

Advanced Professional Training on Humanitarian Law and Policy Bangkok, 21-25 January 2019



Photo: limeasia

Core Professional Training

21-23 January 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 questions that arise in humanitarian response settings, such as the status of civilians participating in hostilities, the rules applicable to detention in armed conflict, the regulation of weapons, and the norms governing humanitarian access and assistance. Throughout the course, examples from contemporary conflicts illustrate the applicability of legal rules, as well as challenges in practice.

Thematic Workshop on Fact-finding, Monitoring and Reporting in Armed Conflict

24-25 January 2019

This workshop is designed to enhance the capacity of humanitarian practitioners to conduct or contribute to monitoring, reporting, and fact-finding activities on allegations of violations of international law during armed conflict. Considering the different roles and mandates of humanitarian actors when engaged in this work, it will address the relevant legal frameworks and the interplay between international law norms and related fact-finding work on alleged violations, the various mechanisms involved in monitoring and reporting, how the different mechanisms and frameworks interact with each other, as well as their underlying objectives and goals. The workshop will also look into the methodological, policy, and operational questions for ensuring credible and effective fact-finding, monitoring, and reporting activities.



Photo: Ajith Kumar

This course helps in contributing to the overall definition of strategies thanks to a better understanding of legal frameworks distinctive of crisis contexts. In my experience, there is plenty of room and opportunity for a very open participation and so for true learning, also thanks to simulations, examples, and opinion/fact sharing among participants. As in previous experiences, PHAP staff as well as lecturers were professional, and at the same time friendly and extremely careful in making sure that everyone was comfortably benefitting by the course. I recommend this training.

- Participant in Amman 2013 and New York 2013.

Agenda overview

This overview provides an indication the scope of the program – the details of the program are subject to change. For the latest information, please see the event page at <https://phap.org>

Core Professional Training

Monday, 21 January

- Relevance and use of IHL for humanitarian practitioners
- Foundations and development of IHL as part of public international law
- Classification of situations of violence and individuals under IHL
- Applicability of human rights during armed conflict
- Case study on qualification of situations

Tuesday, 22 January

- Regulating the conduct of hostilities: targeting objects
- Regulating the conduct of hostilities: targeting individuals and direct participation in hostilities
- Targeting exercise
- Implementation of IHL
- IHL and international criminal law with special focus on war crimes

Wednesday, 23 January

- IHL and non-State armed groups
- Current challenges to the protection of children under IHL
- The prohibition of forced displacement under international law
- Principles and methods of humanitarian action for access and protection

Thematic Workshop on Fact-finding, Monitoring and Reporting in Armed Conflict

Thursday, 24 January

- The MRF landscape in armed conflict and the role of humanitarian actors
- The specificities of MRF in armed conflict: Finding facts and using the relevant legal frameworks
- Sources of information/evidence for credible documentation of IHL violations
- Principled fact-finding work in armed conflict: Protection challenges and “Do No Harm” principle
- Lessons learned from UN commissions of inquiry/fact-finding missions

Friday, 25 January

- Opportunities and challenges for humanitarian actors involved in MRF on IHL violations
- The case of the Resolution 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism on grave violations of children's rights in situations of armed conflict
- Bringing about change through documenting IHL and human rights violations in conflict: Advocacy and other strategies
- The interplay between MRF and judicial mechanisms: Achieving accountability

Practical information

Regular cost-recovery participation fees

Core Professional Training (3 days): € 900 (non-member fee: € 990)

Thematic Workshop (2 days): € 600 (non-member fee: € 660)

Core Professional Training and Thematic Workshop (5 days): € 1350 (non-member fee: € 1485)

The fee includes tuition, training materials, and meals provided during the training event. Member dues are € 80 annually. Read more about our group pricing, early bird discount, 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-BKK2019CT

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