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## **International humanitarian law**

### **RESPECT, APPLICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW**

With a view to the Twenty-fifth International Red Cross Conference, to be held in 1986, the ICRC has been working on the preparation of concrete proposals relative to the respect and development of international humanitarian law, on the basis of the Programme of Action which it adopted in 1983 (see Annual report 1983 p. 83). This programme comprises four objectives:

—the first objective is an essential one and involves working towards the effective application and **respect of existing international humanitarian law**, in the face of a constantly deteriorating international climate and increasing recourse to force; this objective should be attained in particular by promoting better knowledge of international humanitarian law, examining the reasons why it is being imperfectly respected and seeking—within the framework of existing legal instruments—solutions which can encourage better respect of this law.

—the second objective consists in persuading the greatest possible number of States to become party to the **Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949**; this objective is a direct corollary to the first, in that formal acceptance of those texts by a State is the expression of the State's readiness to respect international humanitarian law. Moreover, universal accession to the Protocols confirms the importance of humanitarian law in general.

—the third objective is twofold: it consists in envisaging the possibility of **extending international humanitarian law** to fields not covered by the Additional Protocols drawn up by the Diplomatic Conference of 1974-1977, and in adapting certain provisions of international humanitarian law to current technology.

—the fourth objective concerns the **protection of individuals caught up in situations of internal tension or unrest** which are not covered by international humanitarian law; indeed, no existing legal instrument deals with the protection of victims of such situations or guarantees at least the respect of basic humanitarian principles.

The ICRC has set up an internal working group, entrusted with the specific task of promoting the implementation of the above-mentioned programme. It has also been assured of the co-operation of several experts in international public law and of a number of leading political figures from different countries, with whom private consultations were held.

In 1984, these persons, who have wide experience in matters of international politics, met on two occasions at ICRC headquarters in Geneva, on 19 and 20 March and on 4 and 5 June. The first meeting was devoted to the examination of problems relating to violations of international humanitarian law, with special emphasis on the collective responsibility of States party to the Geneva Conventions to admit the applicability and ensure respect of international humanitarian law; in addition it clearly showed the link which exists between calling on States to respect international humanitarian law and urging them to ratify the Additional Protocols. During their second meeting, they continued the examination of the problem of non-application of international humanitarian law; more particularly, they considered the issue of the growing number of cases where the undertaking of humanitarian action is made contingent upon fulfilment of certain political conditions. They also provided extremely useful advice concerning the campaign for the ratification of the Protocols.

Legal experts held a meeting on 1 and 2 June essentially in order to examine the advisability of devising legal or other instruments concerning the protection of victims of situations not covered by international humanitarian law; they also discussed the possible content of such instruments (fourth objective).

In 1984, the ICRC has repeatedly (in particular on the occasion of various Red Cross meetings in which it took part) called for the respect of international humanitarian law. The message addressed to the world community by the Second World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace repeated that it is indispensable to respect the principles of international humanitarian law in order to promote peace. Specific approaches were made by the ICRC to the States party to the Geneva Conventions in respect of the conflict between Iran and Iraq.

Activities of the ICRC in promoting the ratification of the Additional Protocols are described in a separate chapter below.

With regard to the development of international humanitarian law (third objective), the ICRC focused its attention mainly on the law of armed conflicts at sea and the law of neutrality. These topics were debated on the occasion of the tenth round-table meeting on current problems of international humanitarian law, organized by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo, and in which the ICRC took part. In addition, the ICRC followed the work of the International Lifeboat Conference (ILC), which was held in Geneva from 16 to 18 April. The ILC examined possible means of improving the protection of lifeboats and their crews, and of coastal rescue installations and their staff. Its proposals were based on the provisions of the Second

Convention and aimed at solving certain technical problems which may arise in the application of those provisions. The Conference proposed that the terms used in the text of the Second Convention be clarified and it also adopted several recommendations which it forwarded to the ICRC and to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO); the latter directed the Sub-committee on Safety of Navigation and the Sub-committee on Radio Communications at Sea to examine those proposals; both committees invited the ICRC to take part in their work. The ICRC technical adviser gave various technical explanations relating to the application of international humanitarian law, while the ICRC centred its attention on the recommendations transmitted to it by the ILC; in addition, it sought to draw practical conclusions from the experience of the 1982 conflict in the South Atlantic as far as signalisation, identification and protection of hospital ships and medical helicopters attached to such ships were concerned. The conflict had shown the need to solve technical problems linked to the application of certain provisions of the Second Convention. The ICRC is at present studying measures to attain that objective.

The ICRC technical adviser also took part in the Forty-ninth session of the IMO Committee on Safety of Navigation, held in London in April 1984. The committee approved the revised version of Chapter XIV of the International Code of Signals, which is to come into force on 1 January 1986. That Chapter, which deals with identification of medical vehicles—including hospital ships, in its revised version—had been the subject of several proposals by the ICRC (see Annual report 1982, pp. 82-83), in particular with regard to the introduction of new provisions on identification by radar and underwater sound signals. Such provisions have been included in the new version. Lastly, a French firm has developed, on the basis of suggestions by the ICRC's technical adviser, an electronic system designed to identify neutral and hospital ships in order to avoid their being attacked by submarines in times of conflict.

#### **Overtures to encourage ratification of the Additional Protocols of 1977**

Since 1977, the ICRC has continued its efforts to encourage States to ratify the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions or to accede to them, so that these recent instruments of international humanitarian law may become as widely accepted as the Geneva Conventions. The ICRC aims to inform or remind States of the existence of the Protocols and to emphasise their humanitarian importance; it discusses specific problems that States may encounter when examining these legal instruments in order to facilitate their adoption. In addition, the ICRC offers its services to States party to the Protocols in discharging their commitments.

The ICRC's efforts to encourage ratification of the Protocols have been particularly intense in 1984, in view of the Twenty-fifth International Red Cross Conference to be held in 1986; one of the items on the agenda of the conference will be a

debate on the current status of ratifications and accessions to the Additional Protocols.

On 10 June, on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the signing of the Final Act of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, the ICRC made an urgent appeal to all States party to the Geneva Conventions, urging those among them that have not yet ratified the Protocols to do so before the Twenty-fifth International Red Cross Conference. In the message the ICRC repeated its deep concern with regard to the violations of international humanitarian law, calling on the world community to make a concerted effort in this respect, and stressed the fact that the Additional Protocols constitute a very important development in international humanitarian law, for they propose solutions to new humanitarian problems which are due to present-day armed conflicts. The ratification of these Protocols thus also becomes a manifestation of the States' willingness to find solutions to current humanitarian problems. Lastly, the ICRC pointed out that the respect of humanitarian principles in times of armed conflict is also a factor which facilitates the process of peace. The message was forwarded to National Societies for their information, since they may, if they so wish, be party to the ICRC approach to their respective governments.

In 1984, the ICRC also approached various intergovernmental institutions. The state of ratifications of the Protocols was one of the items on the agenda of the 39th General Assembly of the United Nations. An ICRC legal adviser attended the meeting of the Sixth Commission of the General Assembly; on behalf of the ICRC, he addressed an appeal to the international community in favour of the Protocols, reminding them of the convening of the 1986 Conference and pointing out that it would be most regrettable if issues foreign to the humanitarian purpose which guided the adoption of the texts were to stand in the way of their ratification. The President of the ICRC, who visited New York in October, discussed this question with the United Nations Secretary General and with the Chairman of the General Assembly. In December, the General Assembly adopted, without a vote, resolution 39/77—State of Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, relative to the protection of the victims of armed conflicts. This resolution reiterates the 1982 appeal and invites States to examine as soon as possible the question of ratifying the two Additional Protocols. Furthermore, the resolution calls on States party to Protocol I to consider the declaration mentioned in its article 90, relative to the setting-up of an international fact-finding commission.

Contacts were maintained with the Council of Europe, whose Parliamentary Assembly had adopted in 1982 a recommendation to speed up the ratification of the Protocols by its member States. For this reason the legal adviser visited Strasbourg in January. On 28 June, the Standing Committee of the Council of Europe, acting in the name of the Parliamentary Assembly, approved a resolution (No. 823) which deals mainly with financial support to the ICRC, but also iterates the

recommendation voted in 1982 and invites once again its member States to ratify the Protocols.

The ICRC raised the issue of the Additional Protocols also at the Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. On the occasion of the Seventy-first session of the Conference, held in Geneva in April, the ICRC handed to all participants a letter in which President Hay called on members of parliaments to give their support to ICRC activities aimed at encouraging the ratification of the Protocols.

Within the Red Cross movement, the ICRC reiterated the importance of the Protocols in various meetings of National Societies in which it took part. In 1984, the Fifteenth Conference of Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies adopted a resolution inviting Arab National Societies to approach their governments in order to encourage accession to the Additional Protocols.

The question of ratification was also the subject of numerous missions to States not yet party to the Protocols. These missions were carried out by the ICRC President, by members of the Committee, by the Director for General Affairs and his key staff, among whom was also the ICRC adviser concerned. The question was also discussed on missions of an essentially financial or operational nature, at meetings within the Red Cross movement or outside it, and during visits by various personalities to ICRC headquarters. Moreover, the ICRC remained in contact on this matter with the authorities of those countries where its delegations are stationed (see also the chapter "Action in the Field").

In 1984, President Hay discussed the importance of the Additional Protocols with the authorities of Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, Hungary and Saudi Arabia during his missions to those countries.

The ICRC legal adviser concerned had regular contacts with the main European States and visited the Federal Republic of Germany. His mission to New York on the occasion of the 39th United Nations General Assembly enabled him to hold talks with officials in the U.S. State Department, the Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces on the situation concerning the ratification procedure of the Protocols by the United States. Outside the regular sittings of the General Assembly, meetings were held with representatives of other States not party to the Protocols, namely Algeria, Australia, Canada, Egypt, the Holy See, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Nigeria, Singapore, Somalia, Thailand, Venezuela, Zambia, Bhutan, Burma, Brunei and the Maldives (these last four States not being party to the Geneva Conventions, either).

The legal adviser held talks on the subject of the Additional Protocols with the Egyptian authorities in April and November, on the occasion of a course on international humanitarian law at the Institute for Diplomacy in Cairo and the second Egyptian Seminar on International Humanitarian Law.

#### **State of ratifications and accessions to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977**

In 1984, six States became party to the **Geneva Conventions of 1949**. The following five States deposited their instruments

of accession with the authorities of the Swiss Confederation, the depositary State: **Cape Verde**, on 11 May; **Belize**, on 29 June; **Guinea**, on 11 July; **Angola**, on 20 September; the **Seychelles**, on 8 November. In accordance with the final provisions of the Conventions, the texts came into force six months after the above dates. The independent State of **Western Samoa** made a declaration of succession, registered by the government of the Swiss Confederation on 23 August. The declaration came into force with retroactive effect to 1 January 1966, the date on which the State gained its independence.

As at 31 December 1984, 161 States were party to the Geneva Conventions (see table on pp. 95-98).

Moreover, in 1984 the Swiss Confederation registered one ratification and ten accessions to the **Additional Protocols**. The eleven States which thus became party to the Protocols are the following: **France**, on 24 February (Protocol I only), **Cameroon**, on 16 March; the **Sultanate of Oman**, on 29 March; **Togo**, on 21 June; **Belize**, on 29 June; **Guinea**, on 11 July; **Central African Republic**, on 17 July; **Western Samoa**, on 23 August; **Angola**, on 20 September (Protocol I only); the **Seychelles**, on 8 November; **Rwanda**, on 19 November. The Protocols came into force for these States six months after the dates mentioned above.

As at 31 December 1984, 48 States were party to Protocol I and 41 States to Protocol II (see table on pp. 95-98 of this report).

#### **DISSEMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND OF THE PRINCIPLES AND IDEALS OF THE RED CROSS**

Dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross remains one of the essential tasks of the ICRC. It is a part of the constant effort of the ICRC aimed at the effective respect of this law. Indeed, ignorance of the basic rules of international humanitarian law in government circles and among the armed forces leads to serious omissions in ensuring protection of persons concerned and impedes the smooth running of Red Cross operations. The ICRC's activities in disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law, in particular among the institutions responsible for its implementation, and of the Red Cross movement (its history, principles, activities, ideals) are activities that go hand in hand.

The ICRC's dissemination work is based on the second "*Programme of Action of the Red Cross for the Dissemination of International Humanitarian Law and the Principles and Ideals of the Red Cross*", adopted by the 1981 Council of Delegates. That programme of action, which covers the period from 1982 to 1985, is centred around four main objectives:

- to encourage States to ratify or accede to the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions;
- to analyse the legal and practical consequences of the provisions of the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions;



- to disseminate and stimulate dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law among National Societies, governments, armed forces, universities, international organizations and other institutions or groups concerned;
- to incorporate in all of the activities of the Red Cross movement dissemination of knowledge of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross among National Societies, the young generation, the general public and international institutions.

The activity of dissemination (to which eleven specialised delegations were assigned in 1984) is incumbent upon every ICRC delegation and has been the object of various specific missions from headquarters.

In this field the ICRC has been seconded by the League, as provided for in the "Programme of Action". With regard to the dissemination and teaching of international humanitarian law, the ICRC has kept in touch also with other institutions, such as the Henry Dunant Institute and, outside the Red Cross movement, with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo, the International Institute of Human Rights at Strasbourg, the United Nations Commission on International Law and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights.

We give hereunder an account of general dissemination activities among different target groups, as defined by the ICRC; with regard to specific activities carried out in each country, we refer the reader to the chapter "Action in the Field".

### Dissemination in the armed forces

In times of conflict, the armed forces are responsible for the practical application of humanitarian rules; they are therefore a very important section of the public in the eyes of the ICRC. The aim of the ICRC is not only to make international humanitarian law better known in military circles, but also to encourage its teaching in military training schools.

Besides various ICRC delegations, two delegates to the armed forces, who are stationed at ICRC headquarters in Geneva, are assigned to that task.

**COURSES AND SEMINARS.**—In 1984, the International Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo organized the *fifteenth and sixteenth international courses on the law of war*, held in San Remo, Italy, from 9 to 22 September and from 15 to 22 October respectively. These courses are traditionally placed under the chairmanship of Mr. De Mulinen, ICRC delegate to the armed forces, and are intended more particularly for commanders of land, air and navy forces, experienced general staff officers and officers in charge of teaching the law of war to military jurists. During this two-week course, the participants first of all get acquainted with The Hague and Geneva Conventions, then they study in a more practical manner rules to be observed when carrying out

military operations and the conduct to be adopted towards victims, whether civilian or military.

The fifteenth course, which was held in French and Spanish, brought together 22 participants from Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Federal Republic of Germany, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, Senegal and Spain. The second course, given in English, was attended by thirty-nine participants representing armed forces from the following countries: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, Greece, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Italy, Nigeria, Norway, the Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States and Zambia. Military jurists attending the sixteenth course centred their work on issues more particularly related to their respective functions, while the other participants dealt with more practical questions.

As he had done in 1983, Mr. De Mulinen also directed the *fourth seminar on the law of war for senior officers of the medical services of the armed forces*, which was organized by the International Committee on Military Medicine and Pharmacy. The seminar was held at the Henry Dunant Institute in Geneva from 27 November to 6 December and was attended by eighteen participants from Algeria, Belgium, Chile, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Greece, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tunisia and Zaire. Modelled on the course given at San Remo, the seminar was nonetheless adapted to the specific interests of medical services of the armed forces.

In addition to the courses and seminars aimed at an international audience, the ICRC organized or took part in various other regional seminars. It organized a *course on the law of war for senior officers of the Middle East*, which was held at the Henry Dunant Institute in Geneva from 2 to 13 April and was attended by eight officer-jurists (three from Egypt, two from Jordan and three from Sudan), representing the land, sea and air forces. Various subjects were discussed (such as the Additional Protocols, teaching the law of war, problems peculiar to command posts, escalation of violence, peaceful settlement of disputes) and practical exercises were also organized. The course was conceived so as to take into account the participants' particular interests and the specific problems which they may encounter in their respective countries. At the end of the course, the officers followed a course at ICRC headquarters in order to further their knowledge of the institution.

One of the delegates to armed forces and a jurist took part in a seminar on international humanitarian law organized by the Sudanese authorities at Khartoum from 15 to 28 July for about forty officers. Like the San Remo course, this seminar also combined theoretical teaching (introduction to the instruments of international humanitarian law) and practical exercises.

Mr. Schindler, a member of the Committee, led the ICRC delegation to the *Second Egyptian seminar on international humanitarian law*, which was held in Cairo from 18 to 22 November. The seminar was organised by the Egyptian Society of International Law, in conjunction with the ICRC,

the Henry Dunant Institute and the Legal Department of the Egyptian armed forces, and was attended by about sixty participants: senior officers, academics and top-level officials, mostly from Egypt, though a number of them were from Jordan, Sudan and Uganda. The seminar dealt with a dozen or so selected topics of international humanitarian law. Some of these were presented by the ICRC; a report was also devoted to the activities of the ICRC.

As in the past, ICRC jurists took part as lecturers in the *course of introduction to international public law in times of war*, which the Swiss army has been regularly organizing since 1965. An introduction to The Hague and Geneva Conventions was followed by practical exercises.

**MISSIONS.**—Delegates to the armed forces carried out several missions in order to hold talks with government officials and senior army staff on the teaching of international humanitarian law in their respective countries and, where applicable, define ways of collaborating with the ICRC in order to promote introduction of that subject in programmes of military training. They also discussed the drafting of the “Manual on the law of war”, currently being prepared by the ICRC. In 1984, ICRC delegates to the armed forces visited Bolivia, Honduras, Panama, South Africa, Sudan and the United States.

**OTHER CONTACTS.**—ICRC delegates to the armed forces kept in touch with the International Society of Military Penal Law and the Law of War, and with the Inter-American Bar Association, in particular with its Military Law Committee, which met in Panama in February.

### Dissemination to National Societies

National Societies constitute an important audience in the dissemination of international humanitarian law. The ICRC aims not only to help them get familiar with this law, but also to continue training their senior staff so that they in turn may teach the basic principles of international humanitarian law to other sections of the population, and in so doing contribute to the efforts of the whole Red Cross movement and those of the ICRC in particular. The implementation of the Red Cross programme of action with regard to dissemination necessitates, in fact, active participation in each country of the National Society. The latter has to appoint from among its members a person in charge of dissemination. In cases where National Societies do not have the financial resources and personnel necessary to carry out dissemination activities, it is the task of the ICRC, in conjunction with the League, to help those Societies set up and implement action programmes. The message addressed to the international community by the Second World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace pointed out that National Societies should devise more concrete means of disseminating international humanitarian law within the framework of their activities, whether current or envisaged, and that it would be

extremely useful if dissemination were to become an integral part of all major development programmes. In many countries the ICRC was able to contribute to a large degree to the programmes of dissemination set up by National Societies (see the chapter “Action in the Field”).

**COURSES AND SEMINARS.**—In conjunction with the Bolivian Red Cross and the League, the ICRC organised in La Paz, from 11 to 17 November, the *second training course for members in charge of dissemination in National Societies of Latin America*. Eighteen participants, in charge of dissemination, information or public relations, took part in this course; they represented twelve National Societies (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Uruguay). The course held in La Paz was a follow-up to the one organized by the ICRC in Turrialba (Costa Rica) in 1982, intended for National Societies of Central America (see Annual report 1982, p. 92). These regional training courses are based on the “Red Cross Programme of Action in respect of dissemination”. Like the previous one, the La Paz course was intended to improve the participants’ historical and legal knowledge of international humanitarian law and the Red Cross, achieve a better understanding of the responsibility of National Societies as regards dissemination of international humanitarian law and training “disseminators” and to discuss different methods of dissemination. The course consisted of practical exercises on the following topics: history and role of the Red Cross movement, principles of the Red Cross, use of the red cross emblem, activities of the ICRC and the League, international humanitarian law (its history, application and violations), legal thought, dissemination to National Societies and in army circles, teaching methods.

The ICRC also took part in several local seminars organised by National Societies in order to train persons to carry on the work of making international humanitarian law more widely known.

**TRAINING COURSES.**—The ICRC organised training courses at headquarters for persons active within their National Societies and able to promote knowledge of international humanitarian law. In 1984 the ICRC invited trainees from the Red Cross Societies of Belgium, Benin, France and United Kingdom.

**MISSIONS.**—Experts in dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law carried out several missions from the Geneva headquarters in order to examine the programmes of dissemination currently in progress and to promote the setting up of more such programmes in National Societies (see “Action in the Field”). In addition, the importance of dissemination was systematically pointed out at local or regional meetings of the Red Cross in which the ICRC took part.

## Dissemination to government circles

Governments have a duty to make international law better known in their countries. The ICRC's dissemination activities programme proposes that in each country inter-ministerial commissions be set up in order to co-ordinate dissemination to various audiences through government channels.

ICRC delegates keep up a constant dialogue with government officials in order to make the instruments of international humanitarian law more widely known and stress the importance of the dissemination of this law.

In 1984, the ICRC stepped up its approaches to members of diplomatic circles. The law faculty of the University of New York and the ICRC jointly organized a *seminar on international humanitarian law for diplomats accredited to the United Nations*, which was held in New York from 19 to 21 January and was attended by about forty diplomats from twenty-five countries (Austria, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Federal Republic of Germany, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Malta, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, United States and Venezuela); the ICRC delegation was led by Mr. Jäckli, a member of the Committee, who submitted a report on the role of the ICRC in today's world. The other subjects dealt with during the seminar were: introduction to The Hague and Geneva Conventions and to the Additional Protocols; prisoners of war, guerrilla fighters and liberation movements; the role of the ICRC in non-international armed conflicts; human rights and international humanitarian law; the responsibility of States party to instruments of international humanitarian law and the role of the ICRC with regard to their application.

The New York seminar was modelled on the course organized every year by the Henry Dunant Institute at Geneva, in collaboration with the League and the ICRC. The fourth seminar for diplomats was held in Geneva from 11 to 13 January.

At the invitation of the Diplomatic Institute of the Foreign Ministry of Egypt, the ICRC took part in a *seminar for young diplomats*, held in Cairo in April. About thirty diplomats from Egypt and the neighbouring countries were thus able to get acquainted with the instruments of international humanitarian law and the activities of the ICRC.

As it has done regularly in the past few years, the ICRC took part in the *United Nations International Law Commission's Seminar on International Law*. These seminars are organized in Geneva on the occasion of the Commission's annual sessions. In June, the twentieth seminar brought together about forty participants from twenty-three countries, top officials and lawyers working in Ministries of Foreign Affairs, diplomats, and university staff. The ICRC submitted a report entitled "International Humanitarian Law as a Branch of International Public Law".

Lastly, as in 1983, the ICRC took part in the *Second Inter-disciplinary Course on Human Rights*, organized by the Inter-American Institute on Human Rights and held at San José, Costa Rica, from 3 to 15 September. The course was attended

by about one hundred and twenty participants—government representatives (diplomats, senior officials) and university lecturers from all countries of the American continent. The ICRC was in charge of the part of the course devoted to international humanitarian law.

## Dissemination in universities

The ICRC is active in promoting knowledge of international humanitarian law in universities, for some of their students may in the future be called to fill posts of high responsibility in government service and may one day find themselves dealing with the ICRC. It is in that light that the ICRC presents its talks at universities; moreover, its activities are aimed at promoting the introduction of international humanitarian law in university programmes.

**COURSES AND SEMINARS.**—The Polish Red Cross and the ICRC organized jointly the *Second Summer course on international humanitarian law for advanced law students from Europe and North America*, held in Warsaw from 2 to 12 August. The first course had been held in 1981 (see Annual report 1981, p. 69). The summer courses aim to provide instruction in international humanitarian law, too rarely taught at university, together with an introduction to the principles of the Red Cross, to train specialists in international humanitarian law and to examine with them ways of disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law in their respective universities, National Red Cross Societies or in government circles. In the second course there were thirty-two participants (mostly law students, a number of economics and political science students) from fourteen countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Great Britain, Hungary, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland), and the lecturers came from the German Democratic Republic, Belgium, Poland and Norway; also attending were ICRC representatives, among them Professor Schindler, a member of the Committee, and the Director of the Henry Dunant Institute. The following topics were discussed: history of international humanitarian law, organization of the Red Cross, protection and aid to the sick and wounded in armed conflicts; the notion of "combatant"; prisoners of war (report presented by the ICRC); protection of civilians against effects of hostilities (presented by the ICRC); non-international armed conflicts; human rights and international humanitarian law applicable to armed conflicts; ICRC activities outside the Geneva Conventions (presented by the ICRC); dissemination of knowledge and application of international humanitarian law.

The ICRC sent a representative to the *colloquium on current problems of international humanitarian law*, organized in February by the Institute of Peace and Development of the University of Nice (France) and intended for university students and lecturers. The colloquium was attended by some sixty lecturers, assistants and students from twenty-three



African, Asian and European countries. The ICRC representative gave three lectures followed by discussions: introduction to international humanitarian law; international humanitarian law and internationalized non-international armed conflicts; weapons prohibited by international humanitarian law.

As it usually does, the ICRC took an active part in the *fifteenth teaching session of the International Institute of Human Rights*, held at Strasbourg from 2 to 27 July. These teaching sessions are intended for law students wishing to further their knowledge in the field of human rights and international humanitarian law. The Head of the Principles and Law Department of the ICRC gave a general introductory lecture on international humanitarian law and then directed a study group working on various problems connected with that law. Two other ICRC representatives also directed study groups.

The ICRC has also remained closely associated with the teaching of international humanitarian law at Geneva University.

ICRC jurists presented courses in international humanitarian law or reports on selected topics of international humanitarian law in several European universities (Universities of Louvain, Liege and Brussels, on the occasion of the dissemination of international humanitarian law week, organized each year by the Belgian Red Cross; Lund, Sweden, and Berne Switzerland), and in the United States (American University Law School and George Washington Law School) and Africa (Burundi, Congo, Rwanda and Zaire). On those occasions, ICRC representatives also discussed the question of introducing the teaching of international humanitarian law in universities. At the seminar on international humanitarian law in today's world, organized by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo, in July, specific topics on this law were discussed with university lecturers of East European countries.

**TRAINING COURSES.**—The ICRC has continued to organize training courses of a few weeks' duration at its headquarters for university lecturers wishing to specialize in international humanitarian law and likely to teach it later at their universities. In 1984, the ICRC thus welcomed lecturers from the Universities of Leiden (the Netherlands), Warsaw, Gdansk, Nairobi, Dar-es-Salaam, Sherbrooke (Quebec) and Xiamen (People's Republic of China).

**PUBLICATIONS.**—In 1984, the ICRC published a summary of reports presented at the seminar on the teaching and dissemination of international humanitarian law in East, Central and Southern Africa, held at Naivasha, Kenya, from 26 September to 1 October 1983 (see Annual report 1983, p. 103).

#### Dissemination in schools and among young people

The ICRC keeps in touch with Youth sections of National Societies as well as with teachers and instructors; dissemi-

nation of international humanitarian law among young people also aims to open their minds to the notion of peace and international understanding.

The Second World Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on Peace invited the ICRC and the League to draw up jointly a programme of education for peace, aimed in particular at young people.

**COURSES AND SEMINARS.**—The ICRC took part in the *second sub-regional course for the training of Red Cross instructors for the young*, held in Panama from 19 to 26 February. Organized by the Panamanian Red Cross, assisted by the ICRC and the League, the course brought together eighteen participants from the Red Cross Societies of Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, El Salvador and Venezuela. The aim of the course was to train as instructors young people who already have Red Cross experience, improve the quality of work carried out by the young, raise the level of technical knowledge of Youth volunteers, promote exchanges of experiences and, lastly, adopt a plan of action for each country aimed at promoting the development of the Red Cross Youth movement. Following a presentation of international humanitarian law, the Red Cross movement and its activities, the ICRC stressed the importance of disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, urging that dissemination be included in Youth section programmes of each National Society, and proposed some suitable teaching methods.

The ICRC and the League took part in the Second international seminar organized by the Belgian Red Cross at Wegimont, Belgium, from 27 August to 1 September, called "*Dissemination of international humanitarian law and of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross in the training of Red Cross Youth cadres and among the young*". This seminar brought together representatives of fifteen National Societies (Federal Republic of Germany, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Spain, United States, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland). The aim of the seminar was twofold: to determine notions relative to international humanitarian law and to the principles and ideals of the Red Cross that should be made known to Red Cross Youth, to youngsters in schools and to the instructors of Red Cross Youth; and to start developing teaching tools intended for dissemination activities. The seminar thus focused on the question of dissemination with those three target groups in mind; later, in working groups, participants in the seminar prepared dissemination material and programmes for different audiences, developing at the same time teaching methods. The ICRC representative, for his part, presented a paper on the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the principles of the Red Cross during conflict; he stressed the crucial role of such dissemination in facilitating protection and relief activities.

As it had done in the past, the ICRC attended, with observer status, the *seventh European meeting of National Red Cross Youth Directors* which brought together twenty-five National



Societies at Costinesti (Romania) from 28 to 30 May. Mr. Pestalozzi, a member of the Committee, led the ICRC delegation to the European Red Cross Youth Conference, which was held in the same town from 31 May to 2 June (see also the chapter on co-operation with National Societies). The conference stressed the importance of teaching international humanitarian law and the principles of the Red Cross to youth as an integral part of their education for peace. It recommended that such teaching be systematically introduced to Youth sections of all National Societies, as well as in all educational establishments. The conference also proposed that the ICRC, the League and National Societies work together in the production of educational material and that the ICRC and the League inform National Societies regularly of the material available. It was also suggested that, by reason of their experience in the field, ICRC delegates should be associated in Red Cross Youth dissemination campaigns. Lastly, the conference called on Red Cross Youth to participate actively in the efforts of National Societies aimed at encouraging ratification of the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions.

### **Dissemination to mass media**

The Head of the Information Department visited Cairo in order to examine with the President of the Union of African Journalists the possibilities of co-operation in disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law among the mass media representatives of the African continent. An agreement was signed, providing for the joint organization in 1985 of a seminar on the role of mass media in promoting knowledge of international humanitarian law and on the protection of journalists.

In November the ICRC took part in a seminar organized by the Norwegian Red Cross for local media. This seminar dealt in particular with the provisions of the Geneva Conventions relative to protection of journalists. The ICRC also took part in the seminar on international humanitarian law organized by the Henry Dunant Institute and intended for Scandinavian journalists.

## **Co-operation with other international and non-international organizations on legal and humanitarian issues**

### **PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL MEETINGS**

The ICRC keeps in touch with various international or regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations, about humanitarian issues and questions of international law.

It takes part in numerous meetings (conferences, round table meetings, seminars) organized outside the Red Cross movement but concerning topics which are of humanitarian interest or deal with the different branches of law (international humanitarian law, human rights, international public law, etc.). Besides, these meetings provide many opportunities for contacts with the representatives of countries taking part.

This task is entrusted more particularly to the ICRC's International Organizations Division and to the New York delegation attached to it, but also to other ICRC staff.

### **Contacts with the United Nations**

As observer, the ICRC followed the work of the annual sessions of agencies and specialised institutions of the United Nations organization, namely:

- the thirty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly; two topics, both the subject of resolutions, were of particular interest to the ICRC: the state of ratifications and accessions to the Additional Protocols (see the relevant chapter above) and the adoption of a draft Convention against torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
- the second annual session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), held in Geneva from 4 to 27 July, which dealt in particular with humanitarian aid and disaster relief;
- the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of UNICEF, in Rome, from 24 April to 4 May; the ICRC stressed that greater attention should be given to the plight of children in times of armed conflict, in particular of child combatants;
- the thirty-fifth session of the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, held in Geneva from 9 to 18 October. Various questions relative to the protection of refugees (in particular the protection of refugee camps against military attacks) and relief were discussed. The ICRC observer had the opportunity of making a short statement during the general debate: he expressed the ICRC's concern about problems in refugee protection and reaffirmed the ICRC's readiness to co-operate with the HCR and governments in the search for measures to ensure effective protection of those persons. The ICRC also took part in the round-table meeting organized by the UNHCR in Geneva on 11 April which dealt with the problem of refugees victims of xenophobic attitudes;
- the annual conference of the International Labour Organisation, held in Geneva from 6 to 27 June;
- the seventy-third Executive Board of the World Health Organization, held in Geneva on 11 January, and the Thirty-seventh World Assembly on Health, held in Geneva in May.

In addition, the ICRC has followed the work of the Committee on Safety at Sea and its sub-committees in the International Maritime Organization.

The ICRC took part in the experts' meeting convened by the United Nations Institute on Research for Disarmament concerning the setting-up of an international fund for development, held in Geneva from 19 to 21 March.

The ICRC was represented at the First conference for the examination of the "Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environment modification techniques", held in Geneva from 10 to 21 September.

The ICRC attended the work of the fortieth session of the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations, held in Geneva from 6 February to 16 March; of the topics discussed by the Commission, the ICRC was particularly interested in the following: a draft convention against torture, a draft convention on children's rights, involuntary or forced disappearances, summary executions, the protection of persons detained for political reasons. The ICRC sent representatives also to the thirty-seventh session of the Sub-commission on Human Rights, in August, and the twenty-third session of the Committee on Human Rights, held from 22 October to 9 November.

A meeting of intergovernmental organizations on human rights was held at ICRC headquarters on 10 and 11 September. The Vice-President of the ICRC welcomed the participants, most of them representatives of United Nations institutions. The meeting was the occasion for the ICRC to voice its concern with regard to the ratification of the Additional Protocols and the respect of individuals in situations not covered by international humanitarian law.

As in the past, the ICRC took part in the United Nations International Law Commission's seminar on international law and received its members at headquarters (see also the chapter on the dissemination of international humanitarian law).

#### **Other governmental, regional or international organizations**

The ICRC took part in the following meetings:

— the thirty-sixth session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, held in Strasbourg from 7 to 11 May;

— the fourteenth ordinary session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), held in Brasilia in November;

— the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, held in Washington on 27 and 28 September, on which occasion the Director of the International Organizations Division spoke on the relations between the ICRC and the OAS;

— the fiftieth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, held in Geneva on 20 and 21 November.

#### **International non-governmental organizations**

The ICRC took part in several meetings organized by the *International Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo*, namely:

— the meeting of experts on fundamental humanitarian principles, held in San Remo (Italy) on 25 and 26 May. The aim of this meeting was to determine the basic principles which are the very foundations of international humanitarian law, human rights, the law relative to refugees and that dealing with natural disaster relief. It was the first exchange of ideas between the representatives of the Centre on Human Rights, the HCR, ICM, UNDRO, the League and the ICRC;

— the seminar on the treatment of refugees, held in Florence from 3 to 5 June. The seminar treated the subject from the angle of detention. The seminar condemned the detention of refugees and asylum seekers as measures of deterrence, reaffirmed that a refugee or an asylum seeker cannot be detained on the sole grounds of his illegal entry or illegal presence on the territory of a State, and stressed that such persons can be detained only as an exceptional measure in situations of conflict or internal disorder. The ICRC representative insisted that the conditions of detention, in those exceptional cases, should be as liberal as possible;

— "International humanitarian law in the contemporary world—New trends in humanitarian issues", a seminar held at San Remo from 5 to 7 July and attended by several experts from Eastern Europe, and by HCR and ICRC representatives; the seminar dealt essentially with the issue of the protection of refugees with a view to a universal application of legal instruments protecting that category of persons. ICRC representatives to the seminar gave a talk on the Committee's work in favour of refugees.

— the tenth round-table meeting on current problems in international humanitarian law and the Red Cross Symposium, held at San Remo from 17 to 20 September. The round table brought together some one hundred and fifty participants (military experts, jurists, National Society representatives, senior staff of Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva, representatives of United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations, and academics). The ICRC delegation was led by the Committee's Vice-President, Mr. Maurice Aubert. The following issues were debated: the law of armed conflicts at sea and its shortcomings; the law of neutrality in the face of contemporary political reality; the law of refugees, more particularly the question of the detention of refugees; implementation of certain provisions of Protocol I, concerning the protection of wounded, sick and shipwrecked, and the conferring of special protection on zones. The Red Cross Symposium, for its part, examined the contribution of the Red Cross to the respect of human rights (economic, social, cultural, civil, political and the so-called "solidarity" rights), as well as the relationship "Red Cross, peace and human rights";

— international courses on the law of war (see the chapter on the dissemination of international humanitarian law).

As it usually does, the ICRC took an active part in the fifteenth teaching session of the *International Institute of*

*Human Rights at Strasbourg* (see also the section on dissemination of international humanitarian law) and sent a representative to the symposium on genetic engineering and human rights, organized by that institute and held in Strasbourg on 20 July.

The Director of the International Organizations Division took part in the Conference on current human rights problems, convened by the International Academy of Human Rights and held in Madrid from 7 to 10 December.

The ICRC attended several meetings convened by the *Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues*, namely:

— a meeting on forced mass displacement of persons, held in Geneva on 30 May;

— a meeting of non-governmental organizations on the subject of child protection, held in Geneva on 15 June;

— a symposium on child protection, held in Amman from 23 to 27 November; these last two meetings enabled ICRC representatives to stress the importance of achieving a better application of the rules of international humanitarian law, in particular those concerning the protection of children.

An ICRC jurist took part in a seminar organized by the *International Commission of Jurists* and held at Syracuse, Italy, from 30 April to 4 May; the theme of the seminar was "Derogation and Limitation Provisions in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights"; it was attended by about thirty human rights specialists from all continents and aimed to define and determine the limits of conditions in which a State may, in times of crisis, derogate from its obligations in the field of human rights and proclaim a state of emergency. The ICRC representative presented the problem by drawing a parallel between human rights and international humanitarian law. This seminar also touched on the ICRC's concern with regard to the protection of the individual and the guarantee of fundamental rights in situations of internal troubles and tensions.

The Head of the Principles and Law Department of the ICRC followed the work of the seminar on the new horizons of international penal law, organized by the *International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences*, and held at Noto, Italy, from 7 to 12 May. The seminar brought together some one hundred and fifty specialists in international penal law from over fifty countries. The purpose of the seminar was to examine the current situation in international penal law, particularly as regards the drafting of an international penal code with a view to promoting global repression of international crime and strengthening international co-operation in penal matters. The ICRC representative gave a talk on the "penal aspects of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts". Indeed, serious breaches of international humanitarian law constitute a considerable portion of international crime.

The ICRC also followed the Seventy-first and Seventy-second sessions of the Conference of the *Inter-Parliamentary Union*, held in Geneva from 2 to 7 April and 24 to 27 September respectively. The ICRC delegation to the

Seventy-first session was led by Vice-President Aubert. On that occasion, the ICRC asked parliamentarians to back the activities of the ICRC around the world, the financing of its operations and ratification of the Additional Protocols. As of the Seventy-second session of the Conference, the ICRC obtained observer status.

Invited to attend with observer status the Forty-second general council of the *World Veterans' Federation*, held in Athens from 13 to 16 October, the ICRC presented several papers: the history and current activities of the Central Tracing Agency; the ICRC's draft article on the role of women in armed conflicts; international humanitarian law. Mr. Serge Wourgaft, Secretary-General of the WVF, was received at headquarters on 4 and 5 July; during his visit talks were held on various projects that the ICRC and the WVF intend to undertake jointly.

Lastly, the ICRC took part as observer in the tenth General Assembly of *European non-governmental organisations*, held in Brussels from 10 to 12 April.

### Other meetings

— Symposium on the protection of cultural property, held in Florence from 22 to 24 November. The symposium, organized by the Italian Ministry of Culture and Tourism in collaboration with UNESCO, the faculty of Political Science, the Florence Centre of Tourist Studies and the ICRC, dealt with protection of cultural property in times of peace and of war. An ICRC jurist presented the provisions of Article 53 of Protocol I and Article 16 of Protocol II (protection of cultural property and places of worship) in relation to the provisions of common law and the 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

— Round table on torture, held in Geneva on 18 October; organized by the Geneva medical society in conjunction with WHO, the round-table meeting was attended mostly by representatives of the medical services. The Chief Medical officer of the ICRC gave a talk on the subject of torture from the point of view of the Geneva Conventions and on the activities of the ICRC against torture which are carried out essentially by visiting places of detention.

— Seminar organized in November by the Danish Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims, attended by the Chief Medical Officer of the ICRC.

— Symposium on torture, held in Fribourg, Switzerland, on 30 November and 1 December, organized by the University of Fribourg and the Swiss section of Amnesty International. The aim was to gain a better understanding of the mechanism of torture and to identify possible methods of prevention and treatment. The ICRC's report dealt with the need to adapt international legal instruments in the light of its experience.

— Seminar on refugees, organized by the American "Webster University" in Geneva, held from 31 October to 19 December. Various issues concerning refugees were considered from different aspects, namely socio-cultural, economic, historical, legal and political, at both the national and international level.

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*(The names of a number of countries in this list may differ from those countries' official names)*

COUNTRY	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I				PROTOCOL II			
	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date	Signature	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date	Signature	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date
Afghanistan . . . . .	R		26.09.56								
Albania . . . . .	R	X	27.05.57								
Algeria . . . . .	A		20.06.60								
Angola . . . . .	A	X	20.09.84		A	X	20.09.84				
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .											
Argentina . . . . .	R		18.09.56								
Australia . . . . .	R		14.10.58	X				X			
Austria . . . . .	R		27.08.53	X	R <sup>2</sup>	X	13.08.82	X	R	X	13.08.82
Bahamas . . . . .	S		11.07.75		A		10.04.80		A		10.04.80
Bahrain . . . . .	A		30.11.71								
Bangladesh . . . . .	S		04.04.72		A		08.09.80		A		08.09.80
Barbados . . . . .	S		10.09.68								
Belgium . . . . .	R		03.09.52	X				X			
Belize . . . . .	A		29.06.84		A		29.06.84		A		29.06.84
Benin . . . . .	S		14.12.61								
Bhutan . . . . .											
Bolivia . . . . .	R		10.12.76		A		08.12.83		A		08.12.83
Botswana . . . . .	A		29.03.68		A		23.05.79		A		23.05.79
Brazil . . . . .	R		29.06.57								
Brunei . . . . .											
Bulgaria . . . . .	R	X	22.07.54	X				X			
Burkina Faso (ex-Upper Volta) . . . . .	S		07.11.61	X				X			
Burma . . . . .											
Burundi . . . . .	S		27.12.71								
Byelorussia . . . . .	R	X	03.08.54	X				X			
Cameroon . . . . .	S		16.09.63		A		16.03.84		A		16.03.84
Canada . . . . .	R		14.05.65	X				X			
Cape Verde . . . . .	A		11.05.84								
Central African Rep. . . . .	S		01.08.66		A		17.07.84		A		17.07.84
Chad . . . . .	A		05.08.70								
Chile . . . . .	R		12.10.50	X				X			
China . . . . .	R	X	28.12.56		A	X	14.09.83		A		14.09.83
Colombia . . . . .	R		08.11.61								
Comoros . . . . .											
Congo . . . . .	S		30.01.67		A		10.11.83		A		10.11.83
Costa Rica . . . . .	A		15.10.69		A		15.12.83		A		15.12.83
Cuba . . . . .	R		15.04.54		A		25.11.82				
Cyprus . . . . .	A		23.05.62	X	R		01.06.79				
Czechoslovakia . . . . .	R	X	19.12.50	X				X			
Denmark . . . . .	R		27.06.51	X	R <sup>2</sup>	X	17.06.82	X	R		17.06.82
Djibouti . . . . .	S		06.03.78 <sup>3</sup>								
Dominican Republic . . . . .	A		22.01.58								
Dominica . . . . .	S		28.09.81								
Ecuador . . . . .	R		11.08.54	X	R		10.04.79	X	R		10.04.79

<sup>1</sup> A = accession; R = ratification; S = declaration of succession.

<sup>2</sup> States which made the declaration regarding preliminary acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission, as provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I.

<sup>3</sup> Djibouti's declaration of succession to the First Convention was dated 26.01.78 and not 06.03.78 as for the other three Conventions.



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	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date	Signature	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date	Signature	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date
Egypt . . . . .	R		10.11.52	X				X			
El Salvador . . . . .	R		17.06.53	X	R		23.11.78	X	R		23.11.78
Equatorial Guinea . . . . .											
Ethiopia . . . . .	R		02.10.69								
Fiji . . . . .	S		09.08.71								
Finland . . . . .	R		22.02.55	X	R <sup>2</sup>	X	07.08.80	X	R		07.08.80
France . . . . .	R		28.06.51						A	X <sup>3</sup>	24.02.84
Gabon . . . . .	S		20.02.65		A		08.04.80		A		08.04.80
Gambia . . . . .	S		11.10.66								
German Dem. Rep. . . . .	A	X	30.11.56	X				X			
German (Fed. Rep. of) . . . . .	A		03.09.54	X				X			
Ghana . . . . .	A		02.08.58	X	R		28.02.78	X	R		28.02.78
Greece . . . . .	R		05.06.56	X							
Grenada . . . . .	S		13.04.81								
Guatemala . . . . .	R		14.05.52	X				X			
Guinea . . . . .	A		11.07.84		A		11.07.84		A		11.07.84
Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	A	X	21.02.74								
Guyana . . . . .	S		22.07.68								
Haiti . . . . .	A		11.04.57								
Holy See . . . . .	R		22.02.51	X				X			
Honduras . . . . .	A		31.12.65	X				X			
Hungary . . . . .	R	X	03.08.54	X				X			
Iceland . . . . .	A		10.08.65	X				X			
India . . . . .	R		09.11.50								
Indonesia . . . . .	A		30.09.58								
Iran . . . . .	R		20.02.57	X				X			
Iraq . . . . .	A		14.02.56								
Ireland . . . . .	R		27.09.62	X				X			
Israel . . . . .	R	X	06.07.51								
Italy . . . . .	R		17.12.51	X				X			
Ivory Coast . . . . .	S		28.12.61	X				X			
Jamaica . . . . .	S		17.07.64								
Japan . . . . .	A		21.04.53								
Jordan . . . . .	A		29.05.51	X	R		01.05.79	X	R		01.05.79
Kampuchea . . . . .	A		08.12.58								
Kenya . . . . .	A		20.09.66								
Kiribati . . . . .											
Korea (Rep.) . . . . .	A	X	16.08.66 <sup>4</sup>	X	R	X	15.01.82	X	R		15.01.82
Korea (Dem. People's Rep.) . . . . .	A	X	27.08.57								
Kuwait . . . . .	A		02.09.67								
Laos . . . . .	A		29.10.56	X	R		18.11.80	X	R		18.11.80
Lebanon . . . . .	R		10.04.51								

<sup>1</sup> A = accession; R = ratification; S = declaration of succession.

<sup>2</sup> States which made the declaration regarding preliminary acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission, as provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I.

<sup>3</sup> On accession to Protocol II, France made a declaration concerning Protocol I.

<sup>4</sup> Entry into force 23 September 1966, Korea having invoked Arts. 62/61/141/157 (immediate effect).

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	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date	Signature	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date	Signature	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date
Lesotho . . . . .	S		20.05.68								
Liberia . . . . .	A		29.03.54								
Libyan Ar. Jamahiriya. . . . .	A		22.05.56		A		07.06.78		A		07.06.78
Liechtenstein . . . . .	R		21.09.50	X				X			
Luxembourg . . . . .	R		01.07.53	X				X			
Madagascar . . . . .	S		13.07.63	X				X			
Malawi . . . . .	A		05.01.68								
Malaysia . . . . .	A		24.08.62								
Maldives . . . . .											
Mali . . . . .	A		24.05.65								
Malta . . . . .	S		22.08.68								
Mauritania . . . . .	S		27.10.62		A		14.03.80		A		14.03.80
Mauritius . . . . .	S		18.08.70		A		22.03.82		A		22.03.82
Mexico . . . . .	R		29.10.52		A		10.03.83				
Monaco . . . . .	R		05.07.50								
Mongolia . . . . .	A		20.12.58	X				X			
Morocco . . . . .	A		26.07.56	X				X			
Mozambique . . . . .	A		14.03.83		A		14.03.83				
Namibia <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	A		18.10.83		A		18.10.83		A		18.10.83
Nauru . . . . .											
Nepal . . . . .	A		07.02.64								
Netherlands . . . . .	R		03.08.54	X				X			
New Zealand . . . . .	R		02.05.59	X				X			
Nicaragua . . . . .	R		17.12.53	X				X			
Niger . . . . .	S		16.04.64	X	R		08.06.79	X	R		08.06.79
Nigeria . . . . .	S		09.06.61								
Norway . . . . .	R		03.08.51	X	R <sup>2</sup>		14.12.81	X	R		14.12.81
Oman . . . . .	A		31.01.74		A	X	29.03.84		A	X	29.03.84
Pakistan . . . . .	R	X	12.06.51	X				X			
Panama . . . . .	A		10.02.56	X				X			
Papua New Guinea . . . . .	S		26.05.76								
Paraguay . . . . .	R		23.10.61								
Peru . . . . .	R		15.02.56	X				X			
Philippines . . . . .	R		06.10.52 <sup>4</sup>	X							
Poland . . . . .	R	X	26.11.54	X				X			
Portugal . . . . .	R	X	14.03.61	X				X			
Qatar . . . . .	A		15.10.75								
Romania . . . . .	R	X	01.06.54	X				X			
Rwanda . . . . .	S		21.03.64		A		19.11.84		A		19.11.84
Saint-Kitts & Nevis . . . . .											
Saint Lucia . . . . .	S		18.09.81		A		07.10.82		A		07.10.82
Saint Vincent & Grenadines . . . . .	A		01.04.81		A		08.04.83		A		08.04.83

<sup>1</sup> A = accession; R = ratification; S = declaration of succession.

<sup>2</sup> States which made the declaration regarding preliminary acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission, as provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I.

<sup>3</sup> Instruments of accession deposited by the United Nations Council for Namibia.

<sup>4</sup> With the exception of Convention I, ratified on 07.03.51.

**STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949  
AND TO THE TWO ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS OF 8 JUNE 1977**

Situation as at 31 December 1984

*(The names of a number of countries in this list may differ from those countries' official names)*

COUNTRY	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I				PROTOCOL II			
	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date	Signature	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date	Signature	A, R, S <sup>1</sup>	Reservations/ declaration	Date
Samoa . . . . .	S		23.08.84		A		23.08.84		A		23.08.84
San Marino . . . . .	A		29.08.53	X				X			
Sao Tome & Principe . . . . .	A		21.05.76								
Saudi Arabia . . . . .	A		18.05.63								
Senegal . . . . .	S		23.04.63	X				X			
Seychelles . . . . .	A		08.11.84		A		08.11.84		A		08.11.84
Sierra Leone . . . . .	S		31.05.65								
Singapore . . . . .	A		27.04.73								
Solomons . . . . .	S		06.07.81								
Somalia . . . . .	A		12.07.62								
South Africa . . . . .	A		31.03.52								
Spain . . . . .	R		04.08.52	X				X			
Sri Lanka . . . . .	R		28.02.59 <sup>3</sup>								
Sudan . . . . .	A		23.09.57								
Suriname . . . . .	S	X	13.10.76								
Swaziland . . . . .	A		28.06.73								
Sweden . . . . .	R		28.12.53	X	R <sup>2</sup>	X	31.08.79	X	R		31.08.79
Switzerland . . . . .	R		31.03.50	X	R <sup>2</sup>	X	17.02.82	X	R		17.02.82
Syria . . . . .	R		02.11.53		A	X	14.11.83				
Tanzania . . . . .	S		12.12.62		A		15.02.83		A		15.02.83
Thailand . . . . .	A		29.12.54								
Togo . . . . .	S		06.01.62	X	R		21.06.84	X	R		21.06.84
Tonga . . . . .	S		13.04.78								
Trinidad & Tobago . . . . .	A		24.09.63 <sup>4</sup>								
Tunisia . . . . .	A		04.05.57	X	R		09.08.79	X	R		09.08.79
Turkey . . . . .	R		10.02.54								
Tuvalu . . . . .	S		19.02.81								
Uganda . . . . .	A		18.05.64								
Ukraine . . . . .	R	X	03.08.54	X				X			
USSR . . . . .	R	X	10.05.54	X				X			
United Arab Emirates . . . . .	A		10.05.72		A	X	09.03.83		A	X	09.03.83
United Kingdom . . . . .	R		23.09.57	X				X			
United States . . . . .	R	X	02.08.55	X				X			
Uruguay . . . . .	R	X	05.03.69								
Vanuatu . . . . .	A		27.10.82								
Venezuela . . . . .	R		13.02.56								
Vietnam . . . . .	A	X	28.06.57	X	R		19.10.81				
Yemen (Arab Rep.) . . . . .	A		16.07.70	X				X			
Yemen (People's Rep.) . . . . .	A		25.05.77								
Yugoslavia . . . . .	R	X	21.04.50	X	R	X	11.06.79	X	R		11.06.79
Zaire . . . . .	S		20.02.61		A		03.06.82				
Zambia . . . . .	A		19.10.66								
Zimbabwe . . . . .	A		07.03.83								

<sup>1</sup> A = accession; R = ratification; S = declaration of succession.

<sup>2</sup> States which made the declaration regarding preliminary acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission, as provided for in Article 90 of Protocol I.

<sup>3</sup> With the exception of the Fourth Convention, to which Sri Lanka acceded on 23.02.59 (Sri Lanka signed only the First, Second and Third Conventions).

<sup>4</sup> Trinidad and Tobago's accession to the First Convention was on 17.03.63 and not on 24.09.63 as for the other three Conventions.