Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts Information pursuant to UNGA Resolution 77/107 of 7 December 2022 Czech Republic

The Czech Republic, through the relevant ministries and the National Committee for the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law ("the National Committee"), supported by the National Red Cross Society - the Czech Red Cross ("CRC") has continued working on **promotion and dissemination of IHL in public administration, armed forces, entities of the Integrated Rescue System, schools and universities.** Well-established courses, organized by the CRC in cooperation with the respective ministries, including a course on basics of IHL, addressed to both civilian IHL trainers and members of the Czech Army and a training in IHL for medical staff for the Emergency Medical Team members, were offered on a regular basis. In 2022, the Faculty of Military Medicine of the University of Defence launched a new course for military medical personnel on in IHL rules linked to healthcare personnel, its facilities and transportation units. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs ("MFA") organised trainings for licensing officers in arms trade to deepen their ability of assessing export licence applications on a case-by-case basis against the Criterion Two of the EU Common Position 2008/944/CFSP (respect for human rights and IHL in the country of final destination). Likewise, the MFA provided regular trainings with special focus on gender based violence and gender dimension of Small Arms and Light Weapons exports and proliferation.

The National Committee translated into Czech and published on its website Safe Schools Declaration and Guidelines For Protecting Schools And Universities From Military Use During Armed Conflict.

In November 2022, the Czech Republic endorsed the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas (EWIPA). The Ministry of Defence has elaborated a study on ICRC recommendations for implementation of EWIPA by armed forces. The National Committee will consider further steps.

In December 2022, during the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the MFA organized a virtual event on the launch of the Fifth Report on the EU Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with International Humanitarian Law. The purpose of the event was to increase the visibility of the wide range of measures undertaken by the EU in IHL implementation in 2021, and, more generally, to contribute to the dissemination of rules of international humanitarian law.

In January 2024, the Centrum for Conflict and Post-conflict Studies was opened at the Law Faculty of the Charles University in Prague. Its international legal experts team will focus on long term research of legal aspects of armed conflicts (including IHL, international human rights law, international criminal law and national law) and post-conflict reconciliation in its complexity.

In February 2024, the Czech Republic signed the Ljubljana-Hague Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War

Crimes and other International Crimes. Adoption of national legislation to implement the convention is envisaged before the end of 2027.
