The 45th Sanremo Round Table on Current Issues of IHL, traditionally organised in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, was finally back in Sanremo in September 2022. After two years of online gatherings due to the pandemic-related restrictions, this 45th edition of the Round Table on current issues of IHL was indeed held, for the very first time in more than 50 years of activity of the Institute, at Villa Ormond, the Institute’s prestigious headquarters in Sanremo (Italy), from 7th to 9th September 2022.

The Round Table focused on “After the conflict before the peace: legal, military and humanitarian issues during the transition”, investigating the most crucial issues concerning the application of IHL in post-conflict situations.

The event was opened by a message from the Mayor of Sanremo, delivered by his Deputy Mayor, Ms Caterina Pireri, and by the opening remarks of the representative of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ambassador Pasquale Ferrara, and of the Ministry of Defence, Rear Admiral Pierpaolo Ribuffo, followed by the President of the Sanremo Institute, Professor Edoardo Greppi, and the Vice-President of the ICRC, Professor Gilles Carbonnier.

The first thematic session was then moderated by Professor Greppi and focused on the “military, humanitarian and legal challenges during transition from conflict to non-conflict”, with the contribution of Ambassador Stefano Pontecorvo, former NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan, Dr Christian Cardon de Lichtbuer, Chief Protection Officer, ICRC, and Colonel James Hill, Staff Judge Advocate of the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force in Africa.

In the following two days, the Institute hosted seven additional specialised sessions examining the lessons learnt from recent operations and the legal, military and humanitarian issues occurring during the post-conflict transition process. Thanks to the contribution of more than 30 high-level international experts joining in from all over the world and contributing both from Sanremo and online, the conference studied, among other topics, the legal responsibility of military and humanitarian practitioners towards the civilian populations; the challenges related to the evacuation of non-combatants from conflict areas, with a specific focus on the Afghan case, and the legal status of evacuated civilians; the issue of the responsibility of governments and individuals towards refugees and IDPs; and the disarmament and infrastructure reconstruction processes. The sessions were conducted by high-level experts.

At the end of the conference, the President of the Sanremo Institute and the Deputy Director of International Law, Policy and Humanitarian Diplomacy of the ICRC, Dr Eva Svoboda, greeted the 150 experts who attended the different sessions of the Round Table, as well as the panellists who greatly enriched this unique 2022 edition.
International Humanitarian Law Training at the Ukrainian Catholic University of Lviv
19th July - 4th August 2022, online

From 19th July until 4th August 2022 the Military Department delivered an online course on International Humanitarian Law in collaboration with the Institute of Ecumenical Studies, Ukrainian Catholic University of Lviv, held with the financial support of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and the Association for the Promotion of International Development and Stability. During the six sessions, the 19 participants considered key topics such as distinction, the position of religious and medical personnel; cultural property; prisoners of war and others deprived of liberty; occupation; and finally, internally displaced people.

The aim of this short, but intense training was to provide the participants with a better understanding of the rules and governing principles of the Law of Armed Conflict. Participants benefitted from the remarkable experience of the lecturers: Col. Mark Dakers, Director of the Military Department; Brig. Gen. (retd.) Dr Karl Edlinger, Austrian Armed Forces; Mr Dmytro Koval, Truth Hounds Organisation; Mr Yannick Creoff, Senior Coordinator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

Visit of the Military Attaché of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Rome
6th September 2022, Rome

On Tuesday 6th September the Institute hosted Brig. Gen. Eng. Staff Abdulhadi H. Alamri, Military Attaché at the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Rome. Discussions with President Edoardo Greppi, Vice-President Giorgio Battisti and the Director of the Military Department, Col. Mark Dakers, concentrated on the presentation of the traditional activities carried out by the Institute. During this meeting, the cooperation between the two parties was reasserted and strengthened. Indeed, for many years now, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has sent participants both to English and Arabic courses and the Institute would welcome the continuation of such a good relationship as the pandemic is left behind.

Flintlock 2023 Legal Framework Working Group
12th-16th September 2022, Sanremo

Twenty African and 8 European partners met the U.S Africa Command (USAFRICOM) and the U.S Special Operations Command Africa (SOCAF) here at Villa Ormond to collaborate on developing a realistic legal framework for FLINTLOCK, the Multinational Special Operations Forces exercise in the Western Sahel sponsored by SOCAF. During the week military legal professionals and exercise planners, in collaboration with the representatives of civilian agencies, built a realistic legal framework rooted in the tenets and organizations of international law, the laws of armed conflict, the international law of human rights, and the host nations’ domestic laws. The ultimate goal during the training was to enable the prosecution of suspects of terrorism. The working group produced documents that linked task force actions with security, law enforcement, and judicial entities in the Flintlock area of operations (AOR). The establishment of a realistic and robust legal framework enhanced Flintlock’s training value by injecting the legal context of real life operations within the AFRICOM AOR.
Visit of the Armed and Security Forces Delegates, International Committee of the Red Cross

28th September 2022, Sanremo

On Wednesday 28th September the Institute Headquarters, Villa Ormond, hosted a meeting with the Armed and Security Forces Delegates from the International Committee of the Red Cross: Mr Peter Evans, Head of Unit for Relations with Arms Carriers; Mr Stephen Kilpatrick, Advisor to the Military and Armed Groups; Philippe Edmond Jean Cholous, Adviser to the Police and Gendarmerie; Josette Garreau, Project Officer. Discussions, also involving the Director of the Military Department, Col. Mark Dakers, focused on the organization of joint training and activities. This valuable meeting allowed the two Organizations to reaffirm and strengthen their partnership and the commonality of their missions, reflected in the constant commitment to spread fundamental humanitarian principles and to promote the dissemination, application and the development of international humanitarian law, refugee law, migration law and human rights.

Targeting Course

26th-30th September, Sanremo

The Targeting Course was the first of the Specialised Courses on international humanitarian law held by the Military Department this Autumn. This five-day unclassified level training is designed for planners, policy advisors, military and civilian legal counsels, and operators (commanders, leaders, targeteers, JFACs) advising on or prosecuting targets at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels. Held under the joint supervision of the Course and Military Department Director, Col. Mark Dakers, and the Deputy Course Director, Maj. Peter Rasmussen (Denmark Defence Forces), the Course provided participants with an understanding of the legal considerations associated with targeting in military operations. During the training, 28 participants from 20 countries examined the legal and operational parameters of the targeting process. To strengthen understanding, attendees conducted exercises that took them through a targeting process from planning and execution to battle damage assessment.

The teaching staff consisted of Lieutenant Colonel Charles Anderson (UK), Air Commodore (Ret) Dr William Boothby (UK), Lieutenant Colonel Jim Sleesman (USA).

184th International Military In-Depth Course on International Humanitarian Law (hybrid)

26th August – 23rd September 2022, Sanremo and online

The 184th International Military In-Depth Course on International Humanitarian Law, delivered in Spanish, took place from 26th August until 23rd September, both in Sanremo and in b-learning modality, through the Zoom platform. Its objective was to provide participants with access to knowledge of the rules of IHL and its areas of application. Essentially, they learn to apply its principles and rules in various scenarios both in a universal context and - given the majority attendance of Latin American participants - in the regional context. Its purpose was also to enable participants to learn about the main guarantees for the due application of IHL and, given the nature of this 2022 Course, to introduce them to the treatment of issues which, in this field, have become particularly topical.

The Course included modules developing topics such as: rationale and criteria for the application of IHL; regulation of internal armed conflicts and other situations of violence; hostile action: new means and methods of combat; practical elements of the conduct of operations; peace operations; and mechanisms of IHL effectiveness.

The Director of the Course was Professor Roberto
A. Moreno (IIHL), its Coordinator was LTC Mario Lanz Raggio (Spain) supported by the following teachers (in alphabetical order by country): Col. Eduardo Bittencourt Cavalcanti (Brazil), Cap. Juan Francisco Rivera Castro (Chile), Cap. Víctor J. Gonzáles Jáuregui (Peru), Col. José Romero Muros (Spain).

There was a total of 29 participants from 11 different Latin American, North American and European countries.

58th Course for Directors and Instructors of Training Programmes in IHL
27th September 2022–1st October 2022, Sanremo

The 58th Course for Directors and Instructors of Training Programmes in IHL, delivered in Spanish, took place in Sanremo from 27th September to 1st October.

Its objective was to make sure that those who had received IHL training at the IIHL were themselves able to replicate the knowledge acquired in the context of their own institutions or areas of interest, as well as to design teaching programmes and dissemination activities. In this way, the resulting multiplier effect would allow an increasing number of people to gain access to humanitarian law and to be able to respect and enforce its application in the context of armed conflict and other situations of violence.

The Director of the Course was Professor Roberto A. Moreno (IIHL), supported by the following teachers (in alphabetical order by country): Col. Eduardo Bittencourt Cavalcanti (Brazil), MA María Romero Real (Spain).

There was a total number of 7 participants from 5 different Latin and North American countries.

4th Online Course on Statelessness
6th June-1st July 2022, online

The 4th Online Course on Statelessness was delivered in Arabic from 6th June till 1st July 2022 to 36 participants from 13 countries.

The Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law organized the Course in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The online workshops targeted government officials, international civil servants and local employees of international organizations, members of civil society and academia.

The training aimed at enhancing capacities on how to reduce, prevent and find solutions to statelessness, when protecting stateless persons around the world. Particular emphasis was placed on the MENA region that has been witnessing many situations of conflict, resulting in refugee camps and issues of statelessness.

The Course relied on international conventions on statelessness and developments in national legislation while focusing on working experiences with stateless persons and legal frameworks related to nationality.

The Course was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. The Keynote Addresses were delivered by Mr Ayman Gharaibeh, Regional Director of UNHCR MENA; Ms Haifa Abu Ghazaleh, Assistant Secretary General of the Social Affairs Sector in the League of Arab States; Ms Aseer Madaien, Deputy Representative of UNHCR, Egypt; Ms Ameera Azzam, Senior Learning Development Officer of UNHCR MENA Regional Office and Ms Hafsr Tamizuddin, an activist and former Rohingya refugee.

The sessions of the Course highlighted the expertise of the following facilitators and guest speakers: Ms Hagir Moussa, Senior Coordination Officer of the League of Arab States and Specialized Arab Organizations; Ms Nouf Alhashimi, Protection Officer of UNHCR Yemen; Ms Fawzia Istieh, Legal Protection Officer of UNHCR Jordan; Ms Dalila Zenati, Expert in International Law, including Human Rights, Refugee Law and Statelessness; Mr Thomas McGee, PhD researcher at the Peter McMullin Center on Statelessness in University of Melbourne School of Law; Mr Ihab Serour, Egyptian-Canadian Lawyer and Protection Expert; Ms Malak El-Waeli, Senior
Technical Advisor at the Legal Clinic Network in UNHCR Iraq; Mr Amer Al-Jaafari, Liaison Officer and Head of Department Commission Office for the Quality and Institutional Department and Civil Status and Passports Department in Jordan’s Ministry of Interior. The Course was coordinated by Ms Christelle Menassa, Associate Coordinator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Ms Yousra-Sissi Baba, Online Learning Assistant at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; and Ms Essma El Abidi, Junior Collaborator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

5th Online Course on Statelessness
6th June-1st July 2022, online

The 5th Online Course on Statelessness was delivered in Russian from 6th June till 1st July 2022 to 28 participants from 9 countries. With the support and cooperation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration (SEM), the Course was organized by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law. The cohort of the Course included government officials, such as immigration officers and judges, as well as staff of international organizations, members of civil society and lawyers. The Online Course examined a variety of topics, for example, causes and impacts of statelessness, nationality and statelessness in international law, and identification of statelessness and status determination procedures. The training focused on regional specificities relating to statelessness in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia, providing insights into international initiatives such as the UNHCR #IBelong Campaign. In this perspective, the international response to statelessness and good policies to prevent and end statelessness were shared with the audience. The Course was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. The Keynote Address was delivered by Mr Azizbek Ashurov, winner of the 2019 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award, Director of Ferghana Valley Lawyers Without Borders and Head of the Central Asian Network on Statelessness.

Participants of the Course were able to learn from the expertise of the following facilitators and guest speakers: Dr Angela Li Rosi, Deputy Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe in UNHCR; Mr Oleg Palii, Executive Director of NGO “Legal Center of Advocates”; Dr Ekaterina Kiseleva, Associate Professor at the Department of International Law, Law Institute, Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia; Ms Valeria Cherednichenko, Regional Statelessness Officer for Europe in UNHCR; Ms Sholpan Olzhabayeva, Statelessness Specialist at the UNHCR National Office in the Republic of Kazakhstan; Ms Maha Mamo, Statelessness Activist and Motivational Speaker; Ms Ada Tabatadze, Chief Specialist at the Citizenship and Migration Division at the Public Service Development Agency of Georgia; Ms Zhanna Erzhanova, Senior Inspector for Special Assignments in the Department on Nationality and Immigration, Migration Service Committee for the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Mr Denis Dzhivaga, Deputy Director of the Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law; Mr Oleksandr Snitko, Statelessness Project Manager for NGO “The Tenth of April”.

The Course was coordinated by Ms Martina Ranieli, Lead Coordinator of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Ms Anastasia Prokhorova, Online Learning Assistant at the Department of International Refugee and Migration Law, IIHL; and Olesya Dovgalyuk, Junior Collaborator at the Department of International Refugee and Migration Law, IIHL.

21st Online Course on International Refugee Law
4th–29th July 2022, online

The 21st Online Course on International Refugee Law was delivered in English from 4th July till 29th July 2022 to 59 participants from 35 countries. Organized by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, the Course enjoyed the support of the contributions made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration (SEM). The participant pool of the Course consisted of government officials, international civil servants and local employees of international organizations, members of civil society and academia.
The training covered different topics within International Refugee Law and its complementarity and application with other bodies of law. The Course also touched upon the causes of displacement, the protection risks encountered throughout its different phases, and the search and implementation of durable and sustainable solutions.

Experienced facilitators shared their knowledge through innovative and interactive methodologies in an online setting that allowed participants to understand the realities of the implementation of International Refugee Law.

The Course was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. The Keynote Address was delivered by Mr John Andrew Young, Head of Protection Learning at the UNHCR Global Learning and Development Center.

The online sessions focussed on the expertise of the following facilitators and guest speakers: Ms Silvia Colombo, Learning Development Officer at the UNHCR Global Learning and Development Center; Ms Olga Vorontsova-Mykhaliova, Refugee Status Determination Advisor from UNHCR; Ms Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, the United Nations 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; Colonel Mark Dakers, Director of the Military Department, IIHL; Prof. Aref Fakhry, Associate Professor at World Maritime University (WMU); Mr Matthew Fader, Leader of Volunteer Operations and Head of Education International Search and Rescue Development at the Swedish Search and Rescue Society (SSRS); Ms Eve Lester, Founding Director of boni and International Expert on the Human Rights of Refugees and Migrants; Mr Ryszard Piotrowicz, Professor of Law at Aberystwyth University and Former Vice-President of the Council of Europe’s Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA); Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, Academic Unit Coordinator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Nikola Kovačević, Senior Legal Advisor at IDEAS Serbia; Ms Wilma Moraa Isaboke, Senior Learning Development Associate at the UNHCR Global Learning and Development Centre; Ms Melissa Amisano, Former Coordinator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Osama Salem, International Expert involved in Humanitarian Aid, Refugee Protection and Refugee Participation.

The Course was coordinated by Ms Chiara Maria Natta, Associate Coordinator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; and Ms Marielys Padua Soto, Online Learning Assistant at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

22nd Online Course on International Refugee Law
29th August–23rd September 2022, online

The 22nd Online Course on International Refugee Law was delivered in French from 29th August to 23rd September to 47 participants from 14 countries.

The Course was organized by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United States Government (Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration (SEM).

The target audience of the Course consisted of government officials, international civil servants and local employees of international organizations, members of civil society and academia.

The training presented the key aspects of the international protection of refugees with topics ranging from the analysis of International Refugee Law and its complementarity with other bodies of law to protection during the different displacement phases. Participants also examined 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.

The Course was directed and facilitated by Ms Catherine-Amélie Chassin, Senior Lecturer and Coordinator; Mr Thibaut Fleury Graff, International Law Professor at the University of Caen-Normandie (France). The Keynote Address was delivered by Prof. Vincent Chetail, Professor of International Law, Director of the Global Migration Centre and Advisory Faculty at the Global Governance Centre at the Geneva Graduate Institute (IHEID).

The cohort of participants benefitted from the knowledge and expertise shared by the following facilitators and guest speakers: Ms Dalila Zenati, Expert in International Law, including Human Rights, Refugee Law and Statelessness; Mr Jesús Pérez Sánchez, Senior Protection Officer at UNHCR; Ms Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Mr Gábor Gyulai, Director of the Refugee Programme at the Hungarian Helsinki Committee; Mr Panagiotis Papadimitriou, Lawyer and Coordinator; Mr Thibaut Fleury Graff, International Law Professor at the University.
of Paris-Saclay and UNHCR Judge at the French National Court for Asylum; Ms Eve Lester, Founding Director of boniĝi and International Expert on the Human Rights of Refugees and Migrants; Ms Seline Trevisanut, Professor of International Law and Sustainability at Utrecht University; Ms Sophie Crozet, independent humanitarian Consultant in Protection, durable Solutions and Capacity Building; Mr Ihab Serour, Egyptian-Canadian Lawyer and Protection Expert.

The Course was coordinated by Ms Christelle Menassa, Associate Coordinator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Ms Yousra-Sissi Baba, Online Learning Assistant at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; and Ms Essma El Abidi, Junior Collaborator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

9th Online Course on Internal Displacement
29th August-23rd September 2022, online

The 9th Online Course on Internal Displacement was delivered in English from 29th August till 23rd September to 45 participants from 23 countries. The training was organized by the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law with the support of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons and the United States Government (Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration).

The participant pool of the Course consisted of government officials, international civil servants and local employees of international organizations, members of civil society and academia. Through this Online Course, participants explored key aspects of the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs), while analysing internal displacement from different angles and perspectives. The training analysed cross-cutting issues, such as IDPs participation; housing, land and property rights; data collection; and the international community coordination mechanisms established together with state authorities and civil society representatives to respond to internal displacement situations.

Finally, the workshop also addressed the search for and implementation of durable and sustainable solutions for IDPs in line with the work of the United Nations Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement on the subject and the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement. The Course was directed and facilitated by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., who also delivered the Keynote Address to the cohort of participants.

The training took advantage of the experience and expertise of the following facilitators and guest speakers: Ms Kim Mancini, Legal Adviser at the Office of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Ms Paula Vega, Associate Legal Researcher at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Atle Solberg, Head of the Secretariat of the Platform on Disaster Displacement; Colonel Mark Dakers, Director of the Military Department, IIHL; Dr Wilma Moraa Isaboke, Senior Learning Development Associate at the UNHCR Global Learning and Development Centre; Dr Jim Robinson, Global Coordinator for the Housing, Land and Property Area of Responsibility in Norwegian Refugee Council; Ms Sarah Tarabishi, Information Management and Innovation Specialist at JIPS; Mr Yannick Creoff, Senior Coordinator of the Specialization Programme on Protection Coordination at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Ms Martina Caterina, Legal Officer at UNHCR and Chair of the Global Protection Cluster Task Team on Law & Policy; Ms Corina Demottaz, Head of Knowledge Sharing & Communications at JIPS; Mr Robert Andrew Piper, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Solutions for Internal Displacement; Ms Greta Zeender, Head of Research and Outcomes at the Secretariat of the UN Secretary-General High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement.

The Course was coordinated by Ms Martina Ranieli, Lead Coordinator of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Simone Delicati, Associate Legal Researcher of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Ms Silvia Cortina Fernández, Project Implementation Associate of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; and Ms Olesya Dovgalyuk, Junior Collaborator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

9th Specialization Course on Protection Coordination
23rd May–2nd September 2022, online

The 9th Specialization Course on Protection Coordination was delivered in French from 23rd
The specialized training was co-organized in cooperation with the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) and covered the four Areas of Responsibility (AoRs) – Child Protection Area of Responsibility; Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility; Housing, Land & Property Area of Responsibility; and Mine Action Area of Responsibility.

The Programme specifically targeted coordinators, co-coordinators and local actors from UN agencies, NGO partners and government counterparts involved in coordinating protection interventions in field operations.

The training consisted of three phases, beginning with the two-week Self-Study Phase (23rd May – 3rd June). Participants had the possibility to meet online for a first live session and then work at their own pace on micro-learning components. The following four weeks of the Virtual Workshop (6th June – 1st July) allowed participants to attend 12 virtual and interactive live sessions on hard and soft skills related to effective protection coordination. All sessions were facilitated by experienced professionals from a wide range of organizations. Finally, in the third and last Phase of the Programme, participants worked on a personal action plan to transfer the skills and expertise they had acquired during the previous phases into their daily work. To this end, participants were supported by a mentor, who was an experienced coordinator in the position to provide them with further guidance and support. This phase was concluded with a final assessment to support the participants’ learning and professional development.

The sessions featured the experience and expertise of the following facilitators and guest speakers:
- Mr Julien Marneffe, Head of Field Support of the Global Protection Cluster;
- Ms Marie-Emilie Dozin, Head of the Advocacy in the Communication and Partner Engagement Pillar of the Global Protection Cluster;
- Ms Christelle Loupforest, Deputy Global Coordinator of the Mine Action Area of Responsibility;
- Ms Astrid Haaland, Deputy Global Coordinator of the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility;
- Mr Oswald Chishugi, Regional GBV in Emergencies Coordinator for the West and Central Africa in UNFPA;
- Ms Sindie Frederic, International Consultant on Humanitarian Strategy in UNFPA;
- Mr Bertrand Podevin, Director of Belbin France;
- Ms Claire Merat, Technical Manager in the Legal Aid Programme of the Norwegian Refugee Council;
- Mr Kashif Rehman, Information Management Officer of the Global Protection Cluster.

The Course was coordinated by Mr Yannick Creoff, Senior Coordinator of the Specialization Programme on Protection Coordination at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; and Ms Cloé Juigné, Associate Coordinator of the Specialization Programme on Protection Coordination at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

The 10th Specialization Course on Protection Coordination, delivered in English, was launched on 22nd August and will last till 11th November for 21 participants from 16 country operations. The Course was co-organized with the support of the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) and the four Areas of Responsibility (AoRs) – Child Protection Area of Responsibility; Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility; Housing, Land & Property Area of Responsibility; and Mine Action Area of Responsibility.

The cohort of the Programme mainly consists of Coordinators, Co-Coordinators and local actors from UN agencies, NGO partners and government counterparts who are involved in coordinating protection interventions in field operations. The Programme is divided into three phases. The first two-week Self-Study Phase (22nd August – 2nd September) where participants come together for a live session and then work at their own pace on micro-learning components. The following four weeks of the Virtual Workshop (5th September – 30th September) allows participants to attend 12 virtual and interactive live sessions on hard and soft skills related to effective protection coordination. All sessions are facilitated by experienced professionals from a wide range of organizations. During the third and last Phase of the Programme, participants work on a personal action plan to transfer the skills and expertise they acquired during the previous phases into their daily work. For this, participants are provided with further guidance and support by an experienced Coordinator acting as their mentor. Finally, this phase is concluded with a final assessment to support the participants’ learning and professional development.

Participants are able to take advantage of the experience and expertise of the following facilitators and guest speakers:
- Ms Nancy Polutau-Teulliere, Deputy Coordinator for Internal Relations, Global Protection Cluster;
- Ms Marie-Emilie Dozin, Head of the Advocacy in the Communication and Partner Engagement Pillar of the Global Protection Cluster;
- Ms Joyce Mutiso, Deputy Coordinator for the Global Child Protection Area of Responsibility; and Dr Jim Robinson, Global
Coordinator for the Housing Land and Property Area of Responsibility; Ms Christelle Loupforest, Deputy Global Coordinator of the Mine Action Area of Responsibility; Ms Astrid Haaland, Deputy Global Coordinator of the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility; Ms Deborah McGovern, Head of Training and Consultancy in Belbin; Ms Tamah Murfet, Regional Emergency GBC Advisor for the Arab Region with the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility; Ms Stéphanie Ferland, Negotiation Support Specialist Europe of the Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Negotiation; Mr Ryan Alexander Arias Delafosse, Information Management Officer, Global Protection Cluster; Mr Kashif Rehman, Information Management Officer of the Global Protection Cluster; Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

The Course is coordinated by Mr Yannick Creoff, Senior Coordinator of the Specialization Programme on Protection Coordination at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL. The Course is supported by the contributions of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United States Government (Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration).

Director of Department participates as a Judge in the 3rd NALSAR-UNHCR Public International Law Moot Court Competition
16th-17th July 2022, Hyderabad (India) and online

The Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL was invited by NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad and colleagues from UNHCR India to support the 3rd NALSAR-UNHCR Public International Law Moot Court Competition with contributing judges. With the aim of preparing students to advocate and work for the rights of refugees, the competition was organized online from Hyderabad, India with 64 participating teams from around the world who presented their cases before the committees of Judges.

The Director of the Department, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., was a Judge in the final round of the competition and a guest of honour at the closing ceremony.

3rd Online Summer School on International Refugee Rights and Migration: Conflicts as a Cause of Displacement
23rd August 2022

The Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law once again had the opportunity to collaborate with the Refugee Law and Migration Center - "Iustinianus Primus" Law Faculty, Skopje and UNHCR-Skopje on the 3rd online Summer School on Refugee Rights and Migration with a special focus on "Conflicts as a Cause of Displacement."

The Summer School brought together 80 participants from 42 countries across the world, all with a keen interest in learning more about international refugee protection. Participants were greeted by Prof. Dr Sc Nikola Jankulovski, Rector of the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University and H.E Anke Holstein, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to North Macedonia, while the Keynote was delivered by Prof. Vincent Chetail, Professor of International Law, Director of the Global Migration Centre and Advisory Faculty at the Global Governance Centre in the Geneva Graduate Institute (IHEID).

On day two of the week-long summer school, two sessions namely, "Persons in need of protection" and "Rights and responsibilities of persons in need of protection", were delivered by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., together with Academic Unit Coordinator, Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, and UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award winner, Mr Nikola Kovačević.
The Department participates in the Refugee and Migrant Network International Conference in Rome
26th-28th September 2022, Rome

Between 26th and 28th September, the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law participated in the International Conference of the Refugee & Migrant Education Network, an international gathering committed to enhancing educational opportunities for refugees and displaced persons.

The Department joined discussions on UNHCR’s 15by30 Roadmap, considering how university networks can expand refugee access to tertiary education, and what works and what doesn’t in NGO & Academic Partnerships. UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, closed the conference by speaking about the need to stay engaged, mobilize resources to support education globally, expand opportunities such as complementary pathways and scale up initiatives aimed at hosting countries, to restore equity and equality in humanitarian response.

22nd Summer Course on International Humanitarian Law
1st-15th July 2022, online

For the third year in a row, the Institute successfully organized its 22nd Summer Course on IHL online. The Course was held from 1st to 15th July 2022. Throughout the Course, 26 participants, including both practitioners and students from 16 different countries of the world, had the chance to engage in insightful discussions with world-renowned practitioners, experts and academics.

The online lectures (29 in total, the equivalent of 30 hours of classes) aimed at deepening the participants’ knowledge of IHL, International Refugee Law and Human Rights Law, through a comprehensive approach to the different issues concerning their complementary application in armed conflicts and other humanitarian crises.

The sessions analysed the most relevant legal aspects of the qualification of armed conflict, the implementation measures of IHL, the legal representation of victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity, armed non-state actors and the relevant IHL provisions, the role of NGOs in IHL implementation, the trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, the mandate of UNHCR and protection in the field, the interplay of IHL, Human Rights law and Refugee Law during armed conflicts. The lectures were also enriched by the analysis of practical cases and scenarios.

The different sessions were structured into two parts, an initial presentation delivered by the speakers and a final part devoted to direct questions and answers. This dialogic structure allowed participants to exchange views with international specialists and high-level experts, discussing their respective perspectives and experiences.

Furthermore, participants were provided with access to the Institute’s online learning platform, allowing them to watch specific recorded lectures and media, consult and download additional documents, and pose further questions to the teaching staff. Moreover, they had access to the Institute’s Online Resource Library.

At the end of the 22nd Summer Course on International Humanitarian Law, the participants were awarded an official certificate of attendance issued by the Sanremo Institute.

The Course Director was Professor Michel Veuthey (Switzerland), supported by the following experts in order of appearance: Prof. Edoardo Greppi (IIHL President, Italy), Brig. Gen. Karl Edlinger (Legal Adviser, Austrian Armed Forces), Col. Ben Klappe (Senior Advisor, The Netherlands), Col. (ret.) William Nott (Galway, Ireland), Dr Matt Pollard (Legal Adviser ICRC, Switzerland), Col. Mark Dakers (Director, IIHL 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), Ms Hiba Mikhail-Rizk (Geneva Call), Dr Fiona Terry (Head of the Centre for Operational Research and Experience ICRC, Switzerland), Dr Anyssa Bellal (Geneva Academy on IHL and HR, France), Dr Peter Maurer (ICRC President), Dr Claudio Delfabro (Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL, Argentina), Ms Kristian Mihajlovski (Academic Unit Coordinator at the Refugee Department, IIHL), Mr John Young (Head of Protection Learning Unit UNHCR), Ms Nathalie Bussien (Child Protection Officer UNHCR), and Judge Prof. Fausto Pocar (IIHL Honorary President, Italy).
The 7th International Disaster Law Course was organized by the Institute in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and with the support of the Italian Red Cross. The Course took place from 26th to 30th September 2022.

The Course was held in a hybrid format at the headquarters of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in Sanremo and broadcasted online through synchronous classes. The 7th edition of the IDL programme provided 22 participants on-site and 8 online attendees from 18 different countries with a unique opportunity to analyse one of most important current international legal challenges: the prevention and management of disasters.

Lectures were delivered by some of the most distinguished experts in the field of international disaster law, including Eduardo Valencia-Ospina, former Special Rapporteur of the ILC on the Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters and current ILC Member; Isabelle Granger, Global Lead, Disaster Law and Auxiliary Role, IFRC; Gian Luca Burci, Adjunct Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Former Legal Counsel, WHO; Giulio Bartolini, Editor-in-Chief, Yearbook of International Disaster Law; Walter Kälin, University of Bern, Former Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Emanuele Sommario, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa; Federico Ferri, University of Bologna; Dug Cubie and Marie Aronsson-Storrier, University of Cork.

Furthermore, the programme greatly benefitted from the expertise of the members of the IFRC Disaster Law offices, particularly Dr Tommaso Natoli and Ms Rachel Macleod, and the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, represented by Ms Martina Ranieli, who all shared with the participants their knowledge and experience in some relevant areas of IDL.

The programme offered a comprehensive overview of the main practical, humanitarian and military issues related to the legal aspects of disaster prevention and management activities. Specific topics were analysed using a plenary-based approach complemented by practical exercises designed to test the participants’ ability to find outcome-oriented solutions through the application of relevant IDL provisions.

On Saturday, 24th September 2022, the Institute was invited by the Italian Society for the Protection of Cultural Property (Società Italiana per la Protezione dei Beni Culturali) to Tortona (Italy) for the international conference on “The disasters of war. Why to save culture”.

During the event, Edoardo Gimigliano, Coordinator of the Special Projects Department, presented the research, awareness-raising and capacity-building activities carried out over the years by the Institute in the field of Cultural Property Protection in armed conflicts and other humanitarian crises. Among all the initiatives developed by the Institute in more than 50 years of activity, the audience’s attention was particularly drawn to the “UNESCO Manual on the Protection of Cultural Property”, drafted in Sanremo after a series of high-level meetings among international experts (both military and civilian) and published at the end of 2016.

The Manual combines a military-focused analysis of the existing provisions in the field of CPP with suggestions of best practices at the different levels of command and during the different stages of military operations. The Manual can be downloaded free of charge from the Institute’s website and is available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

New EU Project Proposal approved - LICEAL
August 2022

The Institute is glad to announce that the project proposal “Linking Citizenship and Employability Perspectives in Adult Learning Strategies and Practices – LICEAL” was approved in August by the French Erasmus+ Agency in the framework of the Erasmus+ call for proposal “KA220-ADU - Cooperation partnerships in adult education”.

The project will be developed over a period of three years by a partnership coordinated by the Association EDIAS – Emploi et Dialogue Social (France) and composed of eight other institutions including the Sanremo Institute, the Fondation des Régions Européennes pour la Recherche, l’Education et la Formation (France), Comitato Promotore S-NODI (Italy), Democracy and Human Rights Education in Europe (Belgium), Learning Designers (Spain), the Wiener Forum für Demokratie und Menschenrechte (Austria), the Bogazici Universitesi (Turkey) and Pôle emploi, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (France).

LICEAL aims at supporting adult learners, particularly those who are having difficulty in getting access to the labour market and experience social marginalisation (e.g. migrants, members of cultural minorities, marginalised and vulnerable people), by developing their social, civic and relational skills and so contribute to
their social inclusion and active participation in democratic life and to improve their employability. In other terms, the project’s main objective is to contribute to the necessary renewal/review of adult education outcomes and methodologies, by exploring the links between citizenship and employability.

The second edition of the Special Course on "Law and Action in Humanitarian Emergencies" began on 13th July and ended on 15th August 2022. The Course was realized with the collaboration and the financial support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (Mission in Nicaragua), and was delivered in Spanish, in b-learning modality, through the Zoom platform. This Special Course was aimed at 24 regional directors of the Nicaraguan Red Cross. These participants exercise authority within the framework of their own National Societies, having different social protection functions in the context of complex events as well as an institutional interest in deepening their knowledge of the critical scenarios in which they are called upon to act. The overall objective of the Course was to increase the participants’ knowledge on different topics including International Humanitarian Law, Gender Equality and Protection of Vulnerable Groups, Humanitarian and Emergency Response, and Peace Mediation.

The Director of the Course was Professor Roberto A. Moreno (IIHL), who was supported by the following teachers (in alphabetical order): MA Daira Arana Aguilar (Mexico), MA Mauricio Bastien (Mexico), MA Claudio Bertin Wiehoff (Chile), Engr. Lorena Cajas Albán (Ecuador), BA Ángela L. Contreras Gutiérrez (Colombia), Esq. Digna Isabel Durán Murillo (Switzerland), MA Penélope Elizabeth Gambi (Argentina), Esq. Luisa Fernanda López Peña (Colombia), Esq. Pedro Páez Pirazán (Colombia).

The Project titled “Security and a democratic life: a challenge for Latin America” has been developed by the Institute - through its Special Projects and Training Activities for Latin America Programme –with the collaboration and financial support of the Directorate-General for Globalization and Global Issues of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. This Project was represented by Professor Fausto Pocar and directed by Professor Roberto A. Moreno.

Its final publication is the result of several activities carried out between December 2021 and August 2022. These have been: A "Pilot Training Course for Public Security Forces in Democracy", held between 22nd April and 6th May 2022 and attended by 44 people including police officers and community leaders from 8 Latin American countries. A "Training Workshop on Mediation for Peace", held between 13th May and 10th June 2022 and attended by 28 police officers and community leaders from 6 Latin American countries. A "Training of Trainers for a Democratic Life", held between 17th June and 15th July 2022 and attended by 32 police officers and community leaders from 6 Latin American countries. A Webinar titled "Security and Democratic Life", held on 28th July 2022 and attended by around 150 people.

The publication, in the form of a digital book in three languages (Spanish, English and Italian), brings together the main findings and results of each of the Project’s line of activity and can be found on the IIHL website, at the following link: https://iihl.org/publicacion-seguridad-y-vida-democratica/.

The elaboration of this work has counted on the collaboration of prestigious Latin American Universities, as well as research centres and organisations that daily work on the topics addressed in the academic activities carried out.
Training Course on "Women and Security: exercising their Rights as Agents of Change"
27th September – 20th October 2022, Villa Victoria (Mexico) and online

The Training Course “Women and security: exercising their rights as agents of change” began on 27th September and concluded on 20th October 2022. It was delivered in Spanish, and was held both in Villa Victoria (Mexico) and in b-learning modality, through the Zoom platform.

This Course was run within the framework of the Project “Women and security: exercising their rights as agents of change” – submitted by the Special Projects and Training Activities for the Latin America Programme and financed by the Directorate-General for Political and Security Affairs of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, within their “Women, Peace and Security” Agenda. The Institute’s main partner in this activity is the Mexican NGO, “Global Thought”.

The main objective of this project was to prevent aggression of all kinds against women, particularly in geographical contexts characterised by violence, both by promoting their participation in decision-making processes related to public safety and by strengthening their relationship with public security officers as well as public servants. Training aimed at providing women with a basic knowledge of their rights with regards to security and justice giving them the tools to make them effective.

The Course benefitted around 30 women in the Villa Victoria municipality, aged between 18 and 55. All were interested in strengthening their civic skills to access the security and justice system and were also members of women’s groups or organisations or intended to form one. A delegation of the Institute was present in Villa Victoria during the second week of activities, from 3rd October until 7th October, working together with local authorities and NGOs.

The Course consisted of 10 sessions that developed the following topics: introduction to human rights and citizen security; women’s rights in their communities; knowing your community and its problems; actors in the security and justice system; gender stereotypes; violence against women and their human rights; scale of violence and boundary setting; civil society in the security and justice system; how to establish your own civil society organisation; and sorority.