

‘Centre d’Etude de Droit Militaire et de Droit de la Guerre’
‘Studiecentrum voor Militair Recht en Oorlogsrecht’



Under the Auspices of the



International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
‘Société Internationale de Droit Militaire et de Droit de la Guerre’

Our ref.
ISMILLW 1262 N E 1

Brussels,
1 July 2026

Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

Following the success of our eight previous editions, the *Belgian Group* of the *International Society for Military Law and the Law of War* is pleased to invite you to attend the ninth *‘Silent leges inter arma?’* conference. This international conference will once again be hosted at the Grand Hotel Casselbergh in the centre of the historical city of Bruges (Belgium) and will take place from 15 through 18 September 2026.

The conference will bring together practitioners and academics active in the field of security and defence to discuss legal and policy aspects of a variety of important topics. Please find enclosed an outline of the programme. We are proud to announce that the keynote speech will be delivered by the Belgian Minister of Defence, Mr. Theo Francken. A detailed program will be published on the website of the *International Society for Military Law and the Law of War* (www.ismllw.org). The language of the Conference will be English. The conference is designed to offer ample professional networking opportunities.

The number of participants in this conference is **limited to 120**. Travel arrangements should therefore only be made *after* written confirmation of participation has been received. For practical reasons we strongly recommend that participants book their accommodation at the Grand Hotel Casselbergh, using our special hotel reservation form. Special daily room prices apply for participants in the conference for bookings made before 15 August 2026: 188 euro for a superior room (even if it is occupied by two persons) (breakfast for the guest(s), VAT, free WiFi and free access to the wellness area included, but city tax of 4,20 euro per person and additional room and hotel services not included). Guests who wish to check out on 19 September 2026 rather than on 18 September 2026 are invited to contact the hotel to check the applicable rate for the extra night.

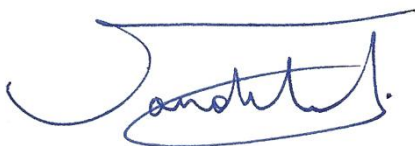
Foreign visitors to Belgium may have to apply for a visa at the appropriate Embassy or Consulate of the Kingdom of Belgium. Participants are responsible for timely application for their visa. Travel to Bruges is an individual responsibility. There are excellent train connections between Brussels Airport and the City of Bruges, and the *Society’s* General Secretariat will be happy to advise participants on the best way to reach their destination.

The conference fee for the '*Silent Leges inter Arma?*' conference covers a conference package, a social-cultural programme, as well as lunches and coffee breaks as stipulated in the program.

Application forms must be received by the General Secretariat of the *International Society for Military Law and the Law of War* **as soon as possible and in any event no later than 14 August 2026**. Together with confirmation of participation payment details will be provided. Full payment must be received no later than 21 August 2026.

The *International Society for Military Law and the Law of War* and its *Belgian Group* very much look forward to your participation in and contribution to this unique event in the heart of the UNESCO World Heritage city of Bruges.

Yours respectfully,



Ludwig Van Der Veken

*Secretary-General of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
& President of the Belgian Group*

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