Visit of the Italian Under Secretary of Defence
Mr Giorgio Mulè

On Monday 12th April, the Institute hosted the Italian Under Secretary of Defence, Mr Giorgio Mulè, who met President Edoardo Greppi in Villa Ormond. The meeting was focused on important current issues of the International Agenda, including migration flows to Europe and the promotion and respect of international humanitarian law and human rights. Under-Secretary Mulè appreciated the Institute’s commitment over the years, encouraging the organisation of further initiatives in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Defence. In the picture, Ms Stefania Baldini, Secretary-General of the Institute, Vice-President Battisti, Under-secretary Mulè and President Edoardo Greppi.

1st Legal Delivery of Effects Online Course
29th March – 14th May

The first edition of the course involved 20 participants coming from 7 different countries, including both military officers and civilians working in IHL-related fields. The course was composed of 12 live sessions in which participants learnt about the main IHL notions through theoretical lectures and practical exercises. Participants were provided with a deeper knowledge of the law governing the delivery of military effects, explained by the experienced teaching staff composed of Col. Mark Dakers, Director of the Military Department, Col. Eran Shamir-Borer, Air Com. (ret) William Boothby, Lt. Col. Rich Crawford, Lt. Col. Ardan Folwaij, Lt. Col. John Cherry, Maj. Peter Rasmussen, Maj. Dimitri Facaros, Dr Eirini Giorgou, Mr Ian Kippen, Dr Tilman Rodenhäuser, Prof. Gary Corn, Mr Mike Meier, and Ms Vera Rusinova. The second edition of the course will be delivered from 23rd August to 4th October 2021: for further information and to register, please visit the relevant course webpage.

ICRC MAG Delegates Online Course
4th May – 10th June

This special course was dedicated to the ICRC MAG Delegates and ran for 6 weeks, hosting 12 different lecturers intent on providing participants with a multinational perspective on fundamental IHL issues, such as the LOAC principles, the rules governing the conduct of operations and the responsibility of the commander. The course was composed of 11 live sessions which allowed the attendees to
interact with the teaching staff who delivered the course, namely Col. Mark Dakers, Dr Martha M. Bradley, Col. Jerry Lane, Brig. Darren Stewart OBE, Lt. Col. Karl O’Sullivan, CMDR Martin Fink, Col. Chris De Cock, Prof. Françoise Hampson, Prof. Noam Lubell, Lt. Gen. Ian J. Bashall and Ms Abby Zeith. The course is likely to be held again later in the year, confirming its high value and the close collaboration between the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Institute.

2nd Law at the Operational Level Online Course
10th May – 18th June

The course addressed the main themes related to the conduct of operations from the operational and strategic levels’ perspective. The learning method adopted in the course included live lectures and self-paced sessions, to enable the participants to absorb the complex concepts which compose the course. The practical application of the notions learned was tested through the exercises and the analysis of relevant case studies conducted by the Director of the Course Col. Mark Dakers and his teaching staff: Lt. Col. Karl O’Sullivan, Brig. Gen. Rich Gross, Brig. Darren Stewart, Lt. Col. Rich Crawford, Maj. Travis Covey, Maj. Dimitri Facaros, Prof. Françoise Hampson, Prof. Noam Lubell and Lt. Col. Ardan Folwaij.

2nd IHL in Depth Online Course
24th May – 2nd July

The second edition of the IHL in Depth Course ran for six weeks and hosted 18 participants. The agenda was set to provide them with a deeper knowledge of fundamental IHL aspects, such as the classification of conflict, the LOAC principles, the relationship with Human Rights Law and the connection between new technologies and IHL. From the feedback it emerged that the participants particularly appreciated the exchange of experiences between themselves and the teaching staff, as well as the case studies which were very useful to better understand the application of laws. The third edition of the course will be delivered from 7th September to 19th October 2021. For further information, please visit the course webpage.

Education Inspiring Peace Laboratory (EIP Lab)
31st May 2021

The Education Inspiring Peace Laboratory was formally constituted on the Initiative of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law and the Municipality of Sanremo. The
“EIP Lab” is an international association which is active in the field of peace, citizenship and civic education through the organisation of research, analysis and training activities. The Lab intends to provide support for culture and education policies at different institutional levels. The EIP Lab is a spin-off of the UPPER Project (systemic UPscaling of Peace Education pRactices), in which the Institute was partner and involved the Municipality of Sanremo in several events. The primary focus of the Lab is the development of methodologies and resources for the evaluation and application of education techniques and learning outcomes. For more information on the EIP Lab, visit its official website.

9th Online Course on International Refugee Law (English)
5th – 30th April 2021

The 9th Online Course on International Refugee Law was developed by the IIHL Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Swiss Confederation, and the United States Department of State - Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. The Course, which was delivered in English, welcomed 59 participants from 34 different countries. Among the participants were government officials and members of civil society, including non-governmental organization and international organization staff, representatives of Permanent Missions to the UN Office in Geneva, protection officers, researchers and members of the academia.

The 9th Online Course examined crucial aspects of the international protection of refugees, including the phases of displacement and their associated risks, the causes that force people to flee, and the search for and implementation of durable and sustainable solutions. A cross-cutting approach was adopted to analyze gender-based violence and protection needs of stateless and internally displaced persons. Throughout the Online Course, the complementarity of other bodies of law with International Refugee Law was also examined with the purpose of highlighting how the safeguard of human rights of refugees was not only linked to the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees. The Course featured both live, interactive sessions and self-paced sessions delivered by experts on refugee protection topics, and utilized a variety of training methodologies, such as case studies, quizzes and the sharing of theory and practice. These sessions, combined with the submission of individual assignments, provided for a learning experience that was dynamic and convenient to follow for professionals.

The 9th Online Course was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., supported by Ms Martina Ranieli, Coordinator of the Department and Ms Federica Rosso, Project Assistant of the Department. The Course enjoyed the presence of Mr Stéphane Jaquemet, Director of Policy, International Catholic Migration Commission, who kindly delivered the Keynote Address on Current International Protection Challenges and Opportunities. The training also benefited from the expertise of the following speakers: Ms Madeline Garlick, Chief of the Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section in the Division of International Protection at UNHCR in Geneva; Ms Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Ms Silvia Colombo, Staff Development Officer, Protection Learning Unit, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Global Learning and Development Centre in Budapest; Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, Academic Unit Coordinator of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Gábor Gyulai, Director of the Refugee Programme at the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and President of the European Network on Statelessness; Mr Matthew Fader, Leader of Volunteer Operations and Head of Education International Search and Rescue Development, Swedish Search and Rescue Society; Ms Eve Lester, Founding Director of bonîi and International expert on the human rights of refugees and migrants; Mr Hayat Akbari, Research and Development Consultant with bonîi; Ms Morgane Nicot, Team Leader, Knowledge Development and Innovation in the Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section, United Nations.
Office on Drugs and Crimes; Ms Lobna Abdel Hadi, International Consultant on Refugee Protection; Ms Melissa Amisano, Former Coordinator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

1st Online Course on Advocacy for Protection (English)
24th May – 4th June 2021

The 1st Online Course on Advocacy for Protection was developed by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law and delivered in English. The Course welcomed 37 participants from 23 countries around the world. Advocacy coordinators and officers, programme managers and fundraising officers from CSOs; local NGOs representatives and UN officials attended the training, which was organized through the Institute’s Online Learning Platform.

The Course presented the key elements for supporting the transformation of policies, services and public perceptions of refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless people and migrants. Using a combination of theory and practice, facilitators shared tools, good practices and tips for effectively advocating for persons in need of protection. Key topics included people on the move, stakeholder mapping, message crafting, protection analysis tools, reporting to human rights mechanisms, and designing advocacy strategies. The Course featured exclusively live sessions which allowed participants to have a very high level of interaction, both with the facilitators and with each other through group work.

The 1st Online Course on Advocacy for Protection was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., and supported by Ms Martina Ranieli, Coordinator of the Department and Ms Amaya Lyne, Project Assistant of the Department. The Course also benefited from the expertise of the following speakers: Ms Beanta Alberink, Instructional Design Expert, Facilitator and Speaker Design2Learn; Mr Gotzon Onandia, Human Rights Officer at the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); Mr Amir Salim Mohamed, Associate Human Rights Officer, Civil Society Team (OHCHR); Ms Britta Nicolmann, Human Rights Officer, Civil Society Team (OHCHR); Mr András Léderer, Information and Advocacy Officer, Refugee Programme at Hungarian Helsinki Committee; Ms Jill Alpes, Senior Researcher, Human Rights Centre, Ghent University; Ms Melissa Amisano, Former Coordinator of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Ace Dela Cruz, Project Coordinator on Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion from the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

1st Online Course on Refugee Law for Journalists (English)
7th – 18th June 2021

The 1st Online Course on Refugee Law for Journalists, organized in partnership with Deutsche Welle Akademie was delivered through the Institute’s Online Learning Platform.

The Course was delivered in English and virtually welcomed 24 participants representing 14 different nationalities. The participants’ background was particularly heterogeneous, ranging from freelance journalists to editors-in-chief, from senior reporters to communications officers, from media reforms advisors to radio station managers.

Specifically tailored to the needs of its diverse audience, the online training was designed to: enhance participants’ knowledge and understanding of the principles, standards and appropriate terminology underpinning the protection of refugees; foster fact-based information on persons in need of protection; equip participants to use multimedia communication to promote peaceful
relations between displaced persons and host communities; and increase participants’ knowledge and skills on new communication techniques and advocacy for reporting on the protection of refugee-related situations.

To achieve its objectives, the Course was structured primarily around two types of sessions. Some were dedicated to the analysis of International Refugee Law and the key aspects of international protection of refugees while others focused on strategies and recommendations for inclusive media policies and reporting on refugee issues as well as on good practices and principles in dealing with sources, reporting from the frontline and interviewing traumatized people in an ethical and safe manner.

To accommodate different needs and ensure thorough completion of the different modules of the Online Course, participants were invited to undertake live and self-paced sessions and submit individual assignments. The Course struck a balance between theory and practice and was delivered using a participatory and creative teaching methodology. The training also allowed the audience to interact with experts and to implement the gained knowledge through different learning methodologies, such as case studies, role plays, group debriefings and discussions, drafting and revising articles.

The 1st Online Course on Refugee Law for Journalists was directed by Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., Director of the Institute’s Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law in strict cooperation with Ms Sheila Mysorekar, Project Manager of Africa Media Development at DW Akademie. The overall organization of the Course was overseen by Ms Martina Ranieli and Ms Federica Rosso, Coordinator and Online Learning Associate of the Department, respectively.

The training also benefitted from the presence of the following speakers: Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, Academic Unit Coordinator, Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Matthew Fader, Leader of Volunteer Operations and Head of Education International Search and Rescue Development; Mr Robert Aschberg, Swedish Journalist and Media Executive; Ms Katie Drew, Innovation Officer, UNHCR; Ms Christa Awuor Odinga, Project Manager, UNHCR; Ms Anahi Ayala Iacucci, Digital Inclusion and Participation Consultant, UNHCR; Ms Camila Ignacio Geraldo, Public Information Assistant, UNHCR; Ms Jhoanna Cova Liccien, a Volunteer from La Voz de los Refugiado, Brazil; and Mr Caleb Gichuhi, Program Manager, Build Up.

Online Course on Introduction to International Refugee Protection in cooperation with DW Akademie (English)

Between 10th–28th May 2021, the International Institute of Humanitarian Law was invited to deliver an Introductory Course on International Refugee Protection. The Online training benefitted 18 refugee content generators from Kakuma and Kalobeyei, Kenya. The Course was delivered in support of the project of the Deutsche Welle (DW) Akademie in Africa. The Project aims at training content generators among refugees in the fields of journalism and community reporting with other media partners in Africa. The Institute delivered four sessions touching upon the legal definition of the term refugee and the importance of using the correct terminology when reporting on refugees, their rights and responsibilities, approaches to protecting refugees within the displacement cycle, and durable solutions. The Institute was honored to support the work of the DW Akademie in Kenya and particularly to be able to support refugees themselves in their empowerment to help other refugees around the world.

The International Conference “Martens Readings Conference” on “International Humanitarian Law and Pandemic Challenges” 27th May 2021

Upon the invitation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Russian Association of International Law and the Law Faculty of St Petersburg State University (SPbGU), Mr Claudio Delfabro, Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, represented the Institute during the International Conference on International Humanitarian Law “Martens Readings”. The Conference entitled “International Humanitarian Law
“Academic Institutions and IHL Teaching in the Time of Pandemic”. His intervention mainly addressed the challenges and restrictions posed by COVID-19 to the traditional training activities organized by the Institute and highlighted the way in which the IIHL successfully readapted its capacity-building programme. This allowed the IIHL to corroborate its reputation of a leading-edge training centre to strengthen its relations with participants and stakeholders worldwide and to continue promoting the safeguard of Human Rights and the respect of International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law.

The Sanremo Institute at the 2021 UN Global Compact Leaders’ Summit (English)
15th-16th June 2021

The Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio Delfabro, represented the Institute at UN Global Compact Leaders’ Summit, joining leaders from business, Government, the UN, and Civil Society, to discuss issues of corporate sustainability and collective action and collaboration for lasting change.

The UN Global Compact 2021 Leaders’ Summit called for a strategic and collective action, with focused objectives and clear paths to recovery from the continued climate crisis, global pandemic, economic disparities and social inequalities. The annual Summit virtually convened more than 25,000 leaders to take stock of the state of progress, highlight the areas for greater influence, and drive collective action on focused issues.

The Sanremo Institute invited to deliver a Keynote Lecture at the Faculty of Law of the University of Belgrade (English)
17th June 2021

The Institute of Sanremo had the honour to deliver the Keynote Lecture on the topic Protection Challenges and Opportunities: The Role of Academia to mark the occasions of the World Refugee Day 2021, the 45th Anniversary of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Serbia and the 15th Anniversary of the Legal Clinic on Asylum and Refugee Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Belgrade. Our Institute is proud to join such prestigious organisations in the protection of refugees.

Course on “Operational Law in Situations of Armed Conflict and Violence”
30th April – 28th May 2021

The Course on "Operational Law in Situations of Armed Conflict and Violence" was delivered in Spanish in b-learning modality. The general objective of the course was to enable the development of actions involving the threat and the use of force by members of military, security, and police forces involved in situations of armed conflict and violence, in accordance with applicable national and international norms.

The Course included 4 modules tackling the following topics: Guiding Principles for the Use of Force in Scenarios of Conflict and Violence; Involvement of the Security Forces in Situations of Armed Conflict and Internal Armed Conflicts and Internal Affairs; Accountability for the Use of Force in Operations; the Use of Force in Air Operations.

The Course Coordinator was Ltc Mario Lanz Raggio (Spain) supported by: Brig. Gen. Javier A. Ayala Amaya (Colombia), Col.
Eduardo Bittencourt Cavalcanti (Brazil), Dr Eraldo Cassini (Italy), Cap. Víctor J. Gonzáles Jáuregui (Peru), Cap. Juan F. Rivera Castro (Chile), and Col. José Romero Muros (Spain). The Director of the Project was Professor Roberto A. Moreno (IIHL). The 33 participants came from 12 different Latin American and European countries.

Course on “Women and Law Enforcement in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations”
17th June – 3rd August 2021
The Course on “Women and Law Enforcement in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations” is taking place and it is being delivered in Spanish in b-learning modality.
This Course is part of the project “Women and law enforcement in conflict and post-conflict situations: guidelines and rules” that the Institute - through its Special Projects and Training Activities for the Latin America sector - is developing with the collaboration and financial support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The support of the Ministry is provided in the framework of the “Fourth National Action Plan adopted in compliance with Resolution no. 1325 (2000) of the United Nations Security Council on “Women, Peace and Security” and subsequent resolutions, generated under the supervision of the Inter-ministerial Committee for Human Rights (CIDU).
This Course aims to respond to two key challenges presented by the United Nations Security Council Resolution no. 1325 (2000) and other successive and concordant resolutions:
- Strengthening the capacity of women and women’s organisations to act effectively and to prevent the violation of their rights in the context of conflicts as well as pre- and post-conflict scenarios or other situations of violence;
- Providing advanced tools and specific capacities to members of different security forces through the development of training activities, with the objective of including the gender perspective and preventing sexual discrimination and stigmatisation during the conduct of operations in the above-mentioned scenarios.

The Course includes 9 modules on the following topics: Women, Peace and Security; Women: Actors in Armed Conflict – OSV; Women and Security Forces; Women as Victims; Prevention – Participation, Protection. The Course will end with a final debate with international legal experts about the aspects which will have stimulated major reflection among the participants.

The Course Coordinator was Dr Luisa López Peña (Colombia) supported by Dr Daira Arana Aguilar (Mexico), Dr Digna Isabel Durán Murillo (Switzerland), Dr Matteo Fornari (Italy), Cap. Víctor J. Gonzáles Jáuregui (Peru), Dr Jhenifer Mojica (Colombia), Dr Marcela Páez (Colombia), Col. Luis Antonio Rocca Erquiaga (Peru), Dr Ruth María Abril Stoffels (Spain).

The Director of the Project is Professor Roberto A. Moreno (IIHL) and the Coordinator of the Project is Dr Pedro Páez Pirazán (Colombia).

The 41 participants come from 12 different Latin American and European countries.

Peace Education, Education Inspiring Peace and Positive Conflict Transformation
24th May 2021
The online event, jointly organised by the EIP Lab, UNIMORE and RUNIPACE hosted 90 participants. The seminar aimed to stimulate a debate among the stakeholders involved in the field of education and intended to provide teachers, trainers and educators with new competencies such as social responsibility, solidarity, peace, valorisation of difference and democratic civic participation. Six experienced practitioners contributed to the discussion, namely: Prof. Enza Pellecchia, Coordinator of the University Network for Peace (RUNIPACE), Prof. Claudio Baraldi (UNIMORE), Prof. Anne Bamford (City of London), Dr Claudio Dondi (IIHL), Prof. Jean Cristophe Martin, Director of the “Institut de la Paix et du Développement”, and Prof. Aluisi Tosolini, School Head and member of RUNIPACE.
Between April and May 2021, the Institute actively contributed to conceiving, drafting and presenting three EU project proposals for the 2021 spring ERASMUS+ call and one project proposal within the “Educare Insieme” public call promoted by the Department of Family Policy of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministries.

With reference to the ERASMUS+ programme, the Institute supported the presentation of the project “LICEAL – Linking Citizenship and Employability Perspectives in Adult Learning Strategies and Practices”. The project proposal, coordinated by the Wiener Forum für Demokratie und Menschenrechte (Vienna, Austria), was presented to the Austrian National Agency Österreichische Austauschdienst. The partnership includes the Comitato Promotore S-NODI Gabriele Nigro (Italy), WUK – the Association for the Creation of Open Culture and Workshop Houses (Austria), the DARE Network (based in Belgium), the Forum des Régions Européennes pour la Recherche, l’Éducation et la Formation (FREREF) based in France and the Psycho-Pedagogical Centre for Peace and Conflict Management (CPP). As for PERFECT, the project was presented to the Italian National Agency Indire. The partnership, besides the Institute and the CPP, includes FREREF, the Fondazione Intro (Italy), three schools based in Malta, Romania and Croatia, Innovate4Future (Romania), the Relationships are Forever Foundation (Malta) and the Centre for Peace, Non-violence and Human rights (Croatia). The main aim of the project is to open a transnational debate on the theme of quarrels and conflicts between peers (children and teenagers aged 2-18 years old), in the context of their life experience at school.

Finally, the project presented within the “Educare Insieme” public call promoted by the Department of Family Policy of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministries was called “DIALOGARTE”. The project, coordinated by the Institute, was presented along with the Rete SicuraScuola, the CPP - Centro PsicoPedagogico per l’educazione e la gestione dei conflitti and two High Schools also based in the Liguria region. The main objective of the project is to build the conditions that would allow the educational system of the Liguria Region, through the convergence of specialised experiences and resources aimed to a systematic development and dissemination of the civic and social skills of young people in the 11-17 age group, as well as the mobilisation of teachers, families, local institutions and civil society towards this goal.