



# Canadian Parliamentary Division Monthly Report

February 2015

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*The composition of the House of Commons this month:*

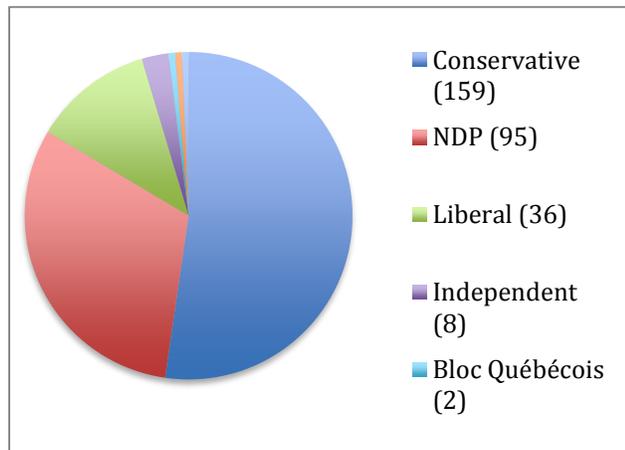
**Majority Conservative Government**

Prime Minister: Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper

Leader of Opposition: Hon. Thomas Mulcair

Notable bills discussed:  
Bill C-51

Dates of Parliament Sessions:



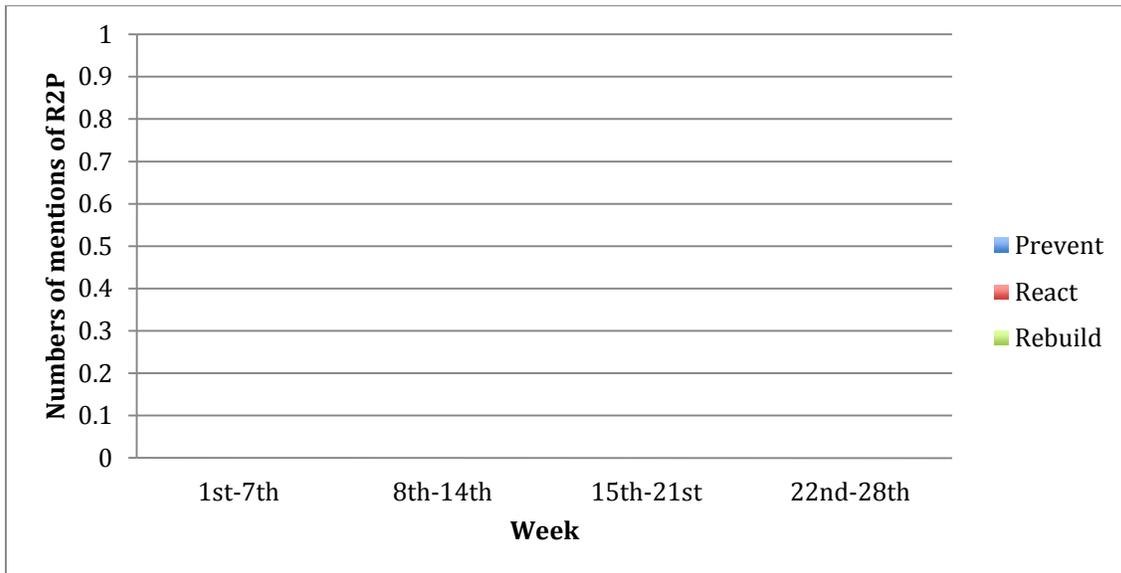
February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

*How Many Times R2P was mentioned weekly:*

**Explicitly:**

R2P was not explicitly mentioned as a concept during this month's parliamentary debates. The ongoing war against ISIS/ISIL/Daesh was discussed, but not in relation to R2P as a principle.

**Subject matter related to R2P:**

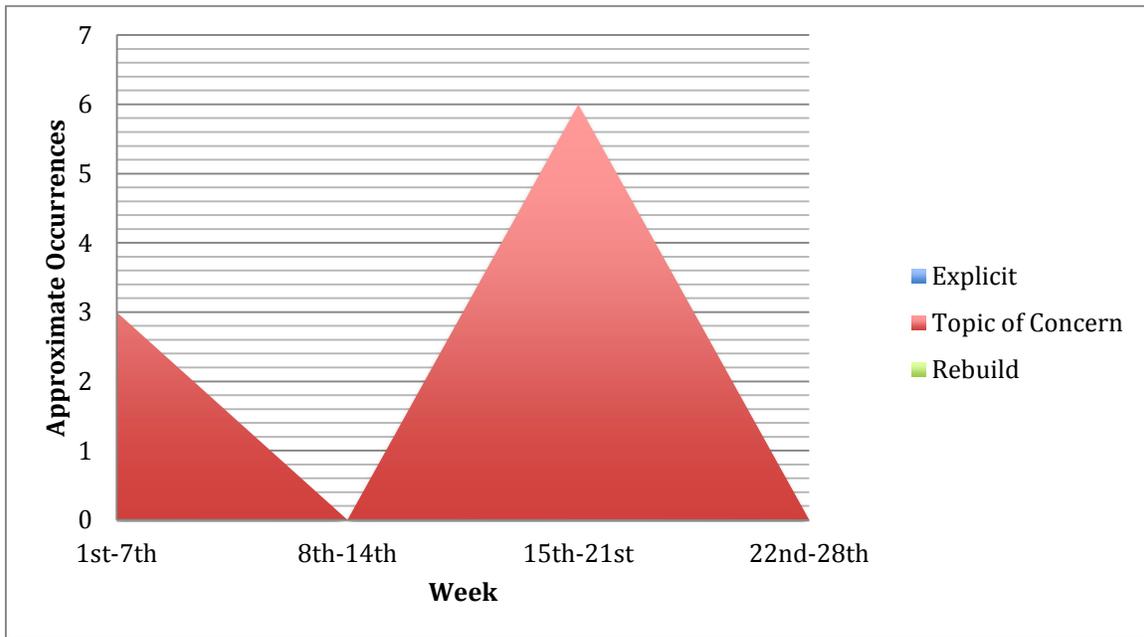


*Explanation of Findings:*

R2P was not explicitly mentioned as a concept in this month's debates.

\* No debates took place during the week of February 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>

### Break Down of R2P's Explicit Use and Issues Relating to R2P:



### Explanation of Findings:

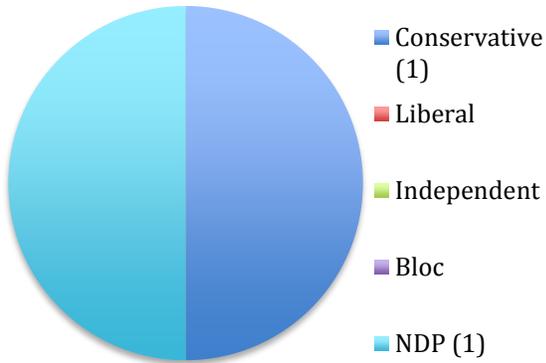
R2P was not mentioned explicitly during this month's debates. Topics of concern that are related to R2P were mentioned, especially regarding ISIS/ISIL/Daesh.

\* No debates took place during the week of February 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>

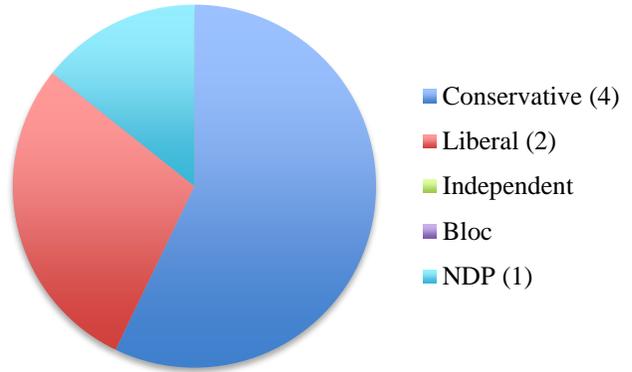
**Breakdown by Party:**

\*Numbers represent the approximate number of individual times a party member spoke to a topic relating to the responsibility to prevent, react, or rebuild.

**"Prevent"**

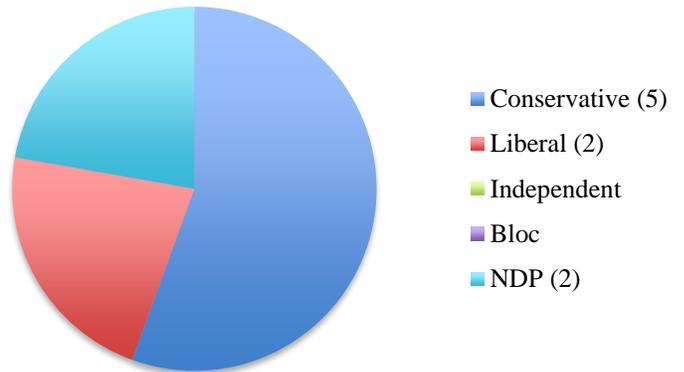


**"React"**



**No mentions for "rebuild"**

**Total**



**Explanation of Findings:**

\* Numbers represent approximate numbers of individual times a party member spoke to a topic relating to the responsibility to prevent, act or rebuild.

## *Prevention:*

**(Related) Feb. 17, 2015**

**Hon. K. Kellie Leitch (Simcoe-Grey, CPC):**

Mr. Speaker, I want to be very clear that early and forced marriages are simply unacceptable. I have been very clear on this. Our government has been very clear. These barbaric practices will not be practised in Canada.

Young women and girls need to be protected. We know that, when young women are married under the age of 16, there are huge ramifications for their education and huge ramifications for their health. These are basic human rights that need to be protected, and we as Canadians have a responsibility to protect these young women.

I am happy to chat about the details involved here, but the principle is what is important. The principle is that we make sure these early marriages, child marriages, and forced marriages simply do not happen to Canadian children.

**(Related) Feb. 19, 2015**

**Mr. Tyrone Benskin (Jeanne-Le Ber, NDP):**

(This report is the beginning of a very important discussion, the report called “A Weapon of War: Rape and Sexual Violence Against Women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo”.)

We, in government and in Canada, have to look at how we can use the expertise that we have, learn from other nations as well, and collaborate and coordinate that expertise so that when this happens again—and mark my words, this will happen again—we as a nation can go and offer our services, our help, and our companionship to these nations, to help heal them.

In terms of what can be done, because prevention is always something that is paramount, how do we get to a point where we can stop this from happening? I really do not know. However, one of the things we can do in situations where this could possibly happen is make sure we create safe havens for women, girls, and boys, where they are thoroughly protected by United Nations troops or whoever is deemed capable of protecting these camps, where women can go and be protected.

## *Reaction:*

**(Related) Feb. 2, 2015**

**Ms. Kirsty Duncan (Etobicoke North, Lib.):**

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate international development and development practitioners who work to make this world a better place. The year 2015 promises to be transformative with the international community coming together to set a new global development agenda with opportunities for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, a universal climate agreement and a 10-year plan to make the world safer from natural hazards.

As we work toward these goals, let us not forget the people of the Central African Republic, Iraq, South Sudan and Syria. Let us commit to doing all we can to protect

civilians, end human suffering and support peace, and let us help West Africa become more resilient as countries recover from Ebola. This week serves as a reminder that the poorest and most fragile countries still need our assistance and that together we can eliminate extreme poverty.

**(Related) Feb. 2, 2015**

**Mr. David Anderson (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, CPC):**

The Iraqi government has sought the assistance of coalition countries to stop ISIL's advance, which was accompanied by horrific human rights abuses against civilians. I just recently heard at the foreign affairs committee that indeed that advance seemed to have been stopped. However, standing by while ISIL was killing, raping and terrorizing millions of people was not an option. Nor can we stand by knowing that ISIL's barbaric agenda is not limited just to Syria and Iraq and that its twisted ideology is making inroads even in our own country.

**(Related) Feb. 2, 2015**

**Mr. James Bezan (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence, CPC):**

Mr. Speaker, I know the NDP is opposed to protecting the innocent people of Iraq who have been brutalized and terrorized by ISIL. We will continue to work with our Iraqi security forces and our allies in this coalition to defeat ISIL, and ensure it is not able to bring its brand of terrorism to us in Canada.

**(Related) Feb. 16, 2015**

**Mr. Joe Daniel (Don Valley East, CPC):**

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents of Don Valley East, and for all of the members of St. George & St. Rueiss Coptic Orthodox Church in my riding, I was horrified to learn about the beheading of 21 Coptic Christians in Libya by ISIL.

This massacre adds to a list of atrocities and shows us and the world how genocidal ISIL is. From sexual enslavement of the Yazidi women to the burning alive of the Jordanian pilot, beheading of foreign hostages and the persecution of many other minority groups, these acts are simply unacceptable to civilized people. The savage acts in different geographic locations show us that this ideology and its threats are spreading like a cancer. This is a group who has no human decency and no regard for human life.

As the Prime Minister has stated:

“Canada is proud to stand with its coalition partners in the fight against ISIL. We will continue to stand firmly together against these terrorists who threaten the peace and freedom we hold so dear at home and that we wish for those abroad.

Barbaric acts such as this do not shake our resolve but, rather, confirm the rightness—“

**(Related) Feb. 16, 2015**

**Mr. Marc Garneau (Westmount—Ville-Marie, Lib.):**

Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House today to express our deepest sympathy to the Coptic community in Canada and around the world for the senseless murder of 21 Coptic

Christians in Libya over the weekend.

This is just the latest attack in a long series of horrific killings by Daesh, a genocidal group that perverts the very religion it purports to uphold and that has directed violence against other religious minorities living in the regions, such as the Assyrians, Chaldeans, Syriac and Armenian Christians, Yazidis, Druze, Shabaks and Mandeans as well as Shia Muslims.

*[Translation]*

As a religious minority, Coptic Christians have frequently been subject to persecution, but they have lived alongside their Muslim neighbours for centuries. They will survive these atrocities. Such acts will only strengthen the resolve of those combatting the Islamic State. I want members of the Coptic community to know that we mourn with them and that we stand with them during this difficult time.

**(Related) Feb. 15, 2015**

**Mr. Bob Dechert (Mississauga—Erindale, CPC):**

Mr. Speaker, I think I can speak for everyone in the House and across Canada when I say that we are outraged and deeply saddened by the ruthless beheading of Egyptian Coptic Orthodox Christians in Libya by groups linked to ISIL.

This is sadly yet another example of the very real threat that ISIL poses, and the barbaric extremes to which it will take their war against the values we proudly uphold, such as religious freedom. We are proudly standing with our allies to combat the threat these Jihadi terrorists pose to freedom.

**(Related) Feb. 18, 2015**

**Hon. Thomas Mulcair (Leader of the Opposition, NDP):**

(on opposing C-51)

We remember when this House was asked to vote on a mission to bomb Libya in the days of Moammar Gadhafi, and the NDP voted in favour of that mission because there was a mandate from the United Nations. When the mission evolved into an American one aimed at regime change, we withdrew our support. That is what it means to have principles and be consistent.

### *Rebuilding:*

Not applicable

### *Summary of Findings:*

The findings of this month reflect topics related to R2P, especially concerning the war against ISIS/ISIL/Daesh in Iraq.

*Camilla Shearman, Research Analyst and  
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