

DISSEMINATION, INCLUDING TRAINING AND EDUCATION IN INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW FOR ARMED FORCES AND THE CIVILIAN POPULATION

A special study programme in IHL was incorporated into the curriculum at the General Staff Faculty of the Academy of Defence and the IHL topics were included in military manuals. Besides the main theoretical training, programmes on IHL training at all levels of the national armed forces were adapted and executed with the systematic assistance of the Bulgarian Red Cross and the ICRC. Also, regular IHL briefings for the instructors who train the Bulgarian military units for participation in peace-keeping missions outside the country were carried out. Furthermore, two specialized study courses on wartime law were conducted: one for experts with the service staffs, and the other for Air Force officers.

A complete handbook on international humanitarian law, which discusses the categories of persons and facilities requiring protection during armed conflict and the bans and restrictions on non-selective methods and means of combat action, was publicly spread and generated a significant interest.

One part of the ongoing cooperation between the Bulgarian Red Cross and the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science comprises preparations for the adoption and fulfilment of IHL study programme, accompanied by campaigning with regard to the ICRC appeals and to the numerous world-wide breaches of the norms of humanity, including the use of indiscriminate means and methods of warfare and the involvement of children in activities of military character.

Other developments in dissemination activities of the Bulgarian Red Cross having been targeted at adolescents have been focused on the holding of a series of IHL courses and workshops for volunteering students from universities and secondary schools. The training events of this kind have been aimed at meeting the needs of the young audience for acquiring an enhanced knowledge of the norms and instruments of humanitarian law and the Red Cross fundamental principles, and at promoting observance of such values amongst these specifically aged target groups.

The Ministry of Education and Science is examining the possibility for the integration within the school curriculum of the educational package "Exploring Humanitarian Law", introduced to the Ministry by the Bulgarian Red Cross.

The curriculum and examination synopses of public international law at some of the Bulgarian universities already contain a certain number of thematic items in the field of IHL.



ICRC

State Parties to the Following International Humanitarian Law and Other Related Treaties as of 25-Mar-2008

Protection of Victims of Armed Conflicts

GC I-IV 1949	Convention (I) for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field. Geneva, 12 August 1949. Convention (II) for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea. Geneva, 12 August 1949. Convention (III) relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War. Geneva, 12 August 1949. Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. Geneva, 12 August 1949.
AP I 1977	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts. Geneva, 8 June 1977.
AP I Declaration art. 90	Declaration provided for under article 90 AP I. Acceptance of the Competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission according to article 90 of AP I.
AP II 1977	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts. Geneva, 8 June 1977.
AP III 2005	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III), 8 December 2005.
CRC 1989	Convention on the Rights of the Child, New York, 20 November 1989.
Opt Prot. CRC 2000	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, New York, 25 May 2000.

International Criminal Court

ICC Statute 1998	Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, 17 July 1998.
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Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict

Hague Conv. 1954	Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, The Hague, 14 May 1954.
Hague Prot. 1954	First Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, The Hague, 14 May 1954.
Hague Prot. 1999	Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, The Hague, 26 March 1999.

Environment

ENMOD Conv. 1976	Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques, New York, 10 December 1976.
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Weapons

Geneva Gas Prot. 1925	Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and Warfare, Geneva, 17 June 1925.
BWC 1972	Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction. Opened for Signature at London, Moscow and Washington, 10 April 1972.
CCW 1980	Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects. Geneva, 10 October 1980.
CCW Prot. I 1980	Protocol on non-detectable fragments (I).
CCW Prot. II 1980	Protocol on prohibitions or restrictions on the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices (II).
CCW Prot. III 1980	Protocol on prohibitions or restrictions on the use of incendiary weapons (III).
CCW Prot. IV 1995	Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV to the 1980 Convention), 13 October 1995.
CCW Prot. IIa 1996	Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II to the 1980 Convention). Amendment to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (with Protocols I, II and III), Geneva 21 December 2001.
CCW Amdt 2001	Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (with Protocols I, II and III), Geneva, 28 November 2003.
CCW Prot. V 2003	Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction. Paris 13 January 1993.
CWC 1993	Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. Oslo, 18 September 1997.
Ottawa Treaty 1997	

Country	Protection of victims of armed conflicts						International Criminal Court			Protection of Cultural Property			Environment
	GC I-IV 1949	AP I 1977	API Declaration art. 90	AP II 1977	AP III 2005	CRC 1989	Opt Prot. CRC 2000	ICC Statute 1998	Hague Conv. 1954	Hague Prot. 1954	Hague Prot. 1999	ENMOD Conv. 1976	
Afghanistan	26.09.1956					28.03.1994	24.09.2003	10.02.2003				22.10.1985	
Albania	27.05.1957	16.07.1993		16.07.1993	06.02.2008	27.02.1992		31.01.2003	20.12.1960			19.12.1991	
Algeria	20.06.1960	16.08.1989	16.08.1989	16.08.1989		16.04.1993							
Andorra	17.09.1993					02.01.1996	30.04.2001	30.04.2001					
Angola	20.09.1984	20.09.1984				05.12.1990	11.10.2007						
Antigua and Barbuda	06.10.1986	06.10.1986		06.10.1986		05.10.1993		18.06.2001				25.10.1988	
Argentina	18.09.1956	26.11.1986	11.10.1996	26.11.1986		04.12.1990	10.09.2002	08.02.2001	22.03.1989	10.05.2007	07.01.2002	20.03.1987	
Armenia	07.06.1993	07.06.1993		07.06.1993		23.06.1993	30.09.2005		05.09.1993	05.09.1993	18.05.2006	15.05.2002	
Australia	14.10.1958	21.06.1991	23.09.1992	21.06.1991		17.12.1990	26.09.2006	01.07.2002	19.09.1984			07.09.1984	
Austria	27.08.1953	13.08.1982	13.08.1982	13.08.1982		06.08.1992	01.02.2002	28.12.2000	25.03.1964	25.03.1964	01.03.2002	17.01.1990	
Azerbaijan	01.06.1993					13.08.1992	03.07.2002		20.09.1993	20.09.1993	17.04.2001		
Bahamas	11.07.1975	10.04.1980		10.04.1980		20.02.1991							
Bahrain	30.11.1971	30.10.1986		30.10.1986		13.02.1992	21.09.2004						
Bangladesh	04.04.1972	08.09.1980		08.09.1980		03.08.1990	06.09.2000		23.06.2006	23.06.2006		03.10.1979	
Barbados	10.09.1968	19.02.1990		19.02.1990		09.10.1990		10.12.2002	09.04.2002				
Belarus	03.08.1954	23.10.1989	23.10.1989	23.10.1989		01.10.1990	25.01.2006		07.05.1957			07.06.1988	
Belgium	03.09.1952	20.05.1986	27.03.1987	20.05.1986		16.12.1991	06.05.2002	28.06.2000	16.09.1960	16.09.1960		12.07.1982	
Belize	29.06.1984	29.06.1984		29.06.1984	03.04.2007	02.05.1990	01.12.2003	05.04.2000					
Benin	14.12.1961	28.05.1986		28.05.1986		03.08.1990	21.01.2005	22.01.2002				30.06.1986	
Bhutan	10.01.1991					01.08.1990							
Bolivia	10.12.1976	08.12.1983	10.08.1992	08.12.1983		26.06.1990	22.12.2004	27.06.2002	17.11.2004				
Bosnia-Herzegovina	31.12.1992	31.12.1992	31.12.1992	31.12.1992		01.09.1993	10.10.2003	11.04.2002	12.07.1993	12.07.1993			
Botswana	29.03.1968	23.05.1979		23.05.1979		14.03.1995	04.10.2004	08.09.2000	03.01.2002				
Brazil	29.06.1957	05.05.1992	23.11.1993	05.05.1992		24.09.1990	27.01.2004	20.06.2002	12.09.1958	12.09.1958	23.09.2004	12.10.1984	
Brunei Darussalam	14.10.1991	14.10.1991		14.10.1991		27.12.1995							
Bulgaria	22.07.1954	26.09.1989	09.05.1994	26.09.1989	13.08.2006	03.06.1991	12.02.2002	11.04.2002	07.08.1956	09.10.1958	14.06.2000	31.05.1978	
Burkina Faso	07.11.1961	20.10.1987	24.05.2004	20.10.1987		31.08.1990	06.07.2007	16.04.2004	18.12.1989	04.02.1987			
Burundi	27.12.1971	10.06.1993		10.06.1993		19.10.1990		21.09.2004					
Cambodia	08.12.1958	14.01.1998		14.01.1998		15.10.1992	16.07.2004	11.04.2002	04.04.1962	04.04.1962			
Cameroon	16.09.1963	16.03.1984		16.03.1984		11.01.1993			12.10.1961	12.10.1961			
Canada	14.05.1965	20.11.1990	20.11.1990	20.11.1990	26.11.2007	13.12.1991	07.07.2000	07.07.2000	11.12.1998	29.11.2005	29.11.2005	11.06.1981	
Cape Verde	11.05.1984	16.03.1995	16.03.1995	16.03.1995		04.06.1992	10.05.2002					03.10.1979	
Central African Republic	01.08.1966	17.07.1984		17.07.1984		23.04.1992		04.10.2001					
Chad	05.08.1970	17.01.1997		17.01.1997		02.10.1990	28.08.2002	01.11.2006					
Chile	12.10.1950	24.04.1991	24.04.1991	24.04.1991		13.08.1990	31.07.2003					26.04.1994	
China	28.12.1956	14.09.1983		14.09.1983		02.03.1992	20.02.2008		05.01.2000	05.01.2000		08.06.2005	
Colombia	08.11.1961	01.09.1993	17.04.1996	14.08.1995		28.01.1991	25.05.2005	05.08.2002	18.06.1998	18.06.1998			
Comoros	21.11.1985	21.11.1985		21.11.1985		22.06.1993		18.08.2006					
Congo	04.02.1967	10.11.1983		10.11.1983		14.10.1993		03.05.2004					
Congo (Dem Rep)	24.02.1961	03.06.1982	12.12.2002	12.12.2002		27.09.1990	11.11.2001	11.04.2002	18.04.1961	18.04.1961			
Cook Islands	11.06.2001	07.05.2002	07.05.2002	07.05.2002		06.06.1997							