



Common Module Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC Module)
Module description

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Country	Institution	Module	Amount of ECTS
.....	Law of Armed Conflict	2.0

Level	Minimum Qualification for Lecturers
All services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officers or civilian Lecturers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B2 or NATO STANAG 6001 Level 3. Thorough knowledge of the LOAC. Adequate knowledge of international relations issues. Thorough knowledge of the topic taught.
Languages English, French¹	

Prerequisites for international participants	Goal of the Module
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B1 or NATO STANAG Level 2, at least 1 year of national (military) higher education, basic knowledge of National (constitutional) Law and International Law. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discover and understand basic LOAC texts. Be aware of responsibilities in terms of LOAC implementation. Deepen knowledge of the LOAC. Learn about international implementation of the LOAC. Learn about particular issues related to the LOAC.

Learning outcomes	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic knowledge of the LOAC and related issues. Basic knowledge of the legal context of military operations.
	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse, anticipate and lead operations efficiently. Advise superiors and inform subordinates about the key aspects of the LOAC. Advise superiors and inform subordinates about the issues related to LOAC. Explain the spectrum of armed conflict and how LOAC applies at each point on the spectrum. Describe Human Rights Law in the operational context. Explain the means and methods of warfare, including the prohibition against the use of certain weapons. Apply the Rules of Engagement on the level being responsible after graduation. Explain the consequences of disobeying LOAC and the obligation to report via lotions of LOAC.
	Competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand rights and duties when it comes to use of force. Understand the global legal context of military operations. Enable students to apply the LOAC appropriate to their future first position after graduation.

¹ **Remark:** If the Module or parts of the Module are conducted in French language, international participants are to be informed 3 months in advance.



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Verification of learning outcomes

- **Observation:**
Throughout the Module students are to discuss given topics within syndicates and in the plenary. During these work students are to be evaluated to verify their competences.
- **Test:**
Written examination at the end of the module. The type of the test is up to the Course Director. If needed, more tests may be conducted during the Module.

Module details

Main Topic	Recommended Working Hours ²	Details
Basic Principles of the LOAC	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of Armed Conflict. • Types of Armed Conflict. • Application of Law. • Basic Principles of IHL. • Human Rights Law (e.g. European Convention on Human Rights - ECHR). • Protection of Cultural Property.
Definitions in IHL	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forbidden Means and Methods of Warfare, Military Objectives, Combatants, Prisoners of War, Civilians, Wounded, sick and shipwrecked.
Legal Context of Military Operations	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Law in Military Operations (e.g.: UN Charter, Chapter VI and Chapter VII). • Rules of Engagement (ROE). • Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA).
International Criminal Justice	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Criminal Tribunals. • Command Responsibility.

Additional hours to increase the learning outcomes ³

Syndicate Work ³	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase the understanding of the LOAC's principles. • To increase the understanding of the context of definitions in IHL on the basis of specific examples.
Case studies and Discussions ³	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To illustrate the basic rules (Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols). • Each case study comprises a description of a situation followed by questions.
Self-study ³	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation for the upcoming lessons and for exam(s). • Reflection of the topics issued. • If IDL is developed it may be counted to these hours.
Total	50 ²	

² **Remark:** Detailed working hours are up to the Module Director. The total amount of hours has to fit to the national law concerning working hours for 2 ECTS.

³ **Remark:** Parts of these hours may be taken by the Module Director to teach or to discuss more detailed the listed topics or an additional relevant topic referring to the LOAC for example: Cyber Warfare (Introduction to Cyber Terrorism and Information Warfare; the General Concept of Cyber Warfare and Cyber Warfare and International Law).