

Enforcing International Humanitarian Law in Contemporary African Conflicts

**International Conference held at the Freie Universität Berlin,
DFG Collaborative Research Centre 700,
15 – 17 September 2011**

Thursday, 15 September 2011

19.30: Welcome Reception

Friday, 16 September 2011

9:00-9.10: Enforcing International Humanitarian Law in Areas of Limited Statehood
Prof. Dr. Heike Krieger, Freie Universität Berlin

Part I Conditions for Compliance in Non-International Armed Conflicts

9.10-9.40: Motives for Targeting Civilians – A Rational Choice of Insurgents
Prof. Dr. Reed Wood, Arizona State University

9.40-10.10: Reasons Leading to Attacks against the Civilian Population
Prof. Dr. Koen Vlassenroot, Universiteit Gent

10.10-10.20: Comment I: Reasons for Lack of Respect of International Humanitarian Law
Prof. Dr. Ulrich Schneckener, Universität Osnabrück

10.20-10.30: Comment II: Legal Enforcement: A Sufficient Response?
Prof. Dr. Stefan Oeter, Universität Hamburg

10.30-11.00: Discussion

11.00-11.30: Coffee Break

11.30-12.00 Means of Engaging Armed Groups - The Legal Framework for Humanitarian Actors Persuading Armed Groups to Respect International Humanitarian Law
Prof. Dr. Marco Sassòli, Université de Genève

12.00-12.30 Implementing Humanitarian Norms and Standards through Non-State-Actors
Sandesh Sivakumaran, University of Nottingham

12.30-12.40 Comment I: Persuading Armed Groups
Dr. Olivier Bangerter, ICRC

- 12.40-12.50 Comment II: Normative Standards for Non-State Actors
Prof. Dr. Beate Rudolf, Director of Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte
- 12.50-13.20 Discussion
- 13.20-15.00 Lunch Break

Part II The Role of Criminal Prosecution

- 15.00-15.30 Rebel Courts- A Tool for Implementation?
Jan Willms, DFG Collaborative Research Centre 700, Freie Universität Berlin
- 15.30-15.40 Comment: Perspectives on Rebel Courts
Dr. Dieter Fleck, Honorary President of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War
- 15.40-16.00 Coffee Break
- 16.00-16.30 National Courts – The Situation in the DRC
Prof. Dr. Jean Michel Kumbu, Université de Kinshasa
- 16.40-16.50 Comment: The Congolese Legal System – an Insider’s Perspective
Balingene Kahombo, Université de Kinshasa, Public Prosecutor
- 16.50-17.20 International Criminal Prosecution – A Way Forward to a Higher Standard of Compliance?
Prof. Dr. Robert Cryer, University of Birmingham
- 17.20-17.30 Comment: Criminal Justice and Peace Negotiations
Barney Afako, London
- 17.30-18.00 Discussion
- 19.30 Dinner

Saturday, 17 September 2011

Part III The Role of the International Community

- 9.00-9.30 Complicity in Violations of International Humanitarian Law
Dr. Helmut Aust, HU Berlin
- 9.30-10.00 Enforcing the Obligation to Enforce: The Responsibility of States for Failures to Prevent and Prosecute Violations of IHL
Prof. Dr. Robin Geiß, Universität Potsdam

- 10.00-10.10 Comment I: Is the Law of State Responsibility too Restricted to Adequately Address the Phenomenon of Armed Groups?
Prof. Dr. Kirsten Schmalenbach, Universität Salzburg
- 10.10-10.20 Comment II: The Responsibility of Corporations for Violations of International Humanitarian Law
Dapo Akande, University of Oxford
- 10.20-10.50 Discussion
10.50-11.20 Coffee Break
- 11.20-11.50 Regional Organisations in Africa – Potential for Enforcing International Humanitarian Law
Dr. Chaloka Beyani, London School of Economics and Political Science
- 11.50-12.00 Enforcement of International Humanitarian Law through the African Commission and the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights
Dr. Faustin Zacharie Ntoubandi, University of Giessen
- 12.00-12.30 Enforcing International Humanitarian Law through Human Rights Bodies
Dr. Dominik Steiger, FU Berlin
- 12.30-12.40 Comment: The UN and International Humanitarian Law
Prof. Dr. Georg Nolte, HU Berlin
- 12.40-13.10 Discussion
13.10-14.30 Lunch Break
- 14.30-15.00 Improving the Effectiveness of Civilian Protection in Multilateral Peace Operations
Max Kelly, Henry L. Stimson Centre
- 15.00-15.10 Comment: Peacekeeping in the Democratic Republic of Congo – How to Enhance MONUSCO's Capacity to Protect Civilians?
Dr. Denis Tull, SWP Berlin
- 15.10-15.40 Accountability of the UN for the Protection of Civilians
Dr. Siobhan Wills, University College Cork
- 15.40-15.50 Comment: Obligations of States Contributing to UN Peacekeeping Missions under Article 1 Common to the Geneva Conventions
Prof. Dr. Nigel White, University of Nottingham
- 15.50-16.20 Discussion
- 16.20-16.30 Concluding Remarks
Prof. Dr. Heike Krieger, FU Berlin