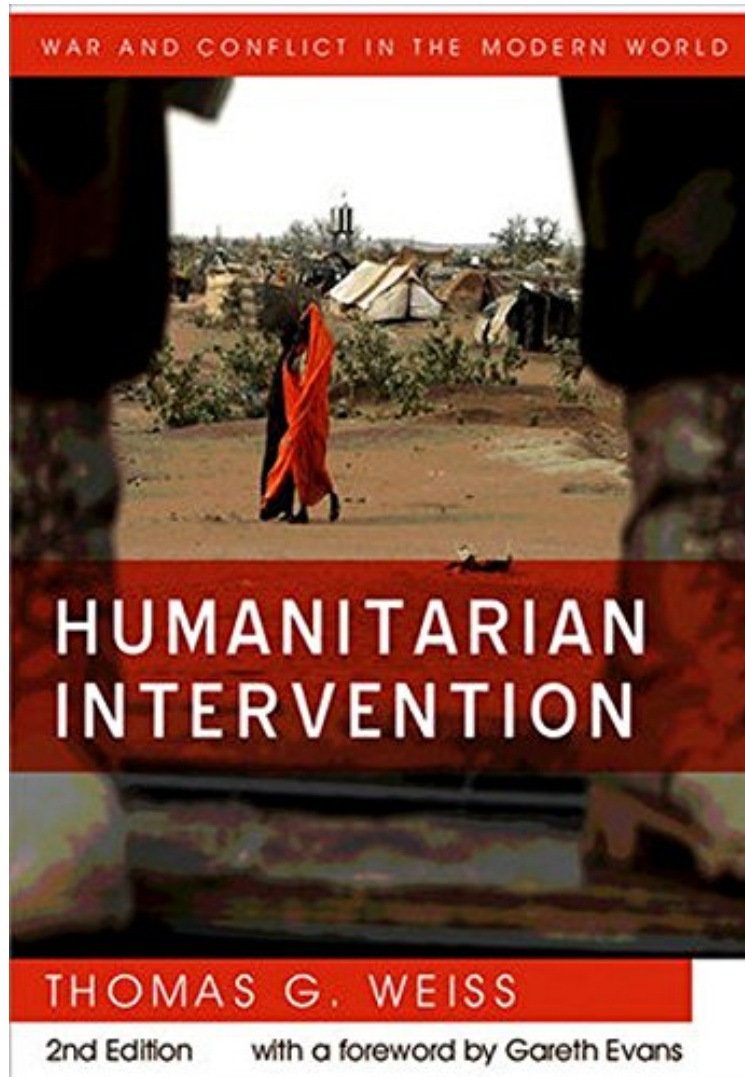


Humanitarian Intervention

Thomas G. Weiss

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Thomas G. Weiss : Humanitarian Intervention before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Humanitarian Intervention:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. very usefullBy Alexe EvaGreat book1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Ethics, Impulse, and Legitimacy of Providing Intervention Based on Humanitarian PrinciplesBy Erika BorsosIn "Humanitarian Intervention: Ideas in Action" Dr. Thomas G. Weiss outlines and discusses his principle of "the responsibility to protect" often referred to as "R2P" which originated from the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty." We learn the ICISS was originally established by the Security Council of the United Nations due to their failure to address the shocking events which transpired in

Rwanda and Kosovo. As with all interventions there are multiple considerations and the risk that intervention will result in "unintended consequences". The author does an outstanding job in discussing recent interventions and their outcomes both intended and unintended. He covers the ethical issues and moral dilemmas faced by those who participate with interventions either military, humanitarian or both. It has been shown that humanitarian aid was a secondary consideration to the geopolitical considerations for action taken during the Iraqi War. It has also been shown that the US has not demonstrated great success at assisting in economic recovery, nation-building and halting internal dissent that results in violence by opposing factions in the new nation. In the past 30 plus years evidence has accumulated from Rwanda, the Balkan War of the 1990s, Dar Fur and Sri Lanka that lack of intervention or poorly conceived intervention results in avertable human suffering and deaths. This book discusses what if any limits are to be placed on a state/country regarding its freedom to act regarding internal matters which would constitute either a threat to its neighboring state, world wide security or the threat or actual genocide of populations within its borders. The big debate revolves around when there is military intervention from outside agencies, to what extent does humanitarian aid continue once the major emergency is controlled. Certain countries/states are incapable of protecting their population and territories once the major threat is averted, nor are they capable of building a sustainable economy. Helping and protecting vulnerable people is the goal and great strides have been made by the United Nations in recognizing and accepting guiding principles of when military intervention is permitted, when humanitarian aid as an intervention is required, and the need to protect human rights within all countries. The author provides questions which are still up for debate, such as, "What exactly is the meaning of a collective security organization in a world so dominated by US power?" He follows this thought up with the counter idea, that "the strongest member exerts natural leadership within a confederation - for example, it is an analytical focus of political scientists who see 'hegemonic stability' as a necessary and desirable element in international political economy." This is a most excellent and valuable book treated in a scholarly manner but written so that it is understandable to the average reader. Erika Borsos [pepper flower] 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. When Is It Appropriate to Intervene? By Lynn Ellingwood This is a good jumping off point for a discussion about Humanitarian Intervention in other countries. It has worked in some places and not appeared to work in others, should the US help? Thomas G. Weiss has written a 2nd edition of his textbook about how humanitarian intervention is planned to work, how it has worked in the past and possibilities for the future. He discusses the negative opinion of humanitarian intervention among the American public and makes a case that it is important. I try to look at it from a personal stance. If I was in trouble, would I be grateful to receive help in my time of need? Yes, I would and I would fondly remember those who helped, That is important for America to remember in international relationships.

A singular development of the post Cold-War era is the use of military force to protect human beings. From Rwanda to Kosovo, Sierra Leone to East Timor, and more recently Libya to Cte d'Ivoire, soldiers have rescued some civilians in some of the world's most notorious war zones. Could more be saved? Drawing on over two decades of research, Thomas G. Weiss answers "yes" and provides a persuasive introduction to the theory and practice of humanitarian intervention in the modern world. He examines political, ethical, legal, strategic, economic, and operational dimensions and uses a wide range of cases to highlight key debates and controversies. The updated and expanded second edition of this succinct and highly accessible survey is neither celebratory nor complacent. The author locates the normative evolution of what is increasingly known as "the responsibility to protect" in the context of the global war on terror, UN debates, and such international actions as Libya. The result is an engaging exploration of the current dilemmas and future challenges for robust international humanitarian action in the twenty-first century.

"In *Humanitarian Intervention: Ideas in Action*, Tom Weiss again demonstrates his unique talent for bringing conceptual clarity and rigorous analysis to pressing and messy real-world dilemmas. Protecting endangered people abroad raises thorny issues - politically, practically, and ethically. In this engaging book, Weiss offers a conceptual guide to understanding these dilemmas, and his application of these concepts to contemporary humanitarian emergencies will be useful to both scholars and practitioners alike. This is an essential book for anyone interested in humanitarian action." Martha Finnemore, George Washington University "Few observers have written more, or more persuasively, than Professor Weiss, and this is his best work to date. A sensible, thorough and realistic treatment." Fernando R. Teson, Florida State University College of Law About the Author Thomas G. Weiss is presidential professor of political science and director of the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies at the City University of New York Graduate Center.