International Human Rights Law Training Course
16th - 19th January 2023, Sanremo

The Military Department has just held its first training course, developed in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, on International Human Rights Law, bringing together 16 participants from 15 different countries. The Course, tailored for Police and Gendarmerie Advisers from the ICRC Armed and Security Forces (FAS) Department, consisted of lectures and practical exercises aimed at covering the general background of the development of International Human Rights Law. It focused on the use of force, weapons, and other police powers, as well as detention and conditions of detention from a human rights perspective. Its key emphasis was on the responsibility and accountability of police and gendarmerie personnel in the performance of their duties. The Institute is grateful to the ICRC and to Mr Peter Evans, Head of Unit for Relations with Arms Carriers, and Mr Philippe Edmond Jean Cholous, Adviser to the Police and Gendarmerie, whose collaboration made the realisation of this Course possible. We would also like to take the opportunity to thank Ms Andreea Manea from The Hague Academy of Applied Sciences for her valuable and professional contribution.

2nd February 2023, Paris

On 2nd February 2023, the French Ministry of Armed Forces launched its first Manual on the Law of Military Operations. The Chief of Defence, General Burkhard, underlined the excellent quality of this Manual and its importance for France, its armies and its 400 military legal advisers. This Manual sends a strong signal of the commitment of France to the rule of law. The Deputy Director of the Military Department, Colonel Rudolph Stamminger, represented the Institute at this event. He co-directed the writing and publication of the Manual, which is available to the public online.

World Artificial Intelligence Cannes Festival
9th – 10th February 2023, Cannes

Lieutenant Colonel Sleesman attended the World Artificial Intelligence Cannes Festival (WAICF), a large artificial intelligence industry gathering in Cannes, France. The two-day festival highlighted the state-of-the-art in artificial intelligence research and application. The Conference allowed the Military Department to further consider the technology behind some of the most current topics in International Humanitarian Law.
Lieutenant Colonel Sleesman had the opportunity to represent the Institute before U.S. Army Europe and Africa attorneys in Wiesbaden, Germany. Lieutenant Colonel Sleesman provided an overview of International Humanitarian Law applicable to many European nations, and of how that might impact interoperability with the United States. Discussion focused on Additional Protocol I’s rules defining the rights and duties of combatants and how those differed from the treaty law governing United States military operations. Lieutenant Colonel Sleesman also discussed recent developments in Human Rights Law and recent rulings of the European Court of Human Rights.

Targeting Course for Sri Lankan Armed Forces
27th February – 3rd March 2023, Colombo

From 27th February to 3rd March, the Director of the Military Department, Colonel Mark Dakers, conducted the Targeting Course for Sri Lankan Armed Forces in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The objective of the Course was to provide the 30 participants with an understanding of the legal considerations associated with targeting in military operations. Before concentrating on targeting, it examined the broader issue of legal consideration within the planning process and how it might affect targeting. To facilitate understanding, participants conducted practical exercises which took them through a targeting process from planning to execution. It also addressed how Rules of Engagement (ROEs) contributed to the process. The five-day Course was designed for operators (commanders, leaders, targeteers, JFACs) and legal advisers involved in targeting at the tactical, operational and strategic level. Colonel Dakers and the Institute would like to thank Mr Albert Schoneveld, ICRC Armed and Security Forces (FAS) Delegate to Sri Lanka, as well as Mr Channa Jayawardena, ICRC FAS Programme Adviser to Sri Lanka, for the invitation and support in delivering the Course.

University of Ljubljana, Law of Armed Conflict Elective
9th March 2023, Ljubljana (Slovenia)

Lieutenant Colonel Sleesman taught an elective for the Faculty of Law at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. In addition to providing students with an overview of the Institute, Lieutenant Colonel Sleesman discussed the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps and taught an in-depth class on Additional Protocol I.

Stage de formation sur le Droit International Humanitaire
13th – 18th March 2023, Lomé

The Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF), in cooperation with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law and with the participation of the Centre d’entraînement aux opérations de maintien de la paix (CEOMP), organised training in International Humanitarian Law (IHL) for legal advisers in operations (LEGAD) or equivalent personnel within the French-speaking African Armed Forces from 13th – 17th April 2023 in Lomé, Togo. Twenty-one Armed Forces Officers from 7 countries (Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Niger, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Senegal and Togo) participated in a week-long IHL training course under the direction of the Institute’s Deputy Director of the Military Department, Colonel Rudolph Stamminger, with the participation of speakers from the French Ministry of the Armed Forces, the ICRC and the University of Bobo-Dioulasso in Burkina Faso. This in-depth training course covered many
aspects of IHL including the main principles, direct participation in hostilities, weapons and means of warfare, institutionalisation of the LEGAD function. The OIF entrusted this mission to the Institute because of its long experience in teaching IHL which has spanned a period of over 50 years.

21st International Law of Armed Conflict Competition for Military Academies: 20th – 24th March 2023, Sanremo

Beginning on 20th March, the Military Department launched its 21st edition of the International Law of Armed Conflict Competition for Military Academies. This year, the event recorded one of its highest number of participants: 86 cadets composing 28 teams from 11 countries who were welcomed by the Director of the Competition Lieutenant General Giorgio Battisti, the co-directors Brigadier General Karl Edlinger and Colonel Shawn McKelvy, and the Director of the Military Department of the Institute, Colonel Mark Dakers.

The Cadets were introduced to the Law of Armed Conflict and asked to build an international understanding not only of the legal, but also moral aspects of warfare. Participants were asked to advise upon issues based on real operations and representing current challenges. The Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) Competition for Military Academies aims to teach cadets LOAC and its application within the context of contemporary armed conflict. It is intended to complement the national training of LOAC and to ensure that military cadets develop an early appreciation of the critical importance of LOAC in multinational military operations. Starting from Tuesday, 21st March, the cadets were divided into mixed teams which were then dispersed into five separate Joint Operation Centres (JOCs). In the JOC sessions, each mixed team represented a fictitious country which was given specific instructions from its government and had different political and military priorities.

This year’s panel of judges was composed of: Lieutenant General Giorgio Battisti (Italy); General Jan Peter Spijk (The Netherlands); Colonel Rudolph Stamminger (France); Colonel John Spierin (Ireland); Captain (N) Martin Fink (The Netherlands); Colonel Karl Marchand (Switzerland); Colonel James Stythe (United Kingdom); Colonel Bob James (United States); Lieutenant Colonel Jim Sleesman (United States); and Major Barbara Scolart (Italy). The panel was aware of the various instructions that had been given to the cadets, who were evaluated on how they balanced their national instructions while respecting LOAC. Each JOC had a JOC Leader who was an experienced military lawyer and who questioned and challenged each team on the various problems that arose during the exercise.

We would like to thank this year’s JOC Leaders: Colonel Jerry Lane (Ireland); Colonel Bruce Gray (United Kingdom); Lieutenant Colonel Alex Fryatt (United Kingdom); Lieutenant Colonel Gretchen Davenport (United States); and Commandant Julien Heggart (France), for their hard work and professionalism.

Rhys Evans (Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst UK) and Regine Eide (Naval Academy, Norway) earned first place honours in the Best Mixed Team Category. The two second places were awarded to Teegan Cordova (US Coast Guard Academy), Fabio Unterstab (German Air Force Academy), Cassidy Dufour (Virginia Military Institute) as well as to Kai Youngren (US Military Academy, Westpoint), Sofiya Kuneyiyc (Italian Military Academy), and Martin Dirdal Bjornson (Norway Military Academy). Third place was awarded to Logan Doyle (Westpoint), Linda Fabiani (Italian Military Academy), and Mate Agulashvili (Georgia Military Academy). Fourth place went to Jared Boulou (US Naval Academy), Margherita Puglia (Italian Air Force), and Esben Adrian Bertgen (German Air Force). Fifth place was awarded to Christian Litton (Westpoint), and Jonas Arthur Babi (German Air Force).

Finally, Rachel Parillo (US Air Force Academy) earned first place honours as Best Cadet; two second places were awarded to Logan Doyle (Westpoint) and Cassidy Dufour (Virginia Military Institute). Third place was awarded to Benjamin Lockey (Westpoint). Teegan Cordova (US Coast Guard Academy), Rhys Evans (Sandhurst) and Justin Miller (Virginia Military Institute) earned joint fourth place. Fifth place went to Logan Martin (US Air Force).

The closing and awards ceremony was led by the IIHL President, Professor Edoardo Greppi, in the presence of the Honorary President of the Institute, Professor Emeritus Fausto Pocar, Col. Mark Dakers, Director of the Military Department, as well as the two co-directors of the Competition, Brigadier General Karl Edlinger and Colonel Shawn McKelvy.

International Human Rights Law Elective, The Judge Advocate General’s Legal Center and School 21st March 2023, Charlottesville (virtual)

Lieutenant Colonel Sleesman provided a lecture on recent developments in Human Rights Law for the International Human Rights Law Elective during the Graduate Course at the United States...
Army Judge Advocate General’s School. This elective allows mid-career Judge Advocates to gain an in-depth knowledge of Human Rights law. The lecture focused on the European Court of Human Rights and its recent rulings on the application of Human Rights Law during armed conflict.

24th Online Course on International Refugee Law
30th January – 24th February 2023, online

The 24th online Course on International Refugee Law was delivered in English from 30th January till 24th February 2023 to 50 participants from 24 countries.

The Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law organized this online Course in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and with the contribution of the United States Government (Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration).

The online workshops targeted government officials, judges, high-level diplomats, UN officials, academics, staff of non-governmental organizations as well as representatives of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movements. The topics covered the analysis of International Refugee Law and its complementarity with other bodies of law during the various displacement phases. The online Course also explored the international legal framework surrounding protection, the causes that force people to flee, the risks people on the move encounter throughout the displacement cycle, and the search and implementation of durable and sustainable solutions. Facilitators shared their experiences gained from different humanitarian contexts as well as from their diverse professional fields of expertise, through a set of innovative and interactive methodologies allowing participants to gain a deep understanding of the implementation of International Refugee Law in theory and in practice.

During the opening session, participants were virtually welcomed to Sanremo by Ms Martina Ranieli, Lead Coordinator of the Department, while the Keynote Address was delivered by Dr Madeline Garlick, Chief of the Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section at the Division of International Protection in UNHCR. The following guest speakers joined the Sanremo Team in the facilitation of the training: Ms Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, Former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Mr John Andrew Young, Head of Protection Learning at UNHCR Global Learning and Development Center; Mr Jesús Pérez Sánchez, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR; Mr Kristijan Mihajlovski, Academic Unit Coordinator at Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Nikola Kovačević, Senior Legal Advisor at IDEAS Serbia; Mr Gábor Gyulai, Organizational and Development Director in the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and Trustee of European Network on Statelessness; Dr Mariagiulia Giuffré, Chief of the Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section at the Division of International Protection (DIP), UNHCR; Ms Eve Lester, Founding Director of boniĝi and International Expert on the Human Rights of Refugees and Migrants; Mr Hayat Akbari, Research and Development Consultant in boniĝi; Ms Nathalie Bussien, Child Protection Officer, UNHCR; Ms Melissa Amisano, Former Coordinator at Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL; Mr Osama Salem, International Expert in Humanitarian Aid, Refugee Protection and Refugee Participation.

The online Course was directed by Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law and coordinated by Ms Chiara Maria Natta, Associate Coordinator at the Department, in cooperation with Ms Silvia Cortina Fernández, Project Implementation Associate at the Department; Ms Anastasia Andreeva, Online Learning Assistant; and Mr Simone Delicati, Associate Legal Researcher & Content Developer.

25th Online Course on International Refugee Law
6th February – 3rd March 2023, online

The 25th online Course on International Refugee Law was delivered in Arabic from 6th February till 3rd March 2023 to 19 participants from 7 countries.
The Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law organized the online Course in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with the contribution of the United States Government (Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration). The Course addressed government officials including members of the judiciary, representatives of non-governmental organizations, and academia. The online Course was designed specifically to meet the learning needs and strengthen the protection capacities of government officials involved in the formulation and implementation of legislation and policies affecting persons in need of protection, specifically in the MENA region. During the four-day course, key themes of International Refugee Law were analyzed through an examination of legal frameworks, different phases of the displacement cycle, practical case studies, and interactive simulation exercises. Crucial topics such as refugee status determination, the difference between stateless persons and refugees, the guidelines for protection at sea, alternatives to detention, and trafficking and smuggling were investigated, triggering vibrant discussions and exchanges. During the opening session, Ms Jasmine Diab, Director of the Institute for Migration Studies at the Lebanese American University, delivered the keynote address.

The following guest speakers joined the Sanremo Team in the facilitation of the training: Ms Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, Former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons; Ms Malak El Hassan, Protection Associate, UNHCR Lebanon; Mr George Fahmy, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR; Mr Gábor Gyulai, Organisational Development Director and Training Expert, Hungarian Helsinki Committee and Co-founder and Trustee of European Network on Statelessness; Prof. Aref Fakhri, Associate Professor at World Maritime University; Dr Khanssa Lagdami, Associate Research Officer at World Maritime University; Mr Ihab Serour, Egyptian-Canadian Lawyer and Protection Expert; Ms Eve Lester, Founding Director of bonigi and International Expert on the Human Rights of Refugees and Migrants; Mr Hayat Akbari, Research and Development Consultant with bonigi; Ms Lobna Abdel Hadi, Refugee and IDP Protection International Expert; Ms Dalila Zenati, Senior Coordinator at the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, IIHL.

The online Course was coordinated by Ms Christelle Menassa, Associate Coordinator at the Department in cooperation with Ms Essma El Abidi, Online Learning Assistant, and Ms Falah Sayed, Project Assistant (Content Development) at the Department.

11th Online Course on Internal Displacement
13th February – 10th March 2023, online

The 11th online Course on Internal Displacement was delivered in English from 13th February to 10th March 2023 involving 36 participants from 22 countries. The Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law organized the online Course in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United States Government (Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration). The training also took place in collaboration with the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons.

The Course targeted government officials, diplomats, members of the judiciary, independent experts, representatives of UN agencies, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, representatives of local NGOs and staff of international organizations. During the Course participants explored key aspects of the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs) while analyzing internal displacement from different angles and perspectives. Starting from the international norms underpinning the protection of IDPs, including the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the Kampala Convention, the Course examined the causes and consequences of internal displacement, its current global trends, and the protection risks faced by individuals throughout the displacement cycle. The Course ultimately addressed the search and implementation of durable and sustainable solutions for IDPs in line with the work of the United Nations Secretary-General’s Action Agenda on Internal Displacement.

The Course was opened by Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, who delivered the institutional remarks. The Keynote Address was delivered by Ms Paula Gaviria Betancur, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons.

Training was enriched by the high-level profiles featured in the pool of guest speakers and facilitators, namely: Ms Greta Zeender, Senior Policy Adviser at the Office of the UN Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement; Ms Kim Mancini, Legal Adviser at the Office of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, UNHCR; Mr Atle Solberg, Head of the Secretariat of the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD); Ms Martina Caterina, Legal Officer, UNHCR and Chair of Global Protection Cluster Task Team on Law & Policy; Colonel Mark Dakers, Director of the Military Department, IIHL; Dr Phil Orchard, Associate Professor of International Relations at the University of Wollongong; Ms Laura Cunial, Senior Housing Land and Property and Civil Documentation Expert, Norwegian Refugee Council, Syria; Mr Andrés Lizcano Rodriguez, Regional Advisor for the Americas in Joint Internal Displacement Profiling System (JIPS); Dr Wilma Moraa Isaboke, Senior Learning Development Associate, UNHCR Global Learning and Development Center; Ms Margharita Lundkvist-Houndoumadi, Senior Profiling Advisor (Durable Solutions) in Joint Internal Displacement...
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Profiling System (JIPS).
The Course was directed by Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. and coordinated by Ms Clara de Haro Arbona, Coordinator at the Department; Ms Silvia Cortina Fernández, Project Implementation Associate at the Department; Ms Ludovica Montaldi, Junior Collaborator at the Department; and Mr Simone Delicati, Associate Legal Researcher & Content Developer.

Capacity Building Programmes on Asylum and Refugee Law and on the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons, State of Equatorial Guinea
21st January – 1st February 2023

Between 21st January and 1st February, the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law was invited by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Cameroon Multi-Country Office to contribute to the development of the protection system for refugees and internally displaced persons in the State of Equatorial Guinea.
The Director of the Department, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D., reiterated the Department’s commitment to both His Excellency, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Mr Simeón Oyono Esono Angue, and the Director General of International Organizations, Ms Mari Cruz Evuna Andeme, to continue supporting the efforts of the Government, the African Union and UNHCR in protecting displaced persons. Training was conducted in Malabo and delivered by Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. and Ms Clara de Haro Arbona, Coordinator at the Department.

Lecture on “Who cannot be a Refugee?” at the Catholic University of Santos (UNISANTOS)
7th March 2023

On 7th March, as part of the cooperation between the Catholic University of Santos (UNISANTOS) and the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, the Director of the Department, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. was invited to deliver an online session in the context of the University’s Course on International Refugee Law, focusing on the topic “Who cannot be a Refugee?”.
The Session was delivered in English to a group of 17 students at the Master and PhD level, and clarified under which circumstances individuals could not be considered refugees, by focusing on eligibility, cessation and exclusion criteria from the 1951 Convention. The Session was part of a broader curriculum delivered by the University on International Refugee Law. The Department and the University will continue their cooperation by complementing each other’s programmes with the delivery of specific sessions and through other means of cooperation in the coming period.

2nd Edition of the Specialists’ Course on International Refugee Law, UNHCR Serbia and University of Belgrade
14th March 2023

On 14th March, the Department, in cooperation with the University of Belgrade’s Faculty of Law and the UNHCR Representation in Serbia, opened the second edition of the Specialists’ Course on International Refugee Law, a 12-week course designed for students at the bachelor and master level, as well as for PhD candidates.
The Course consists of 24 sessions focusing on different aspects of International Refugee Law and is meant to provide a comprehensive overview of refugee protection to the participants preparing them to pursue further academic or professional engagements in refugee protection. The keynote lecture for the Course was delivered by the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law of the Sanremo Institute, Mr Claudio J. Delfabro D. The Course included 42 participants from 17 different countries around the world and convened an international pool of facilitators, including university professors, members of international organizations, attorneys, members
of NGOs and other experienced professionals. The Course is part of the Department's efforts to support universities in the establishment and development of teaching and training programmes on International Refugee Law and related topics through the work of its Academic Unit.

UNHCR and Government of Malaysia Capacity Sharing Programme: Phase 3 - Refugee Status and Security Considerations
15th March 2023

On 15th March, the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, Mr. Claudio J. Delfabro D. delivered an online lecture on the topic of "Refugee Status and Security Considerations".

Beginning in January 2022, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Malaysia and the Government of Malaysia initiated the first two phases of the Capacity Sharing Programme, which envisioned an exchange of knowledge and expertise on refugee protection matters, particularly focused on registration and refugee status determination. Building on the knowledge gained in Phase 1 and Phase 2, UNHCR sought the expertise of colleagues from the Sanremo Institute to be a part of the Capacity Sharing Programme examining more in detail the principles of exclusion in refugee status determination. The participants at Phase 3 included 14 officers from the Government of Malaysia representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, the National Security Council, the Royal Malaysia Police, and the Immigration Department of Malaysia.

European Humanitarian Forum 2023, Brussels
20th – 21st March 2023, Brussels

The Department represented the Sanremo Institute at the 2023 European Humanitarian Forum, which was co-organised by the European Commission (DG ECHO) and Sweden in the framework of its Presidency of the Council of the EU. The Forum was held with the objective of strengthening the cooperation and partnership among countries affected by humanitarian crises along with donors, international stakeholders, the EU and its Member States.

Humanitarian Dialogue as a Form of Leadership, 2023 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)
22nd March 2023

On 22nd March 2023, Mr Simone Delicati, Associate Legal Researcher & Content Developer from the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, delivered a presentation on “Humanitarian dialogue as a form of leadership” within the framework of the 2023 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) programme organized by Rotary District 2032. The discussion revolved around the activities of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law and the traditional role of the Institute as a convener of humanitarian dialogue fostering governments’ response to pressing humanitarian needs. A special focus was given to the relationship between leadership and humanitarianism, stressing the need for leadership to be responsible, inclusive and shared – in accordance with whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches as well as the principle of meaningful participation of affected individuals – and ultimately humane. The session was introduced by Sanremo’s Deputy Mayor Costanza Pireri, who highlighted the role played by the Institute in strengthening Sanremo’s reputation as a town of peace.

Peace Games: Final TPM and Final Conference
20th-21st February 2023, Sanremo

This February, the Project Peace Games came to an end. The Project was coordinated by the Fondation des régions européennes pour la recherche, l’éducation et la formation (FREREF) in partnership with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL), the Liceo Statale G.D.
Cassini (Sanremo), the Ministry of Education and Employment of Malta (MEDE), the Asociación cultural Da2 Trucados, the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (UNIMORE), the FH Joanneum University of Applied Sciences, the Evangelische Schule Neuruppin and the Université Côte d’Azur (UCA).

The Project, initiated in 2020, aimed to contribute to the development of citizenship, and democratic and social competences by using the full potential of creativity through game-based learning in formal and informal learning.

On February 20th, the consortium reunited at Villa Ormond for the final Transnational Project Meeting, in which final evaluations and considerations were shared, and the final Conference was finalized in detail.

On February 21st, the Peace Games Final Conference took place at the same venue. After an institutional opening, the Project was presented by the coordinator, FREREF, and Anne Bamford, external evaluator, shared her key challenges and recommendations. Moreover, IIHL’s Claudio Dondi presented the policy recommendations, while other partners discussed the Project’s piloting. The Conference included an experts panel titled “Learning to think and act peacefully in formal and informal educational contexts: the role of game-based learning”, and a keynote speech titled “Human motivational design: serious games and gamification at the service of Peace” given by gamification expert Oscar Garcia Pañella.

EIP Laboratory Second Annual Conference
22nd February 2023, Sanremo

On February 22nd, the Education Inspiring Peace Laboratory, of which the Institute is a founding member, held its second Annual Conference at Villa Ormond in Sanremo, to present the results achieved so far. The EIP Lab has, in fact, created a diverse and rich set of tools and resources, available on its website for schools, individuals and cultural institutions, in the field of Citizenship Education and Peace Education, Migrants and Asylum Seekers Integration, Conflict Transformation and Participatory Democracy: http://eiplab.eu/resources.

The Conference deepened the policy challenges to be addressed with the contribution of prominent experts such as the keynote speakers: Patrizio Bianchi, UNESCO Chair of “Education, Growth and Equality”, Former Italian Minister of Education; Claudia Lenz (co-Author of the RFCDC); and Cecilia Barbieri (Chief of Global Citizenship and Peace Education, UNESCO). Moreover, the Conference hosted an “ideas forum”, a hand-on session to disseminate the numerous products of the European projects the Laboratory takes under its wing, and a hackathon to collect participants’ perspectives on future projects and relevant issues. The EIP Laboratory, together with the aforementioned keynote speakers, wants to thank all the guests who intervened: Edoardo Greppi - President of the Education Inspiring Peace Lab and of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law; Christiane Demontès (whose words were delivered by Axel Joder), FREREF delegate and Vice-President of the EIP Lab; Anne Bamford, City of London; Tiziana Ciampolini, CEO Learning Community, Turin Polytechnic; Coral Garcia Guadix, World Jurists Association; Agnese Koligina-Balode, Human Rights Guide Network / Baltic Human Rights Society; Andrea Lapegna, Lifelong Learning Platform; Antonio Labianco, General (r.), Italian Carabinieri Corps and Former Advisor for the Promotion of the Culture of Legality and Security at the Italian Ministry of Education; Sophie Mols, Karel de Grote Hogeschool Antwerpen (University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Antwerp); Elena Passerini, Psycho-pedagogical Center for Education and Conflict Management; Cinzia Pennesi, Orchestra Conductor, pianist and composer; Elisa Rapetti, DARE Network; Sigrid Steininger, Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF).

Meeting of the Council of the Institute
24th March 2023, Sanremo

The Council of the Institute met in Sanremo on Friday afternoon 24th March 2023. The agenda included: the presentation of the 2022 Report of Activities; the approval of the 2022 final accounts and the adoption of the draft budget for 2023; the preparation of the 46th Round Table planned to take place in Sanremo from 14th to 15th September 2023; the reports from the Director of the Military Department, the Director of the Department of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, and
empowering minorities in the social decision-making process, taking into particular account the intersectionality of factors that can limit their empowerment in such mechanisms. Starting from a complex desk and field research based on the collection, analysis and archiving of information on existing initiatives of participatory and deliberative democracy in Europe, also investigating if and how they actually empower minorities and consider intersectionality as a fundamental element of concern, the Project proposes the experimentation of a PDS combining a bottom-up concept of empowerment with an approach based on the piloting and progressive institutionalisation of Policy Labs. These Labs and their adoption in the standard policy-making cycle, therefore, are the heart of the extensive post-research activities envisaged by the Project, engaging key actors from the local, health and educational public institutions. If successfully funded, the project will be led by the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (Italy) and carried out with the support of the Karel De Grote Hogeschool (Belgium); the Znanstveno-Raziskovalno Središče of Koper (Slovenia); the Sanremo Institute; Save the Children Italia ONLUS (Italy); the University of Vienna (Austria); the Vienna Municipality (Austria); the Mechelen Municipality (Belgium); Azienda USL della Romagna (Italy); the University of Northampton (United Kingdom); and the South Denmark University (Denmark).

The second Project proposal, fully formulated within the Education Inspiring Peace Laboratory and led by the Institute on behalf of some of its members, was submitted to the Italian Erasmus+ Agency Indire in the second part of March 2023. The Project was titled Playing PEACE - Playing Pupils and Educators Acting for Change in Citizenship Education and originates as a follow up of the very successful Peace Games Project, which concluded at the end of February 2023 after two years of activities. Playing PEACE aims at incorporating the use of creative game-designing and game-based learning in formal educational contexts to develop citizenship, democratic and social competences. Furthermore, the project aims at upskilling and training teachers to make them facilitators of a peace game-design process in the classroom, eventually establishing a “Peace Games Academy” as a network of educators in which, through peer learning, game-based learning can be further promoted and implemented in different schools and non-formal educational contexts.

For both the Project proposals, the evaluation process will last a few months and preliminary communication regarding the results of the applications are expected to be received in late summer and fall of 2023.

**LICEAL Erasmus + Project First in person Kick-off Meeting**

*12th-13th January 2023, Lyon*

From 12th to 13th January, the partners of the Project LICEAL - Linking Citizenship and Employability
perspectives in Adult Learning strategies and practices - attended their first in person meeting in Lyon, France, hosted by Pôle emploi, Auvergne Rhône-Alpes district. The meeting was aimed at building a common and integrated vision of the Project and its main outcomes. During the event, particular attention was paid to Work Package 2 and the consortium set a reference system for evaluating the relevance of transversal competences and soft skills for Citizenship Education to the Project's objective to conduct an analytical review of Adult Learning strategies and practices linking Citizenship and Employability learning outcomes. The exchange of knowledge and expertise between the partners contributed to creating a collaborative and inspiring environment and a solid and clear action plan for the next months. On that occasion, partners reviewed together each one’s role in the implementation of all the Project’s actions, envisaging the creation of a Support Toolkit for Integrated Citizenship and Employability, an Educator’s Guidelines & Policy Guide Box for Integrated Design of Citizenship and Employability, Adult Learning Paths and future Policy Labs and Recommendations, together with other project management and administrative issues.

MUST-a-Lab International Stakeholders Reference Group’s first Introductory Workshop
27th March 2023, online

MUST-a-Lab sees the participation of the IIHL as a key partner, especially for the development of the Policy Labs methodology and in the implementation of the Dissemination, Communication and Engagement Plan. The AMIF-funded Project answers the need to bring together stakeholders and migrants in order to innovate strategies for an effective integration at local level. MUST-a-Lab aims at making the Policy Labs - and, more broadly, participatory approaches - a habit for local authorities, starting from the six partners in the Project: Modena in Italy, Mechelen in Belgium, Fuenlabrada in Spain, Vienna in Austria, Livadia in Greece and the Metropolitan City of Grenoble in France, which is currently joining the consortium replacing the city of Pont-de-Claix. The Project envisages identifying and providing support to stakeholders in reaching new geographic areas and potentially interested parties: to this end, the International Stakeholders Reference Group represents the most important and qualified body directly linked to the consortium and its activities. Composed of representatives of relevant international networks and organisations, the body is operational from January 2023 and will play both an advisory role and an impact-maximisation function in the different project development phases. The MUST-a-Lab International Stakeholders Reference Group counts as its members: Dionysia Lambiri (Project Coordinator of Athens Coordination Center for Migrant and Refugee Issues, ACCMR); Pantelis Dimitriou (Monitor, Evaluation & Quality Control of HELIOS Programme in Livadia, International Organization for Migration); Razan Ismail (Founder and Director of Asociación Kudwa in Barcelona and Member of the European Coalition of Refugees and Migrants); Ona Schyvens (PhD, Hannah Arendt Institut); Sophie Van Haasen (Coordinator, GFMD Mayors Mechanism); Adrijana Višnjić-Jevtić (OMEP, Children’s Rights World Organisation); Michael Fanizadeh (VIDC Global Dialogue, Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation); Bernhard Perchinig (International Centre for Migration Policy Development, ICMPD); Mary Tupal-Wenno (Executive Director of ECHO, Center for Diversity Policy in Utrecht).

The members of the ISRG were invited to join their first online Introductory Workshop held on March 27th, from 2 to 4 pm, aimed at presenting the MUST-a-Lab Project, the first-hand experience of Policy Labs’ facilitators and the perspective of the local stakeholders’ representatives, as well as collecting their first feedback on the project approach, methodology and objectives. The experts who attended the event expressed their sincere appreciation and awe for the way the Project had been designed and carried out so far.

PUBLICATION - Notebook "Women and Security: Exercising their Rights as Agents of Change"

At the beginning of the year, the Notebook, "Women and Security: Exercising their Rights as Agents of Change", was published in printed and digital versions in three languages (Spanish, English and Italian). This work aims at two fundamental objectives: to
strengthen the capacity of women to effectively act to prevent the violation of their rights, particularly in situations of violence; to educate and provide useful tools to members of the security forces, so that their operations incorporate a gender perspective so as to prevent discrimination and stigmatisation based on sex, and proceed with a differentiated use of force.

This booklet has been produced within the framework of the Project "Women and Security: Exercising their Rights as Agents of Change". This Project, developed by the Institute's Directorate of Special Projects and Training Activities for Latin America together with the organisation Global Thought Mexico, was financially supported by the Directorate General for Political and Security Affairs of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in the framework of the Fourth National Action Plan adopted in accordance with UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000) on "Women, Peace and Security".

RESEARCH - Stage of the Project "Security and Democratic Life in Latin America: a Question to be solved"

During the first three months of 2023 a research process was carried out by leading international specialists on public policies and training programmes on citizen security in various Latin American focal points. This work falls within the framework of the Project "Security and Democratic Life in Latin America: a Question to be solved", developed by the IIHL Directorate for Special Projects and Training Activities for Latin America, with the financial support of the General Directorate for Globalisation and Global Issues of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

It consists of four stages: 1) Identifying the public policies and security training programmes currently implemented in the country; 2) Locating reliable statistical studies, from both official and private sources, that make it possible to establish the degree of success or failure of the above-mentioned policies and programmes; 3) Obtaining information produced by responsible institutions or bodies, which provide suitable judgements on the security situation in the country, indicating successes, failures and the underlying causes of each; and 4) Drawing up proposals for the improvement or enhancement of such policies and programmes, or for the changes needed to overcome existing problems.

Call for Papers

From January to 21st April, a call for papers will be open for articles on the causes or circumstances which - in the author's opinion - affect the success or failure, both at a strategic and tactical level, of public policies on citizen security and training programmes for the security forces to operate in accordance with a democratic rule of law, in the framework of the author's respective country. The paper may of course propose measures to improve citizen security. In addition, measures can be proposed which, in the aforementioned aspects, can improve - always in the author’s opinion - citizen security.

The call for papers, proposed by the Directorate of Special Projects and Training Activities for Latin America, is addressed to writers residing in Latin America, particularly Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Venezuela. Works must be unpublished.