



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

4th ROUND TABLE ON CURRENT ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

“Deprivation of liberty and armed conflicts: exploring realities and remedies”

Sanremo, 6-8 September 2018

Closing Words

Fausto POCAR

President, International Institute of Humanitarian Law

Thank you, Helen. You have gone through the Round Table and the range of subjects we have discussed.

When we launched the Round Table some came to me and said: “Well, this topic is too limited to be discussed in a full Round Table” but when I see the series of subjects we discussed in detail that is clearly not the case. We could, in fact, continue discussing certain issues for a long time as they need more attention.

Although we have gone through legal issues, practical issues, compliance issues, training issues and have tried to tackle all subjects even in the last panel, a question was raised by the moderator that might have required further attention especially when we have to find rules and discuss the role of the jurisprudence. We didn't say enough on that and there is jurisprudence after all where full studies could be done. This jurisprudence is not unknown to those who deal with these matters, in particular, the ICRC but systematically using it might be useful in certain cases.

I will not repeat anything on the subject. It's just for me now to thank the many people who participated and cooperated in this event, but first, let me thank you, Helen, and all the ICRC for your partnership. I think, once more, this partnership has been very fruitful and our deliberations have had a good result.

All the speakers and moderators have been really outstanding, resulting in very efficient panels where the time limit was respected. So, all of them

deserve our gratitude for having conducted and participated in the debate. Of course, all the questions raised from the floor have been very interesting and important. I am sure that the time given was not enough to raise all the questions but it's better to have a seminar in which there is still something to discuss than to conclude a seminar saying: "well, there are no more questions". It is better to have the opportunity to continue the debate.

Finally, let me express my gratitude to the interpreters who have given an important contribution to our debate, allowing participants to use their own language rather than a foreign language so they could express themselves better and make their point more clearly.

Let me also thank all the people of the Institute who have worked on this event and all those who have cooperated with the Institute, at all levels, to make this event a memorable one once more.

And last but not least, I wish you a safe journey back to your countries, to your work and I hope to see all of you again next year here in Sanremo. We shall decide on an interesting topic to discuss and I hope that next year's Round Table will be as successful as this one.

All the best, come back to Sanremo and remember the Institute and if there is anything we can do for you please tell us.