Private military security companies are private business entities that provide military and/or security services, irrespective of how they describe themselves. Military and security services include, in particular, armed guarding and protection of persons and objects, such as convoys, buildings and other places; maintenance and operation of weapons systems; prisoner detention; and advice to or training of local forces and security personnel.

OUTLINE

Chapter 5, VII. 6. Civilianization of armed conflicts, a) PMSCs

DOCUMENT

Montreux Document on Private Military and Security Companies

ICRC, International humanitarian law and the challenges of contemporary armed conflicts in 2011

CASES
The Issue of Mercenaries (Part D.) [6]

ICRC, The Challenges of Contemporary Armed Conflicts (Part B.) [7]

Private Military Security Companies [8]


Switzerland, The End of Private Armies [13]

USA, Al-Shimari v. CACI Premier Technology, Inc. [14]


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Suggested readings:


COCKAYNE James, “Regulating Private Military and Security Companies: the Content, Negotiation, Weaknesses and Promise of the Montreux Document”, in *Journal of Conflict & Security Law*


University Centre for International Humanitarian Law, Expert Meeting on Private Military Contractors: Status and State Responsibility for their Actions, Report, Geneva, 2005, online:  
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