

Strengthening the Protection of Civilians: Challenges of Contemporary Armed Conflicts

Tuesday, 11 June 2024

PROGRAMME

13:00–13:30 Registration

13:30–14:00 Welcome and introductory remarks

Dr Iztok Prezelj, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana

Dr Nataša Pirc Musar, President of the Republic of Slovenia

Ms Tanja Fajon, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia (recorded)

Mr Marjan Šarec, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia

Ms Ondina Blokar Drobič, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia to the UN Security Council (recorded)

Ms Anita Pipan, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia to the UN Office and other international organizations in Geneva (recorded)

Ms Cvetka Tomin, Secretary General of the Slovenian Red Cross

14:00–15:15 High-level panel

"The relevance of the Geneva Conventions and the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in today's complex, recurrent and urbanised armed conflicts"

Moderated by **Ms Eva Tomič**, Ambassador, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Slovenia on Climate Policy and Human Rights

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Dr Danilo Türk, Former President of the Republic of Slovenia

PANELISTS:

Dr Marko Rakovec, Director-General for International Law and Legal Adviser at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

Dr Vasilka Sancin, Head of the Department of International Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, and Member of the UN Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

Dr Cordula Droege, Chief Legal Officer and Head of the Legal Division of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Ms Krista Pikkat, Director of Culture and Emergencies, Secretary of the 1954 Hague Convention, UNESCO (recorded)

Followed by Q&A

15:15–15:45 Coffee break

15:45–17:00 Second panel discussion

"Protecting civilians and cultural heritage in besieged cities"

Moderated by Ms Tanja Miškova, Ambassador-at-Large for Water Diplomacy at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Ms Neda Dojčinović, Regional Legal Adviser, ICRC

Dr Anna Sidorenko, Head of the Cultural Heritage Protection Treaties Unit and the Secretariat of the 1954 Hague Convention, UNESCO

PANELISTS:

Dr Mara Tignino, Lead Legal Specialist of the Platform for International Water Law, Geneva Water Hub

Dr Itay Epshtain, Senior Humanitarian Law and Policy Consultant and Special Advisor to the Norwegian Refugee Council

Mr Ernesto Granillo, Humanitarian Advocacy and Policy Specialist, UNICEF

Dr Heike Spieker, Head Liaison Office, German Red Cross - Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance, German Red Cross

Followed by Q&A

17:00 Reception

Strengthening the Protection of Civilians: Challenges of Contemporary Armed Conflicts

Wednesday, 12 June 2024

PROGRAMME

9:00–10:15 Third panel discussion

"Cyberattacks on civilian critical infrastructure"

Moderated by Mr Urban Praprotnik, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Dr Cordula Droege, Chief Legal Officer and Head of the Legal Division of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

PANELISTS:

Dr Andraž Kastelic, lead cyber stability researcher, part of the Security and Technology Programme, UNIDIR

Dr Damjan Štrucl, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia

Dr Uroš Svete, Director of the Government Information Security Office

Ms Kaja Ciglic, Senior Director, Digital Diplomacy, Microsoft,

Followed by Q&A

10:15–10:45 Coffee break

10:45–12:00 Fourth panel discussion

"Protecting civilians from misinformation, disinformation and hate speech in armed conflict"

Moderated by **Dr Matjaž Nahtigal**, Assistant Professor and Chair of International Relations at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Dr Giacomo Persi Paoli, Head of the Security and Technology Programme, UNIDIR

PANELISTS:

Ms Neda Dojčinović, Regional Legal Adviser, ICRC

Dr Damjan Štrucl, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia

Ms Mihajela Črnko, UNESCO International Research Centre on Artificial Intelligence, Ljubljana

Ms Bettina Ruigies, Senior Media Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, OSCE

Followed by Q&A

12:00–13:00 Lunch

13:00–14:15 Fifth panel discussion

"Ensuring accountability for breaches of International Humanitarian Law"

Moderated by **Ms Barbara Granda**, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, and introductory remarks by **Ms Beti Hohler**, Judge of the International Criminal Court (recorded)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Mr Matevž Pezdirc, Head of the Genocide Network Secretariat at Eurojust

PANELISTS:

Dr Marko Rakovec, Director-General for International Law and Legal Adviser at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

Dr Konrad Bühler, Ambassador, Director-General of the Legal Office and Legal Adviser at the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria

Mr Andrew Gardner, Deputy Head of the Human Rights Department, ODIHR

Ms Eva Tomič, Ambassador, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Slovenia on Climate Policy and Human Rights

Followed by Q&A

14:15–14:30 Concluding remarks