

Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

The Republic of Hungary is a party to all major treaties in the field of international humanitarian law. The signature of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (25 May 2000) by the Republic of Hungary took place on 11 March 2002. The ratification is currently under progress.

The National Advisory Committee for the Dissemination and Implementation of International Humanitarian Law (established in 2000) is a forum for the relevant Hungarian authorities to initiate and coordinate measures aimed at a more effective implementation of international humanitarian law on national level. In the recent years the Committee, in cooperation with the Hungarian Red Cross Society and the International Committee of the Red Cross, has taken steps to promote a better protection of the Red Cross emblem through the initiation of legislation and other legal measures as well as the launching of public awareness raising campaigns.

International humanitarian law training is part of the curricula at military higher education institutions. Hungarian military observers and contingents of international peacekeeping missions also receive a pre-deployment training in international humanitarian law. The Service Regulations of the Hungarian Defence Forces contain the principles and provisions of the international humanitarian law instruments, and due to regular revisions it reflects the latest developments in the field of international humanitarian law. The Ministry of Defence works in close cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross in the field of the implementation of and training in international humanitarian law.