



Our Ref: ISMLLW 1243 N E 1

Brussels, 2 January 2026

Dear Madam,  
Dear Sir,

It is with great pleasure that we announce that our next *international conference* will be hosted in Lucerne (Switzerland) from **10 to 13 March 2026**. This event will be dedicated to the following theme:

***“The Law of Armed Conflict and Emerging Technologies:  
Legal, Ethical and Strategic Perspectives”.***

Advances in areas such as cyber operations, artificial intelligence, autonomous weapon systems, cloud and quantum computing, and data-driven warfare are transforming the character of modern conflict. These developments pose profound questions for the interpretation and application of the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) and challenge existing frameworks of accountability, distinction, precaution and proportionality.

This conference brings together renowned experts from law, technology, ethics, and security policy to explore how international humanitarian law can remain both relevant and effective in the face of disruptive technological change. Through a series of panel discussions and interdisciplinary exchanges, participants will examine the evolving battlefield and discuss concrete ways to strengthen legal compliance and humanitarian protection in the digital age.

There will be a diverse programme through English, featuring internationally renowned experts. Herewith you will find the outline of the conference **programme**, as well as the necessary information to fill out the **application form**. The detailed conference programme will be made available on our website and, in addition, a copy will be sent to registered participants.

The deadline for sending in completed and signed application forms is **25 February 2026**. However, it is important to note that places are limited, accordingly the registration process may close earlier once the quota of places available is met. Once we have received and accepted the completed application form, a confirmation of registration and an invitation to pay the applicable participation fee will be sent by e-mail. This confirmation becomes final upon payment of the participation fee.

The conference will take place at the **Swiss Armed Forces College (AFC)**, offering a unique location for participants to benefit from expert presentations, panel discussions, and interactive sessions, providing a forum for exchange between legal scholars, practitioners, and military professionals.

**Mailing address & Seat/Adresse de correspondance & Siège:**

International Society for Military Law and the Law of War – Société internationale de Droit Militaire et de Droit de la Guerre  
30, Avenue de la Renaissance – 1000 Bruxelles/Brussels – Belgique/Belgium  
RPR Brussels/Bruxelles - BCE 0433.914.850  
E-mail: [brussels@ismllw.org](mailto:brussels@ismllw.org) - Website: [www.ismllw.org](http://www.ismllw.org)

All registered participants are recommended to book their accommodation at **Hotel Astoria**, conveniently located near the venue. Hotel Astoria will offer discounted rates for bookings made by participants (subject to continued availability): A single room will cost 185 CHF per night (breakfast included, city tax of 4,45 CHF per night not included). Registered participants will be informed of the booking code and applicable procedure, to enable them to book their accommodation at the hotel. Guests who book a room using the code will receive free public transport tickets for the city of Lucerne.

Please note that travel to and from Switzerland, as well as accommodation in Lucerne are an individual responsibility. Furthermore, visa requirements may apply, and you are advised to verify these in a timely manner.

We look forward to welcoming you to Lucerne for this stimulating event, where we will engage in lively discussions on the latest developments in these critical fields.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ludwig Van der Veken', enclosed within a simple rectangular border.

Ludwig VAN DER VEKEN  
*Secretary General*