

Biographies of the Speakers, Chairs and Organisers

Anu Saarela is Deputy Director-General of the Legal Service at the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) and Chairperson of the Finnish National IHL Committee. She served as Ambassador of Finland to Israel (2016-2018) and to Cyprus (2012-2016). From 2009 to 2012, she headed the Unit for Public International Law at the Finnish MFA. She has also served in Finnish Embassies in Nigeria, the United States, Sweden and Japan.

Astrid Kjeldgaard-Pedersen is Professor with special responsibilities in International Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen, where she currently heads a research project on International Law & Military Operations (InterMil). She has published widely in the field of public international law, including a monograph entitled *The International Legal Personality of the Individual* (OUP, 2018), and serves as editor-in-chief of the Nordic Journal of International Law.

Camilla Guldahl Cooper is an associate professor of operational law at the Norwegian Defence University College and holds a PhD in NATO rules of engagement and the law of armed conflict. She has, amongst others, written and updated the Norwegian Manual of the Law of Armed Conflict.

Carl Magnus Nesser (LL.M., Columbia University; M.Sc. and LL.M. Lund University) is a Swedish diplomat and international lawyer and holds the position of Director-General for Legal Affairs at the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) since October 2019. Ambassador Nesser is the Agent of the Swedish Government to the European Court of Human Rights and a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. Prior positions include: Head of the Minister's Office at the MFA (2017-2019), Ambassador to Israel (2013-2017), Ambassador to Iraq (2010-2012) and Chief of Staff to the Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation (2012-2013). He was previously an associate at Kilpatrick Stockton, a law firm, and was admitted to the New York Bar in 2001.

Cornelius Wiesener is a postdoctoral fellow at the Centre of Excellence for International Courts (iCourts), Faculty of Law – University of Copenhagen, where he is part of a research project on International Law & Military Operations (InterMil). His research and teaching covers a wide range of international law topics, including IHL, human rights law and cyber law. He holds a PhD from the European University Institute in Florence. Prior to his current position at iCourts, he was affiliated with a broad range of institutions, including the Royal Danish Defence College, the ICRC and the OSCE ODIHR.

Helena Sunnegårdh is a legal advisor with the Swedish Red Cross, where she is responsible for coordinating the work on IHL. She is also a member of the Swedish Government's IHL Commission and serves as an expert in other governmental working groups. Prior to joining the Swedish Red Cross, she worked with the ICRC in contexts such as Niger, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Colombia, focusing on protection activities. She holds an LLM in Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, as well as a Swedish masters of law.

Iben Yde is Assistant Professor of Public International Law at the Institute for Military Technology at the Royal Danish Defence College (RDDC) and heads the newly established Center for International and Operational Law. Her research and teaching covers a wide range of IHL and operational law topics with particular focus on legal aspects of artificial intelligence (AI) and autonomy in weapons systems. Before joining the RDDC, she served as legal advisor to the Admiral Danish Fleet and later the Danish Defence Command, where she took part in the planning and execution of a wide range of military operations, including deployments to Operation Ocean Shield and RECSYR. Iben has written and published on topics related to military uses of AI and autonomous weapons systems, weapons reviews and cyberspace operations and contributed to the Danish Military Manual.

Jann Kleffner is Professor of International Law at the Swedish Defence University and Extraordinary Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Pretoria, South Africa. His research is on public international law, with a special focus on the international law of military operations, including the law of armed conflict and peace operations, jus ad bellum, international criminal law, and human rights law. He has published widely in these fields. He has served as expert and consultant for a number of states and international organisations, including the UN, the ICRC, the ICTY and the ILA. He has also advised law firms in the areas of the law of armed conflict and international criminal law, in addition to fulfilling a number of editorial functions.

Jean-Marie Henckaerts is head of the ICRC project to update the Commentaries on the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977. Prior to his current position, he was the head of the ICRC's project on customary international humanitarian law.

Jes Rynkeby Knudsen is Chief Legal Advisor in the Danish Defense Command. He is also editing author of the *Danish Military Manual on International Law Relevant to Danish Armed Forces in International Operations*. From 2001 to 2016, he taught the law of armed conflict course as an external lecturer at the University of Copenhagen – Faculty of Law. He was previously (1997-2006) deployed as a military legal adviser on international missions to Iraq, Bosnia Herzegovina and Albania.

Jonathan Somer is Legal Adviser in IHL with the Danish Red Cross. Prior to joining the Red Cross/Crescent Movement, Jonathan served as Legal Adviser with Geneva Call, where he often engaged armed non-state actors on their perspectives towards detention of adversaries. He worked/consulted before that for the UN, ICRC, OSCE, and the Danish Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence. In 2007, Jonathan was awarded the Henry Dunant prize for his research on insurgent courts, which was supervised by Professor Marco Sassòli.

Lars Andersen is Chargé d'Affaires ad Interim at the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Copenhagen. He holds a law degree from Oslo and an LLM from McGill University. Previous diplomatic postings include Juba (South Sudan), Madrid, Athens and Geneva.

Marco Sassòli is professor of international law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva as well as associate professor at the Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada. He is commissioner of the International Commission of Jurists and member of the editorial committee of the updated

commentaries to the Geneva Conventions. Marco Sassòli worked for the ICRC at the headquarters and in the field (1985-1997), chaired the board of Geneva Call (2004-2013) and was director of the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights (2018-2020).

Peter Klansø currently serves as International Director for the Danish Red Cross and has been in this position since December 2020. Peter has 30 years of experience in the humanitarian sector, in senior positions in Denmark and abroad, including as: Global Programme and Policy Director for the Danish Refugee Council; Regional Director in East Africa, Middle East and North Africa for the same organization; and, prior to that, with UNICEF in West Africa and New York. Peter holds a master's degree in Cultural Sociology from the University of Copenhagen, with a specialisation in international development.

Sorcha MacLeod is an internationally recognised expert on business, human rights and security. She is a Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellow and Associate Professor at the University of Copenhagen and an Adjunct Lecturer at the Hertie School of Governance, Berlin. She holds a PhD from the University of Glasgow and an LLB (Hons) in Scots Law. She has a particular research interest in the private military and security industry, and she has published widely on this topic. In July 2018, she was appointed as an independent human rights expert to the United Nations Working Group on Mercenaries and is also an invited expert to the UN Intergovernmental Working Group on private military and security companies. She participated in the development of the Montreux Document regulatory process on private military and security companies, as well as the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers.

Tobias Köhler is the Senior Legal Adviser for IHL issues at the Norwegian Red Cross. He holds an LL.M. in IHL from the Geneva Academy. Prior to joining his current position, he was working as a humanitarian worker for the ICRC (in protection and as legal adviser to the operations) and for the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Ulf Melgaard is Director for International Law and Human Rights at the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), a position he has held since 2019. He holds a law degree from the University of Copenhagen (2005) and a Magister Juris in European and Comparative Law (2002). Previous positions include: Head of Department for Legal Affairs and International Relations, Ministry of Higher Education and Science (2016-2019); Deputy Head of Department for EU Law, MFA (2014-2016); Senior Adviser for EU Law, MFA (2013-2016); Head of Section for International Law, MFA (2012-2013); First Secretary, Danish Mission to the UN in New York (2010-2012). He was previously an associate at Poul Schmith Law Firm (2005-2007).