

‘Centre d’Etude de Droit Militaire et de Droit de la Guerre’
‘Studiecentrum voor Militair Recht en Oorlogsrecht’



International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
‘Société Internationale de Droit Militaire et de Droit de la Guerre’

With the support of

The University of Sheffield

and

The Constitutional Court of Lithuania

THE ‘SILENT LEGES INTER ARMA?’ CONFERENCE IV

By the *Belgian Group* under the Auspices of the
International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

PROGRAMME¹

Ref.: ISMLLW 1031 N E 29

Grand Hotel Casselbergh, Bruges
28 September – 1 October 2021

Tuesday 28 September 2021

Arrival of the participants

15:00 – 17:45 Joint meeting of the Managing Board and the Board of Directors of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War (separate invitations will be sent to the board members)

15:00 – 18:15 Registration

18:30 – 20:00 Welcome drink at the hotel lounge

Wednesday 29 September 2021

07:30 – 08:15 Registration

08:30 – 08:40 Opening of the conference

Mr. Ludwig Van Der Veken, President of the Belgian Group & Secretary-General of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

¹ Sessions or parts of sessions will be conducted online to the extent caused by the COVID-19 situation and social events and visits may be cancelled if required by the COVID-19 situation.

08:40 – 10:45

Panel 1 – The Cyber Threat in Practice, Cyber Espionage and International Law

Chair: Prof. Dr. Paul Ducheine, University of Amsterdam and Netherlands Defence Academy & Vice-President of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

Speakers:

Mr. Geert Baudewijns, General Director, Secutec

Dr. Russell Buchan, Senior Lecturer in International Law, University of Sheffield

Prof. Dr. Karine Bannelier Christakis, Assistant Professor of International Law and Deputy Director of the Cybersecurity Institute, University of Grenoble-Alpes (TBC)

10:45 – 11:10

Group photo & Coffee/Tea

11:10 – 11:30

Presentation of the Legal Advisors Worktop Functional Area System (LAWFAS) by Mr (CTR) José Maria Da Silva Miguel, Office of the Legal Advisor of Allied Command Operations (ACO) / Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE)

12:00 – 13:00

Lunch buffet

13:05 – 20:15

City walk in Bruges, followed by a bus ride to Ostend, a visit to Atlantikwall Raversyde², a reception with finger foods on board of the three-masted ship the Mercator in the marina of Ostend, and a bus ride back to Bruges

14:00 – 14:30

Law of War Considerations when Attacking and Defending Bunker Complexes

Speaker:

Senior Captain Tom Boonen, Legal Advisor and Head of the Operational Law Section, DG Legal Support, Ministry of Defence, Belgium

² Shoes without high heels required.

Thursday 30 September 2021

08:30 – 10:30

Panel 2 to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Military Law and the Law of War Review – The Role of Lawyers in Targeting Operations

Chair : Prof. Dr. Tom Ruys, Professor of International Law, University of Ghent & General Editor of the Military Law and the Law of War Review

Speakers:

Dr. Craig Jones, Lecturer, Newcastle University

Prof. Dr. Marten Zwanenburg, Netherlands Defence Academy & University of Amsterdam

Colonel Nathalie Durhin, Legal OPS Branch Head, SHAPE

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee/Tea

11:00 – 12:30

Panel 3 – Foreign Intervention in A Pre-existing Non-International Armed Conflict – What Are the Consequences in Terms of International Law?

Chair: Mr. Alessandro Vitro, Legal Adviser, Legal Service, Directorate External Relations, General Secretariat, Council of the EU

Speakers:

Dr. Tristan Ferraro, Senior Legal Advisor, ICRC

Mr. John Swords, Legal Advisor and Director of the Office of Legal Affairs, NATO Headquarters

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch buffet

14:00 – 16:00

Panel 4 to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Military Law and the Law of War Review – The Challenges for and the Future of International Humanitarian Law

Chair : Prof. Dr. Vaios Koutroulis, Professor of International Law, Université libre de Bruxelles & General Editor of the Military Law and the Law of War Review

Speakers:

Prof. Em. Dr. Françoise Hampson, University of Essex

Prof. Dr. Marco Sassòli, Professor of International Law, University of Geneva

Prof. Em. Terry D. Gill, University of Amsterdam

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee/Tea

16:30 – 17:30

Panel 5 - The Applicability of International Humanitarian Law in Peace Operations: What Are the Practical Implications & Is There Room for Further Clarification?

Chair: Mr. Alfons Vanheusden, Assistant Secretary-General of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

Speakers:

Dr. William H. Boothby, Honorary Professor, Australian National University

Mrs. Pauline Warnotte, Senior Legal Advisor, ICRC Delegation to the EU, NATO and the Kingdom of Belgium

Free evening

Friday 1 October 2021

08:30 – 10:00

Panel 6 – The Right to Strike in the Public Sector, and in the Military in Particular

Chair: Mr. Emmanuel Jacob, President of EUROMIL

Speakers:

Prof. Dr. Daiva Petrylaite, Vilnius University & Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania

Mr. Jens Claerman, Lawyer, DG Human Resources, Ministry of Defence, Belgium

10:00 – 10:30

Coffee/Tea

10:30 – 12:30

Panel 7 – War in an Urbanised World – What Are the International Humanitarian Law Implications?

Chair: Brigadier General (ret.) Jan Peter Spijk, Honorary President of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

Speakers:

Prof. Dr. Lilit Yeremyan, Faculty of Law, Russian-Armenian University

Lieutenant-Colonel (ret.) Geoffrey S. Corn, Vinson & Elkins Professor of Law, South Texas College of Law, Houston

12:30 – 12:45

Closing Remarks

Mr. Ludwig Van Der Veken, President of the Belgian Group & Secretary-General of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War

14:30 – 21:00

Optional Visit³ (separate registration and payment of an additional fee required) to Flanders Fields, including attendance of the Last Post at the Menin Gate in Ypres, ceremony with wreath laying

Guides: Mr. Franky Bostyn, Deputy Director-General, War Heritage Institute, Belgium (TBC) & Mr. Sven Devroe, Head Chemical Demilitarisation Branch, OPCW

³ Subject to a sufficient number of registrants.