



 **LLM IN INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN LAW
AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

THE GENEVA ACADEMY A JOINT CENTER OF



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INSTITUT DE HAUTES
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT
GRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AND
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**
FACULTY OF LAW

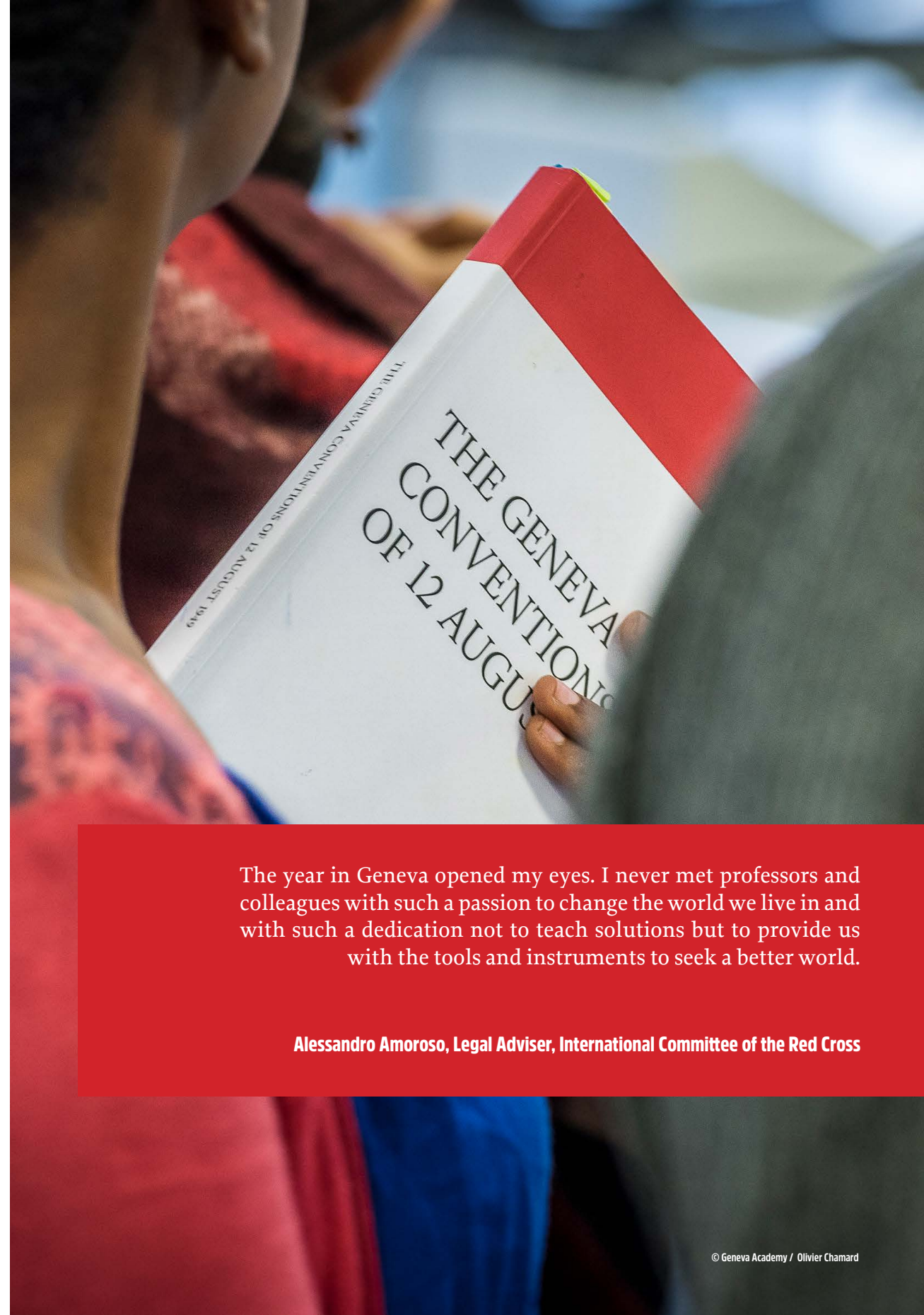
THE LLM AT THE GENEVA ACADEMY

This one-year full-time postgraduate degree is one of the most innovative and intellectually challenging programmes in international humanitarian law (IHL) and human rights offered in Europe today. It focuses primarily on all rules applicable to armed conflicts, and their interaction, and promotes both academic excellence and independent critical thinking.

Students have access to a world-renowned faculty, benefit from direct connections with leading actors like the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and share ideas with other participants from an array of legal backgrounds and perspectives.

The programme allows students to tailor their studies according to their particular interests. While core courses provide a firm grounding in public international law, IHL, international human rights law (IHRL) in armed conflict, international refugee law and international criminal law (ICL), optional courses explore cutting-edge issues like counter-terrorism, armed non-state actors, the rules governing the conduct of hostilities, the Islamic law of armed conflict or the work of international courts and tribunals.

The LLM is also profoundly committed to developing the transferable skills necessary to succeed in the professional world and take up responsibilities in the humanitarian and human rights fields. To this end, internships with leading actors, participation in the Jean-Pictet Competition, public pleadings, military briefings and a study trip provide a solid exposure to practical work and allow students to expand their network.



The year in Geneva opened my eyes. I never met professors and colleagues with such a passion to change the world we live in and with such a dedication not to teach solutions but to provide us with the tools and instruments to seek a better world.

Alessandro Amoroso, Legal Adviser, International Committee of the Red Cross



I learned that law can be used as a powerful shield to protect certain values like peace, human dignity, non-discrimination, and also as a sword to fight for them. I learned this from professors who inspired me and continue to inspire me.

Antonio Coco, Departmental Lecturer in Public International Law, University of Oxford

THE PROGRAMME

The LLM (60 ECTS credits) is structured around the following components:

CORE COURSES

Core courses are mandatory and provide a solid legal basis and understanding of public international law, IHL, IHRL in armed conflict, international refugee law and ICL.

OPTIONAL COURSES

Optional courses allow students to deepen their expertise in a particular issue such as armed non-state actors in international law, the conduct of hostilities or the Islamic law of armed conflict.

INTERNSHIPS

Students have the opportunity to acquire first-hand professional experience via internships with Geneva-based humanitarian and human rights actors.

MOOT COURTS

Students can participate in the prestigious Jean-Pictet Competition on IHL as well as in public pleadings on specific conflict situations.

LLM PAPER

The LLM promotes academic excellence and independent critical thinking. One of its core outputs is an LLM paper on a specific issue addressed by the programme and written under the guidance of a faculty member.

STUDY TRIP

Students go on a study trip to learn about leading institutions and organizations active in the field of IHL and human rights.

MILITARY BRIEFINGS

This unique series of events aims to improve our students' knowledge of military actors and operations, and build bridges between the military and civilian worlds.

AN EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The LLM is organized around small and intimate learning communities. This creates an exceptional learning environment where some of the most experienced and academically qualified students from all over the world gain access to a world-renowned faculty at the cutting edge of IHL, IHRL, ICL and international refugee law.

Weekly tutorials allow students to revise and discuss concepts and issues addressed in the core courses and prepare for the exams.

As an IHL and human rights hub, Geneva offers a broad range of conferences and public events featuring key experts and topics, as well as providing access to leading actors in the field.

With more than 70 public events, expert seminars and conferences organized every year, we host some of the world's leading academics and practitioners who share their research, views and experiences with our students and directly touch upon topics addressed in the programme.

THE FOUNDATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAREER

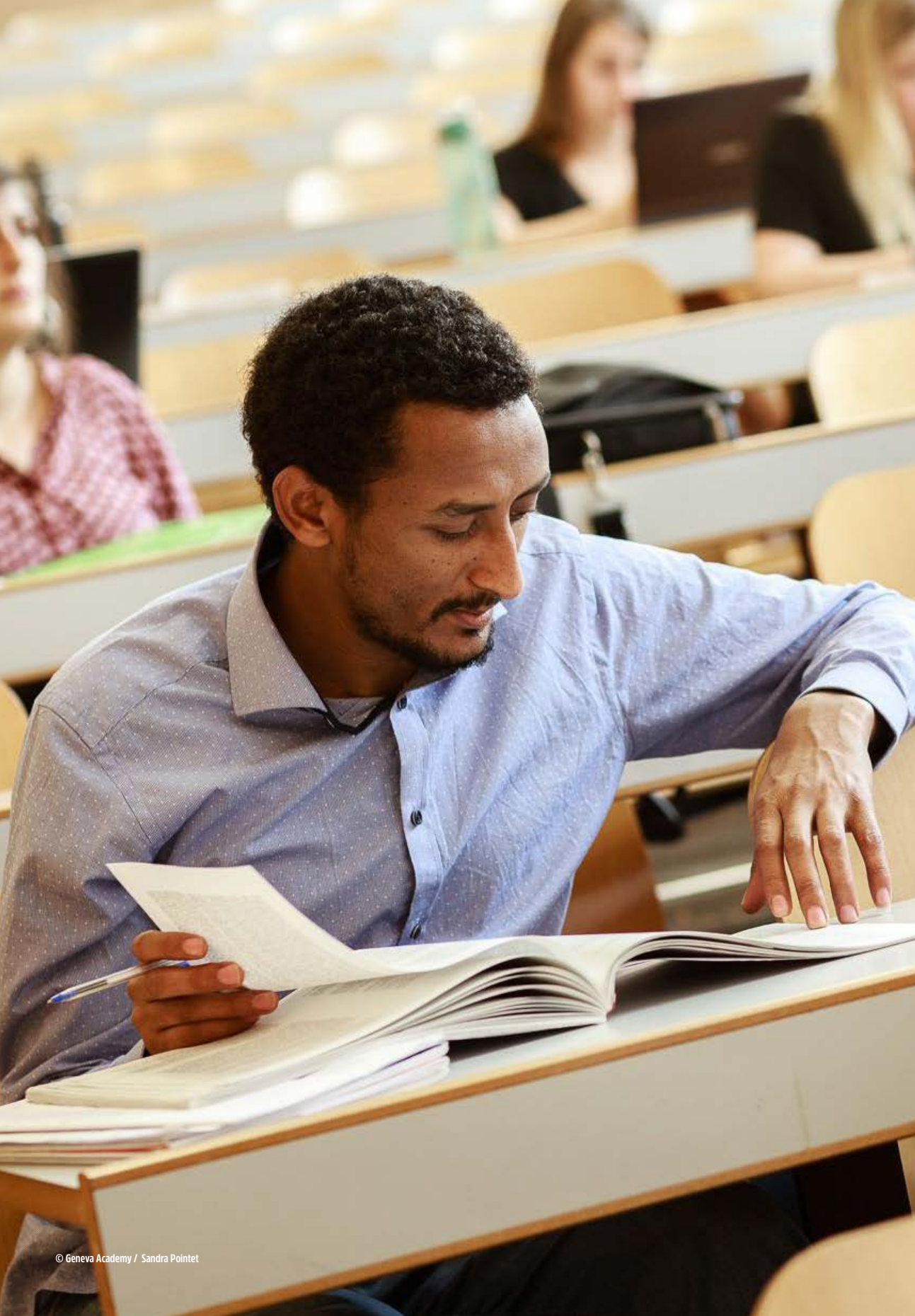
The LLM provides the necessary legal and practical skills for a successful career in inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations dealing with IHL, human rights, ICL, refugees or migration, as well as public administration, international tribunals or academic institutions.

A significant number of LLM graduates work for the ICRC, in the field as well as at the Geneva headquarters, at OHCHR and with other international organizations, NGOs, academic institutions, governments and international courts and tribunals.



The LLM at the Geneva Academy is an incredible opportunity to learn about humanitarian law, international criminal law and human rights, being challenged daily by professors who are internationally renowned experts.

Annabelle Gagnon-Bischoff, Bosco Ntaganda Defence Team, International Criminal Court



TUITION FEE AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The tuition fee is 18,000 Swiss Francs.

We offer partial and full scholarships that are allocated through a highly competitive process based on criteria established by the scholarship donors, and which notably include academic merit, extracurricular achievements and the candidate's financial needs.

Our donors limit scholarships to students from countries of the Global South and Eastern Europe. Only one fee waiver is available for other students.

ADMISSION

Candidates who apply to the LLM must have:

- A full degree in law enabling the applicant to sit the bar exam in the relevant country; or another degree if the applicant has a significant amount of training in public international law and courses related to the programme
- A strong academic record
- A demonstrable interest in the subject matter of the programme
- A sound command of English

A passive knowledge of French is an asset as students might have to attend conferences and class presentations in French.

Each application is considered in its entirety, including transcripts, extracurricular and voluntary activities, work experience, personal background, letters of recommendation, personal statement and language skills.

10 REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE LLM

- 1** A **leading institution** in the field of IHL and IHRL
- 2** The opportunity to gain a **solid and unique expertise** in IHL, IHRL, international refugee law and ICL and the interplay between them, focussing on armed conflicts
- 3** A programme that **forms high-level professionals** qualified to work as academics, staff members or field workers for inter-governmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations
- 4** Familiarity with a wide range of **contemporary contexts and challenges**
- 5** Combination of **theory and practice**
- 6** A **personal teaching style** that encourages interaction between students and lecturers
- 7** **Specialized supervised research** for the master's thesis
- 8** **Career counselling and advice** by one of our parent institution, the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
- 9** Ties with **leading actors** in the humanitarian and human rights fields
- 10** A **unique human experience** during which all those involved (students, faculty and resident staff) develop long-term bonds



Studying at the Geneva Academy has been an incredible experience. I have been able to learn a lot from many great professors and academics in a friendly, supportive and constructive environment while being surrounded by friends sharing my interest in this field of law.

Claudia Maritano, Senior Research Fellow, British Red Cross



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