

**GENEVA
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Académie de droit international
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Academy of International
Humanitarian Law and Human Rights



ICRC

LAUNCH

INVESTIGATING VIOLATIONS OF IHL: LAW, POLICY AND GOOD PRACTICE

REDTALK SPACE | CICG | 17 RUE DE VAREMBE | GENEVA | **WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2019 | 13:00 - 13:45**

**GUIDELINES ON INVESTIGATING
VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN LAW:
LAW, POLICY, AND GOOD PRACTICE**

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FACULTY OF LAW

Investigations into alleged violations of international humanitarian law (IHL) by the parties to an armed conflict are not only crucial to securing respect for IHL, but also to preventing future violations and enabling redress for victims of past violations. Despite the unquestionable importance of investigations, there is a lack of detail with regard to the international law, principles and standards relevant to investigations in armed conflicts. This is further reflected in the disparate practice across states in the way investigations are carried out.

This event, co-organized with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) during the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, will serve to present and discuss the *Guidelines on Investigating Violations of International Humanitarian Law: Law, Policy, and Good Practice*.

AUDIENCE

This event forms part of the RedTalk Programme of the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. It is therefore only open to those with accreditation to the Conference.

**GENEVA ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

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MODERATION

- **Marco Sassòli**, Director of the Geneva Academy and Professor of International Law, University of Geneva

PANELISTS

- **Noam Lubell**, Swiss IHL Chair at the Geneva Academy, Professor of International Law at the University of Essex and Co-author of the Guidelines
- **Jelena Pejic**, Senior Legal Adviser at the ICRC and Co-author of the Guidelines

ABOUT THE GUIDELINES

The first document of its kind, published by the Geneva Academy and the ICRC in this area addresses, among other things, when an investigation should be triggered, the different types of investigations, and the international principles and standards necessary for an effective investigation in armed conflict. The text presents a broad framework for the conduct of investigations, while taking into account the diverse legal and military systems that exist, as well as the legal and practical challenges that can arise.

The Guidelines are the result of a five-year project initiated in 2014. The resulting publication is based on extensive research and is also informed by a series of expert workshops and engagement with stakeholders. The 16 Guidelines are each accompanied by a detailed commentary and provide guidance on the different aspects of investigations into violations of IHL, from the early stages of recording information and identifying the incidents that require investigation, through to the structural and procedural aspects of investigative bodies.

These Guidelines should be an essential tool not only for states aiming to conduct investigations of IHL violations in compliance with international law but also for other actors seeking a more detailed understanding of investigations in armed conflict.