

**Centre d'Étude
de Droit militaire et de
Droit de la Guerre**

Association sans but lucratif



**Studiecentrum
voor Militair Recht en
Oorlogsrecht**

Vereniging zonder winstgevend
doel

In cooperation with



Belgische **Rode Kruis**
Croix-Rouge de Belgique



ICRC

War in Cities

Thursday 20 April 2023
Rode Kruis-Vlaanderen
(Motstraat 42, 2800 Mechelen)

09.30 - 10.00 Arrival and registration

(Announced use of languages TBC)

10.00 - 10.30 **Opening and introduction** (in Dutch)

- Mr. Ludwig Van Der Veken, President of the Belgian Group of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- Dr. Laurette Steensens, President of the Belgian Red Cross-Flanders

10.30 - 11.30 **Panel I: The use of explosive weapons in populated areas** (in Dutch and French)

Chair: Mrs. Pauline Warnotte, International Committee of the Red Cross

- Setting the scene: The human cost of use of EWIPA and the need to strengthen the protection of civilians
 - o Mrs. Nele Lauwers, Belgian Red Cross-Flanders
- The support to the adherence to the Political Declaration and its implementation by Belgium
 - o Mr. Filip Živković, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - o Lieutenant Colonel Pierre Degezelle, Ministry of Defence

Postadres & Hoofdzetel/Adresse de correspondance & Siège :

Studiecentrum voor Militair Recht en Oorlogsrecht (vzw) – Centre d'Étude de Droit Militaire et de Droit de la Guerre (asbl)

Renaissancelaan/Avenue de la Renaissance 30 – 1000 Brussel/Bruxelles – België/Belgique

RPR Brussel / RPM Bruxelles – KBO/BCE 0410.653.953

Tél. : +32 472 80 76 09 - E-mail : brussels@ismllw-be.org - Site web : <http://www.ismllw-be.org/>

11.30 - 12.30

Panel II: Challenges related to assistance to the civilian population & protection of essential infrastructure (in English)

Chair: Mrs. Nele Lauwers, Belgian Red Cross-Flanders

- Physical injuries and mental health and psychological effects as consequence of urban conflict
 - o Mrs. Alma Taslidžan, Humanity & Inclusion
- Humanitarian responses to the consequences of urban warfare: lessons learned and recommendations
 - o TBC
- Protection of essential services under IHL
 - o Prof. Dr. Steven Dewulf, Royal Military Academy

12.30 - 13.00

Q&A

13:00 - 13.45

Lunch

13.45 - 14.45

Panel III: The protection of civilians in the planning and conduct of military operations (in English)

Chair: TBC

- Planning military operations in cities: putting protection of civilians at the heart of Commanders objectives
 - o Lieutenant Colonel Pierre Degezelle, Ministry of Defence
- Distinction, Proportionality and Precautions in cities – considerations for coping with the challenges
 - o Mr. Christopher Jansen Hall, International Committee of the Red Cross
- Exercise as you fight – UW in military training
 - o Colonel Nathalie Durhin, SHAPE/ACO Office of Legal Affairs

14.45 - 15.00

Q&A

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15.00 - 16.00

Panel IV: "New technologies: friend or foe in urban warfare?" (in French and English)

Chair: Mr. Frédéric Casier, Belgian Red Cross – French speaking Community

- New technologies blurring the lines between combatants and civilians
 - o TBC
- Challenges related to the dual-use of objects: the example of reliance on the satellites in the urban battlefield
 - o Mr. Alain De Neve, Royal Higher Institute for Defence
- How could new technologies enhance IHL compliance in urban warfare?
 - o Mrs. Klaudia Klonowska, T.M.C. Asser Institute

16.00 - 16.15

Q&A

16.15 - 16.30

Conclusions (in French)

- Mr. Frédéric Casier, Belgian Red Cross – French speaking Community
- Mrs. Pauline Warnotte, International Committee of the Red Cross

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