Image not found or type unknown

What is this website about?

How does law protect in war? [1] (the "Online Casebook") is an academic platform adapted from the original reference Casebook authored by Marco Sassòli [2], Antoine Bouvier [3] and Anne Quintin [4], and published by the ICRC. It is intended to support teaching of international humanitarian law (IHL) in universities in an interactive way, and based on contemporary practice. The Law [5] section features a general outline presenting IHL in 14 chapters. It contains comprehensive bibliographic resources and links each theme to a range of related case studies and documents. The Practice [6] section comprises 325 case studies and documents regrouped either by theme or by region, or by type of document. They allow practice-oriented learning of IHL rules and interactive discussions through series of questions. The Pedagogical Resources [7] section provides useful advice on how to teach IHL, as well as 29 model course outlines and other useful resources. The A to Z [8] section presents 418 notions linked to IHL, their legal sources, the case studies where they are addressed, as well as bibliographic resources to delve further into those notions. A search engine [9] allows users to find rapidly the relevant pedagogical material they need on the platform. In 2014, a first version of the online platform was launched.

To which users is it addressed?

How does law protect in war? is addressed primarily to university lecturers. It can also be useful for professionals and persons interested in armed conflicts in general, who appreciate the platform's comprehensive resources in IHL, related branches of international law and issues touching upon armed conflicts. The Online Casebook was visited by 227'422 users in 2020.

What are the roles of the authors and the ICRC on this platform?

Marco Sassòli [10], Antoine Bouvier [11], Anne Quintin [12] and Julia Grignon [13] are the four authors of *How does law protect in war?* [1]. They review the content of the platform and update it regularly in partnership with the University of Geneva, Faculty of Law [14], the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights [15] and the Clinique de droit international pénal et humanitaire [16], Faculté de droit, Université Laval. The ICRC provides technical and promotional support to maintain and update the online platform.

As reminded by the Disclaimer and Copyright [17], it is important to note that neither the ICRC, nor the authors can be identified with the opinions expressed in the cases and documents presented on the platform, which solely aim to encourage practice-oriented teaching of IHL through documents and resources illustrating contemporary practice.

Links to external websites

The platform contains links to publicly accessible external websites and documents. Neither the ICRC, nor the authors, are responsible for the maintenance or content of third-party websites that are quoted or reproduced in full or in part on the platform.

How should we quote content from *How does law protect in war?*

Any content from this platform should be quoted as follows:

"M. Sassòli, A. Bouvier, A. Quintin, J. Grignon, *How does law protect in war?*, ICRC, Geneva, 2014: [link leading to the specific content which is quoted] (consulted [date on which such content was accessed])."

What has been improved in this online version?

The platform has been modernized with features allowing smoother consultation of each page:

- a table of content moves along when the user scrolls down the content of the page and allows rapid access to various parts of displayed content
- a thread on top of pages makes navigation throughout each section smoother
- relevant themes addressed in case studies and documents are tagged on the side of the page, for easy thematic navigation
- a scrolling menu on top of each page gives instant access to ICRC IHL reference databases: Customary IHL [18]; Treaties, State Parties and Commentaries [19]; National Implementation of IHL [20]
- the platform is responsive: display is adapted for tablets and smartphones alike
- a print-friendly button allows users to display each page in PDF and print it accordingly (see Disclaimer and Copyright [21] for possible use of materials)
- the original *How does law protect in war?* [22] Casebook can be downloaded for free in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish and Russian through a scrolling menu on top of each page (please note that the content is not necessarily the same between the different language versions and compared to the online platform)
- a number of technical issues have been corrected and improved

In terms of content, new case studies have been added for the launch of the platform (see related Highlight: IHL, Protecting Human Life and Dignity in XXIst Century Wars [23]) and the platform will be regularly updated with new content (see below 'What's next?').

Bibliographic resources in "The Law" and "A to Z"

Several bibliographic resources, each serving a specific purpose, have been updated as follows:

- The chapter entitled "General Bibliography on IHL" [24] provides a bibliography including main IHL reference books covering the entire branch;
- The "Chapter Bibliographies", which can be found at the beginning of every chapter under "The Law", contain general texts covering the topic of the chapter itself;
- The "Specific Bibliographies", which follow the introductory texts of every chapter under "The Law", contain readings summarizing the chapter's topic, general readings on the topic that are not suggested under the "Chapter Bibliography", as well as readings on more specific issues not attributable to a section or subsection. They are divided into two sub-categories:
  - *Suggested readings:* a selection of readings summarizing the chapter's topic and covering other relevant issues not attributable to a section or subsection;
  - *Further readings*: a more inclusive selection of readings to explore other notions discussed in the introductory texts from different angles;
- The "Specific Bibliographies", which follow the different sections or subsections of every chapter under "The Law", contain readings on the issues dealt with in the relevant section or subsection. They are divided into two sub-categories:
  - *Suggested readings:* a selection of readings covering the main issues discussed in the relevant sections and subsections;
  - *Further readings*: a more inclusive selection of readings to explore other notions linked to such issues from different angles.

Specific bibliographies can also be found under various references in "A to Z".

What will happen next?

 The platform is regularly promoted on various channels, including social media. We invite users to provide their feedback, suggestions and possible contributions by using the feedback button [25]. Since 2017, *How does law protect in war?* [1] is regularly updated with

new case studies presented in thematic highlights, new and updated A to Z notions, new Pedagogical Resources and updated introductory texts in The Law section.

Links

[1] https://casebook.icrc.org/

[2] https://casebook.icrc.org/marco-sassoli

[3] https://casebook.icrc.org/antoine-bouvier

[4] https://casebook.icrc.org/anne-quintin

[5] https://casebook.icrc.org/law

[6] https://casebook.icrc.org/practice

[7] https://casebook.icrc.org/pedagogical-resources

[8] https://casebook.icrc.org/a_to_z

[9] https://casebook.icrc.org/search/

[10] http://casebookuat.icrc.org/marco-sassoli

[11] http://casebookuat.icrc.org/antoine-bouvier

[12] http://casebookuat.icrc.org/anne-quintin

[13] https://casebook.icrc.org/julia-grignon

[14] http://www.unige.ch/droit/international_en.html

[15] https://www.geneva-academy.ch/

[16] https://www.cdiph.ulaval.ca/

[17] https://casebook.icrc.org/disclaimer-and-copyright#toc-disclaimer

[18] https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/customary-ihl/eng/docs/home

[19] https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/ihl

[20] https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/ihl-nat

[21] https://casebook.icrc.org/disclaimer-and-copyright#toc-copyright-

[22] https://www.icrc.org/en/document/how-does-law-protect-war-0

[23] https://casebook.icrc.org/highlight/highlight-ihl-protecting-human-life-and-dignity-xxist-century-wars

[24] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/general-bibliography-ihl

[25] https://casebook.icrc.org/content/contact