



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe



Natolin



LEGAL CHALLENGES FOR PROTECTING AND ASSISTING IN CURRENT ARMED CONFLICTS

20th Bruges Colloquium, 17-18 October 2019

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Simultaneous translation into French / English

Traduction simultanée en anglais/français

Day 1: Thursday, 17th October

- 9:00 - 9:30 **Registration and Coffee**
- 9:30 - 9:40 **Welcome address by Mr Jorg Monar**, Rector of the College of Europe
- 9:40 - 9:50 **Opening address by Mr Walter Füllemann**, Head of Delegation, ICRC Brussels
- 9:50 - 10:05 **Keynote by Mr Gilles Carbonnier**, Vice-President, ICRC
- 10.05 - 10:20 **Address by Eamon Gilmore**, EU Special Representative for Human Rights, IHL and Criminal Justice (tbc)

Session One: The increasing complexity of armed conflicts

Première Session : Complexification des conflits armés

- Chairperson: Françoise Hampson, University of Essex
- 10:30 - 10:45 *Classifying contemporary armed conflicts: The challenge of coalitions of non-State armed groups and/or of States.*
Speaker: Vaios Koutroulis, ULB
- 10:45 - 11:00 *Addressing the threat posed by coalitions of non-State armed groups: a State perspective*
Speaker: Marten Zwanenburg, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands
- 11:00 - 11:15 *Engaging non-State armed groups on protection and assistance concerns: an ICRC perspective*
Speaker: Irénée Herbet, ICRC
- 11:15 - 12:00 **Discussion**
- 12:00 – 13:15 **Sandwich lunch**

Session Two: Challenges to IHL arising from the use of new technologies of warfare
Deuxième Session : Les défis au DIH posés par l'utilisation de nouvelles technologies de combat

Chairperson: Gert-Jan van Hegelsom, EEAS

13.30 - 13:45 *Applying IHL in the cyber space: what are the main contemporary challenges?*

Speaker: John Swords, UK Ministry of Defence

13:45 - 14:00 *Artificial intelligence in warfare: risks and opportunities for IHL compliance?*

Speaker: Steven Hill, NATO

14:00 - 14:15 *Conducting hostilities in the outer space: which limits do IHL and space law impose?*

Speaker: Heather Harrison Dinniss, Swedish Defence University

14:15- 15:00 **Discussion**

15:00 - 15:20 **Coffee break**

Session Three: Climate change and the protection of the natural environment
Troisième Session : Changement climatique et protection de l'environnement naturel

Chairperson: Elzbieta Mikos-Skuza, University of Warsaw and College of Europe

15:25 - 15:40 *ILC Draft principles on the protection of the environments in relation to armed conflicts*

Speaker: Marja Lehto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland and International Law Commission

15:40 - 15:55 *Environmental challenges raised by military activities*

Speaker: David Jensen, UNEP

15:55 – 16:10 *Climate changes, the protection of the natural environment: the policy perspectives*

Speaker: Stéphane Kolanowski, ICRC

16:10 – 16:40 **Discussion**

Panel discussion: Foreign fighters and their families: A discussion on legal challenges
Table ronde : Combattants étrangers et leur famille: discussion sur certains défis juridiques

16:45 - 18:00 Moderator: Françoise Hampson, University of Essex

Panellists: Christiane Höhn, Office of the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator
Sandra Krähenmann, Geneva Call
Vanessa Murphy, ICRC

19:30 - 22:30 **Dinner - registration required**

Day 2: Friday, 18th October

Session Four: Urbanisation of warfare

Quatrième session : L'urbanisation de la guerre

Chairperson: Paul Berman, Council of the EU Legal Service

9:05 - 9:20 *Fighting in urban areas: Legal and operational challenges*

Speaker: IDF representative tbc

9:20 - 9:35 *Use of heavy explosive weapons in populated areas and why it should be avoided: humanitarian, legal and policy considerations*

Speaker: Eirini Giorgou, ICRC

9:35 - 9:50 *Besieging cities and humanitarian access: how to accommodate humanitarian needs, legal obligations and operational constraints?*

Speaker: Gloria Gaggioli, University of Geneva

9:50 - 10:35 **Discussion**

10:35 - 11:00 **Coffee break**

Panel discussion on support relationship in armed conflict: Discussing operational challenges

Table ronde sur les défis opérationnels dans le cadre de relations de soutien en temps de conflit armé

11:00 - 12:30 Moderator: Elizabeth Wilmshurst, Chatham House

Panellists: Claire Legras, Ministry of Defense, France (tbc)
Patrick Hamilton, ICRC
Abigail Watson, Oxford Research Group

12:30 – 12:45: Closing remarks by Gilles Carbonnier, Vice-President, ICRC