

Advanced Professional Training on Humanitarian Law and Policy Dubai, 9-13 December 2018



Photo: Department for International Development/Kate Joseph

Core Professional Training

9-11 December 2018

The Core Professional Training on Humanitarian Law and Policy – an intensive three-day program – serves as an opportunity for experienced humanitarian practitioners, policymakers, and others operating in or dealing with conflict settings to deepen their understanding of international humanitarian law (IHL) and other legal frameworks applicable in times of war, and to explore related policy and operational challenges.

Suitable for those both with and without prior legal training, the course covers the sources and development of IHL, key distinctions between international and non-international armed conflicts, the applicability of international human rights law in armed conflict, the obligations of State and non-State actors, implementation and enforcement of IHL, and the role of humanitarian actors in situations of armed conflict. Additional “flex sessions” respond to the interests and concerns of registrants and specific issues they are currently facing in their work.

Discussions, case studies, and exercises reinforce the learning objectives and connect theory with practice, exploring challenging questions that arise in humanitarian response settings, such as the status of civilians participating in hostilities, the rules applicable to detention in armed conflict, the regulation of weapons, and the norms governing humanitarian access and assistance. Throughout the course, examples from contemporary conflicts illustrate the applicability of legal rules, as well as challenges in practice.

Thematic Workshop on Engagement with Armed Non-State Actors and International Law

12-13 December 2018

The prevalence of armed conflicts characterised by the presence of armed non-State actors carries important legal and policy implications for humanitarian professionals. Focusing on their application to non-State armed groups, this workshop provides an intensive review of the relevant bodies of international law, in particular international humanitarian law and international human rights law. It also offers an analysis of frameworks for engagement with non-State actors on specific issues such as negotiating humanitarian access or developing humanitarian protection strategies. The workshop aims at strengthening participants' capacity to use international law when appropriate in those challenging contexts and promote respect of international norms by armed non-State actors in conflict situations.



This course helps in contributing to the overall definition of strategies thanks to a better understanding of legal frameworks distinctive of crisis contexts. In my experience, there is plenty of room and opportunity for a very open participation and so for true learning, also thanks to simulations, examples, and opinion/fact sharing among participants. As in previous experiences, PHAP staff as well as lecturers were professional, and at the same time friendly and extremely careful in making sure that everyone was comfortably benefitting by the course. I recommend this training.

- Participant in Amman 2013 and New York 2013.

Agenda overview

This overview provides an indication the scope of the program – the details of the program are subject to change. For the latest information, please see the event page at <https://phap.org>

Core Professional Training

Sunday, 9 December

- Relevance and use of IHL for humanitarian practitioners
- Foundations and development of IHL as part of public international law
- Classification of situations of violence and individuals under IHL
- Applicability of human rights during armed conflict
- Case study on qualification of situations

Monday, 10 December

- Regulating the conduct of hostilities: targeting objects
- Regulating the conduct of hostilities: targeting individuals and direct participation in hostilities
- Targeting exercise
- Implementation of IHL
- IHL and international criminal law with special focus on war crimes

Tuesday, 11 December

- Multinational operations under IHL
- Legal frameworks on humanitarian access
- The Resolution 1612 monitoring and reporting mechanism on grave violations of children's rights in situations of armed conflict as a form of accountability
- Principles and methods of humanitarian action for access and protection

Thematic Workshop on Engagement with Armed Non-State Actors and International Law

Wednesday, 12 December

- Definition and diversity of armed groups
- The status of armed groups under IHL
- The human rights obligations of armed groups during conflict
- Understanding motives and challenges for armed groups' compliance with international law

Thursday, 13 December

- Strategies of engagement with armed groups
- The case of Geneva Call
- Negotiating humanitarian access with armed groups
- Regulation of engagement with armed groups: Counter-terrorism legislation and beyond

Practical information

Regular cost-recovery participation fees

 Core Professional Training (3 days): € 900 (non-member fee: € 990)

 Thematic Workshop (2 days): € 600 (non-member fee: € 660)

 Core Professional Training and Thematic Workshop (5 days): € 1350 (non-member fee: € 1485)

The fee includes tuition, training materials, and meals provided during the training event. Member dues are € 80 annually. Read more about our group pricing, early bird discount, and returning participant discount at www.phap.org

Applications

The Advanced Professional Training is open to professionals with a minimum of two years of relevant experience.

Applications can be submitted online via the PHAP website at www.phap.org/PDP-DXB2018CT

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