

## #EasyAsAPB

Preventing Genocide by Saving the Atrocities Prevention Board

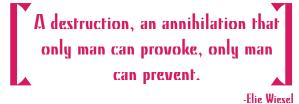
## What is the Atrocities Prevention Board?

The Atrocities Prevention Board (APB) is a high-level U.S. interagency working group that includes representation from agencies such as Defense, State, Treasury, and Intelligence. The primary purpose of the APB is "to coordinate a whole-of-government approach to preventing mass atrocities and genocide."

The APB covers a broad cross-section of topics, including engagement on ongoing violent conflicts and the prevention of potential new crises down the road.

As a recommendation of the bipartisan Genocide Prevention Task Force, the APB is currently the most useful tool in the United States for genocide prevention. However, the long-term effectiveness of the Atrocities Prevention Board depends on its institutionalization through Congressional authorization.

Without the structure that the APB provides, the attention given to imminent atrocity threats will be greatly diminished. By advocating for the Atrocities Prevention Board, we are ensuring the ability of the U.S. government to continue to promptly identify and react to developing atrocities.



## The APB At Work

• In Central African Republic, the APB is credited with responsibility for the unprecedented speed at which the United States was able to respond to and mitigate further violence, and for ensuring that the prevention of further atrocities remained a priority on an international scale.

• Thanks to early engagement and mobilization of the APB in Burundi, the U.S. supported actors working for peace, facilitated local and national dialogue to stop the escalation of tensions, and deployed civilian conflict experts. Though more needs to be done, it is notable that atrocities, particularly along ethnic lines, have not occurred.



