LEUVEN MANUAL ON THE INTERNATIONAL LAW APPLICABLE TO PEACE OPERATIONS

Prepared by an International Group of Experts at the Invitation of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

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BOOK REVIEW



Leuven Manual on the International Law Applicable to Peace Operations

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Book review by Tobias Vestner, Head of the Security and Law Programme at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), and Alessandro Mario Amoroso, Programme Officer of the Security and Law Programme at the GCSP.

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The Leuven Manual on the International Law Applicable to Peace Operations (Leuven Manual) belongs to the class of publications that deserve a prominent place in every bookshelf on peace operations and public international law. The Leuven Manual provides a restatement of all international norms applicable to peace operations,¹ thereby filling a gap in a field where political priorities and situational specificities hinder a comprehensive legal regulation. Its systematic analysis of the applicable international law responds to pressing calls by practitioners, policy-makers and academics, and will serve as an indispensable tool for better decision-making in future operations.

* Published by Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2017.

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"Consensual" Peace Operations

- Traditional peacekeeping
- Multi-dimensional Peace Operations

Based on three bedrock principles:

- Consent
- Impartiality
- Limited use of force

Black letter rules & accompanying commentary

- Rules reflecting legal obligations
- Best practice rules
- Consensus of the participating experts



Protection of Civilians

- HIPPO Report 2015
- Right to life, principle of distinction and the prohibition of ill treatment and torture
- Primary obligation of the Host State
- Rule 1.8 of the UN Master List of Numbered ROE
- POC Mandate vs no POC Mandate

Protection of personal data

- Modernized Convention 108 Council of Europe
- GDPR
- National legislation
- UNHCR Policy on the Protection of Personal Data of Persons of Concern to UNHCR
- Art. 17 ICCPR
- 1990 UN General Assembly Guidelines for the Regulation of Computerized Personal Data Files
- ICRC's Handbook on Data Protection in Humanitarian Action
- 2009 Madrid Resolution adopted at an international conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners

Protection of the environment

- UN special rapporteur for the UN International Law Commission
- Articles 35 and 55 of the First Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions
- General IHL rules about distinction, precaution and proportionality
- Local environmental standards
- Environmental risk management

Derogation

• Rule 5.7 of the Leuven Manual

Other

- International policing
- UN Administrations/transitional authority
- Cyber in peace operations
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Thank you for your kind attention!