



The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention

By Rajan Menon

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon

With the end of the Cold War has come an upsurge in humanitarian interventions-military campaigns aimed at ending mass atrocities. These wars of rescue, waged in the name of ostensibly universal norms of human rights and legal principles, rest on the premise that a genuine "international community" has begun to emerge and has reached consensus on a procedure for eradicating mass killings. Rajan Menon argues that, in fact, humanitarian intervention remains deeply divisive as a concept and as a policy, and is flawed besides. The advocates of humanitarian intervention have produced a mountain of writings to support their claim that human rights precepts now exert an unprecedented influence on states' foreign policies and that we can therefore anticipate a comprehensive solution to mass atrocities.

In *The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention*, Menon shows that this belief, while noble, is naïve. States continue to act principally based on what they regard at any given time as their national interests. Delivering strangers from oppression ranks low on their list of priorities. Indeed, even democratic states routinely embrace governments that trample the human rights values on which the humanitarian intervention enterprise rests.

States' ethical commitment to waging war to end atrocities remains episodic and erratic-more rhetorical than real. And when these missions are undertaken, the strategies and means used invariably produce perverse, even dangerous results. This, in no small measure, stems from the hubris of leaders-and the acolytes of humanitarian intervention-who have come to believe that they possess the wisdom and wherewithal to bestow freedom and stability upon societies about which they know little.

↓ [Download The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention ...pdf](#)

The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention

By Rajan Menon

The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon

With the end of the Cold War has come an upsurge in humanitarian interventions-military campaigns aimed at ending mass atrocities. These wars of rescue, waged in the name of ostensibly universal norms of human rights and legal principles, rest on the premise that a genuine "international community" has begun to emerge and has reached consensus on a procedure for eradicating mass killings. Rajan Menon argues that, in fact, humanitarian intervention remains deeply divisive as a concept and as a policy, and is flawed besides. The advocates of humanitarian intervention have produced a mountain of writings to support their claim that human rights precepts now exert an unprecedented influence on states' foreign policies and that we can therefore anticipate a comprehensive solution to mass atrocities.

In *The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention*, Menon shows that this belief, while noble, is naïve. States continue to act principally based on what they regard at any given time as their national interests. Delivering strangers from oppression ranks low on their list of priorities. Indeed, even democratic states routinely embrace governments that trample the human rights values on which the humanitarian intervention enterprise rests.

States' ethical commitment to waging war to end atrocities remains episodic and erratic-more rhetorical than real. And when these missions are undertaken, the strategies and means used invariably produce perverse, even dangerous results. This, in no small measure, stems from the hubris of leaders-and the acolytes of humanitarian intervention-who have come to believe that they possess the wisdom and wherewithal to bestow freedom and stability upon societies about which they know little.

The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1020152 in eBooks
- Published on: 2016-02-03
- Released on: 2016-02-03
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

"Menon brilliantly explicates the several fallacies of the interventionists, while at the same time keeping the door open for intervention in reaction to atrocities when geopolitical forces are effectively aligned and the likely costs realistically taken into account." -- *ID: International Dialogue, A Multidisciplinary Journal of World Affairs*

"Menon's main point is that states have not changed their foreign policies since the Cold War. The primary determinant, he says, is whether intervention serves the states' interests. This explains, for instance, why the US intervened in Kosovo but not Syria. Although not a scholarly analysis of humanitarian intervention, the book is recommended as an accessible introduction to an important international relations issue." -- R. P. Peters, Univ. of Massachusetts / Harvard Univ. Davis Center, *CHOICE*

"Menon has written a very smart book that shows the difficulty of getting countries to engage in humanitarian interventions, much less do them right. He also makes clear that the advocates of intervention do not lack for hubris, but do lack an understanding of the limits of the enterprise. Sadly, this sobering book leaves us with little hope that the so-called international community can do much to prevent the mass slaughter of innocent people."
--John J. Mearsheimer, R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago

"It's hard to imagine a more complete demolition of the idea that there is, or should be, a legal norm in favor of humanitarian military intervention to stop atrocities. The only relevant law is, as Menon demonstrates, the law of unintended consequences."
--Eric Posner, Kirkland and Ellis Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Arthur and Esther Kane Research Chair, University of Chicago

"This is an immensely admirable book - concise, lucid, and above all tough-minded. Proponents of humanitarian intervention will find Rajan Menon's stinging critique discomfiting - which is precisely why it merits their considered attention."
--Andrew J. Bacevich, Professor Emeritus of History and International Relations, Boston University

"There is such a thing as a problem - even a "problem from hell" - to which there is no solution. In showing that outrage against bloody atrocity almost never justifies a military response, Rajan Menon achieves the best available critique of humanitarian intervention ever written. Careful, dispassionate, and methodical, *The Conceit of Intervention* is most of all a debate with those who would wish away tragedy - especially the

tragedy of lacking solutions, even when the problem is compelling - in the persistently self-interested domain of international affairs. A must-read."

--Samuel Moyn, Professor of Law and History, Harvard University

"Richly documented and persuasive...The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention is an excellent guide for policy-makers, and for anyone participating in the policy discussion, the next time a situation arises in which talk begins about using military force to save lives."

--Paul R. Pillar, *LobeLog*

"[This] book serves as a sharp shot across the bow to those who urge the further entrenchment of - and who believe in the inevitability of - a deep, consistent policy of humanitarian intervention in all situations of mass atrocities."

--*New Rambler Review*

About the Author

Rajan Menon is the Anne and Bernard Spitzer Professor of Political Science, City College of New York/City University of New York, and a Senior Research Scholar, Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, Columbia University. His most recent book, co-authored with Eugene B. Rumer, is *Conflict in Ukraine: The Unwinding of the Post-Cold War Order* (MIT Press, 2015). His most recent book for Oxford University Press, *The End of Alliances*, was published in 2007 and was named by the American Library Association as an Outstanding Academic Title for that year.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lola Paolucci:

What do you with regards to book? It is not important to you? Or just adding material if you want something to explain what yours problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy man or woman? If you don't have spare time to accomplish others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? Every individual has many questions above. The doctor has to answer that question simply because just their can do which. It said that about publication. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is right. Because start from on jardín de infancia until university need this specific The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention to read.

Willis Newby:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of often the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated

that for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a guide your ability to survive raise then having chance to stand than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading a book, we give you this The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention book as nice and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

Dorothea Profitt:

You are able to spend your free time to see this book this book. This The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention is simple bringing you can read it in the park your car, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not include much space to bring the actual printed book, you can buy the actual e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save the particular book in your smart phone. So there are a lot of benefits that you will get when one buys this book.

William Black:

Reading a reserve make you to get more knowledge from the jawhorse. You can take knowledge and information coming from a book. Book is prepared or printed or descriptive from each source this filled update of news. On this modern era like right now, many ways to get information are available for a person. From media social such as newspaper, magazines, science guide, encyclopedia, reference book, new and comic. You can add your knowledge by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just searching for the The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention when you required it?

Download and Read Online The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon #Z41C6TLNH3U

Read The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon for online ebook

The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon books to read online.

Online The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon ebook PDF download

The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon Doc

The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon Mobipocket

The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon EPub

Z41C6TLNH3U: The Conceit of Humanitarian Intervention By Rajan Menon