



## THEMATIC WORKSHOP ON THE LAW OF NON-INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICT: CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

Amman-Dead Sea, Jordan

20-21 March 2019

### AGENDA\*

*The vast majority of armed conflicts today are not “traditional” inter-State confrontations but are rather of a non-international character. Furthermore, armed conflicts have become more complex – with some involving dozens or even hundreds of different armed groups, as well as varying levels of involvement and influence of other actors – resulting in greater challenges for the protection of civilians.*

*This workshop provides an in-depth analysis of the norms applicable in non-international armed conflicts (NIACs), with a primary focus on international humanitarian law (IHL), in light of the most salient contemporary issues for the protection of civilians. In particular, it reviews the logic and development of the law while addressing the on-going debates in its application on the basis of the key legal and practical differences with the law of international armed conflict.*

*Through examination of cases based on current complex emergency contexts, the workshop explores specific questions humanitarian professionals face, from the central notions of “civilian” and “direct participation in hostilities” to urban warfare, access issues, and humanitarian engagement with armed actors. Ultimately, it is designed to strengthen the capacity of practitioners to more effectively address protection of civilians concerns in non-international armed conflicts through a deeper understanding of existing norms and their interpretation and application in practice.*

### WEDNESDAY, 20 MARCH

8:30 – 9:00	Welcome coffee and registration
<b>9:00 – 9:30</b>	<b>Welcome, introduction, and overview</b>
<b>9:30 – 10:45</b>	<b>IHL applicable in NIAC</b>
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break
<b>11:00 – 12:00</b>	<b>The status of armed groups under IHL</b>
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>The role of human rights law in NIAC</b>
<b>14:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>Who is a civilian in NIAC? Challenges to protection in law and practice</b>
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee break
<b>15:15 – 17:00</b>	<b>Exercise</b>
19:30	Thematic Workshop dinner

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\* Provisional agenda as of 13 February 2019; subject to modification.



## THURSDAY, 21 MARCH

8:30 – 9:00	Welcome coffee
<b>9:00 – 9:30</b>	<b>Review of previous day</b>
<b>9:30 – 10:45</b>	<b>Minimizing civilian casualties in urban settings</b>
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break
<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>	<b>Humanitarian engagement with NSAGs for the protection of civilians</b>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
<b>13:30 – 15:00</b>	<b>Design of a protection strategy in NIAC</b>
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee break
<b>15:15 – 17:00</b>	<b>Case study debrief and discussion</b>
<b>17:00 – 17:15</b>	<b>Thematic Workshop closing</b>