



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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International Committee of Military Medicine
Reference Centre for Education of
International Humanitarian Law and Ethics

**Swiss Armed Forces
Medical Services Directorate**

Course Announcement

22nd Course on the International Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) 8th Course on Military Medical Ethics in Times of Armed Conflict (MME)



addressed to the Military Medical Personnel, Military Medico-Legal Officers, and Chaplains

Mandated by the **International Committee of Military Medicine**
Organized by the **Swiss Armed Forces Medical Services**

30 August – 03. September 2020 in Spiez, Switzerland



Course A – Law of Armed Conflict

**22nd Course on the International Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) by the International Committee of Military Medicine (ICMM),
30 August – 03 September, 2020 in Spiez, Switzerland**

The International Committee of Military Medicine, the ICMM Reference Centre for Education of International Humanitarian Law and Ethics, and the Swiss Armed Forces Medical Services Directorate wish to offer to Military Medical Personnel, Military Medico-Legal Officers, and Chaplains a

Course on International Law of Armed Conflict (LoAC) aimed to

demonstrate relationships, responsibilities and interdependencies between the specific functions of the medical services and International Humanitarian Law.

The course serves to

- develop the responsibilities of the medical and spiritual personnel under International Humanitarian Law;
- familiarize course participants with International Humanitarian Law;
- establish connections of the International Humanitarian Law with the specific mission of the medical services;
- make opportunities and limits of the International Law of Armed Conflict known;
- recognize and analyze actual problems and challenges related to International Humanitarian Law and the medical ethics within the scope of military operations including peace-keeping operations, and help to look for possible solutions;
- motivate course participants to recognize their responsibility of training Humanitarian Law in their country.

The teaching and training focuses on the Law of Armed Conflict (LoAC)

- the Geneva Conventions
- their Additional Protocols
- the Hague Conventions
- other sources of International Humanitarian Law

Course Languages

- The course is organized as follows: two English speaking classes and one French speaking class. Plenary Lectures will be held in English and translated into French simultaneously.



Course B – Military Medical Ethics

8th Course on **Military Medical Ethics in Times of Armed Conflict (MME)** by the International Committee of Military Medicine (ICMM),
30 August – 03 September, 2020 in Spiez, Switzerland

The International Committee of Military Medicine, the ICMM Reference Centre for Education of International Humanitarian Law and Ethics, and the Swiss Armed Forces Medical Services Directorate wish to offer to Military Medical Personnel, Military Medico-Legal Officers, and Chaplains as well as other interested members of the armed forces a

Course on Military Medical Ethics and International Law of Armed Conflict aimed at

- enabling participants to recognize and analyze situations that present ethical and legal dilemmas from contemporary military deployments;
- qualifying the participants to make legally and ethically correct decisions in situations where competences in international law and ethics are similarly relevant.

The course

- establishes connections of the Humanitarian Law with its ethical fundamentals;
- illustrates the ethically difficult role of the medical officer who plays a role between soldier and physician;
- familiarizes course participants with approaching ethically difficult situations and dilemmas by teaching them a framework for ethical decision making;
- recognizes and analyzes current problems and challenges related to International Humanitarian Law and military medical ethics within the scope of military operations including peace-keeping operations, and helps to identify possible solutions;
- motivates course participants to recognize their responsibility of training and disseminating International Humanitarian Law and Ethics.

The teaching and training focuses on Ethics

- Ethical Decision Making in Military Medical Ethics
- Ethical Foundations of IHL

The course presupposes

- a solid knowledge of the fundamental norms of International Humanitarian Law (Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols) on the level taught in the ICMM LOAC courses.

Course Language

- The course is held in English language.



General Course Information (A and B course)

1. Date, course location/hotel

The courses start officially on Sunday, August 30th 2020 at 8AM in "Ausbildungszentrum für Schweizer Fleischwirtschaft (ABZ)", Schachenstrasse 43, CH-3700 Spiez and last until Thursday, September 3rd 2020, 10PM. after the official closing ceremony.

2. Transport

The registration of all participants will take place on August 29th or 30th, 2020. A pick-up service and transfer to the course hotel in Spiez will be arranged upon arrival at the airport on these two dates. Participants arriving by train will be picked up at the railway station of Spiez. Participants from several flights will be met and may have to wait for other passengers as transports are organized for small groups.

If you want to use the pick-up service, is mandatory to send us the filled pickup schedule, addressed to the course administration secretary office LOAC, with the arrival date, time and number of flight in due time. Meeting point: staff personnel will wait for you at the exit terminal.

Transfer to the airport will also be available for departure only on Friday, September 4th, 2020. Participants living by train will be picked up at the railway station of Spiez. Homepage of the Swiss Railways: <http://fahrplan.sbb.ch/bin/query.exe/dn>

3. Registration

Please keep a passport copy ready on the arrival day for the registration at the registration desk.

4. Dress

For travel:	civilian dress (you may not enter in Switzerland wearing a uniform!)
During the course:	military uniform, working dress (class room)
For the opening and final ceremony:	military uniform, formal dress (attire: jacket and tie/female equivalent)

To obtain permission to wear a military uniform in Switzerland, participants are requested to contact their national authorities for special information in order to take the necessary formalities.



5. Visa

For entering Switzerland, a valid passport with a respective visa if needed (valid for the entire duration of the course) or a European identity card is required. Be sure to make a request for the respective visa just in due time (at the latest 4 weeks before the course). On request, the secretariat of the Course can provide you with a letter for the authorities, this letter will be sent to the participant and to the Embassy. The contact with the embassy and all visa formalities must be accomplished by the participant himself. The travel arrangements from your country to Switzerland must be taken care of by your national authorities

If you don't have a visa before leaving your country to Switzerland, please notify immediately the secretariat of the course.

6. Media Information

If you would like to talk to the media or a wider public, please request an official permission from your Armed Forces to talk about the content of this course and your activities in the field of LOAC in your country.

7. Accommodation / Venue

Accommodation is provided at the ABZ in Spiez, where the courses will take place.

Ausbildungszentrum für die Schweizer Fleischwirtschaft (ABZ) Schachenstrasse 43 CH-3700 Spiez www.abzspiez.ch

The courses can only be attended with registration and after having received the letter of confirmation. For organisational reasons, no specific program for accompanying person (spouses, family, friend, etc) will be planned. However, accompanying persons are welcome to join during the cultural program and other social events. Accompanying persons must also register in a timely manner, so that reservations for suitable accommodation can be made.

8. Payment

In the price of CHF 1170.00 are included for 5 days / 6 nights:

29 August – 03. September 2020 hotel accommodation, food, non-alcoholic beverages.

In the price of CHF 1295.00.00 are included for 6 days / 7 nights:

28 August – 04. September 2020, hotel accommodation, food, non-alcoholic beverages.

Additional course fee: CHF 80.00. Participants shall bear their travelling costs to and from Switzerland. Extensive course documents, cultural events and excursions with transfers are free of charge for participants and will be paid by the Swiss Confederation.



To confirm their registration, participants are kindly requested to pay in advance the course fee in its entirety in CHF, before the 20th of July 2020:

Account number: 227-231431.20H

Bank: UBS AG, Postfach, CH-3601 Thun

SWIFT/CI: UBS WCHZH80A

IBAN: CH60 0022 7227 23143120H

The payer (participant) will bear all of the transaction fees, in addition to the registration fees. Please note that in case of a no-show, half of the amount paid will be retained.

9. Insurance / Liability

Basic medical service is provided free of charge. Adequate insurance – particularly accident, liability and health – is the participants' own responsibility.

10. Application form

⇒ Annex 1, Deadline: July 20th 2020

11. Pick-up form

⇒ Annex 2, For any changes send this as soon as possible but not later than August 17th, 2020.

12. Course Secretariat Course on International Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC)

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For further information, you may also consult our homepages:

<http://www.melac.ch>

<http://www.cimm-icmm.org>