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Three additional protocols have been adopted to supplement the four 1949 Geneva Conventions [1]. In 1977, two additional protocols were adopted to strengthen the protection of victims of international [2] (Protocol I) and non-international [3] (Protocol II) armed conflicts. In addition, since they both regulated the conduct of hostilities [4], they are considered as uniting the “Law of Geneva [5]”, which deals with the protection of victims of armed conflicts, and the “Law of the Hague [6]”, which governs the conduct of hostilities. In 2005, a third additional protocol was adopted to recognize the emblem [7] of the red crystal, which has the same international status as the emblems of the red cross and the red crescent.

See Treaties [8], Geneva Conventions [1]; Conduct of hostilities [4]; Emblems (Red Cross, Red Crescent & Red Cristal) [7], International armed conflict [2]; Non-international armed conflict [3]; Hague Conventions [9]; Law of the Hague [6]; Law of Geneva [5];

CASES & DOCUMENTS

ICJ, Nuclear Weapons Advisory Opinion (Para. 75) [10]

Sweden, Report of the Swedish IHL Committee (3.2.3.) [11]

Colombia, Constitutional Conformity of Protocol II [12]

US, President Rejects Protocol I ^[13]

South Africa, S. v. Petane ^[14]

El Salvador, Supreme Court of Judgment on the Unconstitutionality of the
Amnesty Law ^[15]

Spain, Universal Jurisdiction over Grave Breaches of the Geneva Conventions
^[16]

Additional Protocol I of 1977

Application:

Applicable in international armed conflicts (including national liberation wars)

Contents:

Development of the 1949 rules

Adaptation of International Humanitarian Law to the realities of guerrilla warfare

Protection of the civilian population against the effects of hostilities

Rules on the conduct of hostilities

OUTLINE

Chapter 3, Decolonisation, guerrilla wars ^[17]

Chapter 4, 3. Two Additional Protocols of 1977 ^[18]

DOCUMENT

The First Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions ^[19]

France, Accession to Protocol I ^[20]

CASES

UK and Australia, Applicability of Protocol I ^[21]

Additional Protocol II of 1977

Application:

Applicable to non-international armed conflicts

Contents:

Extension and more precise formulation of the fundamental guarantees protecting all those who do not or no longer actively participate in hostilities

Protection of the civilian population against the effects of hostilities

OUTLINE

Chapter 3, Decolonisation, guerrilla wars ^[17]

Chapter 4, 3. Two Additional Protocols of 1977 ^[18]

Chapter 12. III. 3. Conflicts to which, in addition, Protocol II is applicable ^[22]

Chapter 12. IV. 3. Additional rules under Protocol II ^[23]

DOCUMENT

The Second Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions ^[24]

CASES

Belgium and Brazil, Explanations of Vote on Protocol II ^[25]

Additional Protocol III

OUTLINE

Chapter 7, VI. 1. Three distinctive signs ^[26]

DOCUMENT

The Third Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions ^[27]

CASES

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Suggested readings:

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Further readings:

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Links

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- [4] <https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/conduct-hostilities>
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- [6] <https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/law-hague>
- [7] <https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/emblems-red-cross-red-crescent-red-crystal>
- [8] <https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/treaties>
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- [11] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/sweden-report-swedish-international-humanitarian-law-committee#3-2-3-customary-law-additional-P1>
- [12] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/colombia-constitutional-conformity-protocol-ii>
- [13] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/united-states-president-rejects-protocol-i>
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[15] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/el-salvador-supreme-court-judgment-unconstitutionality-amnesty-law>

[16] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/spain-universal-jurisdiction-over-grave-breaches-geneva-conventions>

[17] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/fundamentals-ihl#c_deco_gw

[18] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/fundamentals-ihl#d_i_3

[19]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Treaty.xsp?documentId=D9E6B6264D7723C3C12563CD002D6CE4&action=openD>

[20] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/france-accession-protocol-i>

[21] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/united-kingdom-and-australia-applicability-protocol-i>

[22] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/non-international-armed-conflict#iii_3

[23] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/non-international-armed-conflict#iv_3

[24]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Treaty.xsp?documentId=AA0C5BCBAB5C4A85C12563CD002D6D09&action=openD>

[25] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/belgium-and-brazil-explanations-vote-protocol-ii>

[26] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/wounded-sick-and-shipwrecked#vi_1

[27]

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[29] <http://www.icrc.org/ihl>