

## IPR Showdown Over Syria

Michael Sean Winters | Sep. 12, 2013 Distinctly Catholic

Two of my colleagues at Catholic University's Institute for Policy Research & Catholics Studies are at loggerheads about Syria, which is as it should be at a real think tank, as opposed to the faux-think tank that is really a policy/propaganda arm of either the left or the right.

The Director of IPRCS, Steve Schneck, has [an article about Pope Francis, the pope of peace](#) [1], at the Washington Post's "On Faith" blog.

And Graduate Fellow Robert Christian has [an article challenging the Pope and the Church](#) [2] to show more concern for the victims of Assad's regime at RealClearReligion.

This is an important debate and the Responsibility to Protect, which is the crux of the issue, requires more sustained theological and political reflection. This discussion between my two friends and colleagues, both of whom are intellectually and morally serious, is a very good start.

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**Links:**

[1] <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/on-faith/wp/2013/09/09/francis-the-peace-pope/>

[2] [http://www.realclearreligion.org/articles/2013/09/12/the\\_popes\\_responsibility\\_to\\_protect.html](http://www.realclearreligion.org/articles/2013/09/12/the_popes_responsibility_to_protect.html)