44th Sanremo Round Table on Current Issues of IHL

The International Institute of Humanitarian Law, in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, organised its annual Round Table focusing on “Pandemics, armed conflict, and international humanitarian law”. The event, held online in the form of a webinar series from 6th to 15th September, counted 2438 registrations.

The opening session started with an introduction delivered by Professor Edoardo Greppi, President of the Institute, and Dr Helen Durham, Director of International Law and Policy at ICRC. Their remarks were followed by the key-note messages released by Benedetto Della Vedova (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation), Dr Esperanza Martinez (ICRC) and Dr Michael Ryan (WHO).

Prof. Fausto Pocar, Honorary President of the Institute, commented on the Resolution adopted by the “Institut de Droit International” on “Epidemics and International Law” drafted by the Rapporteur Shinya Murase. This topic led to a discussion chaired by the President, between Lt. Gen. Dennis Gyllensporre (MINUSMA) and Dr Cordula Droegge (ICRC), addressing the topic of “Legal and operational challenges arising in armed conflict in times of pandemic”.

Session 2, held on 8th September, offered an overview on “The provision of medical care in times of armed conflict”, and was chaired by Brig. Keith Eble (UK). The first intervention was delivered by the Deputy Director of the Military Department (IIHL) Capt. Jean-Emmanuel Perrin (French Navy) and focussed on the issue of “Legal and operational challenges for the provision of health care during armed conflict and pandemics”. The following interventions were delivered by Brig. Gen. Mohammad Sumon Reza, who explained the ICRC Guidelines for Military on Protection of Healthcare, and Dr Sandrine Tiller (Médecins sans Frontières), who faced the topic of misinformation and disinformation circulating during pandemics.

The 3rd webinar was held on 13th September and hosted Ms Nancy Polutan-Teulieres (Policy and Standard Setting Lead, GPC), Prof. Giulio Bartolini (Roma Tre University) and Dr Naz Modirzadeh (Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict). The session, attended by 252 participants and chaired by Ambassador Marja Lehto (Finland), focussed on “The role and challenges of humanitarian actors in providing aid and assistance to populations affected by armed conflict and pandemic”.

The closing session took place on 15th September and was chaired by Camille Faure (French Ministry of Armed Forces) who hosted Dr Sandra Krähenmann, Thematic Legal Adviser at Geneva Call, and Dr Tilman Rodenhäuser, (LegAd, ICRC). The panellists addressed the crucial issue of “The protection of persons living in areas beyond state control and the role of non-state armed groups in addressing the pandemic”. The event was concluded with some closing words delivered by Dr Durham and Prof. Greppi.
A total of 1119 individuals participated in this 44th edition, which hosted 22 speakers and was split into 4 sessions. All the webinar series were recorded and are now available on the IIHL webpage dedicated to the event: https://iihl.org/44th-sanremo-round-table/.

Visit of the Taiwan delegates to the Institute

On Wednesday 29th September the Institute hosted Col. Tien Lipin (Taiwan Military Delegation to the USA) and Capt. Tzu-Chiang Chou (Director of the Military Coordination Division; Taipei Representative Office in the European Union and Belgium). They met the Secretary-General Dr Stefania Baldini, Vice-President Gen. Giorgio Battisti, and the Director of the Military Department, Col. Mark Dakers, who presented the traditional activities carried out by the Institute, as well as the new online courses and webinars held during the past 2 years.

G20 Interfaith Forum 2021

On Tuesday 14th September, Professor Edoardo Greppi represented the Institute at the Focus Session of the G20 Interfaith Forum on the topic “Mediterranean Sea: Frontier of Peace”.

Prof. Greppi presented the activities carried out by the Institute from its foundation in 1970 to the present day. In fact, following its main purposes of disseminating and promoting IHL and related issues, the Institute has organised hundreds of courses involving more than 20.000 participants since 1976. Fifty years of international meetings and intense training activity have created what has universally become known as the “humanitarian dialogue in the spirit of Sanremo”. Following this aim of inclusion and intercultural integration, the Institute began to be involved in certain European Union funded projects concerning the field of peace education. On 31st May 2021 the Education Inspiring Peace Laboratory (EIP Lab) was formally established as a concrete follow up to the Upper Project, that is directly linked to the other projects in which the Institute is a partner. According to its aims, EIP Lab was mentioned as a key element for a long-term peace dialogue in the Mediterranean.

2nd Legal Delivery of Effects Online Course

24th August – 5th October

The second edition of the LDEs course was composed of 3 modules addressing respectively Targeting, New Technology, and Cyber. In contrast with the last edition of the course, Module 2 was completely redesigned to provide participants with a deep understanding of the mechanisms of the review of weapons regulated in art.36 of the Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions. The ten practitioners and military personnel who participated in the course particularly appreciated the “open forum” exercise format, which allowed them to share their opinion as well as their personal experiences in order for the class to solve the scenario’s problems. The teaching staff, coming from 7 countries, contributed to the internationalization of the debates carried on during the course and was composed of: Col. Mark Dakers, Director of the Military Department (UK), Lt. Col. Blake Williams (USA), Maj. Peter Rasmussen (Denmark), Lt. Col. Rich Crawford (UK), Dr Eirini Giorgou (ICRC), Col. Eran Shamir-Borer (Israel), Lt. Col. John Cherry (USA), Dr Adrian Venables (Estonia), Mr Mike Meier (USA), Mr Richard Moyes (UK), Maj. Allan Cook, Dr Tilman Rodenhäuser (ICRC), Air Comm. (ret) William Boothby (UK) and Prof. Gary Corn (USA).
3rd IHL in Depth Online Course
20th September – 27th October

The latest edition of this course started on 20th September. Participants had already faced the first Module concerning the IHL principles to be respected during the targeting process and solved the exercise delivered through the breakout rooms format. Each room was composed of 9 and 8 people and was respectively led by Col. Dakers and Lt. Col. Blake Williams, with the participation of Dr Martha Bradley (South Africa), who gave some input to both the classes. During the following 4 weeks, participants will address 5 thematic Modules specifically dedicated to jus in bello principles and practice, the relationships between IHL and human rights, partnered operations and future perspectives.

Targeting Course
27th September - 1st October

This course marked the introduction of on-site courses in Sanremo after the pandemic. Fifteen participants from 14 countries gathered in Villa Ormond and completed the training. The teaching staff, half on site and half participating in online zoom sessions, was composed of Col. Mark Dakers, (Course Director), Maj. Peter Rasmussen (Deputy Course Director), Prof. Françoise Hampson (UK), Air Comm. (ret) Dr William Boothby (UK), Lt. Col Blake Williams (USA) and Flight Lt. Dominic MacAleese (Royal Air Force), and Maj. John Griffiths (UK). This specialised course made participants aware of the main IHL principles governing the targeting process and allowed them to have an overview of some realistic situations which could happen in military operations, and work together on the realistic scenario designed by the IIHL staff.

10th Online Course on International Refugee Law (Arabic)
21st June - 16th July 2021

The 10th Online Course on International Refugee Law was developed by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the State Secretariat for Migration of the Swiss Government, and the United States Department of State - Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. The Course, which was delivered in Arabic, welcomed 39 participants from 14 different countries. Among the participants were government officials and members of civil society, including staff from non-governmental and international organisations, researchers and members of the academia.

The Course explored crucial aspects of the international protection of refugees, which included the phases of displacement and 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 analyse 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 the human rights of refugees was not only linked to the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees. The Course was directed by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law.
and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., coordinated by Mr Rasem Draou, Assistant Project Coordinator of the Department, and featured the presence of Ms Lobna Abdel Hadi, International Consultant on Refugee Protection, who acted as Lead Facilitator during the training. The Course was enriched by the presence of Ms Shaden Khallaf, Head of the Middle East and North Africa Policy Unit at UNHCR, who kindly delivered the keynote address on forced displacement in the current era and worldwide. The training also benefited from the expertise of the following speakers: Mr George Fahmy, Associate Learning Development Officer on Protection at UNHCR; Ms Malak El Hassan, Protection Associate at UNHCR; Ms Jenan Al Bastaki, International Consultant on International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights Law, and Refugee Law; Mr Richard Petrovich, Professor of International Law at Aberystwyth University and Vice-Chair of Greta (European Group of Experts on Action to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings); Ms Madeline Garlick, Chief of the Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section in the Division of International Protection at UNHCR in Geneva; and Mr Tariq Abdullah Al Mujahid, Professor and Head of the Department of Private International Law, Sana’a University.

11th Online Course on International Refugee Law (Spanish)
21st June – 16th July 2021

The 11th Online Course on International Refugee Law was developed by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the State Secretariat for Migration of the Swiss Government, and the United States Department of State - Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. Forty-eight participants from 15 different countries benefitted from the virtual training, which was delivered for the first time in Spanish. The participants ranged from government officials to members of civil society, including non-governmental organisation and international organisation staff, as well as researchers and members of the academia.

The Course, which focused on Latin America, explored crucial aspects of the international protection of refugees, including the regional legal framework established by the 1984 Cartagena Declaration and the Inter-American System for the Protection of Human Rights. Throughout the Online Course, the complementarity of the legal instruments with international refugee protection and the extent to which the rights of refugees were protected and respected were also examined. A transversal approach was adopted to analyse problems related to refugees such as: trafficking in persons, and smuggling of persons, mixed movements, gender-based violence, and the protection of stateless persons and internally displaced persons. The Course applied various training methodologies such as case studies, quizzes and the sharing of theory and practice during its live and self-paced sessions. Such methodologies together with the submission of individual assignments, allowed participants to take part in a dynamic learning experience.

The Course was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., and coordinated by Ms Clara de Haro Arbona, Associate Coordinator of the Department, with the support of Ms Amaya Lyne, Project Assistant of the Department. On the occasion of the Opening Session, the Department and all its team were honoured by the participation of Mr Filippo Grandi, the High Commissioner for Refugees, who welcomed the participants through a dedicated video message. The Course was also opened by Mr Fausto Pocar, Honorary President of the Institute and Ms María Bances del Rey, Chief Protection Officer, UNHCR Regional Office for the
Americas, who kindly delivered the keynote address on Forced Displacement Situation in the Americas, that has now reached historic levels due to the confluence of various humanitarian crises. The training also benefited from the expertise of the following speakers: Mr Gilberto MA Rodrigues, Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Postgraduate Program in International Relations at the Federal University of ABC (UFABC), São Paulo, Brazil and Member of the Sergio Vieira de Mello Chair (UNHCR); Mr Juan Ignacio Mondelli, Regional Protection Officer, Regional Office for the Americas, UNHCR; Ms Romina I. Sijniensky, Assistant Secretary of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; Mr Marco Formisano, Chief Protection Officer and Liaison for the Americas, UNHCR; Ms Carolina Gottardo, Executive Director of the International Coalition Against Detention; Mr José Samaniego, Director, Regional Office for the Americas of UNHCR; Mr Juan Pablo Terminiello, Senior Legal Officer, Regional Office for the Americas of UNHCR; Mr Gotzon Onandia, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR, team of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Mr Gábor Gyulai, Director of the Refugee Programme at the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and President of the European Network on Statelessness; Ms Madeline Garlick, Chief of the Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section in the Division of International Protection at UNHCR in Geneva; Ms Cristina García, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, HIAS; Ms Marisa Gómez Fernández, International Expert in Refugee Protection and Durable Solutions.

The 1st Online Course on Statelessness was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. and coordinated by Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, Academic Unit Coordinator of the Department, with the support of Ms Amaya Lyne, Project Assistant of the Department, and Ms Abigail Stoffer, Junior Collaborator of the Department. During the first session, participants were welcomed by Professor Edoardo Greppi, President of the Institute. Ms Melanie Khanna, Head of Statelessness Section in the Division of International Protection at UNHCR then delivered the keynote address where she highlighted the current situation of statelessness worldwide. The Course also benefited from the expertise of the following speakers: Ms Valeriia Cherednichenko,
International Consultant and Expert on Statelessness and Identity; Ms Radha Govil, Senior Legal Officer, Statelessness Section, Division of International Protection, UNHCR; Ms Maha Mamo, Statelessness Activist and Motivational Speaker; Mr Gábor Gyulai, Director of the Refugee Programme at the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and President of the European Network on Statelessness; and Ms Nina Murray, Head of Policy and Research, European Network on Statelessness.

Course 1 on the Specialization Program on Protection Coordination (English)  
28th June – 10th September 2021

The Specialization Program on Protection Coordination (SPPC) is a learning programme organized by the Global Protection Cluster and its different areas of responsibility in cooperation with the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law. Course 1 of the Programme welcomed 25 participants from 14 countries around the world. The Programme was developed for co-coordinators, and local actors to strengthen their skills needed for effective Protection Coordination and to encourage a collaborative and harmonized protection response. The Programme utilizes not only self-paced and live, interactive sessions but also a dedicated phase for participants to work with mentors on a project that helps them implement the skills and knowledge they have gained.

The Programme was coordinated by the Sanremo Programm Team, which is composed of the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., Ms Beanta Alberink, Lead Designer and Facilitator of the Department, Ms Federica Rosso, Online Learning Associate of the Department, and Ms Yasmine Elbehier, Learning Focal Point at the Global Protection Cluster. Speakers from all the different areas of responsibility were involved in the Programme, including reputable academics, international experts, as well as experienced coordinators both at the local and global level.

12th Online Course on International Refugee Law (English)  
5th– 30th July 2021

The 12th Online Course on International Refugee Law was organised by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the State Secretariat for Migration of the Swiss Government, and the United States Department of State - Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. The Course, which was delivered in English, welcomed 55 participants from 31 different countries. The pool of participants was composed of government officials, members of civil society, including staff from non-governmental and international organisations, as well as researchers and members of the academia.

The Course examined key elements of the international protection of refugees and covered a range of issues, including the causes that force people to flee, the protection risks encountered through the displacement cycle, and the search and implementation of durable and sustainable solutions. Throughout the Online Course, International Refugee Law was critically analysed and its complementarity with other bodies of law regarding the different displacement phases was explored. A cross-cutting approach was adopted to analyse problems related to refugees such as: gender-based violence and the protection of stateless persons and internally displaced persons. Over the span of four weeks, participants took part in live, interactive sessions and self-paced sessions delivered by experts on refugee protection topics. The sessions, which included the submission of individual assignments from
participants, utilized case studies, quizzes, and the sharing of theory and practice to ensure an effective learning experience.

The Course was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. and coordinated by Ms Martina Raniel, Coordinator of the Department and Mr Simone Delicati, Junior Collaborator of the Department. The Course featured the following facilitators and guest speakers: Mr John A. Young, Head of Protection Learning, UNHCR Global Learning and Development Centre; 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, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, Academic Unit Coordinator of the Department; Mr Gábor Gyulai, Director of the Refugee Programme at the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and President of the European Network on Statelessness; Ms Nicole Hoagland, Migration Policy Expert; Ms Eve Lester, Founding Director of bonâî and International Expert on the Human Rights of Refugees and Migrants; Mr Hayat Akbari, Research and Development Consultant with bonâî; Mr Aref Fakhry, Associate Professor, World Maritime University; Mr Matthew Fader, Leader of Volunteer Operations and Head of Education International Search and Rescue Development, Swedish Search and Rescue Society; Ms Marisa Gómez Fernández, Senior Legal Researcher, Department of Justice and Equality, Government of Ireland; and Ms Melissa Amisano, Former Coordinator at the Department.

4th Online Course on Internal Displacement (French)
30th August – 24th September 2021

The 4th Online Course on Internal Displacement was developed by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, the Swiss Federal Department for Foreign Affairs, and the United States Department of State - Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. The Course, which was delivered in French, welcomed 34 participants from 15 different countries. The cohort of participants was composed of government officials and members of civil society, including staff from non-governmental and international organisations, as well as members of the academia.

The Course explored key aspects of the protection of IDPs, while analysing internal displacement from different angles and perspectives. By adopting a cross-cutting approach, issues such as: housing, land and property, data collection, and the international community coordination mechanisms established together with State authorities and civil society representatives to respond to IDP situations, were analysed. The workshop ultimately addressed the search and implementation of durable and sustainable solutions for IDPs. The Course was directed by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., coordinated by Ms Clara de Haro Arbona, Associate Coordinator of the Department with the support of Mr Rasem Draou, Assistant Project Coordinator of the Department. Professor Edoardo Greppi, President of the Institute, welcomed the participants through an appropriate video message. Ms Cecelia Jimenez-Damary, Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, kindly delivered the keynote address during the first session of the Course. Participants also benefited from the expertise of the following speakers: Ms Kim Mancini, Legal Advisor, Office of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Col. Chris de Cock, Head of the Office of the Legal Advisor to the Director General of the European Union Military Staff; Mr Brian Brady, Coordinator,
Migration and Displacement, Africa Region, IFRC; Ms Catherine-Amélie Chassin, Senior Lecturer at the University of Caen Normandy, Co-director of the Master of Civil Liberties; Ms Nathalie Bussien, Child Protection Specialist, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Gambella, Ethiopia; Ms Tina Gewis, ICLA Regional Advisor (Legal Assistance), Norwegian Refugee Council; Mr Andrés Lizcano, Head of Mission Support and Capacity Building, JIPS - Joint Internal Displacement Profiling Service; Mr Abdoulaye Sawadogo, Deputy Head of Office, Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; and Ms Barbara McCollin, Expert and International Consultant on Internal Displacement and Housing, Land and Property Rights.

5th Online Course on Internal Displacement (English)
30th August – 24th September 2021

The 5th Online Course on Internal Displacement was developed by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law. It was developed with the continued support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, the Swiss Federal Department for Foreign Affairs, and the United States Department of State - Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. The Course, which was delivered in English, welcomed 49 participants from 20 different countries. The participants ranged from non-governmental and international organisations, as well as members of the academia.

This Online Course examined the international norms underpinning the protection of internally displaced persons, including the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the Kampala Convention. It also adopted a cross-cutting approach to examine issues such as housing, land and property, data collection, and the international community coordination mechanisms established to respond to internally displaced persons’ situations, while ultimately addressing the search and implementation of durable and sustainable solutions. The Course was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., coordinated by Ms Clara de Haro Arbona, Associate Coordinator of the Department with the support of Mr Rasem Draou, Assistant Project Coordinator of the Department. Participants were welcomed by Professor Edoardo Greppi, President of the Institute, through a dedicated video message, with Ms Cecelia Jimenez-Damary, Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, delivering the keynote address during the first session. Participants also benefited from the expertise of the following speakers: Ms Kim Mancini, Legal Advisor, Office of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Colonel Mark Dakers, Director of the Military Department at the Institute of International Humanitarian Law; Mr Ezekiel Simperingham, Global Lead, Migration and Displacement, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, Academic Unit Coordinator, Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law at the Institute of International Humanitarian Law; Ms Lobna Abdel Hadi, International Expert on International Protection; Mr Jim Robinson, Global Coordinator for the Housing Land and Property, Area of Responsibility, Norwegian Refugee Council; Mr Andrés Lizcano, Head
of Field Support and Capacity Building JIPS - Joint Internal Displacement Profiling Service; Ms Martina Caterina, Senior Legal Adviser to the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; and Mr. Abdoulaye Sawadogo, Deputy Head of Office, Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Summer School on Refugees, Migration and the “New Normal” at the Refugee Law and Migration Centre – Skopje, North Macedonia 24th August 2021

The Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio Delfabro, and the Academic Unit Coordinator of the Department, Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, were invited as speakers for the Refugee Law and Migration Centre’s Summer School of the University Saints Cyril and Methodious to facilitate the session on “Refugees and Other Persons in Need of Protection”.

Through a mix of theory and practice, such as case studies, and guided discussions, the interactive session examined the complexity of mixed movements and enabled participants to get familiarized with and distinguish among the main categories of persons on the move, such as refugees, stateless and internally displaced persons, and trafficked and smuggled people. This allowed the class to approach important definitions at an introductory level, also through an in-depth analysis of the components of the refugee definition, and to align their understanding with key elements of each topic.

Uniting Business Live by the UN Global Compact 20th – 22nd September 2021

The Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. was recently invited to Uniting Business Live organised by the UN Global Compact. Over the course of three days, the event attracted more than 7,000 registered participants from 143 countries for four high-level events: Private Sector Forum, Global Impact Forum, Young SDG Innovators Summit and the SDG Business Forum. Many high-level speakers including Heads of State from Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Kenya, Norway, Spain and Sweden, the Vice-President of Nigeria, several Ministers, the President of the UN General Assembly, the UN Secretary-General, and more than 30 CEOs from the world’s leading sustainable companies, took part in the event.

21st Summer Course on International Humanitarian Law (9th - 23rd July 2021)

The 21st Summer Course of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law was successfully held for the second year online. Twenty-five participants from 16 countries were able to deepen their knowledge of international humanitarian law, refugee law and human rights law, through a comprehensive approach to the various issues inherent to armed conflicts, and to interact with world-renowned practitioners, experts and academics. Participants attended 27 sessions, the equivalent of 30 hours of classes, at a rate of 3 hours per day. The different daily sessions were held in two parts, with a documented contribution from the speakers and a time for questions and answers. This interactivity, beneficial to all, allowed the professionals and students following such course to exchange views with international specialists and high-level
experts and present their perspectives and experiences. The Institute is committed to offering a real interaction between practitioners and participants and invites them to give their feedback after each session.

To complement these different sessions, participants were able to access the Institute’s online learning platform - a handy tool at their disposal - which allows them to view specific recordings, obtain additional documents and ask further questions to the speakers. Accessible for an unlimited period of time, this platform also offers the Institute’s news as well as a digital library of international law.

The entire course allowed participants to deepen and consolidate their knowledge of international humanitarian law through a global and multidisciplinary approach integrating international criminal law, human rights, and migration law. Through the examination of existing cases this course helped clarify the application of the different bodies of law in the context of armed conflicts and humanitarian operations (see Programme - Annex 1).

At the end of the 21st Summer Course on International Humanitarian Law, the participants were awarded a certificate attesting to their participation and attendance by a recognised centre of excellence.

The Course Director was Professor Michel Veuthey (Switzerland), supported by the following experts: Prof. Edoardo Greppi (IHL President, Italy), Brig. Gen. Karl Edlinger (Legal Adviser, Austrian Armed Forces), Col. Ben Klappe (Senior Advisor, The Netherlands), Col. (ret.) William Nott (Galway U., Ireland), Col. Mark Dakers (Director, IHL Military Department, UK), Prof. Charles Garraway (University of Essex, UK), Dr Maria Teresa Dutli (Geneva School of Diplomacy, Argentina & Switzerland), Dr Alain Werner, Esq. (Director, Civitas Maxima, Switzerland), Judge Prof. Christine Van Den Wyngaert (Belgium), Ms Alice Wairime Nderitu (Special Adviser of the UN SG on the Prevention of Genocide, Kenya), Dr Gianni Magazzeni (UNOHCR), Dr Francesco Motta (Italy), Dr Hichem Khadraoui (Geneva Call), Prof. Nils Melzer (UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Switzerland) Ms Vanessa Vuille (Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland), Dr Anysa Bellal (Geneva Academy on IHL and HR, France), Dr Peter Maurer (ICRC President), Prof. Brian McQuinn (University of Regina, Canada), Dr Claudio Delfabro (Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IHL, Argentina), Ms Lobna Abdel Hadi (IHL Refugee Law Course Director, Egypt) and Judge Prof. Fausto Pocar (IHL Honorary President, Italy) (in order of appearance in the Programme).

This multicultural course, which brought together 25 participants from 16 countries from all over the world (see List of participants - Annex 2) wishing to strengthen their knowledge of the problems inherent to human security in the context of armed conflicts and international migrations, gave rise to exciting exchanges, rich in lessons learned.

Workshop on “Women and Law Enforcement in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations: Guidelines and Rules”
(20th August – 17th September)

The Workshop on “Women and Law Enforcement in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations: Guidelines and Rules” was delivered in Spanish in b-learning modality.

This Workshop is part of the project “Women and law enforcement in conflict and post-conflict situations: guidelines and rules” that the Institute - through the 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

The online Workshop aimed to generate the necessary inputs for the drafting and presentation of guidelines, rules and guidelines on gender mainstreaming in the institutions of the security forces regarding their actions and obligations in situations of armed conflict, other situations of violence and post-conflict, as well as recommendations regarding good practices for forgiveness and reconciliation in post-conflict situations.

The Workshop included 4 Modules developing the following topics: Gender Perspective, Women and Law Enforcement, Women, Peace and Security and Forgiveness – Reconciliation.

The specific objective of each thematic module was to generate a document related to the topic addressed.

The Course Coordinator was Dr Daira Arana Aguilar (Mexico) supported by the following teachers: Cap. Víctor J. Gonzáles Jáuregui (Peru), Mag. Viridiana López Herrera (México), Dr Luisa F. López Peña (Colombia), Dr Jhenifer Mojica (Colombia), Dr Marcos Pablo Moloeznik (México), Dr Marcela Páez (Colombia), Dr Ruth María Abril Stoffels (Spain), and Dr Digna Isabel Durán Murillo (Switzerland).

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

There was a total number of 28 participants from 10 different Latin American and European countries.

Updates on new projects proposals submitted to the European Union

During the summer period, the Institute actively contributed to the elaboration of a project proposal for the 2021 Autumn ERASMUS+ call together with a project proposal within the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV).

In the framework of the ERASMUS+ programme “Alliance for Innovation - Alliances for Education and Enterprises”, the Institute submitted, as coordinator, the project proposal “Conflict Transformation Competences for Peace Jobs and Life - COMP4PEACEJOBS”. Coordinated by the Institute, the partnership of the COMP4PEACEJOBS project proposal is composed by Université Côte d’Azur (France), Vienna Forum for Democracy and Human Rights/Polis – The Austrian Centre for Citizenship Education in Schools, Universitatea Politehnica din Bucuresti (Romania), Interprofessionelle Auvergne Rhône Alpes (France), CIS Formazione (Italy), Unione Cristiana Imprenditori Dirigenti (Italy), Organización Iberoamericana de Seguridad Social (Spain), Forum des Régions Européennes pour la Recherche, l’Education et la Formation (France), Universidad de Guadalajara (Mexico), Universidad Santo Tomás (Colombia), Centro de Estudios Sociales y Jurídicos del Ecuador, Softtechnica SRL (Romania), Pôle emploi Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (France). The main objective of the COMP4PEACEJOBS project is to boost curriculum and methodological innovation within and between vocational education and training (VET) and higher education institutions, particularly by stimulating the integration of structured peace competences modules in study programmes and initiatives addressed not only to classic “peace workers”, but also to other relevant professional categories.

With reference to the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme of the European Union, the Institute collaborated to the elaboration of the “Policies with Adolescents: Reviving and Sustaining of Agency through Digitalisation, Education and Socialisation – PARADES” project. The project is coordinated by the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (UNIMORE), and, in addition to the Institute, it brings together a consortium consisting of Cooperativa Cosmo, the Municipality of Sanremo and the Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions – OBESSU (based in Belgium). The project aims
at enhancing and supporting the agency of adolescents (aged 12-17) who, during the pandemic, have been mainly excluded from schools, informal gatherings, cultural life, and any decision concerning their needs and proposals.

During the month of August, the Institute was also informed about the approval of the project proposal Must-A-Lab, proposed during February 2021 within the EU call for proposals "AMIF - Transnational Actions on Asylum, Migration and Integration". The partnership of Must-A-Lab includes the Municipality of Mechelen (acting as coordinator), the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (UNIMORE), the Municipality of Modena (Italy), the Karel de Grote Hogeschool (Belgium), the Sanremo Institute, the Municipality of Fuenlabrada (Spain), the Municipality of Liivadia (Greece), the District of Neubau, Vienna (Austria), the Municipality of Pont-de-Claiix (France), the Forum des Régions Européennes pour la Recherche, l’Education et la Formation. The project will aim at improving local integration strategies through the systemic and long-term involvement of stakeholders in cities and communities through the methodology of Policy Labs (PLs), starting from January 2022.

1st Assembly of Members of the Education Inspiring Peace Laboratory
23rd September 2021

The first Assembly of Members of the Education Inspiring Peace Laboratory, hosted by the Institute, was held at Villa Ormond. The first part of the Assembly consisted of the formal admission of institutional and individual members of the Laboratory and the election and appointment of its institutional bodies. In this regard, Professor Edoardo Greppi, already appointed as President at the moment of the legal constitution of the association, was confirmed in his role, while Ms Christiane Demontés, President of the Forum des Régions Européennes pour la Recherche, l’Education et la Formation, was elected Vice-President, and Mr Gian Luca Beruto (IIHL) and Mr Mauro Giancaterino (IIHL) were confirmed as Director and Treasurer respectively.

The Assembly of Members furthermore established the Executive Council of the Laboratory, a key operational body whose primary task is to assist the institutional bodies in performing their steering functions. Among the members of the Executive Council, the assembly identified Professor Anne Bamford, City of London, Professor Claudio Baraldi, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Professor Catherine Blaya, Université Côte d’Azur, Dr Auréa Cophignon, Ville de Nice, Professor Gabriel Dima, Polytechnic University of Bucharest, Ms Marina Moretti, ASSEFA Onlus, Ms Elena Passerini, Centro Psicopedagogico per l’educazione e la gestione dei conflitti and Monica Turrini, Forum des Régions Européennes pour la Recherche, l’Education et la Formation. The group of experts will be coordinated by Mr Claudio Dondi, IIHL, who was appointed as Coordinator of such Executive Council.

The institutional session of the Assembly was then followed by an operational session, during which the 2022 work plan of the Laboratory was discussed with the contribution of all the members. More precisely, during this operational session members analysed the five work areas of the Laboratory, namely Practice, Research, Institutional Consolidation, Policy and Communication. For each of these areas, the actions already implemented in the past year were explored and the programme for 2022 was presented.