

Romeo Dallaire Stresses Rebuilding After Atrocities as Crucial to Prevention of Future Crimes The Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation 6 March 2013 Calls for broader understanding of genocide, beyond killing

Canadian Senator Romeo Dallaire stressed the rebuilding of society after atrocity crimes as crucial to preventing atrocities in the future, in a speech here last week to a packed auditorium of over 250 scholars, policymakers, students, and activists.

Speaking from Ottawa via Skype to an audience of UN ambassadors, U.S. government officials, judges, lawyers, academics, and activists — some of whom had traveled from as far away as England, Japan, Australia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo — Senator Dallaire, who led the UN peacekeeping mission that watched powerlessly as the 1994 genocide unfolded in Rwanda, claiming some 800,000 lives in a mere three months, said: “When we think of prevention we tend to think of what comes before. . . . Well, that is not the whole picture. . . . It is not only a question of what needs to be done before atrocities occur, or what needs to be done if they occur, but also about what needs to be done after atrocities occur.”(...)

The first day of the conference was a closed gathering of 23 researchers and policy practitioners who shared and discussed their contributions to an edited volume, to be published in 2014, that will serve as an authoritative work on the state of mass atrocity prevention, including an examination of its underlying theoretical assumptions.

See the full article

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