



Action plan of the Interdepartmental Committee for International Humanitarian Law (ICIHL)

The ICIHL and its members have set the following priorities and objectives to be achieved before the next International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2028:

Topic 1: Special protection	
Actions	Red cross emblem → Strengthen measures to prevent imitation or improper use of the red cross emblem Cultural property → Staying informed on contemporary challenges related to the protection of cultural property in armed conflicts, in the context of perpetuating the principles of the Strategy for the Protection of Endangered Cultural Heritage 2019–23, including with respect to protecting digital cultural property
Topic 2: Rules governing means and methods of warfare	
Actions	Specific rules governing certain weapons → Help to further clarify the application of IHL to new technologies, including in cyberspace and with regard to artificial intelligence → Implement the FDFA and DDPS's Action Plan on Mine Action for 2023–26 for a world free of anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions, as well as for the clearance of areas contaminated by explosive devices
Topic 3: Prosecuting violations of international humanitarian law	
Actions	Competent national authorities → Work towards the ratification of the Ljubljana–The Hague Convention (known in the negotiation process as the 'MLA Initiative') to strengthen mutual legal assistance in international crimes and national implementation regarding the crime of aggression International Criminal Court → Support strengthening the Rome Statute by promoting its wide ratification and that of its amendments, and by contributing to efforts to harmonise jurisdiction rules for all crimes within the ICC's competence → Provide ongoing support to the ICC and contribute to the work of the Assembly of States Parties to ensure the necessary conditions for the ICC to exercise its mandate independently
Topic 4: Translating, disseminating and training in international humanitarian law	
Actions	→ Strengthen the dissemination of and training in IHL in the Swiss Armed Forces and among civilians, including through the use of digital technologies

Topic 5: Supporting the implementation of international humanitarian law

Actions	<p>Interdepartmental Committee for International Humanitarian Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Undertake further consideration of the IHL-related challenges that Switzerland faces, based on the voluntary report→ Periodically update all or part of the voluntary report in order to assess Switzerland's progress in implementing IHL→ Discuss IHL implementation and compliance with other national IHL committees, including within the ICRC's online community, and support efforts by these committees to draw up their own voluntary reports→ Support the organisation of expert meetings on IHL, including on the basis of the voluntary report→ Promote appropriate consideration and application of IHL in multilateral forums and at the bilateral level <p>International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Raise awareness of the IHFFC and encourage states to recognise its competence, use its investigative services and its good offices in order to promote respect for IHL
----------------	---

Topic 6: Other measures to ensure compliance with international humanitarian law

Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Strengthen and promote the implementation of IHL through diplomatic initiatives, support for projects related to the development of IHL, and the organisation of regular exchanges of best practices, particularly between states
----------------	---

Topic 7: Current issues

Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Step up efforts to address challenges posed by current IHL issues, in particular:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen prevention measures, research and identification of missing persons at national, international and multilateral levels• Ensure that counterterrorism measures and sanctions are implemented in a manner compatible with IHL, particularly in the context of implementing UN Security Council Resolution 2664 (2022)
----------------	--