Humanitarian Dilemmas: Debating Interventions in Africa and the Middle East
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The Center for NATO and European Union Studies at Kent State University is pleased to present “Humanitarian Dilemmas: Debating Interventions in Africa and the Middle East” on April 5-6, 2012.

In addition to the daytime conference presentations, there will also be an evening event “The Limits of Humanitarian Interventionism,” A debate featuring Professors Juan Cole and Sean Kay. Thursday, April 5, at 7:30 pm in Bowman Hall 133.

As the Director of South Asian Studies at the University of Michigan, Juan Cole writes the influential blog Informed Comment on Middle Eastern and American politics. Sean Kay, a professor at Ohio Wesleyan University, is a well-respected NATO scholar, author, and U.S. foreign policy advisor.

Hailed as a successful humanitarian intervention to stop possible genocide or ethnic cleansing, U.S and NATO operations in Libya have helped bring legitimacy to humanitarian military operations in Africa and elsewhere. Additional workshops will examine growing concern over the activities of Al-Qa‘ida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and other security issues in the Sahelian regions of Africa. This conference will explore the possibility of further international military deployments in Africa and the Middle East. China and Russia’s veto of the United Nations Security Council Resolution on the current crisis in Syria, and President Obama’s recent commitment of U.S. military forces in Uganda, raise the possibility of expanded humanitarian interventions in the Middle East and Africa. The scholars participating in this conference will consider the cost and benefits of this new trend in policy. Please help us by sharing this information with friends, colleagues, and students. This is an excellent opportunity to expose students to an important, current debate on foreign policy and humanitarian intervention.