

Strategic Areas

Clarifying
International
Humanitarian Law

Weapons Law

Armed Non-State
Actors and the
Protection of
Civilians

Business and
Human Security

Rule of Law and
Human Rights
in Transitional
Processes

Strengthening
Human Rights
Protection

Masters

LL.M. in
International
Humanitarian Law
and Human Rights

Executive Master in
International Law in
Armed Conflict



Annual Report | 2014



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BOARD OF THE ACADEMY 2014

Nicolas Michel | President of the Board.

Christine Chappuis | Dean of the Law Faculty, University of Geneva.

Vincent Bernard | Head of the Communication Unit, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Andrea Bianchi | Professor of International Law, the Graduate Institute.

Vincent Chetail | Professor of International Law, the Graduate Institute.

Waly Bacre Ndiaye | Office of the United Nations High-Commissioner for Human Rights (**Jane Connors** as of August 2014).

Claude Wild | Head of the Human Security Division, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

Barbara Wilson | Professor of International Law, University of Lausanne (**Andreas Ziegler** as of August 2014).

Volker Türk | Director of International Protection, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

EDUCATION AND TRAININGS

The mission of the Academy includes training and advanced education in the field of international law in armed conflict. The Geneva Academy offers every year two Master of Advanced Studies programmes.

Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) programmes

LL.M.-MAS in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

Language of instruction: English and French.

Schedule: full-time.

Degree: LL.M./Master of Advanced Studies in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights (60 ECTS credits).

The LL.M. programme offers postgraduate students a unique opportunity to follow advanced courses and seminars in all branches of international law applicable to situations of armed conflict, and grasp the interplay between them. The programme enables students to acquire professional experience through supervised internships at Geneva-based organizations.

The LL.M. courses are taught in English. Exams may be taken either in English or French.

The Master's degree is jointly issued by the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

Executive Master-MAS in International Law in Armed Conflict

Language of instruction: English.

Schedule: part-time.

Degree: Executive Master/Master of Advanced Studies in International Law in Armed Conflict (60 ECTS credits).

The Executive Master is an innovative programme whose higher education status is recognized in the pan-European system. It enables working professionals to acquire and apply specialized knowledge relevant to their professional work, notably regarding legal issues that arise in the context of armed conflicts and transnational justice. The curriculum is built around four main courses, in international humanitarian law, international human rights law, public international law, and international criminal law. Each course is divided into three or four specialized training modules that focus on specific aspects of the subject.

The Master's degree is jointly issued by the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

EDUCATION

Faculty 2014

Resident Faculty

Members of the resident faculty engage in teaching, academic and applied research at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and/or the University of Geneva.

Prof. Andrea Bianchi, Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute and Head of the International Law department.

Prof. Andrew Clapham, Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute.

Prof. Vincent Chetail, Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute and Director of the Programme for the Study of Global Migration.

Prof. Paola Gaeta, Professor of International Criminal Law at the Law Faculty of the University of Geneva and Adjunct Professor of International Criminal Law at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

Prof. Frank Haldemann, SNSF Professor of Transitional Justice at the Law Faculty of the University of Geneva.

Prof. Robert Kolb, Professor of International Law at the Law Faculty of the University of Geneva.

Prof. Nicolas Michel, Professor of International Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva, and Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Institute of International Studies and Development.

Prof. Robert Roth, Director of the Academy, Professor of International Criminal Law at the University of Geneva.

Prof. Marco Sassòli, Professor of International Law and Director of the Department of International Law and International Organizations at the University of Geneva, Associate Professor of International Law at the Université du Québec à Montréal, and Associate Professor at the University Laval, Canada.

Swiss Chair of International Humanitarian Law

Prof. Noam Lubell, Head of the School of Law at the University of Essex.

EDUCATION

Visiting Professors

Prof. Jean d'Aspremont, Professor of Public International Law at the University of Manchester.

Prof. Gabriella Citroni, Professor of International Human Rights Law at the University of Milano-Bicocca.

Prof. Giovanni Distefano, Professor of International Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Neuchâtel.

Prof. Marko Milanovic, Professor of International Law at the University of Nottingham.

Prof. Eibe Riedel, Professor of International Law, former Swiss Chair of Human Rights at the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, and Chair of German and Comparative Public Law, European and International Law at the University of Mannheim.

Prof. William Schabas, Professor of International Law at the University of Middlesex, Associate Professor at the Université du Québec, Montréal.

Prof. Carsten Stahn, Professor of International Criminal Law at the University of Leiden.

Prof. Gabriella Venturini, Professor Emeritus of International Law at the University of Milan.

Lecturers

Guido Acquaviva, *Chef de Cabinet* at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Cécile Aptel, Associate Professor of International Law at Tufts' Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Christopher Gosnell, defence lawyer before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and legal representative of victims in proceedings at the International Criminal Court.

Jérôme de Hemptinne, Senior Legal Adviser at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon and Lecturer of International Humanitarian Law at the Université de Louvain.

Fatsah Ouguergouz, Judge to the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights.

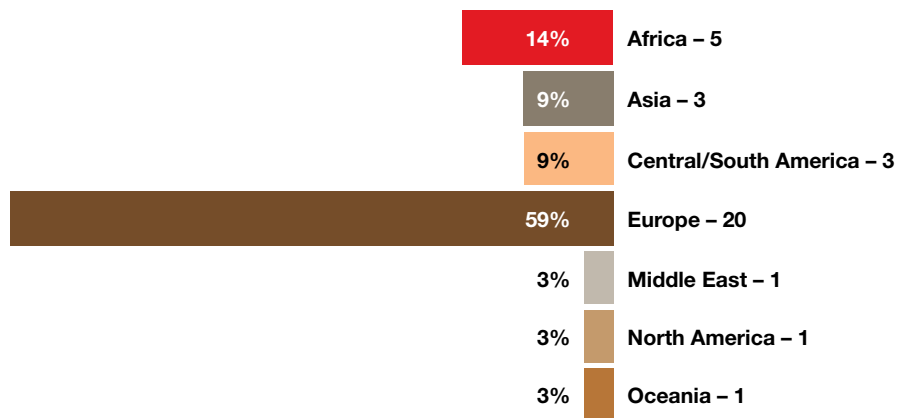
EDUCATION

Classes

LL.M. 2014-2015

34 students (25 female/9 male) attended the LL.M. class. They were from 23 countries: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, India, Italy, Lebanon, Netherlands, Romania, Russia, Sweden, Tunisia, The United Kingdom, and Zambia.

LL.M. students 2014-15 By origin



LL.M. students 2014-15 By gender



LL.M. 2013-2014

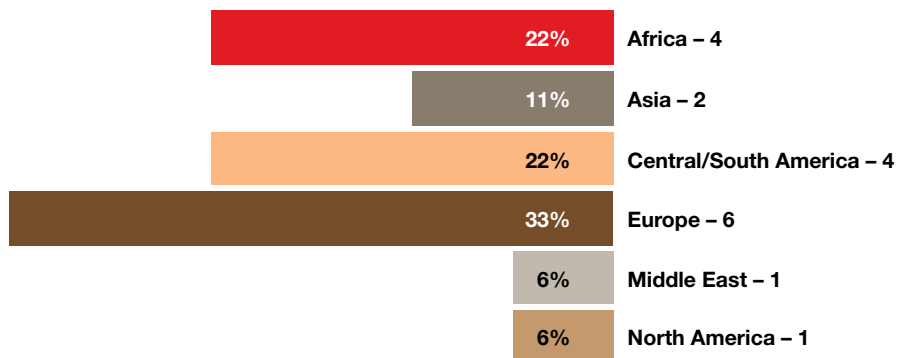
All students successfully completed the programme.

EDUCATION

Executive Master 2014-2016

18 students (13 female/5 male) attended the course. They were from 18 countries: Afghanistan, Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, France, Germany, Italy, Ivory Coast, Namibia, Nigeria, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, South Sudan, Switzerland, United States, United Kingdom, and Venezuela.

Executive Master students 2014-16 By origin



Executive Master students 2014-16 By gender



Executive Master 2013-2015

Participants in the Executive Master 2013-2015 are currently working on their dissertation and will graduate in October 2015 after defending their final written work.

Executive Master 2012-2014

Participants in the Executive Master 2012-2014 graduated on 10 October 2014 with students of the LL.M. 2013-2014. All participants defended their dissertation and successfully finished the programme. Two participants from the 2011-2013 class also graduated in 2014.

EDUCATION

The Henry Dunant Prize and award for the best LL.M. paper

Henry Dunant

Since 2005, the Henry Dunant Foundation and the Academy have awarded an annual prize for exceptional academic work that deepens, strengthens and renews the ideals and commitment of Henry Dunant. Through this award, the Foundation and the Geneva Academy motivate young people to disseminate the international rules that protect victims of armed conflict and states of emergency.

In 2014, the Henry Dunant Prize was awarded to Ms. Öykü Irmakkesen for her LL.M. paper, *The Notion of Armed Attack under the UN Charter and the Notion of International Armed Conflict – Interrelated or Distinct?* The prize was awarded during the graduation ceremony. Mr Pierre-André Mourgue D'Algue, a descendant of Henry Dunant, attended the event, at which Mr Roger Durand, President of the *Fondation Prix Henry Dunant*, Mr Vincent Bernard, Editor-in-Chief of the *International Review of the Red Cross*, and the laureate spoke.

Best LL.M. Paper

In 2013, the prize for the best LL.M. paper was awarded to M. George Dvaladze for his paper *Prohibition of Discrimination under International Humanitarian Law of Non-International Armed Conflicts*.

Graduation Ceremony 2014

The graduation ceremony took place on 10 October 2014 at Uni Bastions and was followed by a cocktail at the Café Restaurant du Parc des Bastions. Vincent Bernard from the ICRC gave the keynote speech. Two hundreds invitees, including graduates' families, attended the celebration.

EDUCATION

Scholarships

Each year the Geneva Academy grants scholarships to a number of its LL.M. students. Scholarships in 2014 were awarded to students from Africa (4), Latin America (2), Europe (2), Middle-East (2), and Asia (1).

The donors are the Wilsdorf Foundation, Mr and Mrs Irene and Jenö Staehelin and the Ermenegildo Zegna Foundation.

For the first time, the International Bar Association (IBA) awarded a 'bourse d'excellence' to an Academy student from Europe, on the basis of a memorandum of understanding between the Academy and the IBA.

Alumni of the Academy also created a new 2015-2016 *Biking from Geneva to Solferino* scholarship.

Together with fellow alumni Ilya Nuzov and Steve Wilkinson, Jean-Baptiste Maillart (Geneva Academy, L.L.M. 2010-2011) cycled from Geneva to Solferino (Italy), the birthplace of international humanitarian law, to raise money for a scholarship.

Following the footsteps of Henry Dunant, they cycled 650 kilometres through the Alps and raised 15'000 CHF to support a prospective LL.M. student in 2015-2016.

Individuals from 39 countries contributed, from Haiti to Japan via Burkina Faso, France, and Azerbaijan, including professors, directors, the Academy's administrative staff, colleagues, and friends. The largest contribution was naturally made by the Academy's alumni, from the first year of the CUDIH to recent graduates.

The Geneva Academy is deeply grateful to scholarship donors. Their continuing support enables talented young students with limited resources, notably from developing countries, to come to Geneva and obtain a sound knowledge of the main branches of international law applicable to armed conflict and crisis situations, thereby helping to strengthen the capacity of their countries to address crucial issues of policy and protection.

Study Trip for LL.M. Students

On 27 June 2014, The Academy's LL.M. students joined students from the Law Faculty of the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies to visit the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) in Lyon. They met Interpol staff and discussed several crucial issues including environmental crimes and recent developments in the investigation and prosecution of international crimes. The visit provided valuable insights into international cooperation in criminal matters and hopefully will open career paths for some of the students.

TRAININGS

Trainings

The Academy conducts several **training courses**, whose short teaching formats enable participants to acquire in-depth knowledge in specific areas in a few days or weeks. The Academy's trainings respond to the increasing demand for education, especially among professionals and students who wish to obtain a first hand understanding of international Geneva, where the Academy is located. Customized trainings vary from year to year.

The Academy also responds to requests for **customized training courses**.

Inscriptions for the Academy's formal training courses, most of which take place annually, are usually opened several months in advance on the website of the Academy (www.geneva-academy.ch).

Training Course on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

The Project on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) offered two training courses on ESCR in 2014. It continued its collaboration with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, which supported the participation of two human rights professionals.

1. Advanced Training on Monitoring Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 5-9 May 2014

The seventh Advanced Training on Monitoring Economic, Social and Cultural Rights focused on techniques for monitoring ESCR (human rights indicators, budget analysis, human rights impact assessment, and domestic and regional litigation), and on United Nations mechanisms that monitor realization of ESCR. The training welcomed eighteen participants with backgrounds in NGOs, government, litigation, academia, and international organizations (including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNAIDS, and UN-Habitat). Five of the participants came from Asia, seven from Europe, two each from Africa and the Middle East, and one from Latin America and Australia.

"The training gives an excellent insight on how to monitor economic, social and cultural rights. From identifying and describing ESCR violations to analysing budgets to monitor ESCR and non-state actors' responsibilities, the training was highly stimulating. It helped me to develop valuable skills for my work in this area." (Feedback from Petra Heusser, Associate Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat, May 2014.)

TRAININGS

2. Training on Understanding Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 17-21 November 2014

The fifth Training on Understanding Economic, Social and Cultural Rights focused on the substantive content of ESCR, in particular the rights to food, housing, education, water, health, decent work, and cultural rights. It also discussed United Nations, regional and domestic mechanisms that protect these rights. The training was attended by 29 participants with backgrounds in government, UN agencies, other international organizations, NGOs and academia. Five participants came from African countries, eight from Asia, twelve from Europe, and two each from North America and the Middle East.

“Human rights ultimately require vision, compassion, and accountability. The Geneva Academy course on Understanding Economic, Social and Cultural Rights incorporates all of these requirements with passion and clarity.” (Feedback from Richard Hobbs, Executive Director, Human Agenda, USA, 2014.)

First Training on the Rights of Peasants

The first Training on the Rights of Peasants took place on 4-6 November 2014. It focused on the history of a United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas that is currently in negotiation at the Human Rights Council. Experts presented issues that are under debate, such as the recognition of new rights of peasants to seeds and land, analysed lessons learned from International Labour Organization (ILO) instruments on the rights of rural workers, and discussed the cultural dimension of the rights of peasants. The eleven participants had backgrounds in NGOs, government, litigation, and academia. Five of the participants were from European countries, two each from Africa and Latin America, and one from Australia and North America. The Friedrich Ebert Foundation supported the participation of a human rights professional from Ethiopia.

“This course provides an excellent and engaging introduction to issues related to peasants’ rights and the advocacy for a UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas. The presenters are experts in the field who have been intimately involved for many years in the peasants’ movement or in work affiliated with it and who have in depth knowledge of the international human rights system.” (Feedback from Dr. Emma Larking, Postdoctoral Fellow, Australian National University, 2014.)

TRAININGS

Summer School: Transitional Justice, Conflict and Human Rights

The 2014 Antonio Cassese Summer School was held in July. Taught by leading world and Swiss experts, the training course combines a general course on transitional justice with complementary topic-specific lectures. It provided more than 40 participants with comprehensive, in-depth insights into the theoretical and practical application of measures and practices in a range of areas (including human rights, international criminal law, security reform, legal philosophy, and gender politics) and considered a number of country situations.

The general course was delivered by leading transitional justice scholar Naomi Roht-Arriaza, Professor of Law at the University of California. Complementary thematic lectures were given by experts in theory and practice who work in specific fields relevant to transitional justice.

First Course on International Weapons Law

From 4-29 August 2014, the Academy held its first training course on international weapons law. Its four modules covered a wide range of subjects, including police use of force, use of weapons as a means or method of warfare, disarmament, and small arms control. The course aimed to give participants a detailed understanding of the international legal regimes governing weapons. It was attended by 37 participants from a variety of backgrounds. The course included institutional visits and meetings with professionals from the field.

Customized Training for IOM on Humanitarian Norms and Principles in Conflict and Disaster

In October 2014, the Geneva Academy organized a four-day workshop for the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) on Humanitarian Norms and Principles in Conflict and Disaster. The training focused on international law and policies governing protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict, other situations of violence, and natural disasters.

TRAININGS

Customized Training on gender co-organised with the Graduate Institute (*Formation Continue*)

More than 90 diplomats participated in this training course, which was delivered in French in November and in English in December, supported financially by Canada and the Netherlands. Geneva-based experts and academics explained and examined women's human rights and related policy issues. The training was particularly useful for those working in the Human Rights Council, where policy resolutions and negotiations require an understanding of international law.

Swiss Chair of International Humanitarian Law

The primary role of the Swiss Chair in International Humanitarian Law (Swiss IHL Chair) is to reinforce competence in IHL at the Academy and in Geneva. The Swiss IHL Chair, Professor Noam Lubell, is supported by the Directorate of International Law of the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of its endeavor to strengthen international humanitarian Geneva.

During 2014, Professor Noam Lubell:

- Developed a large-scale project on the 'duty to investigate'. This multi-year initiative will convene a group of government, academic and civil society experts to explore the issue and prepare a document that identifies common approaches and best practices.
- Led a discussion of 'neglected contemporary conflicts' in March 2014 that examined 'traditional' conflicts in the light of IHL and human rights.
- Participated in a panel discussion on foreign fighters in November 2014.
- Taught on the annual IHL training course for Geneva-based diplomats, jointly organized by the Academy and the ICRC.



RESEARCH

The Geneva Academy carries out fundamental and applied research in international humanitarian law, human rights, international criminal law, and transitional justice. It thereby contributes to progress and debate on key issues related to these fields both within the academic community and in policy-making institutions and governments.

During 2014, the Geneva Academy undertook research on the subjects below.

Strategic areas

Clarifying International Humanitarian Law

The War Report: Armed Conflict in 2013, published by Oxford University Press and edited by Dr. Stuart Casey-Maslen, was launched at a special panel event on 10 December 2014 along with a revamped Rule of Law in Armed Conflict (RULAC) database (www.rulac.org). H.E. Ambassador Urs Schmid, Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations Office in Geneva, spoke at the panel event, which was moderated by Xavier Colin of Radio Television Suisse Romande. The panellists were: Annyssa Bellal, Legal Advisor at Geneva Call; Fabricio Guariglia, Director of the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court; Christof Heyns, UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; Salah Negm, Director of News at Al Jazeera English Channel; Stephane Ojeda, Deputy Head of Operations for the Americas region at the International Committee of the Red Cross; and Professor Robert Roth, the Academy's Director.

The War Report provides detailed information on every armed conflict that occurred during 2013. It reviews the nature, range, and impact of each conflict and associated legal issues. In Part I, it describes the criteria used to identify and classify armed conflicts under international law, and legal consequences that flow from the classification. It lists each armed conflict in 2013, categorised as an international or non-international conflict, or a military occupation, and estimates civilian and military casualties. In Part II, a more detailed description of each conflict covers the belligerents, means and methods of warfare, applicable treaties and rules, and any prosecutions, investigations, or robust allegations of war crimes. Part III provides a detailed thematic analysis of key legal developments that arose in the context of the conflicts described, creating room for a more in-depth reflection on cross-cutting questions and controversies. Topics in 2013 included US policy on drone strikes, the use of chemical weapons in Syria, the protection of persons with a disability, and national and international war crime trials.

RESEARCH

Weapons Law

The Academy's work on international weapons law addresses issues that relate to the international legal regulation of weapons. It does so from a variety of perspectives, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law (IHL), and disarmament.

Building on earlier work, the Academy continued to study legal questions raised by **armed drones and autonomous weapons** in 2014. Academy Briefing no. 8, *Autonomous Weapon Systems under International Law*, drafted by Nathalie Weizmann, reviews the legal implications of developing and using autonomous weapons systems. The Briefing was launched in Geneva on 1 December at a public panel event.

Legal challenges raised by emerging weapon technologies were also addressed by Dr. Marco Roscini at a public conference to launch his book, *Cyber Operations and the Use of Force in International Law* (Oxford University Press, 2014). The Academy organized this event on 27 October in Geneva.

Legal and other questions raised by emerging weapon technologies draw attention to the duty of states under IHL to review the conformity of new weapons with international law. On 23-24 June, the Academy organized with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) an expert meeting on **weapons review**. The summary report of this discussion identified a clear need for more transparency with respect to states' review practices and recommended further work in this area.

On 28 March, the Academy launched *Weapons under International Human Rights Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2014), edited by Dr. Stuart Casey-Maslen. This timely volume draws different legal perspectives together and underlines the contribution made by human rights to the regulation of weapons. It covers a range of subjects, including the use of weapons in counter-piracy operations, riot control situations, peace operations, and legal questions associated with use of armed drones and cyber-attacks.

Over the course of the year, the *Weapons Law Encyclopaedia* (www.weaponslaw.org) was further expanded. Formally launched in December 2013, this project will be completed in 2016. It is creating an online database of short entries that provide information on a range of weapon types, their intended use and humanitarian impacts, and their regulation under international law. The project seeks to make multilateral policy makers, legal professionals, and the media more aware of the ways in which bodies of international law contribute to the regulation of weapons and weapon use.

Building on earlier Academy research on the regulation of **arms transfers**, on 30 October the Academy organized a panel event with its former Director, Prof. Andrew Clapham, to launch Academy Briefing No. 6, *What amounts to "a serious violation of international human rights law? An analysis of practice and expert opinion for the purpose of the 2013 Arms Trade Treaty*. The Briefing clarifies a critical question: which transfers are banned under the 2013 Arms Trade Treaty?

The Academy is now an established centre of expertise on the arms trade and human rights and IHL. The topic touches on the economy, trade, the use of force, UN sanctions, human rights, and international criminal law. The Weapons Law Encyclopaedia (see above) represents a continuation of this work in another form.

With respect to **weapons of mass destruction**, Dr. Stuart Casey-Maslen co-edited *Nuclear Weapons under International Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2014), launched in Geneva on 23 October, in cooperation with the International Law and Policy Institute (ILPI). Drawing on contributions from legal scholars and practitioners, this edited volume offers a comprehensive treatment of the legal regulation of nuclear weapons under international law.

RESEARCH

Police Use of Force and its Relevance to the Issue of Peaceful Protest

During 2014, the Academy continued to promote the application of the international law of law enforcement to **use of force by police**. This body of international law comprises international human rights law and criminal justice standards, in particular the 1990 Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials. On 8–9 May 2014, the Academy co-organized with the Centre for Legal and Social Studies (CELS, an NGO based in Argentina) a meeting in Buenos Aires of regional experts of the Americas. It was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Security of Argentina and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. A summary report of the event is available on the Academy website. In partnership with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the Academy organized a second regional meeting on 26–28 January 2015, this time in Tunis for the Middle East and North Africa. The second meeting was supported by the Tunisian Ministry of the Interior and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

In February, the Academy organized a panel event to launch Academy Briefing No. 5, *Facilitating Peaceful Protest*, prepared by Dr. Milena Costas Trascasas. The meeting discussed weapons that are suitable for a graduated use of force, including case law that limits the use of tear gas for purposes of crowd control.

Armed Non-State Actors

In January 2012, the Human Security Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (HSD) commissioned the Geneva Academy to study the response of more than 30 armed groups to humanitarian norms, notably norms that protect civilians. Research was undertaken in 2012 and 2013 with support from an advisory board of international experts from the Berghof Foundation, Conciliation Resources, Geneva Call, the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Human Rights Watch, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and HSD. The research led to the publication of Policy Briefing No. 1, *Reaction to Norms: Armed Groups and the Protection of Civilians* in January 2014.

The Policy Briefing examines the normative policies of armed groups with respect to the protection of civilians during armed conflict and other situations of violence. It is based on armed groups' policy positions, and declarations and statements by their members or representatives, and aims to assist the development of operational and organizational policies that promote respect for humanitarian norms protecting civilians. It is written primarily for individuals, states, and international and non-governmental organizations that work to protect people at risk as a result of armed violence and conflict. However, it is hoped that the Briefing will also be useful to individuals who have the same objective and who belong or have close links to an armed group.

Throughout 2014, the Academy disseminated the results of the Policy Briefing through regional training workshops organized with the International Association of Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP). The first workshop was held in Amman, Jordan, in April 2014. It was followed by regional workshops in Bangkok (19–23 May) and Nairobi (2–6 June). A final workshop, in Arabic, took place in Amman at the beginning of 2015.

The Academy also disseminated the Policy Briefing at events it organized or participated in in Geneva, Brussels (European Commission, NATO), London, and New York (Friends of the Protection of Civilians working group, UN agencies).

RESEARCH

Foreign Fighters

With the support of the Directorate of International Law of the Swiss Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Academy undertook research into the phenomenon of so-called **foreign fighters** (individuals who leave their country of origin or habitual residence to participate in armed conflicts abroad). The Academy's research focused on policies that target foreign fighters and their legal implications. As part of its research, the Academy participated in the international conference on the fight against terrorism organized in April at Interlaken during the 2014 Swiss Chairmanship of the OSCE.

The Academy's research led to publication of Briefing No. 7, *Foreign Fighters under International Law*, which examines: the phenomenon of foreign fighters; linkages with terrorism; foreign fighters under international humanitarian law; the obligations of states of origin or habitual residence, or transit states, to prevent the movement of foreign fighters; and the potential human rights implications of measures to curtail the movement of foreign fighters, including those pursuant to recent Security Council Resolutions.

The Academy launched the Briefing at a panel discussion in November with the Directorate of International Law. The document and discussion were very well received, and raised the profile of the Geneva Academy as a leading institution providing expertise on key legal questions associated with contemporary issues. Among others, the 2014 annual report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (UN Doc. A/HRC/28/28) explicitly refers to the Briefing.

Business and Human Security

During 2014, the Geneva Academy continued to support efforts to ensure that mineral and natural resource industries respect human rights and humanitarian law norms and do not contribute to or exacerbate situations of armed conflict or other forms of violence.

The Academy's project on **conflict-free gold and minerals** provides expert support to implementation of the OECD 'Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas' and its Supplement on gold, as well as related standards, such as the World Gold Council's Conflict-Free Gold Standard. As part of this project, the Academy is developing a global map and database that identify in detail specific zones of armed conflict and high-risk around the world. In May, the Academy presented its approach to identifying such zones during the Seventh Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains convened jointly by the International Conference for the Great Lake Regions (ICGLR), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Group of Experts (UN GoE). It subsequently participated in the Eighth Forum, held in Kinshasa in November. In December, it presented a first version of its global database and map during a multi-stakeholder workshop. Private businesses, the OECD and other actors have expressed interest in this work, and the European Union has included the project in its priorities for policy discussion. It is supported by the Human Security Division of the Swiss Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

RESEARCH

The Rule of Law and Political Transition

This research seeks to investigate the relevance of international law to demands for **reparation**. While the topic of reparation has aroused increasing scholarly interest, a comprehensive approach that combines theoretical notions of international law with considerations of practicality and morality is still largely missing in the literature. The Geneva Academy's project seeks to fill this gap. Its major purpose is to provide a comprehensive assessment of victim reparation claims in the light of recent developments in international law, while paying special attention to the legal and moral dilemmas that may arise in the course of shaping and implementing reparations programmes, especially during periods of transition to peace and democracy after civil wars and dictatorships.

The results of this research will be published in several extensive, book-length studies – two PhD dissertations and a multi-authored volume that will assemble the critical reflections of scholars and practitioners working in the field of reparations.

Geneva Transitional Justice Working Papers

2014 saw the inauguration of the Geneva Transitional Justice Working Papers series. This series presents original research on legal, political and ethical issues that arise in post-conflict and post-authoritarian contexts. Its objective is to create a space within which researchers working in the field of **transitional justice** can share work in progress. By making working papers available for download via the internet, the series will stimulate debate and research on controversial transitional justice issues and provide researchers with constructive feedback.

In the context of this initiative, the Geneva Academy holds periodic round-table discussions. In 2014 a round table took place on the issue of 'Truth Commissions and Corruption'.

Strengthening the Human Rights Council

1. Supporting the promotion and the protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests and, more specifically, the right to freedom of peaceful assembly

Academic support was provided to member states in the Human Rights Council (HRC) during negotiations that led to the adoption of HRC Resolution 25/38 on 'the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protest' initiated by Switzerland in cooperation with other state co-sponsors.

The resolution was adopted in March, and since then the Academy has systematically raised **peaceful protest** in several areas of its work, notably its project on police use of force, where a section focuses on the policing of protest and restraints on use of force by national authorities to disperse peaceful protests.

With the intention of eventually organizing regional expert meetings to support implementation of HRC Resolution 25/38, the Academy identified key issues of concern in different regions (the Americas, North Africa, and Asia). The first 'Regional Experts Meeting on Security, Policing and Use of Force' was organized in Buenos Aires.

More than forty experts from across the Americas attended the event. A section of the agenda was devoted to the management of protest, and the meeting identified a number of good practices and lessons learned.

RESEARCH

2. The Rights of Peasants

This project has concentrated its policy work on negotiation of a declaration on the **rights of peasants** that is currently being negotiated in the Human Rights Council (HRC), reflecting the Geneva Academy's general practice of focusing its attention on underdeveloped substantive questions and issues that are particularly relevant to the work of the HRC.

In September 2012, the HRC created an open-ended working group to elaborate a UN Declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas. The Academy's goal is to provide expert support to states and other stakeholders engaged in the negotiations (including experts, and representatives of international and civil society organizations), by holding conferences and expert seminars on, and providing legal analysis of, key issues under debate.

After supporting the organization of a seminar in January for Swiss actors engaged in the topic, in April 2014 the Academy organized an expert seminar in partnership with the Swiss government and in collaboration with Bolivia's Permanent Mission to the UN in Geneva. The event involved 35 state representatives, including 4 Ambassadors, 19 experts, including the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food, and 10 representatives of civil society. The agenda's six themes were selected because they are contested points of negotiation: (1) the definition of peasants and other people working in rural areas; (2) the right to seeds and intellectual property rights; (3) the right to land; (4) labour rights and the right to social security; (5) the need to better protect the rights of other people working in rural areas; and (6) integration of the obligations of states and non-state actors in the UN Declaration. The expert seminar was explicitly mentioned subsequently in a June resolution adopted by the HRC, indicating its important role in the negotiation process.

In January 2015, the Academy published Academy In-Brief No. 5, *Negotiation of a United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas*, which is based on the expert seminar that took place in April 2014, negotiations during the first session of the Working Group in 2013, and a background paper reporting those negotiations.

3. Right to Privacy seminar and Input into the Human Rights Council Resolution

On behalf of a core group of states, in February 2014 the Academy organized a seminar on The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age. The event included a full day meeting at the UN, open to state participation, and a closed expert meeting the following day. The Geneva Academy provided academic support to the meeting, managed invitations and logistics, and prepared a report on both events.

The meetings were referred to by the Office of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights in its report to the Human Rights Council in September 2014.

RESEARCH

Support to Other UN Mechanisms

In September 2014, the Geneva Academy, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), and ESCR-Net, organized an expert meeting on **Joint Action by United Nations Special Procedure Mandate Holders**. The meeting focused on improving joint work on economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR). The former Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Olivier De Schutter, shared lessons from his 6 year mandate. Many new mandate holders, including the UN Special Rapporteurs on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), the right to food, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, and toxic waste, as well as the independent expert on foreign debt, discussed how they might collaborate more effectively to promote and protect ESCR.

Special procedures have increased their collaboration on ESCR in the last few years. In particular, they have written more joint communications to states, and issued more joint public statements, for instance on the post-2015 development agenda. Mandate holders have also gained experience of conducting joint country missions, for example in Bangladesh and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. They have also started to publish joint papers (not official UN reports) on issues of common interest, including social security and access to land. The expert meeting enabled the participants to discuss examples of good practice in detail, as well as challenges and the potential limits of cooperation. A study by students of the Graduate Institute provided a background paper for the meeting. Supervised by the Academy, it outlined trends, good practices and missed opportunities, and explored avenues for further development.

The Academy continued to support the work of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of **truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence**. It helped organize an **expert workshop on prosecutorial strategies** in May 2014 and undertook other activities in this field. This project is supported by the Swiss and Swedish Ministries of Foreign affairs.

As a pilot project, in 2014 the Geneva Academy launched the first **Treaty Bodies members platform**. This project is supported by the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the following objectives:

- To help members of UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies (MTBs) connect to International Geneva.
- To enable MTBs to contribute their expertise and experience to relevant discussions in International Geneva.
- To enable MTBs to exchange views and knowledge informally.
- To deepen and broaden discussions in formal and informal fora in International Geneva, and thereby build a more interdependent epistemic community that includes many kinds of policy discussion.

RESEARCH

Strengthening Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

The Geneva Academy undertook a number of activities to strengthen ESCR in 2014, and participated in many events in Switzerland and Europe on the right to food.

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) mandated the Geneva Academy to support its commitment not to invest in programmes that infringe human rights. Specifically, the Academy facilitated a two day expert workshop on health, human rights and accountability in May 2014. The workshop generated recommendations for the Global Fund Secretariat on how it might increase the human rights impact of grants.

The Geneva Academy produced a research paper for the Global Fund that assessed the impact on the **right to health** of Global Fund projects in conflict areas and fragile states. It found that addressing human rights-related issues in conflict settings was both critical and urgent for the Global Fund, given the scope of its operations in conflict-affected countries. The paper identified the risk of human rights violations in Global Fund-supported programmes in conflict-affected areas and suggested steps that the Fund could take to mitigate them. Major risks identified include: discrimination based on conflict-driven factors; attacks on health facilities and health care workers; torture of individuals detained in connection with conflicts; pervasive sexual violence and exploitation; and failure to provide health services to victims of conflict.

In 2014, Geneva Academy Research Fellow Dr Christophe Golay received grants for two research projects on the **right to food**. They were awarded jointly by the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Agency for Research on Global issues for Development (R4D) of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). Each research project will receive CHF 3 million to be distributed among Swiss and South partners over a period of 6 years (2015-2020). The first research project, coordinated by Prof. Elisabeth Prügl of the Graduate Institute in Geneva, is titled 'Land Commercialization, Gendered Agrarian Transformation, and the Right to Food'. It will study the complementarity of the right to food and gender equality in ensuring food security in the context of land commercialization in Ghana and Cambodia. The second research project, coordinated by Prof. Stephan Rist of the University of Bern, is titled 'Towards food sustainability: Reshaping the coexistence of different food systems in South America and Africa'. It will examine the interrelationship between the right to food, food security, the reduction of poverty and inequality, environmental integrity, and socio-ecological resilience, with a focus on Bolivia and Kenya.

Challenges raised by New and Increasingly Automated Technologies

In June, this project ran a closed expert meeting, followed by a high-level public panel, to raise international and national awareness of 'the challenges of use of increasingly **autonomous weapons**'. As the precise borderline between an armed drone and a fully autonomous weapon system (sometimes termed a 'killer robot') becomes less clear, it is widely presumed that armed drones will soon lead to the use of systems that can target and kill autonomously, without human intervention. Only a few states are known to have used unmanned armed drones but an increasing number seek to acquire this technology, but more are being acquired by armies and potentially by armed non-state actors for use in combat, while non-armed drones are increasingly employed in humanitarian interventions, for civilian rescue, and law enforcement. Drawing on the findings of the expert meeting, the public Panel that explored these issues was very well attended.

The project included a commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the first Geneva Convention.

RESEARCH

Other Areas of Research

The Geneva Academy continued its two years research project on the **intersection of human rights violations, multiple grounds of discrimination and responses by the UN human rights system**. This project is coordinated by the University of Fribourg and funded by the Swiss Network in International Studies (SNIS).

New research: new legal challenges

The Duty to Investigate under International Law

This research was initiated by the Swiss IHL Chair, Prof. Noam Lubell. The investigation of deaths and harm during situations of armed conflict and high-intensity violence is a key area of concern for international human rights law and the law of armed conflict. Usually, however, **the duty to investigate** is implied but is not mentioned directly in international law sources. States tend to rely on domestic standards but there is no uniform practice and detailed international standards have not been agreed for assessing domestic procedures. This has profound practical implications. States and international organizations clearly need clarification in this area of law, not least because states are expected by human rights bodies to account for their investigations (or lack of them). Clearer rules are required in several areas, including the circumstances that should trigger investigations, the form investigations should take, and the standards they should meet.

Research began by assessing the outcome of an expert discussion. Work will continue in 2015, focusing on specific themes. The Academy's aim is to develop a longer and more formal process on this topic.

Accountability under International Criminal Law

This project will be developed in 2015. Its methodology and architecture will be shaped by the results of an international expert meeting on methodology and scope that took place in late 2014.

The corpus of customary international humanitarian law, and war crimes under customary law, have largely been clarified by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in a landmark study it published in 2005. However, no comprehensive study has addressed the different forms of responsibility for international crimes that international law identifies.

This project will seek to clarify the sources and conditions of **accountability for international crimes**. It will be an essential reference for national courts and international tribunals, ministries of justice and foreign affairs, international organizations, fact-finding missions and commissions of inquiry, human rights treaty bodies and special procedures, judges, and academics.

RESEARCH

Improving Protection of Those with Disabilities in Armed Conflict

In 2014, the Academy took preliminary steps to prepare a multi-year project to improve the **protection of those with disabilities in armed conflict**. In November it hosted an expert round-table to discuss the methodology and parameters of this project. It brought together experts from across the world to discuss this issue for the first time. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), Handicap International, the International Disability Alliance, scholars, and international experts (including from Vietnam and Palestine), participated in an event that received extremely positive feedback.

Persons with disabilities are the forgotten victims of armed conflict. The plight of the 500 million people with disabilities in states affected by armed conflict has been largely ignored both by states and international organizations. Yet armed violence causes new disabilities and exacerbates existing ones. Article 11 of the 2006 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) requires states parties to 'take, in accordance with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, all necessary measures to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters'. To date, no research has been conducted on the precise scope and extent of those obligations, or the operational policies and procedures in the field that are required to put them into effect. Nor has any detailed assessment been undertaken of the protection afforded to persons with a disability under international humanitarian law (IHL). This multidisciplinary applied research project is intended to fill these gaps. It will develop specific proposals for responding effectively to the identified needs of persons with disabilities, by combining the legal, policy and medical expertise of researchers, persons with disabilities living in conflict-affected states, and humanitarian personnel who assess the needs of persons with disabilities in situations of conflict and violence.

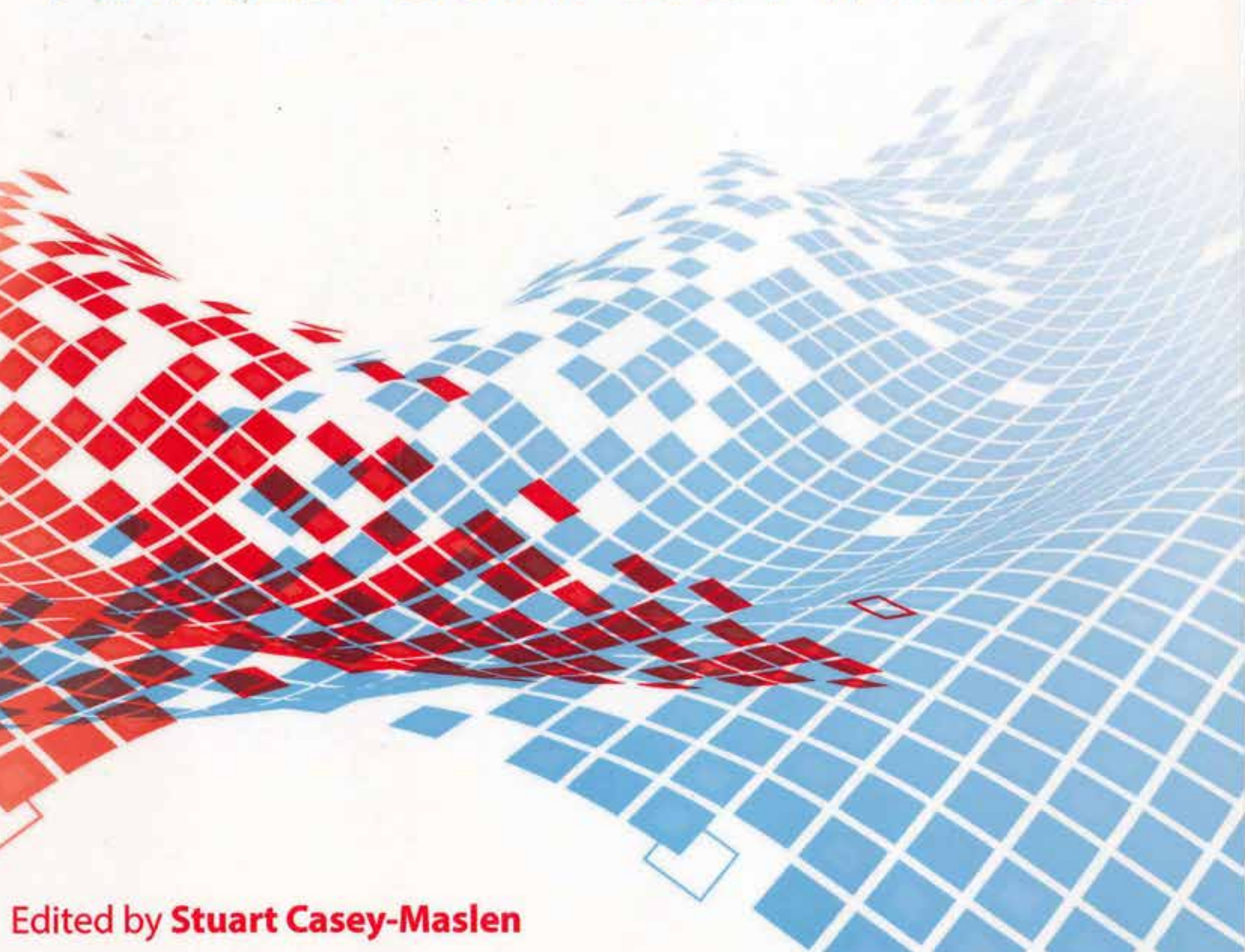
The Academy is delighted to have secured funding from the private foundation Pro Victims for the first year of this study and is confident that the remaining funding required will be secured.

RESEARCH



OXFORD

THE WAR REPORT ARMED CONFLICT IN 2013



Edited by **Stuart Casey-Maslen**

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Geneva Academy Briefings, In-Briefs and Policy Briefings



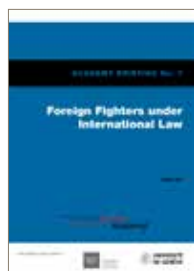
Milena Costas Trascasas and **Stuart Casey-Maslen**, *Facilitating Peaceful Protests*. Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, 2014.

Freedom of assembly, specifically for the purpose of protest, concerns every state. A state that obstructs or prevents peaceful protests, deems them unlawful, or uses force to disperse or deter them, not only potentially violates the right to freedom of assembly but creates conditions that invite violence. In recent protests in Cambodia, Egypt, Thailand, and Ukraine, among many others, the excessive use of force by security forces has been widely condemned. It is in the state's own interest to ensure that protests can take place, and take place peacefully.



Takhmina Karimova, *What amounts to a 'serious violation of international human rights law'?* Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, 2014.

Academy Briefing No. 6 proposes criteria and indices that will help states parties to determine whether a serious violation of human rights law is likely to occur in the context of the Arms' Trade Treaty (ATT). It identifies where the term 'serious violation of international human rights law' has been used in other contexts and considers the extent to which similar terms are relevant to the ATT, drawing on international practice.



Sandra Krähenmann, *Foreign Fighters under International Law*. Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, 2014.

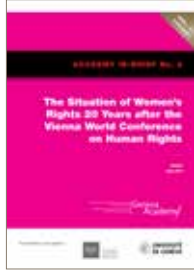
Geneva Academy Briefing No. 7 analyses the status and regulation of foreign fighters under international law and recent developments and responses. It pays particular attention to the relationships between the various legal regimes that govern armed conflicts and terrorism.



Nathalie Weizmann, *Autonomous Weapons Systems under International Law*. Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, 2014.

Academy Briefing No. 8 focuses on the international legal implications of developing and using autonomous weapons systems. It considers such systems with respect to the law that governs inter-state use of force (*jus ad bellum*), their legality under the international law of law enforcement, and the relevance of international humanitarian law (notably the rules on distinction, proportionality, and precautions in attack) to their use in armed conflicts. It also examines the international obligation to conduct a legal review of autonomous weapon systems and broader issues of accountability under domestic and international law.

PUBLICATIONS



Alice Priddy, *The Situation of Women's Rights 20 Years after the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights*. Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, 2014.

The Academy conducted an in-depth study, which considers contemporary violations of women's human rights that impact on their enjoyment of fundamental guarantees globally, including the right to life, the prohibition of torture or inhuman and degrading treatment, discrimination, and slavery. Three challenges are highlighted: sexual violence in armed conflict; trafficking of women and girls; and intimate partner violence. The In-brief reviews the forms and consequences of these violations and the international law framework that applies to them, and suggests how progress can be made in each area.



Marina Mattiolo and **Stuart Casey-Maslen**, with **Alice Priddy**, *Reaction to Norms: Armed Groups and the Protection of Civilians*. Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, 2014.

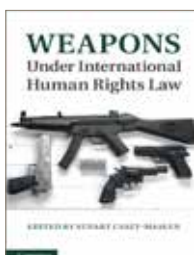
Policy Briefing No. 1 examines the normative policies of armed groups with respect to the protection of civilians in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.

Books



Eibe Riedel, **Gilles Giacca**, and **Christophe Golay** (eds.), *Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in International Law. Contemporary Issues and Challenges*. Oxford University Press, 560 pages | March 2014.

Recent years have seen a remarkable expansion in the scale and importance of ESCR in international law. This book assesses the effectiveness of efforts to realize ESCR by investigating the contemporary challenges obstructing their protection, and progress made in widening their implementation. The book contains eighteen essays on the main questions relevant to the progressive realization of ESCR and their monitoring mechanisms. The authors, who are scholars and practitioners, adopt interdisciplinary approaches that move beyond traditional analyses of ESCR, and contextualize their analysis in wider contemporary international law challenges. Reflecting a diversity of perspectives, this book sheds light on new methodologies for implementing ESCR and the obstacles they face.



Stuart Casey-Maslen (Ed.), *Weapons under International Human Rights Law*. Cambridge University Press, 679 pages | March 2014.

International human rights law offers an overarching international legal framework that helps determine the legality of using or supplying any weapon. It governs acts by states and non-state actors, and embraces international humanitarian law regulation of the use of weapons in armed conflict, disarmament law, and

PUBLICATIONS

international criminal justice standards. In situations of law enforcement (counter-piracy, prisons, ordinary policing, riot control, many peace operations), human rights law is the primary legal frame of reference above domestic criminal law. This important and timely book draws on all aspects of international weapons law and proposes a new view of the international law governing weapons. It also includes a specific discussion of armed drones and cyber-attacks, two highly topical issues in international law and international relations.



Stuart Casey-Maslen (ed.), *The War Report 2013*. Oxford University Press, 644 pages | November 2014.

The War Report 2013 provides detailed information on every armed conflict that took place in 2013. It reviews the nature, range, and impact of these conflicts and the legal issues they created.



Andrew Clapham and **Paola Gaeta** (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of International Law in Armed Conflict*. Oxford University Press, 1008 pages | 13 March 2014.

Which human rights violations or war crime allegations result in exclusion from the refugee regime? What human rights protections apply to someone declared an unlawful combatant? Which human rights obligations apply to the actions of armed forces operating abroad? In the last ten years the content and application of international law in armed conflict has changed dramatically. This authoritative and comprehensive study provides a broad analysis of international humanitarian law, human rights law, refugee law, international criminal law, environmental law, and the law on the use of force. Written by an international group of expert contributors, it offers a global, multi-disciplinary perspective on the place of law in war.



Christophe Golay, **Takhmina Karimova** and **Ivona Truscan**, 'Economic, Social and Cultural Rights', 2 *European Journal of Human Rights*, 2014, pp. 238-266.

The Geneva Academy's project on ESCR produces the annual chronicle on ESCR for the European Journal of Human Rights. The 2014 chronicle traced significant developments in the field of ESCR that emerged in 2013. It emphasized the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the practice of United Nations treaty bodies, the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, and significant contributions by United Nations specialized agencies. It reviewed jurisprudential developments in the European human rights system, and noted particularly noteworthy cases from jurisdictions outside Europe. The analytical approach selected to frame discussion reflected key themes that emerged with respect to the rights to food, water and sanitation, adequate housing, education, and the highest attainable standard of health. Crosscutting issues relevant to developments in 2013 were presented in the conclusions.



NEW PARTNERSHIPS

Nelson Mandela Moot Court in partnership with the University of Pretoria

Together with a new partner, the University of Pretoria, and the Office of the High-Commissioner of Human Rights, the Geneva Academy participated in and co-organized the 2014 Geneva international edition of the Nelson Mandela Moot Court. The event was attended by several international teams of students. The Geneva Academy's director and one of its researchers served as judges.

Partnership with IBAHRI

This new partnership with the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute provides a scholarship to a student of the Geneva Academy and plans cooperation on issues of common interest. Cooperation began on the Universal Periodic Review project which IBAHRI has developed in Geneva, and on the Geneva Academy's 'mandatory death penalty' initiative.

Thanks to this project the Academy is hosting a Research Fellow from IBAHRI.

Cyber operations and the use of force in international law

Dr. Marco Roscini

Geneva, 27 October 2014

Geneva Academy

The Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights provides postgraduate training, research, academic dialogue, and expert advice, as well as expert meetings.

The Academy is part of the Institute of International Law of the University of Geneva.



SELECTED PUBLIC EVENTS

Date	Event	Description	Co-partner
24-25 February	Panel discussion: The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age.	After recent revelations of mass surveillance and interception and collection of data, the Academy held a panel event that examined: the international human rights law framework respecting the right to privacy; challenges raised by modern communication technologies; how the right to privacy is implemented by governments, the private sector and civil society; the extent to which domestic and extraterritorial surveillance may infringe an individual's right to privacy; and ways to protect and promote the right to privacy.	The Governments of Austria, Brazil, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Norway, and Switzerland.
21 March	Neglected conflicts: International Humanitarian Law and the Challenges of Protection.	This discussion centred on victims of armed conflict. Conflicts occur across the globe, but do not all receive the same level of public or media attention.	Swiss IHL Chair, Prof. Noam Lubell.
28 March	Book launch: 'Weapons Under International Human Rights Law.'	This important and timely book, edited by Dr. Stuart Casey-Maslen, addresses all aspects of international weapons law and proposes a new view of the international law governing weapons. It includes a specific discussion of armed drones and cyberattacks, two highly topical issues in international law and international relations.	
8-9 April	Expert seminar. Rights of Peasants.	This meeting focused on six complex issues that are relevant to the rights of peasants. The event was attended by 35 state representatives, including 4 Ambassadors, 19 experts, including the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food, and 10 representatives of civil society.	Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Mission of Bolivia.
14 May	Book launch: 'Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in International Law.'	Edited by Eibe Riedel, Gilles Giacca and Christophe Golay, this book assesses the effectiveness of efforts to realize economic, social and cultural rights, and investigates contemporary obstructions to their protection and progress towards their implementation.	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.
16 June	Side event and In-Brief launch: 'The Situation of Women's Rights 20 Years after the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights.'	Academy In-Brief No. 4 was launched at a side-event during the 26th Session of the Human Rights Council. Five expert speakers considered contemporary violations of women's rights (intimate partner violence, discriminatory inheritance and land ownership legislation, trafficking of women and girls, forced migration and refugee law, and sexual violence in armed conflict) and state and UN responses to them.	

PUBLIC EVENTS

Date	Event	Description	Co-partner
19 June	Symposium: Challenging the Conventional: Can Truth Commissions effectively contribute to Peace?	Truth commissions created after armed conflicts have tended to have uniform mandates even though it has become increasingly evident that they face complex challenges. Several truth-seeking processes have experienced near-paralyzing crises. In the light of experience, this symposium re-examined assumptions about how truth commissions are established and what makes them operate effectively. The participants reaffirmed the often stated rule that no universal formula fits every situation.	
24 June	Expert panel: Challenges raised by Increasingly Autonomous Technologies.	It is presumed that armed drones will soon lead to the use of systems that can target and kill autonomously, without human intervention. The precise borderline between an armed drone and a fully autonomous weapon system (sometimes termed a 'killer robot') is becoming less clear. Only a few states are known to have used unmanned armed drones but an increasing number seek to acquire this technology. Armed drones are being acquired by armies and potentially by armed non-state actors for use in combat; while non-armed drones are used in humanitarian interventions, for civilian rescue, and law enforcement. The Panel explored positive and negative impacts of these technologies.	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.
2 July	Conference: Women's Right to Food – the Quest for Equality.	Worldwide, 70% of all those who are undernourished are girls and women. Many are victims of multiple discrimination, and all have their right to food violated. The symposium discussed how to protect women's rights and gender equality, drawing on a parallel report that FIAN India presented to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).	FIAN Inter-national and CEDAW.
11 July	Protection of persons in the event of disasters.	During its sixty-sixth session, the International Law Commission (ILC) adopted Draft Articles on the Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters (UN document A/CN.4/L.831), based on seven reports by its Special Rapporteur on the Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters. To address observations that may be received, the Special Rapporteur will submit an eighth report that is likely to recommend adoption of the draft articles.	International Law Commission.
16 July	Treaty bodies members platform.	A meeting of members of the UN Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).	OHCHR.
October 8 November 19 December 3	PhD seminar. Geneva Academy Wednesdays.	These PhD seminars addressed respectively <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The conflict in Gaza. ▪ The use and legitimacy of the territoriality principle with respect to jurisdiction over cyberspace activities ▪ Islamic State and international law. 	PhD candidates, the Academy.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Date	Event	Description	Co-partner
8 October	Book launch: 'Law, Conflicts and the Role of Courts.'	Dr. Sharon Weill's book <i>The Role of National Courts in Applying International Humanitarian Law</i> draws on examples from the US, Israel and UK. Discussants reflected on how international judges apply and develop the law of mixed and special tribunals.	
23 October	Book launch: 'Nuclear Weapons under International Law.'	Produced by the International Law and Policy Institute (ILPI) and edited by Gro Nystuen, Stuart Casey-Maslen and Annie Golden Bersagel, <i>Nuclear Weapons under International Law</i> critically reviews international law governing nuclear weapons, having regard to inter-state use of force, human rights, disarmament, environmental, and international humanitarian law, and the International Court of Justice's 1996 Advisory Opinion. Its unique approach draws on contributions from expert legal scholars and international law practitioners who have worked on conventional and non-conventional arms control and disarmament issues.	International Law and Policy Institute.
27 October	Book launch: 'Cyber Warfare under International Law.'	The internet has changed the rules in many industries, and war is no exception. As cyber-attacks against states have become increasingly sophisticated, Marco Roscini's book, <i>Cyber Operations and the Use of Force in International Law</i> , investigates the traditional notions of 'use of force', 'armed attack', and 'armed conflict', and asks whether laws created for analogue technologies can be applied to digital ones.	
30 October	Academy Briefing: "Serious violations of International Human Rights Law".	Academy Briefing No. 6 discusses how the term 'serious violation of human rights law' has been used, and considers the extent to which similar terms are relevant to the ATT. Drawing on international practice, it reviews theoretical understandings of the notion of 'a serious violation of international human rights law', and considers the work of truth and reconciliation commissions, which have an essentially domestic mandate but regularly investigate the scope and character of violations.	
7 November	Symposium. The Right to Food and Conflicts over Land Use.	Conflicts over land use have increased at aggregate and local levels. Land is allocated to produce food, commodities, and biofuels, conserve the environment, and meet local food and other needs. This symposium discussed issues linked to land use conflict that are of concern to the international community.	Centre for International Environmental Studies at the Graduate Institute.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Date	Event	Description	Co-partner
7 November	Academy Briefing and panel: 'Foreign Fighters under International Law.'	This panel discussed the legal challenges presented by the phenomenon of 'foreign fighters', against the background of the armed conflicts in Syria and Iraq. Chaired by the director of the Geneva Academy, Robert Roth, panellists included Ambassador Stephan Husy, Swiss Coordinator for International Counter-Terrorism, Professor Andrea Bianchi of the Graduate Institute, and Prof. Noam Lubell, the Swiss IHL Chair.	Directorate of International Law, the Swiss Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
20 November	Treaty bodies members platform: ESCR committee.	At their second meeting, platform members discussed extraterritoriality under human rights and international humanitarian law.	OHCHR.
28 November	Panel. Protecting Humanity: the UN and Dag Hammarskjöld's Unfinished Legacy.	Former UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld shaped many of the fundamental principles and practices of international organisations, including preventive diplomacy, the ethics of an international civil service, impartiality, and neutrality. He was also deeply involved in establishing the constitutional foundations and principles of the UN. This panel discussed his legacy and current challenges, drawing on <i>Peace Diplomacy, Global Justice and International Agency – Rethinking Human Security and Ethics in the Spirit of Dag Hammarskjöld</i> , a book edited by Carsten Stahn and Henning Melber (Cambridge University Press, 2014).	Prof. Carsten Stahn.
1 December	Academy Briefing: 'Autonomous Weapons Systems Under International Law.'	The development of autonomous weapon systems raises many serious societal and ethical concerns. Academy Briefing No. 8 focuses on the international legal implications of developing and using such systems. It considers autonomous weapon systems with respect to the law that governs inter-state use of force (<i>jus ad bellum</i>), their legality under the international law of law enforcement, and the application of international humanitarian law (notably the rules on distinction, proportionality, and precautions in attack) to their use in armed conflicts. It also examines the international obligation to conduct a legal review of autonomous weapon systems and broader issues of accountability under domestic and international law.	EPFL.
10 December	Book launch: '2013 War Report.'	<i>The War Report 2013</i> identifies and describes all armed conflicts in the preceding calendar year, and provides information on ongoing crisis and conflicts. It is a resource for those working in conflict zones, governments, policy makers, journalists, the ICRC, and the UN.	IHEID and Xavier Colin of radio-télévision suisse romande.

PUBLIC EVENTS





THE TEAM

Directorate	Prof. Robert Roth	Director of the Academy (from August 2014)
	Prof. Andrew Clapham	Director of the Academy (until August 2014)
	Prof. Paola Gaeta	Director of the Academy (until August 2014)

Professor	Prof. Robert Roth	Professor
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Administrative staff	Kamelia Kemileva	Executive Manager
	Daniela Renggli	Assistant to the Directorate
	Tatiana Avanthay	Administrative and Communication Assistant
	Antonella Ghio	Administrative Officer
	Nathalie Staffler	Programme Officer to the Masters
	Danny Diogo	Administrative Assistant
	Fabienne Claudel	Accountant

Resident Researchers	Dr. Stuart Casey-Maslen	Head of Research (until September 2014)
	Dr. Milena Costas Trascasas	Research Fellow
	Dr. Christophe Golay	Research Fellow
	Dr. Sandra Kraehnmann	Research fellow
	Joie Chowdruwy	Research Fellow
	Alice Priddy	Researcher
	Marina Mattiolo	Researcher
	Thomas Unger	Researcher with the Cassese Initiative
	Silvia Suteu	Researcher
	Maya Brehm	Researcher
	Valentina Cadelo	Researcher
	Rachelle Kouassi	Researcher
	Iris Van Der Heijden	Coordinator, Geneva Conventions Commentary

Teaching Assistants 2013-2014	Antonio Coco	Ph.D researcher, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva
	Mélissa Fardel	Ph.D researcher, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva
	Tom Gal	Ph.D researcher, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva
	Antoine Kabore	Ph.D researcher, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva
	Patryk Labuda	Ph.D researcher
	Jean-Baptiste Maillart	Ph.D researcher, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva
	Nishat Nishat	Ph.D researcher, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva (until February 2014)
	Ilya Nuzov	Ph.D researcher, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva
	Barrie Sander	Ph.D researcher, Graduate Institute of International
	Iliia Siatitsa	Ph.D researcher, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The **Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights** provides post-graduate education by organizing a Master of Advanced Studies/LL.M. in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, offers a Master of advanced studies for working professionals, conducts academic legal research, undertakes policy studies, and organizes training courses and expert meetings. The Geneva Academy concentrates on the branches of international law applicable in times of armed conflict.

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