

This template questionnaire has been drafted pursuant to Resolution 77/107 (paragraph 16) adopted by the UN General Assembly on 7 December 2022<sup>1</sup> so as to help facilitate the submission of information by Member States for future reports of the Secretary General on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.

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### *Template Questionnaire*

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#### **Republic of Poland**

Please set out briefly any new developments or activities undertaken in the following areas:

- I. Ratifications or Accessions to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, their Additional Protocols and other relevant international humanitarian law (IHL) treaties  
Not applicable
  
- II. Adoption of national legislation to implement the above-mentioned instruments  
Not applicable

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<sup>1</sup> By [Res 77/107](#) adopted on 7 December 2022, the General Assembly:

(...)

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a comprehensive report on the status of the Additional Protocols relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level, based on information received from Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

14. *Encourages* Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross, in transmitting information to the Secretary-General, to focus on new developments and activities during the reporting period;

15. *Welcomes* the increasing trend of voluntary submissions transmitted to the Secretary-General, as requested in paragraph 12 of resolution 75/138, and encourages Member States to participate in the submission process at the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly;

16. *Encourages* Member States to explore ways of facilitating the submission of information for future reports of the Secretary-General and, in this context, to consider the convenience of using a questionnaire as drafted by Member States, with the assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross and, as appropriate, in consultation with the Secretariat, for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session; (...)

**III. Adoption of other measures of implementation and for the dissemination of IHL**

The Commission on International Humanitarian Law, as an advisory and consulting body to the President of the Council of Ministers, tasked with the dissemination of the norms of international humanitarian law for the purpose of their introduction into the Polish legal system, prepared and adopted in 2024 the Fifth Report on the implementation and dissemination of international humanitarian law in Poland for 2019-2023.

This Report is a continuation of the Fourth Report on the implementation and dissemination of international humanitarian law in Poland for 2015-2018. The current Report, which demonstrates efforts toward the implementation of international obligations assumed by Poland and promotion of international humanitarian law, have been accomplished with a significant participation of and support from diverse ministries, the Polish Red Cross, civilian and military academies.

Topics of international humanitarian law have been included in the core curricula of general education for primary and secondary schools, as well as disseminated through the curricula of the majority of civilian and military universities in the country. Additionally, in years 2019–2023, a number of academic conferences were held and several dozen publications released in the field.

Poland has also consistently supported the activities of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission, which was created in 1991.

In years 2019–2023 the Government of the Republic of Poland engaged in a number of activities with a view to dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law. The results are reflected in the Fifth Report, which provides a compendium of knowledge on this subject.

The release of a new edition of the Report affirms Poland's support for voluntary reporting. Poland is of the opinion that the activity of a larger number of states popularizing their own good practices in the area of implementation and dissemination of international humanitarian law could translate into better mutual understanding, closer co-operation and harmonization of the practices and of the interpretation of the core instruments of international humanitarian law.

**IV. Domestic case-law relating to the above-mentioned instruments**

Not applicable

**V. Activities carried out by national commissions or committees to support the implementation or dissemination of IHL**

The Commission on International Humanitarian Law, pursues its tasks by conducting reviews and analyses of international agreements relating to international humanitarian law and by formulating opinions in this area, presenting the President of the Council of Ministers with periodic opinions on the legislative, organizational and educational measures which should be undertaken with a view to ensuring that the Republic of Poland performs its obligations in the field of international humanitarian law, as well as formulating proposals related to the preparation of legislation aimed at transposing international humanitarian law into Polish law.

Since 2009, the Commission has taken a series of measures aimed at disseminating international humanitarian law. Among other steps, expert teams

have been established to draft periodic Reports on the implementation and dissemination of the International Humanitarian Law in the Republic of Poland, to analyse the obligations in the field of assistance measures arising from international agreements on conventional disarmament, and to adopt specific proposals for further actions in this field.

The purpose of preparing by the Republic of Poland national, voluntary reports was to accomplish a review of the compliance of domestic legislation and practice with the norms of international humanitarian law. The information gathered in the course of preparing voluntary reports has allowed the identification of areas requiring concrete action in order to guarantee the full implementation of the international humanitarian law in the Polish legal order and its dissemination in Polish society.

- VI.** Other relevant initiatives to promote respect for the 1949 Geneva Conventions, their Additional Protocols and other relevant instruments.

Not applicable