

### IHL v. Human Rights: Systemic Integration and Lex Specialis

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Broad picture of the interplay between IHL and HRL

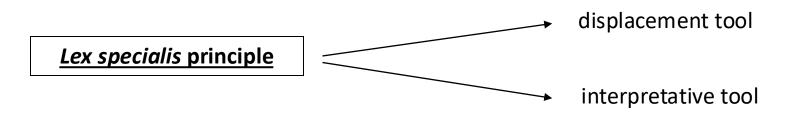
### - Part 2:

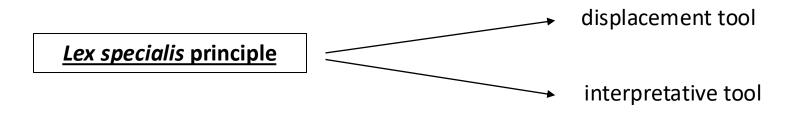
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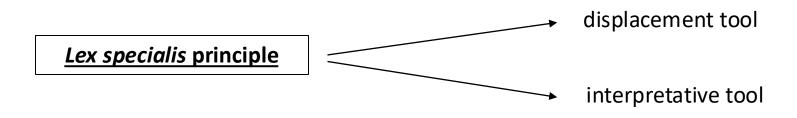
Lex specialis principle

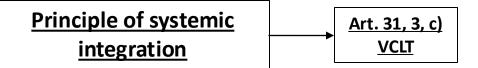
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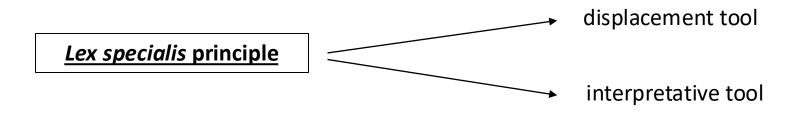


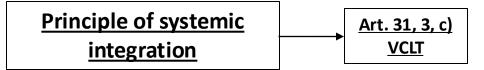


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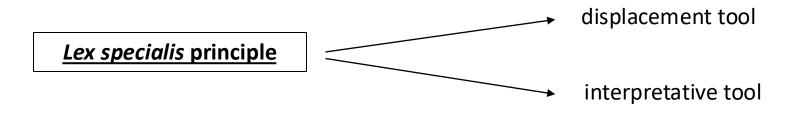


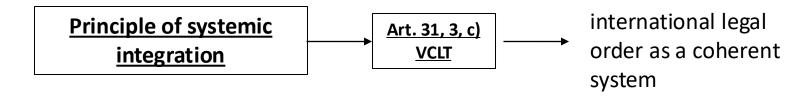






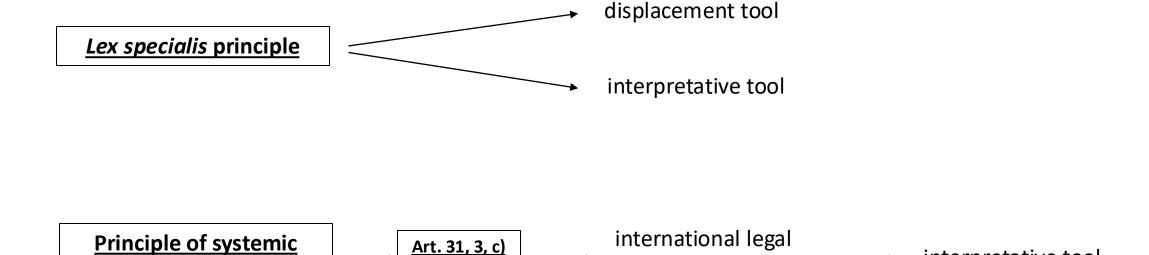
A treaty shall be interpreted in light of 'any *relevant* rules of international law applicable in the relations between the parties'.





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integration



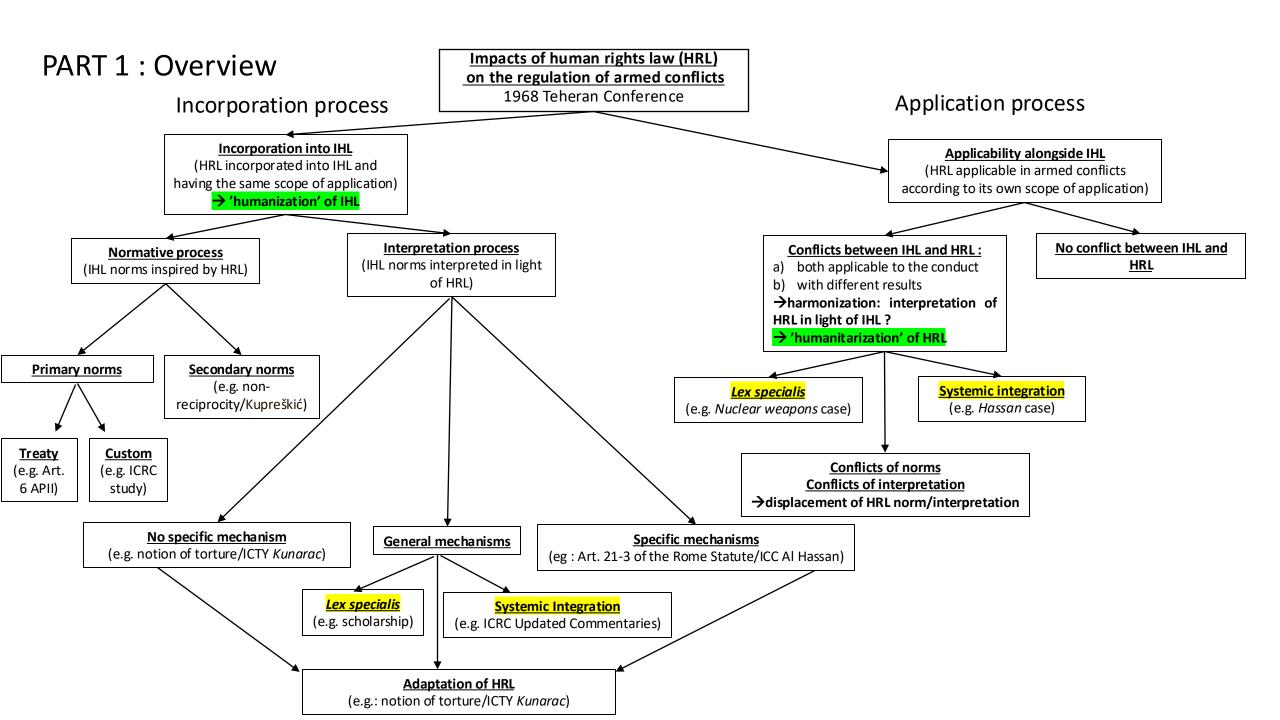
order as a coherent

system

interpretative tool

A treaty shall be interpreted in light of 'any *relevant* rules of international law applicable in the relations between the parties'.

**VCLT** 



PART 1: Overview

Impacts of human rights law (HRL) on the regulation of armed conflicts

1968 Teheran Conference

1968 Teheran Conference

#### **Incorporation into IHL**

(HRL incorporated into IHL and having the same scope of application)

→ 'humanization' of IHL

Incorporation process

1968 Teheran Conference

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#### **Secondary norms**

(e.g. nonreciprocity/Kupreškić)

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(e.g. non-reciprocity/Kupreškić)

"The absolute nature of most obligations imposed by rules of international humanitarian law reflects the progressive trend towards the so-called 'humanisation' of international legal obligations, which refers to the general erosion of the role of reciprocity in the application of humanitarian law over the last century"

1968 Teheran Conference

#### **Incorporation into IHL**

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(IHL norms inspired by HRL)

#### **Primary norms**

#### **Secondary norms**

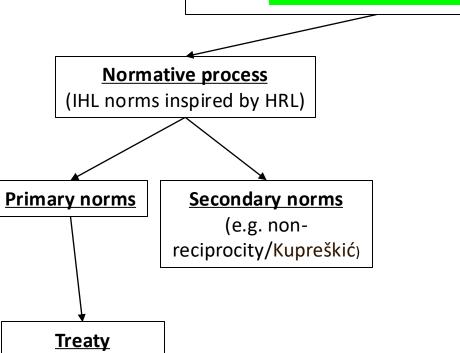
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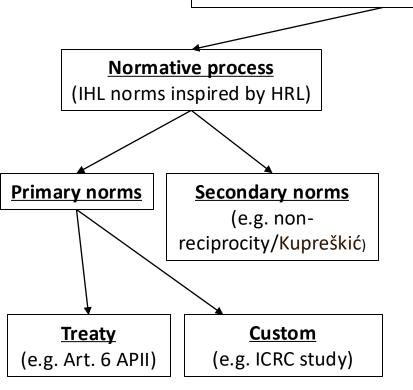
(e.g. Art. 6 APII)

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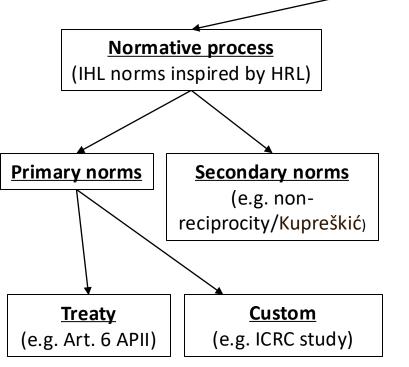


1968 Teheran Conference

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#### **Interpretation process**

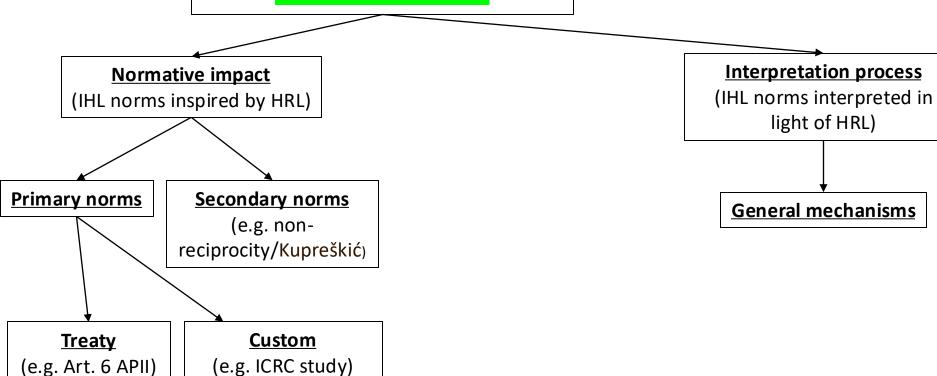
(IHL norms interpreted in light of HRL)

1968 Teheran Conference

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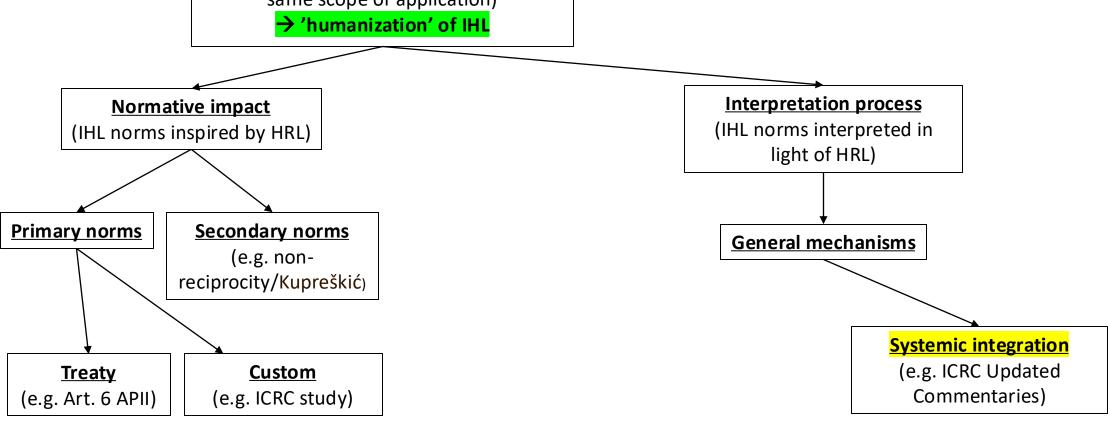
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1968 Teheran Conference

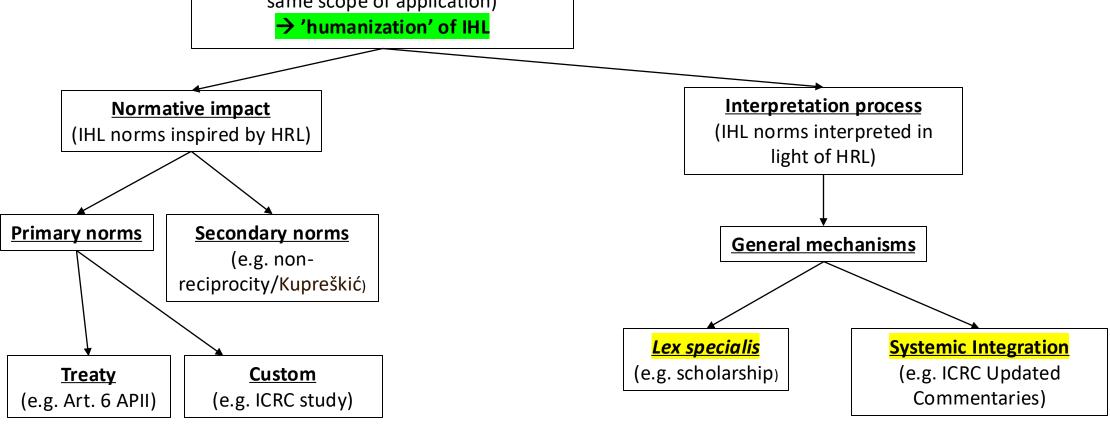
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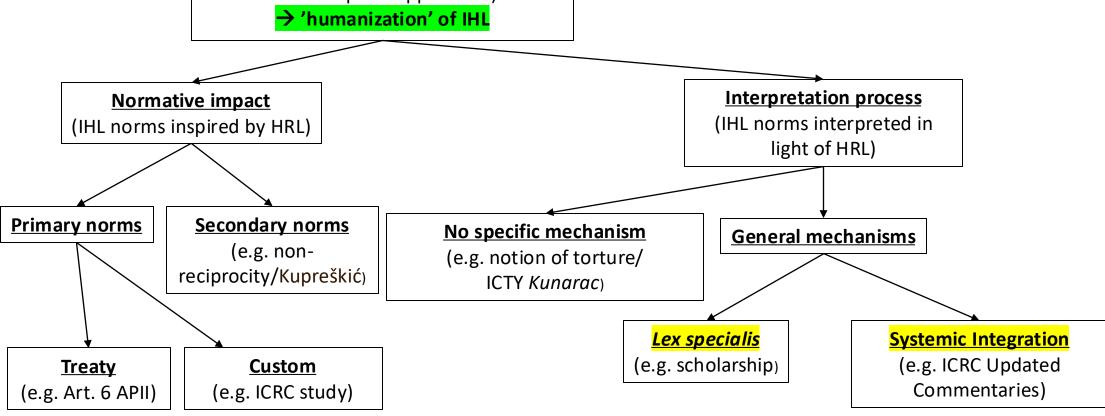
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#### **Incorporation into IHL**

(HRL incorporated into IHL and having the same scope of application)

'humanization' of IHL

interpretation is based on "instruments and practices developed in the field of human rights law [...] [b]ecause of [the] resemblance [of HRL and IHL], in terms of goals, values and terminology"

### **Normative impact** (IHL norms inspired by HRL)

#### **Secondary norms**

(e.g. nonreciprocity/Kupreškić)

### **Treaty**

(e.g. Art. 6 APII)

**Primary norms** 

#### Custom

(e.g. ICRC study)

#### **Interpretation process**

(IHL norms interpreted in light of HRL)

**General mechanisms** 

#### No specific mechanism

(e.g. notion of torture/ ICTY Kunarac)

#### Lex specialis

(e.g. scholarship)

#### **Systemic Integration**

(e.g. ICRC Updated Commentaries)

Impacts of human rights law (HRL) on the regulation of armed conflicts 1968 Teheran Conference **Incorporation into IHL** (HRL incorporated into IHL and having the same scope of application) 'humanization' of IHL **Interpretation process Normative impact** (IHL norms interpreted in (IHL norms inspired by HRL) light of HRL) **Specific mechanisms Primary norms Secondary norms** No specific mechanism **General mechanisms** (eg: Art. 21-3 of the Rome Statute/ (e.g. non-(e.g. notion of torture/ reciprocity/Kupreškić) ICC Al Hassan)

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(e.g. Art. 6 APII)

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ICTY *Kunarac*)

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Impacts of human rights law (HRL) on the regulation of armed conflicts 1968 Teheran Conference **Incorporation into IHL** any law applicable before the (HRL incorporated into IHL and having the Court, including IHL, must be same scope of application) consistent with HRL 'humanization' of IHL **Interpretation process** (IHL norms interpreted in (IHL norms inspired by HRL) light of HRL) **General mechanisms** 

#### **Secondary norms Primary norms**

**Normative impact** 

(e.g. nonreciprocity/Kupreškić)

(e.g. ICRC study)

**Treaty** Custom

(e.g. Art. 6 APII)

#### No specific mechanism

(e.g. notion of torture/ ICTY Kunarac)

### Lex specialis

(e.g. scholarship)

#### **Specific mechanisms**

(eg: Art. 21-3 of the Rome Statute/ ICC Al Hassan)

#### **Systemic Integration**

(e.g. ICRC Updated Commentaries)

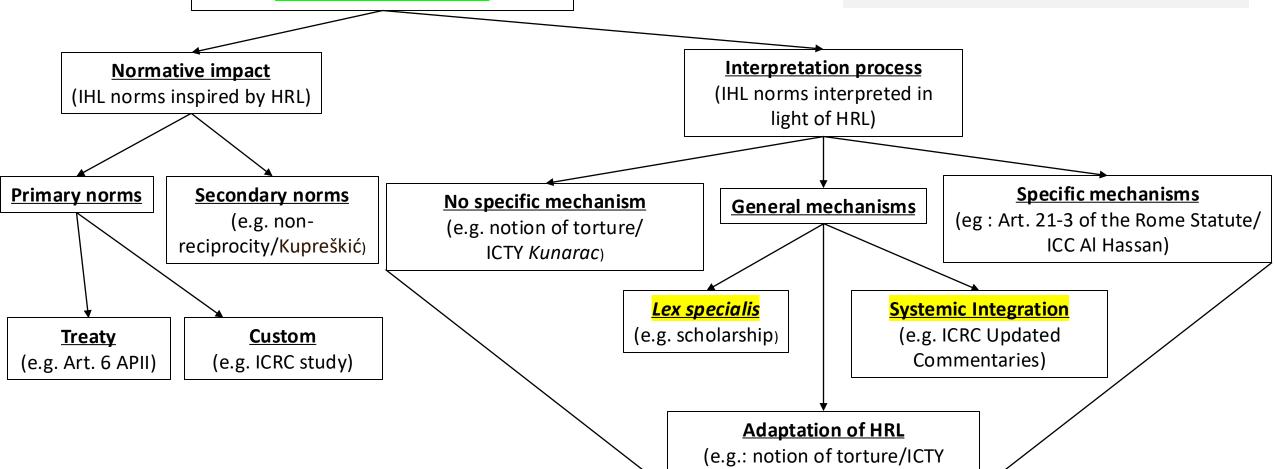
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#### **Incorporation into IHL**

(HRL incorporated into IHL and having the same scope of application)

→ 'humanization' of IHL

The Tribunal merely stated that "when relying upon human rights law relating to torture, the Trial Chamber must take into account the structural differences which exist between that body of law and international humanitarian law."



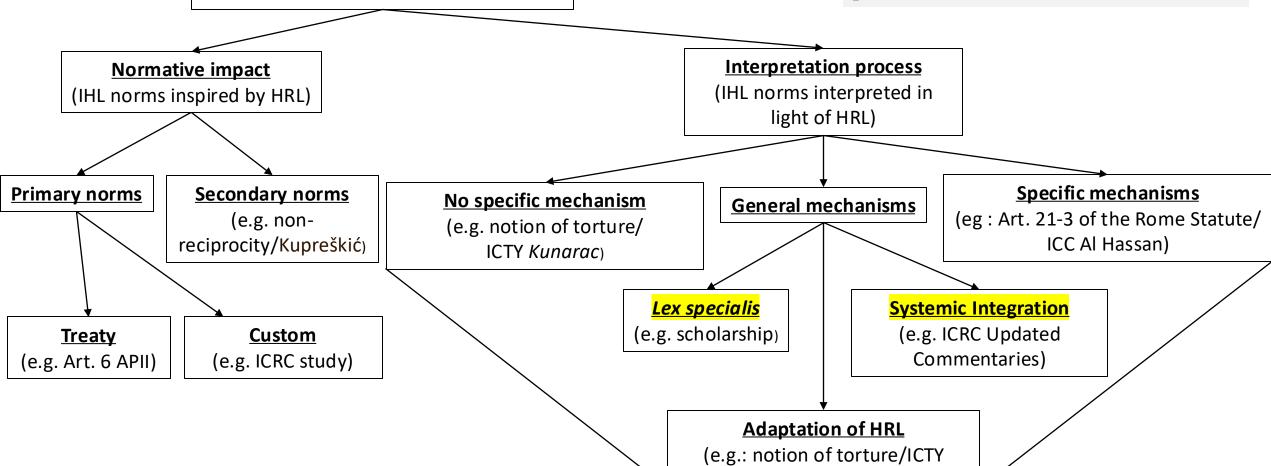
**Kunarac**)

#### **Incorporation into IHL**

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→ 'humanization' of IHL

The ICRC merely indicated in its Updated Commentaries that "human rights law and interpretations [based on that law] can[not] be transposed mechanically to humanitarian law provisions."



**Kunarac**)

Application process

#### Applicability alongside IHL

(HRL applicable in armed conflicts according to its own scope of application)

1968 Teheran Conference

#### **Applicability alongside IHL**

(HRL applicable in armed conflicts according to its own scope of application)

No conflict between IHL and HRL

1968 Teheran Conference

**Applicability alongside IHL** 

(HRL applicable in armed conflicts according to its own scope of application)

**Conflicts between IHL and HRL:** 

- a) both applicable to the conduct
- b) with different results

No conflict between IHL and HRL

1968 Teheran Conference

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- → 'humanitarization' of HRL

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#### **Applicability alongside IHL**

(HRL applicable in armed conflicts according to its own scope of application)

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- a) both applicable to the conduct
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- → harmonization: interpretation of HRL in light of IHL?
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No conflict between IHL and HRL

**Systemic integration** 

(e.g. *Hassan* case)

Impacts of human rights law (HRL) on the regulation of armed conflicts

1968 Teheran Conference

### **Applicability alongside IHL**

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No conflict between IHL and

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### **Conflicts between IHL and HRL:**

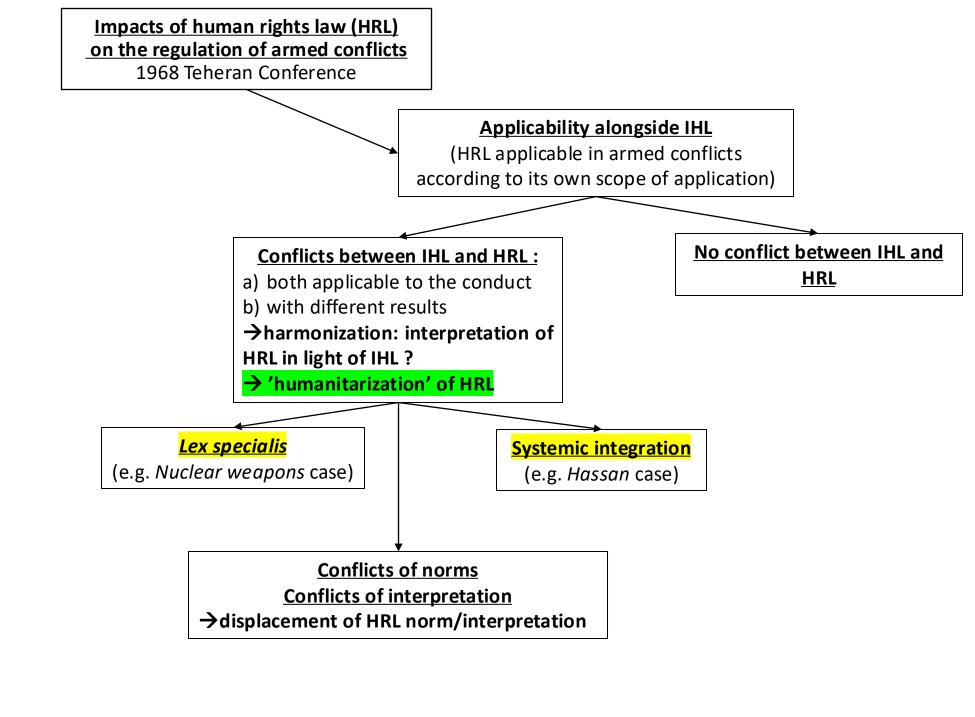
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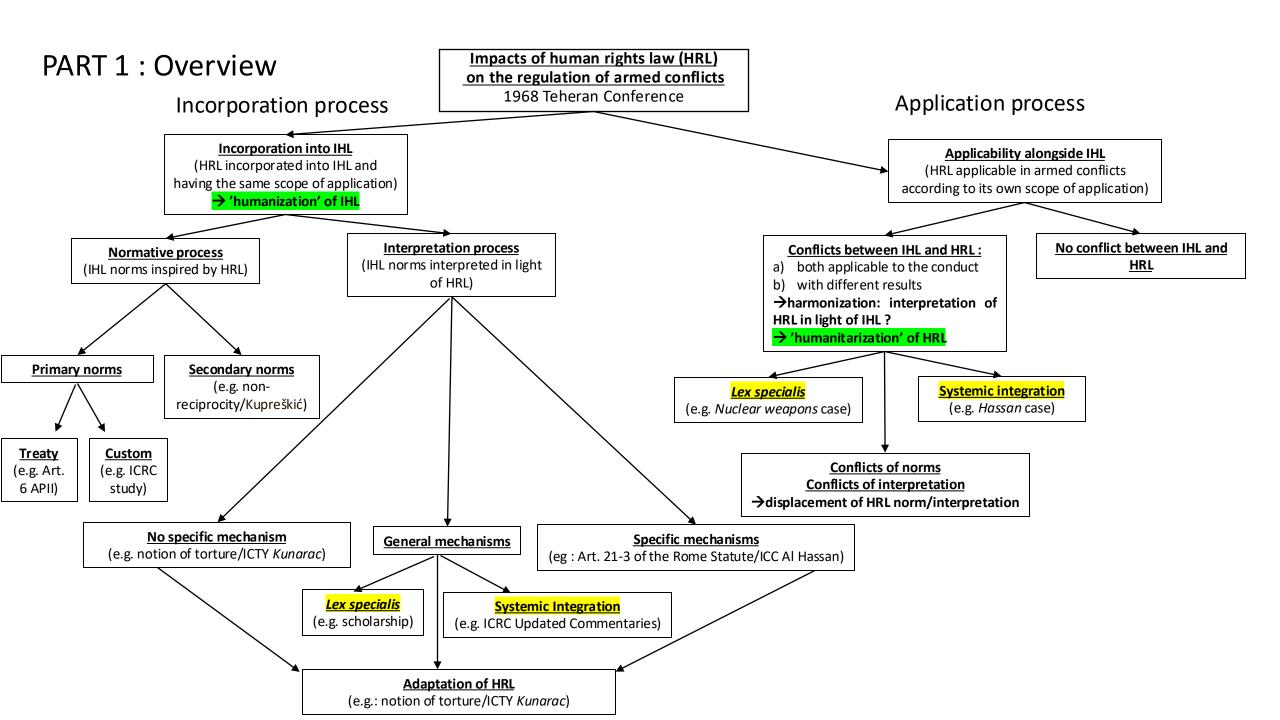
### Lex specialis

(e.g. *Nuclear weapons* case)

### **Systemic integration**

(e.g. Hassan case)





**Incorporation process: interpretation process** 

(interpretation of IHL in light of HRL)

PART II: Normative Coherence Application process: conflicts between IHL and HRL

(displacement of HRL norm/interpretation)

### **Incorporation process: interpretative impact**

(interpretation of IHL in light of HRL)

### **Application process:**

### conflicts between IHL and HRL

(displacement of HRL norm/interpretation)

Ony through the Lex specialis?

### **Incorporation process: interpretative impact**

(interpretation of IHL in light of HRL)

Only through systemic integration?

### Application process:

conflicts between IHL and HRL

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Application process:
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Formal mechanisms: What is 'relevant' and 'specialis/generalis'?

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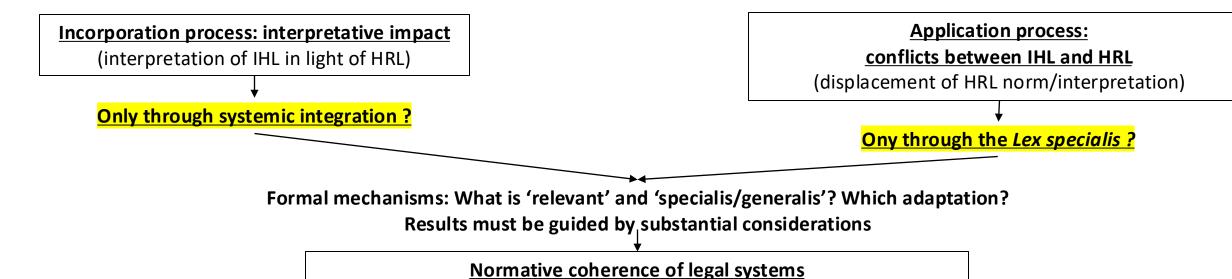
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Results must be guided by substantial considerations



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Ony through the Lex specialis?

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**Normative coherence of legal systems** 

a) consistency: no conflicts through the operation of formal mechanisms

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### **Normative coherence of legal systems**

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⇒ First prong: regulation must offer the best protection to persons

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Objective of the Tehran conference

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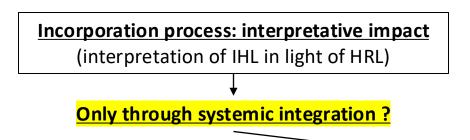
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Full incorporation of HRL into IHL



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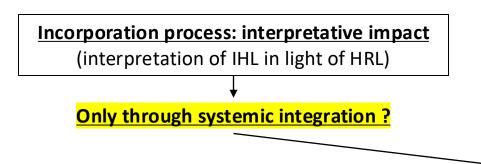
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Objective of the Tehran conference

Full incorporation of HRL into IHL

Full application of HRL alongside IHL

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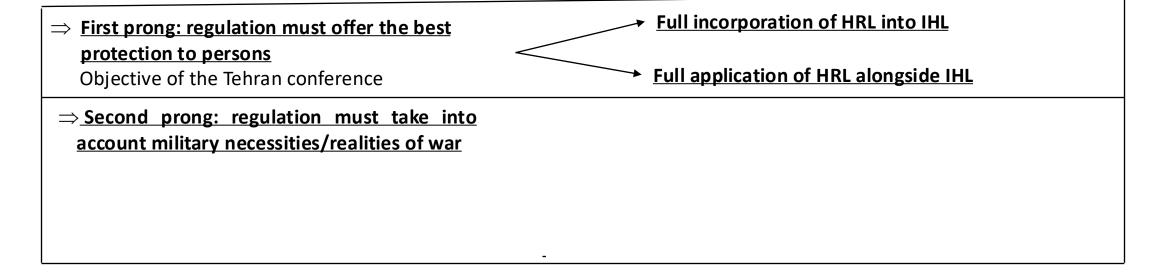
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Objective of the Tehran conference

Full incorporation of HRL into IHL

Full application of HRL alongside IHL

- ⇒ Second prong: regulation must take into account military necessities/realities of war
  - a) Context-dependent circumstances (e.g. capacities of the parties)

Application process:

conflicts between IHL and HRL

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Full application of HRL alongside IHL

- ⇒ Second prong: regulation must take into account military necessities/realities of war
  - a) Context-dependent circumstances (e.g. capacities of the parties)
  - b) Abstract circumstances (e.g. equality between belligerents)

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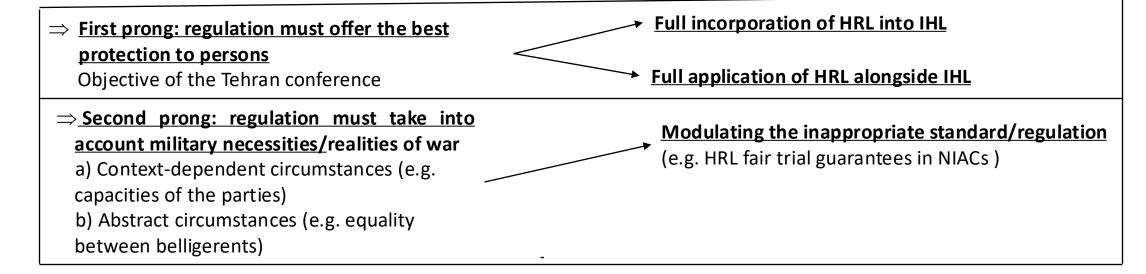
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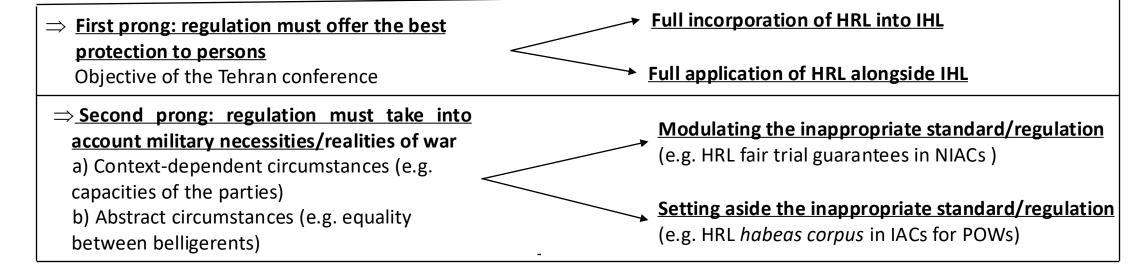
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### Conclusion

Many thanks for your attention!

