



## Call for Papers – 15<sup>th</sup> ICMM Workshop on Military Medical Ethics

The ICMM Centre of Reference for Education on IHL and Ethics and the Medical Services Directorate of the Swiss Armed Forces are pleased to announce the **15<sup>th</sup> ICMM Workshop on Military Medical Ethics** on the topic

### ***Military Medical Ethics and Mental Health — from Cognitive Warfare to Moral Injury***

18-20 June 2026 | Hotel Léman (Jongny s/ Vevey, CH)

#### Topic & Call for Papers

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The 2026 workshop will explore ethical aspects of cognitive and psychological dimensions in contemporary military operations. Our focus will be on the intersection between military medical ethics and mental health in the context of modern conflict.

The workshop will examine how evolving doctrines such as information and cognitive warfare may reshape the moral landscape of military medicine and the role of healthcare personnel in the military. Presentations could analyse case studies of dual loyalty conflicts and the ethical challenges faced by medical personnel operating within command structures or under intelligence influence. Further topics could include the shifting boundaries between treatment, medical enhancement, psychological operations, misinformation in armed conflicts, and the ethical limits of medical involvement in shaping soldiers' cognition and resilience. We also hope to extend the discussion to the implications of emerging technologies, such as cognitive tools and behavioural data analytics, on autonomy, consent, mental integrity and eventually moral injury in military contexts. By integrating insights from bioethics, psychiatry and military law, the workshop aspires to offer a critical understanding of how cognitive warfare represents not only operational concerns, but also ethical and human challenges.

The workshop intends to identify principles for safeguarding mental health, professional integrity, and humanitarian standards in environments where ethical norms are increasingly tested by strategic imperatives and technological innovation.

We equally encourage field reports (e.g., case studies, experience briefings, policy analyses) as well as philosophical papers and legal background analyses. In line with the tradition of the workshop series, we invite presentations that take the perspectives of both military and humanitarian health care providers.

#### Instructions for Submissions

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To submit a proposal, please prepare

- an **abstract of your presentation** (max 300 words)
- a **short biography/ CV** (max 150 words)

and hand it in via the **online submission form** on <https://melac.ch/apply/cfp-2026>

→ **Deadline for submissions: January 15, 2026**

→ We will notify all applicants by February 16, 2026 whether their proposals have been selected. For all selected speakers, we cover conference fee, hotel, and travel expenses (economy class).

For any **questions** please contact Maj Ismail Ülgür, MD, DMD via email [ismail.uelguer@vtg.admin.ch](mailto:ismail.uelguer@vtg.admin.ch)



## Conference publication

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The results of the workshop shall be published in a volume within the “**Military and Humanitarian Medical Ethics**” series, published by Springer. Publications from previous workshops & more information are available on <https://publications.melac.ch>

→ ***All speakers invited to the workshop are expected to contribute to this volume and to hand in their papers for review by 15. July 2026.***

## Workshop attendance

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Attending the workshop will be possible for participants both onsite and online since the workshop is organized as a hybrid workshop. More information on the registration process and a registration form are provided on our website

- <https://melac.ch/courses-workshops/ethics-workshop/2026-workshop>

## Contact | Further information

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### Scientific organization

ICMM Center of Reference for Education on IHL and Ethics

<https://www.melac.ch>

**Col David Winkler, MD, PhD**

[melac@bluewin.ch](mailto:melac@bluewin.ch)

Center of Competence for Military and Disaster Medicine

<https://www.mkm-mmc-ch>

**Maj Ismail Ülgür, MD, DMD**

[ismail.uelguer@vtg.admin.ch](mailto:ismail.uelguer@vtg.admin.ch)

### Workshop registration & logistics

Swiss Armed Forces Medical Services Directorate

<https://www.vtg.admin.ch/de/sanitaet>

**Pauline Dénervaud**

[mme-loac.astab@vtg.admin.ch](mailto:mme-loac.astab@vtg.admin.ch)