

Information received from Slovakia

This template questionnaire has been drafted pursuant to Resolution 77/107 (paragraph 16) adopted by the UN General Assembly on 7 December 2022¹ 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.

Template Questionnaire

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.

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

Slovakia has ratified the core IHL-related treaties (4 Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their respective additional protocols) and has endorsed instruments such as the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas, the Montreux Document on pertinent international legal obligations and good practices for States related to operations of private military and security companies during armed conflict (2021 endorsement), as well as the Safe Schools Declaration (2017).

¹ 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; (...)

In addition, Slovakia has committed to the pledges adopted at the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2019. It has also set up its National IHL Committee and has formally joined the Global initiative to galvanize political commitment to IHL, which was launched in September 2024 by the ICRC together with Brazil, China, France, Jordan, Kazakhstan, and South Africa, to garner support for better implementation of IHL.

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

At the national level, the National IHL Committee was established in 2001 as a permanent inter-ministerial advisory body. Slovakia remains committed to continue the review of existing mechanisms and procedures and to explore ways to enhance their effective use.

In order to take stock of efforts undertaken to date and to facilitate further concrete steps to uphold IHL and strengthen its implementation, the Slovak Red Cross, with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and in light of their respective mandates and roles, has proposed to jointly organize a roundtable with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic on selected IHL issues. The roundtable is scheduled to take place in Bratislava in the second quarter of 2026 and will involve key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior, and the members of the academic sphere.

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

Slovakia has endorsed the joint EU declaration on the application of international law in cyberspace, which includes the implementation of the international framework for the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms.

Slovakia is currently working on the development of a national position on the application of international law in cyberspace as well. In this context, it actively participates in international processes at the level of the United Nations, in particular within the framework of the UN permanent mechanism on responsible State behaviour in cyberspace, as well as within the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), notably through the Informal Working Group on cyber/ICT security (IWG). These platforms contribute, inter alia, to the clarification, implementation, and promotion of international humanitarian law (IHL) in the cyber domain.

A key focus of Slovakia's engagement lies in the implementation of confidence-building measures (CBMs), aimed at enhancing transparency, predictability, and cooperation among States in cyberspace, thereby reducing the risk of conflict and supporting compliance with applicable international law, including IHL.

In addition, in 2025 Slovakia became a member of the multi-stakeholder initiative known as the Pall Mall Process. This initiative seeks to identify and implement political commitments to address the proliferation and misuse of commercial cyber intrusion capabilities (CCICs). It places particular emphasis on ensuring that the development, transfer, and use of such tools, including spyware, are consistent with international human rights law, and promotes accountability, oversight, and ethical safeguards by both States and the private sector.

Through these activities, Slovakia contributes to strengthening respect for international law, including IHL, in emerging domains such as cyberspace, while supporting international cooperation and responsible State behaviour.