



Croce Rossa Italiana
Organizzazione di Volontariato

Mid Term Report Italian Red Cross

Resolution 1 – Bringing IHL home: A road map for better national implementation of international humanitarian law

December 2021

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Elements of the resolutions has been implemented

- Elements 3 and 7 on the dissemination of IHL among civilians and military personnel; the integration of IHL into military doctrine, education and training, and into all levels of military planning and decision-making
- Element 5 on national committees and similar entities on IHL and the encouragement to consider establishing such an entity if not yet existing
- Element 6 on national committees and the active participation in the universal, regional and other regular meetings of such entities

Examples / Good practices

- Elements 3 and 7:

Particular importance is given to training activities for the Armed Forces, for which the Italian Red Cross organizes two types of higher training courses: the IHL Courses for International Operators and the IHL Courses for Qualified Advisors.

The activity responds to the need to train Armed Forces in accordance with the provisions of IHL, and in particular, the provisions contained in the Geneva Conventions, to make military personnel increasingly aware of the principles governing the IHL and updated on the application of the latter in new contexts.

On September, 2019 the Italian Red Cross, with the goal of offering a more specific training to its Volunteers, approved a new catalog courses with thematic courses on IHL including:

- Protection of the RCRCRC Emblem;
- Health Care in Danger;
- Humanitarian Fundamental Principles;
- Raid Cross and IHL Challenge;

- Humanitarian Diplomacy;
- Refugee Law;
- Protection of Cultural Property;
- An experimental courses will be held in 2022 on on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

All these courses aim to train IHL Instructors on specific topics that will be disseminated among civilians with particular attention on school students.

During the reference period, different courses were organized to disseminate International Humanitarian Law, with national coverage, including:

- 21 IHL courses for International Operators (3 in 2020 and 19 in 2021), for a total of 700 people trained. In particular, 5 IHL courses for International Operators organized to Italian and International Armed Forces deployed in Lebanon (2 UNIFIL courses), Kosovo (1 course) and Niger (2 courses);
- 5 Qualified Advisers courses for Armed Forces officers (3 in 2020 and 2 in 2021), concerning the application of IHL in International Armed Conflicts, for a total of 200 people trained;
- 9 (2021) and 3 (2020) web events as updates on IHL for our IHL Instructors;
- Financial support to the Sanremo Institute of International Humanitarian Law;
- Re-activation of the prize “Barrile-Verrì” for the two best master’s thesis discussed by students enrolled in Italian universities in 2018, 2019 and 2020 about IHL, IHRL and IDL.

Element 5:

The National Commission for the Study and Development of International Humanitarian Law has been established by decree of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in September 2021. It is composed of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Defence and the Italian Red Cross. The Commission has among its institutional tasks to contribute to the study of International Humanitarian Law, to promote initiatives aimed at its wider dissemination and application and to facilitate coordination between the administrations involved and Civil Society. The first meeting of the Commission was held on October 18, 2021 and it set an ambitious program on IHL with short, mid and long goals.

- Element 6:

The Italian Red Cross facilitated the participation of Italy during the Universal Meeting of National Committees and similar entities on International Humanitarian Law “Bringing IHL Home through Domestic Law and Policy” to be held online, from 29 November until 2 December 2021.



Partners on the implementation

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Defence