In 2011 the UN Security Council gave operational effect to the responsibility to protect doctrine in two groundbreaking Resolutions. This paved the way for UN authorised military intervention in Libya, which in turn provided NATO support and protection for civilians and for those persons engaged in an attempt to militarily overthrow the Libyan regime of Muammar Gadaffi. This lecture will assess the background to the responsibility to protect doctrine, its operationalisation in Libya, and the implications arising from these events for future UN authorised military interventions.

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