

IHL for Journalists

On 27 May 2015 the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 2222. That historic Resolution recognised that journalists and media professionals play an “important role in protection of civilians and conflict prevention by acting as an early warning mechanism in identifying and reporting potential situations that could result in genocide, crimes against humanity and other serious violations of international humanitarian law.” The Resolution also recognised that their work “often puts them at specific risk of intimidation, harassment and violence in situations of armed conflict.”

International Humanitarian Law (IHL) for Journalists is a new and unique initiative. The tailor made course for journalists addresses the fundamental importance of offering those who report on armed conflict coherent and relevant legal training in an ever more complex and public area of law, whilst also recognizing and addressing the personal risks to providers.

The course is designed to meet two main objectives:

The first objective is to provide participants with an overall introduction to IHL as it applies to the broad spectrum of armed conflict in order that they have a better optic to critically analyse and report on conflict, and the conduct of hostilities. The course will explore both the legality, or right of states to resort to war, *Jus ad Bellum*, before examining the law concerning the conduct of hostilities within armed conflict, *Jus in Bello*, and mechanisms of enforcing accountability.

Participants will consider:

- Under what circumstances can a country go to war?
- Is there a legal basis for foreign intervention absent a UNSCR?
- International armed conflict or civil war; what rules apply to the opposing forces?
- Who & what can be targeted?
- What weapons are lawful?
- Does human rights law apply in armed conflict?
- What is a war crime?
- How is accountability enforced?

The second objective acknowledges the inherent dangers of reporting on armed conflict and provides participants with an understanding of their own status in conformity with IHL.

In this part of the course participants will cover safety of journalists:

- What are the main risks for journalists working in contemporary armed conflict?
- What are the legal sources of protection of journalists working in armed conflict?
- How are journalists protected while working in armed conflict (personal protection)
- How is the work of journalists protected while working in armed conflict (personal protection)?
- Useful instruments and contacts for journalists working in armed conflicts

The methodology for the workshop will comprise a combination of central presentations, panel discussions, and syndicate work.

IHL Teaching Staff and Facilitators are drawn from experienced senior military legal officers, leading academics, practicing lawyers and senior government officials practising in the field together with experts from international organisations.

The course has been designed specifically for journalists and other news providers, and assumes no previous legal experience. Additionally, PIOs, Media & Info Ops Officers, as well as students of journalism may find the course beneficial.

The course is conducted in English at an UNCLAS level and under Chatham House rules.

ADMINISTRATION

The registration fee is €800 Euro. This should be remitted before the start of the Colloquium, or on arrival in cash, or Euro currency cheque. Credit cards are also accepted. The registration fee covers:

- Transfers to/from Nice Airport
- Workshop materials including the NIAC Manual
- Lunch and coffee breaks on working days
- Welcome Cocktail & Canapés
- Workshop Dinner
- Photograph, IHL Plaque and Diploma

The registration fee does not cover all other expenses incurred by the participant such as hotel accommodation, laundry or telephone calls, or any other incidentals. Participants must ensure that they bring with them sufficient funds to pay for such expenses or have access to such funds in Sanremo via their bank.

To register or ask administrative questions please contact: patrizia@iihl.org

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International Institute of Humanitarian Law
Institut International de Droit Humanitaire
Istituto Internazionale di Diritto Umanitario

IHL FOR JOURNALISTS

Sanremo, 11th -13th April 2016



Professor Françoise Hampson
Professor Emeritus, University of Essex, UK
Course Co-Director

Dr. Nina Burri
University of Zurich
Course Co-Director

Dr. Daragh Murray
Director Human Rights Clinic
University of Essex, UK.

Mr. Jamie Williamson, Head of Unit
Relations with Arms Carriers
International Committee of the Red Cross, Switzerland

Monday, 11th April 2016
Jus ad Bellum

08.30–09.00	Course Registration Course Directors
09.00–09.15	Course Opening President, IIHL Director, Military Department IIHL Course Directors
Part I: IHL	
09.20– 10.00	Introduction to course and IHL. <i>Jus ad Bellum & Jus in Bello</i>
10.00–10.20	Morning Coffee & Course Photo
10.20–12.30	Self–Defence, Aggression, & the UN
12.30–13.30	Lunch
13.30–14.15	Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
14.15–15.00	Conflict Classification IAC & NIAC
15.00–15.20	Afternoon Tea
15.20–16.00	Case Study: UNSCR 2249?
16.00–16.45	Introduction to Methods and Means of Warfare
16.45–17.30	The ICRC
17.30–19.00	Reception – Villa Ormond

Tuesday, 12th April 2016
Jus in Bello & Accountability

09.00– 09.10	Course Administration Course Directors
09.10–10.00	Military Objective & Definite Military Advantage
10.00–10.20	Morning Coffee
10.20–11.00	Distinction
11.00–11.45	Proportionality, Collateral Damage & Calculating Military Advantage
11.50–12.30	Weapons
12.30–13.30	Lunch
13.30–15.00	Human Rights Law & Armed Conflict
15.00–15.20	Afternoon Tea
15.20–16.00	Command Responsibility
16.00–17.00	Accountability the role of national courts, International Tribunals & The ICC
20.00	Course Dinner

Wednesday, 13th April 2016
Protection of Journalists in Armed Conflict

09.00 – 09.10	Course Administration Course Directors
Part II: Safety of Journalists	
09.10–10.00	Current Risks to NPs
10.00 –10.20	Coffee
10.20–11.00	Overview of Sources of Protection in IHL & application
11.05–11.45	Personal protection of Journalists: Targeting, Detention and Collateral Damage
11.50–12–30	Basis of Functional Protection of Journalists: Freedom of Expression, Right to Information & Right to Truth
12.30–13.30	Lunch
13.30–15.00	Specifics of functional protection: Access to Conflict Zones, Criminal Liability, Protected Persons & Media Facilities
15.00–15.20	Afternoon Tea
15.20–16.30	Discussion of Personal Experiences / Group Work
16.30–17.00	Useful Instruments and Contacts
17.00–17.30	Closing Ceremony President, IIHL Director, Military Department Course Director