



XIIth Seminar for Legal Advisors of the Armed Forces
18-21 June 2019, Geneva, Switzerland

Reference: ISMLLW 999 N E 3

Brussels, 25 March 2019

Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War (ISMLLW) will organise its XIIth Seminar for Legal Advisors of the Armed Forces from 18 to 21 June 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland. We gratefully acknowledge the support provided by our co-organizer, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), as well as the Swiss Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS), the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and the Swiss Group of the ISMLLW.

The central theme of this Seminar is ‘**The Law of Armed Non-State Actors 70 Years after the Geneva Conventions**’. To mark this celebratory year of the Geneva Conventions, we are delighted to announce that the Seminar will take place in Geneva and visits to the ‘Palais des Nations’ and the Museum of the International Committee of the Red Cross will be part of the programme.

The central theme is divided into different sub-themes as detailed in the enclosed draft programme. The sub-themes will be explored during lectures in plenary and working sessions, chaired by distinguished scholars and senior officers. Highly experienced speakers will address case law and specific operational situations.

In line with the successful seminars in Budapest (2002), Strasbourg (2005), Windhoek (2008), Riga (2010), Muenster (2013), Galway (2014) and Stockholm (2017), this Seminar is intended for military legal advisors holding the ranks of captain to colonel and civilian experts with comparable civilian rank. In terms of prior knowledge, participants are expected to have a general grasp of the law of armed conflict. The Seminar will further train them in various aspects of its practical implementation.

English will be the medium of instruction for all plenary sessions of the Seminar. A reasonable command of this language is therefore strongly recommended.

You are kindly requested to register as quickly as possible and **no later than 1 May 2019**. The participation fee amounts to € 345,- per person for members of the Society and € 395,- for non-members. This fee also covers coffee/tea during seminar sessions, several meals as stipulated in the programme as well as the visits as mentioned earlier. The Seminar does not offer any facilities or programme for accompanying persons.

Please find enclosed the provisional programme for the Seminar as well as an application form. Details for the transfer of the participation fee will be provided by the General Secretariat in Brussels after the application form has been received. The participation fee is due no later than 15 May 2019.

The venue for the Seminar is the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), located at 'Maison de la Paix', Chemin Eugene-Rigot 2D in Geneva. For accommodation, please see the attached information sheet detailing the offer of four hotels close to the GCSP. We strongly advise interested participants to reserve their accommodation as soon as possible as the hotels will be releasing our pre-reserved rooms to regular hotel guests. Participants are free to choose their accommodation in Geneva. When participants are making bookings for one of the hotels listed in the information sheet, they must mention that they wish to book a room pre-reserved by the GCSP.

Please note that travel to Geneva is an individual responsibility. Visa requirements may apply; you are advised to verify these timely. Direct flights to Geneva Cointrin Airport are available from numerous European countries. A direct bus will take you from the airport to the GCSP or to the centre of Geneva in about 20 minutes.

The international composition of the group will offer a truly unique opportunity to exchange experiences and ideas and will prepare participants for future international assignments. The International Society for Military Law and the Law of War very much welcomes you to this Seminar.

Yours respectfully,



Aart Jan de Haan

Director of Seminars
International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

Brigadier General, Military Legal Service
Royal Netherlands Army

Attachments:

1. Provisional seminar programme
2. Application form
3. Hotel information sheet