

ADVANCED IHL COURSE

The San Remo Advanced Course on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) is a week-long intensive course designed to refine and deepen participants' understanding of key areas in IHL to equip them to advise on complex issues and novel situations.

The course focuses on key *Jus ad Bellum* concepts which underpin and frame operations, before moving to a detailed examination of fundamental *Jus in Bello* concepts and principles in International Armed Conflicts (IAC) and Non-international Armed Conflicts (NIAC) set against current operational contexts. In addition to an eminent faculty of academic speakers, many sessions also include experienced military operators. Immersive and challenging, the tone of the week will remain operationally oriented throughout.

Topics are covered using a plenary based approach, amplified by contemporary case studies. Time is allocated throughout the course for question-and-answer sessions allowing for participant interaction and access to recognized experts in their fields.

The program will include exercises for participants designed to expose issues in a realistic but systematic manner and promote the participants' ability to find practical, actionable solutions through the application of the relevant IHL provisions.

Throughout the course participants are encouraged to fully engage. The teaching methodology and achievement of course objectives are based on the sharing of differing national approaches to aid in a better understanding of national challenges and potential multi-national legal, operational, and interoperability issues.

The course is primarily designed for operationally experienced military and civilian legal advisors (OF3/OF4)*, and those from government or international organizations with a good understanding and practical experience with IHL/Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC). Academics and students with an interest in developing a deeper understanding of the subject area are also welcome to apply.

For US participants, Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits are available from most state bars associations.

ADMINISTRATION

The registration fee is €1,200. This should be remitted before the start of the course, or upon arrival in cash, Euro currency cheque, or credit card.

The registration fee covers:

- Transport from/to Nice Airport
- Lunches and coffee/tea breaks on working days
- Course Dinners
- Course Materials
- Course Photograph, & Diploma

Transfers from/to the Nice airport to Sanremo will be arranged. Details of timings for this service will be provided as part of the registration process.

The registration fee does not cover any other expenses incurred by the participant such as hotel accommodations, laundry or telephone calls, or most evening meals. Participants must ensure that they bring with them sufficient funds to pay for such expenses.

Queries on the course including registration and administrative questions should be directed to military.department@iihl.org

For further information please consult our website www.iihl.org.

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

55TH ADVANCED COURSE ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW (ENGLISH) SANREMO, 19-23 May 2025 Indicative Programme



TEACHING STAFF

PROFESSOR NOAM LUBELL (GBR)

School of Law, University of Essex; Director, Essex Armed Conflict and Crisis Hub,

PROFESSOR GARY CORN (USA)

American University, Washington College of Law

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MS. THELMA CHINYAMURINDI LLM (ZWE)

Faculty of Law, University of Johannesburg

COURSE DIRECTOR

LTC STEVE SZYMANSKI (USA)

Fellow and Instructor, IIHL

MON, 19 MAY – THE ROAD TO WAR

*Dress code is business suit for Monday and Friday (Photographs and Closing Ceremony) and business casual Tuesday through Thursday.

- 08.30–09.00 **Registration**
- 09.00–09.10 **Opening Ceremony**
Colonel Nigel Heppenstall, *Director of Military Department*
- 09.10–10.00 **Jus Ad Bellum (1)** – Prof Lubell
- 10.00–10.20 **Morning Coffee & Class Photo**
- 10.20–11.20 **Jus Ad Bellum (2)** – Prof Lubell
- 11.20–12.20 **Conflict Classification (1)**
Prof Bradley
- 12.20–13.30 **Lunch**
- 13.30–14.30 **Conflict Classification (2)**
Prof Bradley
- 14.30–15.15 **Law of NIAC** – Prof Bradley & Ms Chinyamurindi LLM
- 15.15–15.30 **Coffee Break**
- 15.30–17.00 **Conflict Classification Exercise**
- 17.00–UTC **Icebreaker**

TUE, 20 MAY – CONTEMPORARY TARGETING

- 08.30–08.35 **Administration** – LTC Szymanski
- 08.35–10.00 **Military Objective and Definite Military Advantage** – Prof Corn
- 10.00–10.20 **Coffee Break**
- 10.20–11.20 **Targeting of Persons** – Prof Lubell
- 11.20–12.20 **Proportionality, Collateral Damage, and Precautions** – Air Cdre Boothby

- 12.20–13.30 **Lunch**
- 13.30–14.30 **The Targeting Experience** – LTC Steve Szymanski
- 14.30–14.50 **Coffee Break**
- 14.50–16.00 **The Dilemma of Proportionality and Cumulative Harm in Urban Warfare** – Prof Lubell
- 16.00–17.00 **Panel Discussion** – Syndicate Leads

WED, 21 MAY – EMERGING TECH & WEAPONS

- 08.30–08.35 **Administration** – LTC Szymanski
- 08.35–10.00 **Cyberspace and Information Ops**
– Prof Corn
- 10.00–10.20 **Coffee Break**
- 10.20–12.20 **AI and Autonomy in Military Operations** – Prof Lubell, Prof Corn
- 12.20–13.30 **Lunch**
- 13.30–15.00 **Weapons Law & Art 36 Reviews: Air Cdre Boothby**
- 15.00–15.20 **Coffee Break**
- 15.20–17.00 **Practical Exercise**

THUR, 22 MAY – COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

- 08.30–08.35 **Administration** – LTC Szymanski
- 08.35–10.00 **Relationship Between IHL and IHRL in Armed Conflict** – Prof Bradley & Ms. Chinyamurindi, LLM
- 10.00–10.20 **Coffee Break**
- 10.20–11.20 **Partnered Operations** – Dr. Amoroso
- 11.20–12.20 **State Responsibility** – Dr. Amoroso

- 12.20–13.30 **Lunch**
- 13.30–14.30 **Command Responsibility** – Prof Bradely, LTC Szymanski
- 14.30–15.30 **Investigating Violations** – Prof Lubell
- 15.30–15.45 **Coffee Break**
- 15.45–17.00 **Accountability and International Tribunals** – Dr. Amoroso
- 20.00–UTC **Course Dinner**

FRI, 23 MAY – REFLECTIONS & PREDICTIONS

- 09.00–09.05 **Administration** – LTC Szymanski
- 09.05–10.00 **Building Compliance** – Dr. Amoroso
- 10.00–10.20 **Coffee Break**
- 10.20–12.00 **IHL Today and Tomorrow: Current Challenges and Outlook for the Future** – Panel Discussion
- 12.00 – 12.30 **Course Closing Ceremony**
Colonel Nigel Heppenstall
LTG (ret) Giorgio Battisti,
President of IIHL
- 12.30–13.30 **Lunch & Departure**