

# The costs of symbolism in Syria

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This is an opinion item.

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**Quote**

“ Some people think we have to uphold the powerful international taboo against poison gas to keep its use from spreading beyond Syria. But the main reason nasty regimes have abstained is not respect for global norms. It's naked self-interest. Chemical weapons are hard to control once dispersed, making them a threat to the army that uses them. They can also provoke devastating retaliation. ”

Add or change this opinion item's references

This item argues against the position United States should intervene on the topic Syrian civil war.

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