



NEWSLETTER APRIL/MAY/JUNE 2004
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EDITORIAL

The offices of the General Secretariat have been moved successfully to the Royal Military Academy in Brussels (Belgium). The General Secretariat is now focusing on the international conference that will take place at the Royal Military Academy in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 September 2004 to 1 October 2004.

Please find attached to this newsletter an updated programme of this conference, as well as the necessary registration forms. Invitations to the conference have been sent some weeks ago to all members of the Society, all Presidents of the National Groups (with a request to forward them to their national members), the Ministers of Defence (via their Attachés), various international organisations, universities and non-governmental organisations etc. We are currently receiving registration forms from all over the world (e.g. Lebanon, Uganda, United Arab Emirates etc.). One of our objectives is indeed to bring together a large group of experts, which is as international as possible. You are kindly invited to forward this newsletter with its attachments to all persons you know who could take an interest in getting to know our association and/or in attending this conference. Your efforts will most definitely contribute to this objective.

Ludwig VAN DER VEKEN
Secretary-General

Dr. OSKAR ZLAMALA

With great regret the General Secretariat learned of Dr. Oskar ZLAMALA's death. He was a highly respected member of the Board of Directors of our association from 1962 to 1981, when he became Honorary Member of our association. We will always be grateful for his substantial contributions to the objectives of our association. On behalf of our association, the Secretary-General expressed our condolences to his relatives.

NEWS

The Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General (Mr. Alfons VANHEUSDEN) have met the President (General Tamas KOVACS) and the Secretary (Colonel Ferenc MATYUS) of the Hungarian National Group. This contact took place during a bilateral meeting in Budapest (Hungary) between the International Law Department of the Hungarian Ministry of Defence and

the Legal Service of the Belgian Ministry of Defence. The Secretary-General congratulated the Hungarian National Group for their active role within the Society.

The Italian National Group organised a conference on military discipline ("la regolamentazione disciplinare nella prospettiva del modello professionale delle forze armate") in Rome on 21 April 2004.

SPECIALISED COMMISSIONS

The Secretariat-General is pleased to see that quite a number of the members of our association have decided to join one or more of the specialised commissions and that some of the specialised commissions have already started working.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, ETC.

The Belgian National Group organises an international conference under the auspices of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War at the Royal Military Academy in Brussels from 29 September 2004 to 1 October 2004. The title of the conference is "The Role of NGOs in International Problem Solving". The conference will be held in French and English (with simultaneous translation) and will deal with questions such as "How can NGOs influence foreign and security policies?" "What is their role in peace negotiations?" "What are the rights and duties of NGOs during an armed conflict?" "How do NGOs and Governments co-operate in the post-conflict phase to rebuild the legal system?" "How big is the role of NGOs with consultative status with the United Nations in creating legal instruments preventing the consequences of armed conflicts?". For more information, please contact the General Secretariat (soc-mil-law@planetinternet.be). Registration forms will also be accepted after 1 July 2004, but from this date on, the General Secretariat can no longer guarantee to be able to make the necessary hotel reservations.

The Irish Centre for Human Rights, which is located in Galway (Ireland) organises a summer training course focusing on the International Criminal Court, from 10 to 14 July 2004. On this occasion, the Irish Centre for Human Rights is offering, together with the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, a study grant to one recipient. Letters of application explaining interest in this funding can be sent to iccsummercourse@hotmail.com. The "Irish Centre for Human Rights" has been processing applications since 10 June 2004.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is organising this summer, in co-operation with the "Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research", a seminar on "International Humanitarian Law and Current Conflicts: New Challenges and Dilemmas". The purpose of the seminar will be to develop the qualifications of the participants in the area of International Humanitarian Law. The seminar will take place in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, from 27 July to 1 August 2004. For more information, please visit the site www.hsph.harvard.edu or contact directly ihlseminar@hsph.harvard.edu.

The "Salzburg Law School on International Criminal Law" organises its sixth summer course from Sunday 8 to Friday 20 August 2004. This year's topic will be : "Analysing the first two years of the International Criminal Court and projects for the future". Contributions from numerous experts in this field are on the agenda. For further information, please visit the Law School's site at www.salzburglawschool.com, or contact directly office@salzburglawschool.com.

INTERESTING PUBLICATIONS

- Yves BEIGBEDER - Judging Criminal Leaders, The slow erosion of Impunity – Kluwer law International, 2002. For more information on this book, please contact yves.beigbeder@free.fr

- Instituto de Estudios Politicos e Internacionales, Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (éd.) – CPI - La Universalizacion de la lucha contra la impunidad – Panama: Editora Sibauste, 2004, 230 pages, ISBN 996-51-084-8

- Dominic MCGOLDRICK, Peter ROWE and Eric DONNELLY (éd.) – The Permanent International Criminal Court - Legal and Policy Issues – Hart Publishing Ltd, 2004, 498 pages, ISBN 1-84113-281-0. For more details : www.hart.oxi.net

FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

In our efforts to economise, the newsletter is circulated electronically as an e-mail attachment, to the largest extent possible. If you have e-mail but have not yet notified us, please send your e-mail address to soc-mil-law@planetinternet.be.

Issues of the newsletter are circulated by e-mail and fax only, except for specific members who requested and subsequently were granted an exemption from this policy by the Secretary-General.

Please send us any information that could be useful for future newsletters and/or our website.

Do not hesitate to forward any of your articles that could be published in the Military Law and the Law of War Review to the Director of Publications. You may inform your colleagues that the Military Law and Law of War Review also publishes articles of non-members.