



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**
One Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza

No. 106/2022-NYSM

The Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations in New York presents its compliments to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations and, with reference to the Note Verbale No. LA/COD/2/1, has the honour to hereby submit information by the Government of the Czech Republic relevant for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General requested in operative paragraph 11 of the resolution A/RES/75/138 (“Status of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts”) of December 15, 2020.

The Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations in New York avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, June 1, 2022

The Czech Republic – Information pursuant to UNGA Resolution 75/138 of 15 December 2020 - Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Convention of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

The Czech Republic together with the National Red Cross Society (The Czech Red Cross) has continued to work on promotion of international humanitarian law and dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law in the armed forces, police, in the integrated rescue system, as well as in the state administration and among civilians. In addition, the basics of international humanitarian law are disseminated at schools within the program concerning “preparation for the defence of the state”, co-organized by the Ministry of Defence. Further, the course on basics of international humanitarian law was included as one of the compulsory elective subjects in the study program of future teachers of science subjects at secondary schools at Palacký University in Olomouc. As regards training of the medical staff, a new one-semester course, focused on basic information about the Red Cross and international humanitarian law, was created, in cooperation with the Czech Red Cross, at the Medical Faculty of Palacký University in Olomouc. Moreover, basics of international humanitarian law were included, in cooperation with the Czech Red Cross, into training of members of the Emergency Medical Team of the Ministry of Health.

The Czech national committee on international humanitarian law prepared and published domestic Code of conduct for the private military and security companies in the event of an armed conflict. The draft of the document was prepared as part of the Czech Republic’s 18 months grant on the international humanitarian law issues to the Institute of International Relations Prague (independent public research institution established by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic).

In November 2020, the Czech Republic endorsed the Political declaration on protection of medical care in armed conflicts of 31 October 2017. Analysis of the applicable rules of international law concerning protection of humanitarian and medical personnel, including the United Nations Security Council resolution 2286 (2016) was part of the above mentioned grant on the international humanitarian law issues.

In 2021, the Czech national committee joined the ICRC on-line community of national committees and similar entities on international humanitarian law and launched its new website.

In May 2022, an amendment to the Criminal Code of the Czech Republic, introducing a new criminal offence penalizing the participation in non-state armed groups aimed at operating in armed conflict in the territory of another state, entered into force. The penalties for the commission of the new criminal offence are the same as for the commission of already existing criminal offence of illegal service in armed forces of another state. The new criminal offence excludes from its application organisations and persons entitled to protection under international humanitarian law and involved in humanitarian, medical care and similar activities during armed conflict.

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