The Syrian crisis has been ongoing for the past three years. Hundreds of thousands of lives have been lost and while the international community has taken notice, especially last fall when there was the possible use of chemical, there has little response.

This begs the question: What is the international community to do, particularly the United States?

I’ve been analyzing this situation for the past few months, trying to develop the best possible way to achieve an outcome in Syria, which I believe has to be stability.

I am still in the process of finalizing this paper, but today I will talk to you about where I am at this point in time.

Originally, I studied a United Nations Initiative called: Responsibility to Protect. It declares that states must protect their populations from mass atrocities such as genocide and that when a state fails to meet that standard the international community has a responsibility to step up and intervene, after exhausting all peaceful measures. Military intervention is considered the last resort.

Now it was proposed back in the early 2000s, but has never been approved and it is likely that it never will, as the nations of the Security Council will never sign on to it. However, when looking at the crisis in Syria and looking at the possibility of military intervention as a way to stop the crisis I examined this a possible way to achieve it.

However, it became increasingly clear to me that military intervention would not achieve the goal of stability in the region. The reason being, I look at the Iraq War and I used it partially as a case study. Military victory is one thing and that is achievable, the problem existed it what happened beyond military victory. What was the role of the United States in rebuilding Syria, was this going to amount into Iraq 2.0? Taking out Assad is one issue; it’s rebuilding the country and instituting a government.

So I’m left with a dilemma: What is there to do in Syria, and I have come to the conclusion at this point that truly there is nothing we as the United States can do to actually resolve this crisis. I am believer in you shouldn’t do something for the sake of doing something, and while many people in the political arena have called for the use of force against Syria, especially after last fall the best course for the United States is to the let the people of Syria resolve there crisis.

Just this week the government announced elections would be held in June. Now, I’m not going to speculate about the workings of this election, many have already called them an affront to democracy. However, I believe this maybe a possible way of at least mediating the situation and bring both sides to the table.

I think at this point, we need to wait and see.