



**One-day conference
organised by the Belgian Group of
the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
&
the Chair of Law of
the Belgian Royal Military Academy**

*Recent conflicts in the Middle East &
related international law questions*

22-10-2025

Royal Military Academy

Conducted under the Chatham House Rule
Brussels

- 08.30 – 09.15 ***Registration & coffee/tea***
- 09.15 – 09.20 ***Opening of the conference by the Day Moderator***
Elise ROOSELEERS, Researcher and Teaching Assistant, Chair of Law, Royal Military Academy
- 09.20 – 09.45 ***Setting the scene: Overview of the conflicts that are or were recently taking place in the Middle East***
Dr. Didier LEROY, Researcher of the Centre for Security and Defence Studies, Royal Higher Institute for Defence, Belgium
- 09.45 – 10.00 Break / leg stretch
- 10.00 – 11.45 ***Interactive debate 1: The ius ad bellum & ius in bello perspective***
Chair:
Prof. Dr. Steven DEWULF, Professor of International Law, Chair of Law, Royal Military Academy, Belgium
- Speakers:
Dr. Chiara REDAELLI, Research Fellow, University of Geneva
- Dr. Tom RUYS, Assistant Legal Advisor, Office of Legal Affairs, NATO Headquarters
- Maxime NIJS, Doctoral Researcher & Teaching Assistant in Public International Law, UGent

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

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- 11.45 – 13.30 Lunch break
- 13.30 – 14.50 ***Interactive debate 2: Perspectives on counter-terrorism***
 Chair:
 Alfons VANHEUSDEN, Session Director of the Belgian Group of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- Speakers:
 Antoon SCHOTSAERT, Federal Magistrate, Terro Section, Office of the Federal Prosecutor, Belgium
- Dr. Bibi VAN GINKEL, Programme Lead of the Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism pillar, International Centre for Counter-Terrorism
- 14.50 – 15.20 Coffee break
- 15.20 – 16.40 ***Interactive debate 3: Perspectives on the naval dimension***
 Chair:
 Alfons VANHEUSDEN, Session Director of the Belgian Group of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- Speakers:
 Gilles MARHIC, Legal Advisor, European External Action Service
- Frederik ROGIERS, PhD Candidate, Ghent Maritime Institute, Ghent University
- 16.40 – 16.45 ***Closing of the conference***
- Ludwig VAN DER VEKEN, President of the Belgian Group of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

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