Other Activities

Finally, NCHS researchers have been continuously engaged in various activities during 2015, acting as key stakeholders at a wide range of events and contributing to an informed public debate on different humanitarian issues:

January

Cindy Horst (PRIO), Ole Jacob Sending (NUPI)
 and Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
 participated in the conference "Development
 research – what now?", a NORGLOBAL initiative
 of the Research Council of Norway.
 27 January 2016 – Oslo, Norway

February

- Kjetil Selvik (CMI) spoke at the seminar "The Syrian War" organized by the University of Bergen Faculty of Law.
 15 February 2016 – Bergen, Norway
- Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO) and Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO) participated in a roundtable and panel of the European Humanitarian Roundtables organized by the Network of Humanitarian Action and the European commission.
 16-17 February 2016 – Uppsala, Sweden

March

 Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO) chaired the panel "A New Multilateralism? Brazil, Humanitarian Action and International Peace and Security", which also featured presentations by Benjamin de Carvalho (NUPI) and Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO), at the International Studies Association annual conference.

16 March – Atlanta, USA

- Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO) chaired the panel "Peace Through Protection? Exploring protection in times of humanitarian change", featuring presentations by Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO), Jon Harald Sande Lie (NUPI), Kristoffer Lidén (PRIO), Simon Reid-Henry (PRIO) and Ole Jacob Sending (NUPI), at the International Studies Association annual conference. 17 March – Atlanta, USA
- Kjersti Lohne (PRIO) co-organized the panel "Cosmopolitan legalism and universal law: rhetorical promises and (un)intended consequences" at the International Studies Association annual conference. 18 March – Atlanta, USA

April

Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
 participated in the International Workshop on
 Data, Technology and Crisis Management
 organized by CIEM-University of Adger.
 14-15 April – Kristiansand, Norway

May

Kristin Sandvik (PRIO/UiO) gave an inaugural lecture as an associate professor, titled "Towards a Political and Legal Sociology of Humanitarianism", at the Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law at the University of Oslo.
 May 2016 – Oslo, Norway

June

 Arne Strand (CMI) presented "Denmark and Afghanistan: Development assistant impact" in the Folketinget's debate on "Learning from Danish experience in Afghanistan".
 9 June 2016 – Copenhagen, Denmark Kaja Borchgrevink (PRIO) co-hosted the seminar "FATA – The way to peace through education" with the Pakistani Embassy to Norway.
 20 June 2016 – Oslo, Norway

August

 Simon Reid-Henry (PRIO) gave the keynote "'Of arms and the man I sing': Violence and nonviolence in the global south city" at the "Geopolitical Violence: Future directions in power, politics, and world materiality" conference.

26 August 2016 – Glasgow, Scotland

September

- Arne Strand (CMI) chaired and presented in multiple panels for Afghanistan Week 2016, with participation and presentations from Kristian Berg Harpviken, Marta Bivand Erdal and Kaja Borchgrevink.
 - 20-25 September 2016 Oslo, Norway
- Benjamin de Carvalho (NUPI) gave the presentation "A view from Norway: middle powers in global politics", Pinar Tank (PRIO) gave the presentation "Middle powers as humanitarian partners: What's the attraction?", and Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO) gave the presentation "Humanitarian aid: what form of international cooperation for Brazil and Norway?", at the "Brazil and Norway: Foreign policy, global governance and the way forward for international cooperation" conference organized by PRIO for the Norwegian Education and Research Ministry visit to Brazil.
 23 September 2016 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
 participated in the roundtable "Drones in
 Humanitarian Action: Feedback after one year
 of research" during the GeOnG forum hosted
 by CartONG.

23 September 2016 - Chambéry, France

October

 Arne Strand (CMI) presented at the Stabilization seminar on the theme of "Stabilization and Corruption", organized by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

24-26 October 2016 – Copenhagen, Denmark

November

- Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO/UiO)
 participated in the panel "Humanitarian Aid
 over the last 20 years" panel ", hosted by Røde
 Kors Ungdom, Verdensseminaret, SUM and
 SAIH Blidern.
 - 1 November 2016 Oslo, Norway
- Arne Strand (CMI) participated in the workshop "Afghanistan: Challenges and Perspectives 2020" organized by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Development, and the Delegation for relations with Afghanistan of the European Parliament.
 - 17 November 2016 Brussels, Belgium

December

- Arne Strand (CMI) moderated a panel,
 "Assessing anti-corruption efforts, and how corruption can drive migration" at the International Anti-Corruption Conference.
 1 December 2016 Panama
- Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO) participated in the panel "Générer le respect du droit dans les conflits: une responsabilité citoyenne?" hosted by the French Delegation of the International committee of the Red Cross.

7 December 2016 - Paris, France

This report was put together by Amanda Cellini 19 February 2017