

Advanced Professional Training on Humanitarian Law and Policy Geneva, 29 April - 3 May 2019



Core Professional Training

29 April - 1 May 2019

The Core Professional Training on Humanitarian Law and Policy – an intensive three-day program – serves as an opportunity for experienced humanitarian practitioners, policymakers, and others operating in or dealing with conflict settings to deepen their understanding of international humanitarian law (IHL) and other legal frameworks applicable in times of war, and to explore related policy and operational challenges. Suitable for those both with and without prior legal training, the course covers the sources and development of IHL, key distinctions between international and non-international armed conflicts, the applicability of international human rights law in armed conflict, the obligations of State and non-State actors, implementation and enforcement of IHL, and the role of humanitarian actors in situations of armed conflict. Additional “flex sessions” respond to the interests and concerns of registrants and specific issues they are currently facing in their work.

Discussions, case studies, and exercises reinforce the learning objectives and connect theory with practice, exploring challenging issues that arise in humanitarian response settings, such as civilians participating in hostilities, the conduct of hostilities in urban settings, the use of certain weapons in highly populated areas, and the norms governing humanitarian access and assistance. Throughout the course, examples from contemporary conflicts illustrate the applicability of legal rules taking into account operational challenges faced by practitioners and highlighting how a deeper understanding of IHL contributes to a more effective protection and assistance work.

Thematic Workshop on Effective Implementation of IHL: Challenges and opportunities at national and international levels

2-3 May 2019

Lack of compliance remains a profound challenge for IHL. While the focus is often on responses to violations, not least through criminal proceedings, prevention of violations in the first place is essential. Using a holistic approach, this workshop takes stock of implementation mechanisms and processes and how they work in practice.

Along with a critical exploration of relevant challenges, this workshop aims to uncover opportunities to use and further strengthen existing mechanisms, as part of protection of civilians efforts. It is designed to look at both IHL-specific mechanisms and other means of implementation, before hostilities break out as well as during armed conflict. In doing so, the workshop will look at how a stronger focus on prevention is complementary to pursuing more effective responses to violations.

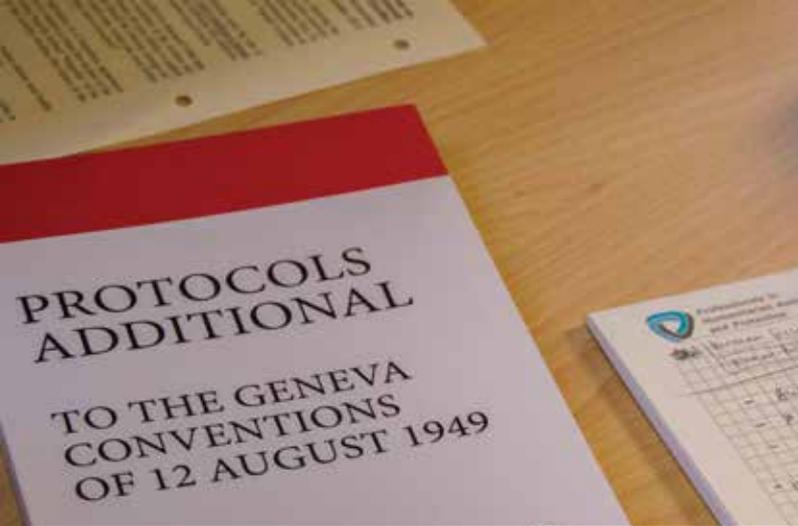
Sessions will cover topics such as training of armed forces, the use of domestic judicial proceedings (both criminal and civil), and human rights protection mechanisms, as well as innovative approaches to induce compliance by armed groups. Covering local and national approaches as well as international mechanisms and strategies, participants will explore possibilities for humanitarian actors and others to engage and contribute to a better respect of rules during armed conflict.



Photo: Bhattacharjee

My very positive experience is that these trainings and workshops are not ‘just another conference’, but that they actually manage to bridge the gap between theory of humanitarian action and the operational experience.

- Participant in Geneva



Practical information

Regular cost-recovery participation fees

- Core Professional Training (3 days): € 990
(non-member fee: € 1090)
- Thematic Workshop only (2 days): € 690
(non-member fee: € 760)
- Core Professional Training and Thematic Workshop (5 days): € 1500
(non-member fee: € 1650)

The fee includes tuition, training materials, and meals provided during the training event. Member dues are € 80 annually. Read more about our group pricing and returning participant discount at www.phap.org

Applications

The Advanced Professional Training is open to professionals with a minimum of two years of relevant experience.

Applications can be submitted online via the PHAP website at www.phap.org/PDP-GVA2019-register

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