

B.S.I.L.



**Conference on the ICRC updated Commentary on the
First Geneva Convention: Capturing 60 years of Practice**

*The Belgian Interministerial Commission for Humanitarian Law,
The Belgian Red Cross and
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
With the support of the Belgian Society for International Law*



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**Friday, 29 September 2017
Egmont Palace
Place du Petit Sablon 8 bis, 1000 Brussels**

AGENDA

- 8:30 – 9:00 **Registration and welcome coffee**
- 9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome and general introduction**
Mrs Lieve Pellens, President of the Belgian Interministerial
Commission for Humanitarian Law
- 9:15 – 9:40 **The ICRC Commentaries project: objectives and outcomes**
Keynote Speaker: Mr. Jean-Marie Henckaerts, Head of
Commentaries Update Unit, ICRC Legal Division
- 9:40 – 10:00 Discussion
- 10:00 – 11:15 **PANEL I. The obligation to ‘ensure respect’ for the Geneva
Conventions**
- Chair: Mr Paul Berman, EU Council Legal Service
Speaker: Mrs Liesbeth Lijnzaad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands
Commentator: Mr Ola Engdahl, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden
- 10:50 – 11:15 Discussion
- 11:15 – 11:45 Coffee break
- 11:45 – 12:45 **PANEL II: Conflict classification (IAC and NIAC)**
- Chair: Mr Jan Wouters, University of Leuven
Speaker: Mr Dapo Akande, Oxford University
Commentator: Mrs Lone Kjølgaard, Office of Legal Affairs, NATO
- 12:25 – 12:45 Discussion
- 13:00 – 14:00 **Conference lunch**

14:00 – 14:10 Mr Koen Geens, Belgian Minister of Justice

14:15 – 15:15 **PANEL III: the protection of the wounded and sick in both IAC and NIAC**

Chair: Mr Jean-Marie Henckaerts

Speaker: Mr Vaios Koutroulis, Free University of Brussels

Commentator: Mr Titus Githiora, Kenya School of Governance

14:45 – 15:15 Discussion

15:15 – 15:45 **Coffee break**

15:45 – 17:00 **PANEL IV: Implementation of the Geneva Conventions, including dissemination and criminal aspects – developments and novelties**

Chair: Mr Bakhtiyar Tuzmukhamedov, Russian Association of International Law

Speaker: Mrs Eve La Haye, ICRC

Commentator: Mrs Laura De Grève, Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)

16:25 – 17:00 Discussion

17:00 – 17:20 **Closing Remarks**

Mr Didier Reynders, Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs and
Mr Pierre Apraxine, ICRC Delegation to the EU, NATO and the
Kingdom of Belgium