



Invitation to attend the

Conference

**‘The Certain Conventional Weapons Convention at 30 –
Evolution, Contemporary Relevance, Context, and Challenges Ahead’**

16-17 September 2010

Stockholm

Swedish National Defence College

On 10 October 1980, States assembled in Geneva adopted the *Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects* (CCW). The CCW is a manifestation of several general principles of the law of armed conflict: the protection of the civilian population against the effects of hostilities, the limitation of belligerents in their choice of methods and means of warfare, and the prohibition of the employment of weapons, projectiles and material and methods of warfare of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering. Simultaneously, the CCW is also an instrument of weapons control. Since the adoption of the Mines and Explosive Remnants of War Protocols, the CCW has also begun to take on regulation of the post-conflict phase.

The CCW and its Protocols are instruments which are firmly embedded in the broader context of military-technological developments and the laws regulating them. As for technological developments, the advent of cyber warfare, unmanned and nanotechnological weapons systems, and non-lethal weapons demonstrate some of the new challenges concerning the legal regulation of weapon systems and warfare. Some examples of the legal context can be seen in Article 36 of the First Additional Protocol of 1977 to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 on the review of the legality of new weapons, or treaties such as the Ottawa Convention and the recent Convention on Cluster Munitions.

The 30th anniversary of the adoption of the CCW is an appropriate moment to take stock of the treaty and its Protocols in its broader context of the law of armed conflict, the law of arms control and of post-conflict reconstruction, to consider the challenges that new weapons and weapons systems pose to international legal regulation and the prospects for the law of conventional weaponry, and to consider possible themes for the 2011 Review Conference.

To that end, the *International Law Centre* at the *Swedish National Defence College*, in partnership with the *Viadrina University Frankfurt (Oder)* and the *International Society of Military Law and the Law of War*, has organized an international, two-day conference on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the CCW. The Conference is aimed at an international audience of military personnel and other practitioners, academics, representatives of States and of humanitarian and non-governmental organizations, as well as other interested individuals. The Conference will assemble

speakers of international standing to address the aforementioned issues. The papers delivered at the Conference will subsequently be published in an edited volume, tentatively entitled *'The Certain Conventional Weapons Convention at 30 – Evolution, Contemporary Relevance, Context, and Challenges Ahead'*.

Confirmed speakers include:

- Professor Maja Eriksson, Pro-rector of the Swedish National Defence College
- Dr. Bill Boothby, UK Royal Air Force
- Associate Professor Jann Kleffner, Swedish National Defence College
- Mr. Hays Parks, US Department of Defence
- Mr. David Turns, UK Defence Academy
- Mr. Bruno Demeyere, HPCR
- Professor Wolff Heintschel von Heinegg, Viadrina University of Frankfurt / Oder
- Mr. Bengt Westerberg, Swedish Red Cross
- Dr. Åsa Molde, Swedish Red Cross
- Professor Terry Gill, University of Amsterdam
- Professor Ove Bring, formerly of the Swedish National Defence College
- Dr. Dieter Fleck, Honorary President of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- Professor Martin Norsell, Swedish National Defence College
- Professor Armin Krishnan, University of Texas
- Professor Michael Schmitt, Durham Law School
- Mr. Arne Willy Dahl, President of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- Mr. Brian Woods, Amnesty International
- Mrs. Anna Askholt, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

You are cordially invited to participate in this conference. For questions and registration please contact Mrs Catharina Jönsson by e-mail (catharina.jonsson@fhs.se) or telephone (+46-8-55342789). The last date for registration is 1 September 2010. Participants are expected to arrange for their own travel and accommodation. Lunches will be available for purchase at the Swedish Defence College. The applicable registration fee is 100 EUR (1.000 SEK), to be paid no later than 5 September 2010 on the account of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War:

Banque de La Poste
Rue de Colonies 56
1000 Brussels
IBAN : BE 29 0000 0330 4464 (International Bank Account Number)
BIC: BPOTBEB1

Every payment shall mention the participant's name and surname.
There will be no reimbursement of paid registration fees.

The general programme of the conference is described on the last page of this invitation. All participants will receive a detailed programme and practical information after registration. The conference does not offer any facilities or any programme for accompanying persons. The conference language will be English.

We look forward to welcoming you in Stockholm for this event!

The organizing team

General Programme

<i>16 September 2010</i>
Welcoming Address
AM - Panel 1: Evolution
From St Petersburg to Geneva
The CCW as part of the general law on means of warfare
The CCW and its relation to the general principles of the Law of Armed Conflict
The backgrounds to the various protocols
Problems and prospects of the amendment and review process, including compliance mechanism
PM - Panel 2: Contemporary Relevance
The relevance of the CCW for contemporary military operations: a view from the field
Conventional weaponry and the law of air and missile warfare
The CCW and its relevance for Naval Operations
CCW and Weapons Reviews
<i>17 September 2010</i>
AM - Panel 3: Context
Connect or Disconnect? CCW and the Ottawa and Oslo Conventions
The CCW and weapons control law
The CCW as an instrument of the <i>jus post bellum</i>
Conventional weapons and its 'other': 'unconventional' weapons (WMD) and the law of armed conflict
A medical perspective on conventional weapons
PM - Panel 4: Prospects and Possible Themes for the 2011 Review Conference
Major trends in conventional weapons technology
Robotics and nanotechnological warfare
Computer network attacks and the law on conventional weaponry
Non-lethal weapons and the law of conventional weaponry
Small arms treaty
Closing Remarks