

## COURSE INFORMATION

The goal of the course is to provide military officers, including operators and military lawyers, as well as civilians, with the opportunity to learn the basic principles and rules of IHL and the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) and how to apply them. This course also serves as a primer for many of the specialized courses offered at the Institute by providing introductory level instruction on a wide array of subjects and their interplay with IHL. Students completing this course will have a strong foundation upon which to expand their IHL knowledge and a working understanding of how IHL principles factor in to all levels of conflict and across all operational domains.

The course is designed for military personnel, both legal advisers and operators, as well as civilians working in the field and others with an interest in how IHL is applied across the broad spectrum of conflict. The course is primarily designed for those new to the practice and application of IHL but will also serve as a useful refresher for those with prior experience. It will be delivered by experienced military practitioners and academics and consider both legal theory and military practice.

The online training will adapt the standard Sanremo methodology of presentations and practical work taking advantage of the recently developed IHL online learning platform. The programme will consist of live online sessions with a mix of lectures from the teaching staff, group discussions, and vignette training. The course will run over six weeks with two live sessions of 120 minutes each week. Students may need to engage in some self-paced preparation outside of class time to full participate in the group discussions. Study materials and texts will be available on the Institute Online Learning Platform.

## COURSE ADMINISTRATION

Officers and practitioners interested in attending this course are invited to apply by submitting the application form they can find on this webpage.

Participation quota amounts to € 200. It must be remitted before the start of the Course by bank transfer. Visa and/or Mastercard are also accepted on the website of the Institute.

Registrations and administrative questions should be directed to [military.department@iihl.org](mailto:military.department@iihl.org).

For any further information please consult our website [www.iihl.org](http://www.iihl.org).

*International Institute of Humanitarian Law  
Villa Ormond - Corso Cavallotti 113  
18038 Sanremo, IM - Italy  
Tel.: +39 0184541848 - Fax: +39 0184 541500  
Web: [www.iihl.org](http://www.iihl.org)*



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

# INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

27 January - 24 February 2025

*Official Programme*

### Course Director

LTC Steve Szymanski- U.S.

### Teaching Staff

LTG(R) Charles 'Chuck' Pede-U.S.

Brig. Titus Githiora-Kenya

CAPT (N) Martin Fink- U.S.

Col Nigel Heppenstall-U.K

Col Rudolph Stamminger- France.

Prof. Michael Schmitt- U.S.

Dr. Emanuela-Chiara Gillard- U.K.

Dr. Jeroen van den Boogaard- NED

Dr. Claire Simmons – U.K.

Prof. Geoffrey Corn- U.S.

Dr. Alessandro Amoroso- Italy

Ms. Jelena Pejic- Serbia

Mr. Chris Jenks-U.S.

Monday, 27 January 2025

15.00 – 15.30 **Course Introduction**  
**Colonel Nigel Heppenstall**  
*Director of the Military Department,  
IIHL*  
**Lieutenant Colonel Steve Szymanski**  
*Instructor and Fellow, Military  
Department, IIHL, Course Director*

15.30 – 17.00  
**Introduction to the Laws of Armed Conflict (LOAC)**  
*LTC Steve Szymanski, IIHL*

Wednesday, 29 January 2025

15.00 – 16.00  
**Conflict Classification**  
*Dr. Alessandro M. Amoroso*

16.00 – 17.00  
**Means and Methods of Warfare**  
*Prof. Geoffrey Corn*

Monday, 3 February 2025

15.00 – 16.00  
**Distinction**  
*Dr. Jeroen van den Boogard*

16.00 – 17.00  
**Proportionality and Precautions**  
*Dr. Jeroen van den Boogard*

Wednesday, 5 February 2025

15.00 – 16.00  
**Military Objective and Military Advantage**  
*Col. Rudolph Stamminger*

16.00 – 17.00  
**Detention in Armed Conflict**  
*Ms. Jelena Pejic*

Monday, 10 February 2025

15.00 – 17.00  
**Targeting of Persons and Objects in Armed Conflict**  
*Prof. Mike Schmitt*

Wednesday, 12 February 2025

15.00 – 16.00  
**Introduction to Law of Naval Warfare**  
*Captain (N) Martin Fink*

16.00 – 17.00  
**Rules Regulating Humanitarian Relief Operations  
during Active Hostilities**  
*Dr. Emanuela-Chiara Gillard*

Monday, 17 February 2025

15.00 – 16.00  
**Investigating Violations of IHL**  
*Dr. Claire Simmons*

16.00 – 17.00  
**IHRL and the Relationship to IHL**  
*Dr. Claire Simmons*

Wednesday, 19 February 2025

15.00 – 16.00  
**Command Responsibility**  
*Brig. Titus Githiora*

16.00 – 17.00  
**AI and Autonomous Weapons Systems**  
*Mr. Chris Jenks*

Monday, 24 February 2025

15.00 – 16.00  
**Preserving the Commander's Legal Maneuver  
Space**  
*LTG (R) Charles "Chuck" Pede*  
*40th Judge Advocate General of the United States Army*

16.00 – 17.00  
**Course Summation & Closing**  
*LTC Steve Szymanski, IIHL*