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**Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva
Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of
victims of armed conflicts**

Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to the request of the General Assembly in its resolution [77/107](#). Nineteen Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross transmitted to the Secretary-General the information requested by the Assembly in that resolution. A list of States parties to the Additional Protocols of 1977 and 2005 is contained in the annex to the report.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 29 August 2024.

** [A/79/150](#).



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I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 13 of its resolution 77/107, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its seventy-ninth session, a comprehensive report on the status of the Additional Protocols relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level, based on information received from Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
2. Pursuant to that request, the Secretary-General, by notes verbales dated 11 January 2023 and 29 January 2024 and letters dated 19 January 2023 and 29 January 2024, invited Member States and ICRC to transmit to him, by 1 June 2024, the information requested for inclusion in the present report.
3. Information has been received from the following Member States: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Colombia, Czechia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Niger, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovenia, Switzerland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
4. The report was prepared on the basis of information submitted by Member States and ICRC and should be read together with previous reports of the Secretary-General under this item.¹
5. Summaries of the information submitted by Member States are contained in section II of the present report and a summary of the information submitted by ICRC is presented in section III. The full texts of information received for the purposes of the present report and for previous reports under this item since the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly are available on the website of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly (www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/).
6. The list of all States that are parties to the Additional Protocols of 1977 and of 2005² to the Geneva Conventions of 1949³ as at 14 June 2024 is contained in the annex to the report.

II. Information received from Member States

Austria

7. Austria reported that, in order to promote universal jurisdiction for international crimes, the Federal Ministry of Justice had adopted a decree in July 2022 to the effect that Austrian courts could assume jurisdiction over international crimes committed outside of Austria if persons seeking international protection in Austria were the victims of those crimes.
8. Austria reported that on 26 January 2022 the regional court in Feldkirch rendered a decision convicting an Austrian national, who had served in 2015 in a unit of foreign volunteers in the Ukrainian armed forces, for war crimes against persons

¹ See, for instance, [A/77/264](#), [A/75/263](#) and [A/75/263/Add.1](#); [A/73/277](#); [A/71/183](#) and [A/71/183/Add.1](#); [A/69/184](#) and [A/69/184/Add.1](#); [A/67/182](#) and [A/67/182/Add.1](#); [A/65/138](#) and [A/65/138/Add.1](#); [A/63/118](#) and [A/63/118/Add.1](#); [A/61/222](#) and [A/61/222/Add.1](#); [A/59/321](#); [A/57/164](#) and [A/57/164/Add.1](#); [A/55/173](#), [A/55/173/Corr.1](#), [A/55/173/Corr.2](#) and [A/55/173/Add.1](#); [A/53/287](#); [A/51/215](#), [A/51/215/Corr.1](#) and [A/51/215/Add.1](#); and [A/49/255](#), [A/49/255/Corr.1](#), [A/49/255/Add.1](#), and [A/77/264](#).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513; vol. 2404, No. 43425.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

pursuant to article 321b, paragraph 3 (1) of the Austrian Penal Code. It was reported that the Office of the Prosecutor appealed the sentence of two years and six months of imprisonment on probation. On 12 July 2022, the higher regional court in Innsbruck reached a final decision, and increased the sentence to three years (including two years on probation).

9. Austria reported that it worked closely with the Austrian Red Cross and other relevant stakeholders at the national level to promote observance and dissemination of international humanitarian law standards. It also reported that in March 2023, together with the Austrian Red Cross and ICRC, it had held the European regional conference of national committees on international humanitarian law. The conference had provided an opportunity for exchanges of best practices among national committees and for substantive discussion on topical international humanitarian law issues, including resolution of missing persons cases, explosive weapons in populated areas, universal jurisdiction and humanitarian exemptions to sanctions regimes. In addition, Austria reported that it organized biannual meetings of its own national international humanitarian law committee, bringing together stakeholders including from the Federal Government departments of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Home Affairs, Justice and Arts and Culture, the Austrian Red Cross and universities.

10. Austria recalled that the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas had been adopted in Dublin in June of 2022 by 83 States. In preparation for the first meeting of signatory States to the Declaration in April 2024, Austria had organized a military workshop on the implementation of the Declaration in January 2024 in Vienna. In addition, the country reported that its Armed Forces were in the process of systematically integrating the commitments made in the Declaration into their strategy, training and procurement. Regarding the use of new technologies and artificial intelligence for military equipment, Austria indicated that it was at the forefront of promoting the thorough and meaningful regulation of lethal autonomous weapons systems.

11. Austria reported that, in October 2022, it had initiated and coordinated a joint statement by 70 States in the First Committee of the General Assembly that called for the regulation of, and necessity of human control over, autonomous weapons systems. The country also reported that in October 2023, it had initiated the first-ever General Assembly resolution (78/241) on autonomous weapons systems which had been adopted with the support of 164 States. Under the resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a substantive report reflecting the full range of views received from Member States and observer States on lethal autonomous weapons systems, inter alia, on ways to address the related challenges and concerns they raised from humanitarian, legal, security, technological and ethical perspectives and on the role of humans in the use of force. It was also reported that in April 2024, Austria had hosted an international conference to advance debate on the challenges posed by autonomous weapons systems and the urgent need for negotiating a legally binding instrument to address these challenges.

12. Austria reported that it recently finalized its position paper on cyberactivities and international law, one of the focus areas of which was cyberactivities and international humanitarian law. The paper outlined the Austrian understanding of the application of international law to cyberactivities. The country reported that the National Defence Academy offered training, workshops and seminars on international humanitarian law and specific aspects thereof on a regular basis to members of the Austrian Armed Forces, and those sessions were often also open to other (civilian) stakeholders. It was also reported that the Austrian Red Cross offered training, workshops and seminars on international humanitarian law and specific aspects thereof on a regular basis to relevant stakeholders.

Azerbaijan

13. Azerbaijan reported a series of events that took place prior to 2022 and indicated that, although it was not a party to Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, it had always taken the measures necessary to effectively implement its applicable obligations arising from the customary international humanitarian law provisions that had been codified through Additional Protocol I. Azerbaijan reported that it had initiated judicial proceedings to prosecute crimes committed in the context of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, including atrocity crimes not subject to statutory limitations. Azerbaijan also expressed concern that possible violations of international humanitarian law had been committed, including the destruction of cultural heritage, the presence of landmines and the treatment of detainees in conditions that could be regarded as contrary to humanitarian law and human rights standards in connection with said conflict.

Belgium

14. Belgium reported that in November 2022, it had signed the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas, and that in February 2024 it had signed the Ljubljana-The Hague Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of the Crime of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes and Other International Crimes.

15. Belgium reported on legislation adopted since 2022, including a law adopted on 6 December 2022 that included a modification to the legislation concerning cooperation with the International Criminal Court and international criminal tribunals and extended the scope of such legislation to cooperate with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011 and with all mechanisms established by the United Nations or an international organization to which Belgium was a member and whose mission was to combat impunity for the most serious crimes by exercising certain functions of a judicial character. It was also reported that a law adopted in 2024 included an amendment to the penal code to enable the possibility to prosecute acts of terrorism also as war crimes.

16. Belgium reported that in February 2024 a law had introduced a section into the new penal code which included serious violations contained in articles 15.1 (d) and (e) of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, and noted that all the serious violations breaches contained in article 15.1 (a) to (e) were now covered by Belgian law. It was reported that the same law had also codified the crime of ecocide.

17. Belgium also reported that the Federal Parliament adopted in March 2024 a law adopting the amendments to articles 8.2 (b) and (e) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and that it would soon deposit the ratification instruments.

18. In addition, Belgium reported that it had organized multiple events on topics of international humanitarian law at the national and international level, including side events on the margins of the General Assembly, during its presidency of the Council of the European Union and activities in partnership with ICRC and the Belgian Red Cross.

19. Furthermore, Belgium reported that in the context of the Interministerial Commission for Humanitarian Law, its authorities worked alongside the Belgian Red Cross in order to implement the commitments and resolutions from the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and to prepare for the 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, scheduled to take place in October 2024.

Burkina Faso

20. Burkina Faso reported signing an agreement with the International Committee of the Red Cross in December 2022 on cooperation and humanitarian activities in favour of persons deprived of their liberty, to allow for the evaluation of the humanitarian needs of detained persons. It was also reported that, following the agreement, multiple visits to detained persons took place.

21. Burkina Faso reported signing a handover protocol with the United Nations in September 2022 for the transfer of children encountered during military operations to social services. It was reported that the instrument provided that children were to be treated in conformity with international humanitarian law in the context of reparative justice and social reintegration, and were to be transferred by the defence and security forces to the social services entrusted with the protection of children within 72 hours of the first contact.

22. Burkina Faso reported the adoption of laws in 2022 and 2023 addressing certain aspects of the implementation of international humanitarian law, such as the protection of cultural heritage in armed conflict, which emphasized the protection of civilians and civilian goods in all circumstances. It also reported the establishment of provost marshals for military troops in order to bring to the attention of judicial authorities cases of human rights violations, record offences and be able to gather evidence and transfer the relevant information to the prosecutor's office.

23. Burkina Faso reported the creation of Volunteers for the Defence of the Homeland, which included a code of conduct adopted in April 2023. Burkina Faso also reported that international humanitarian law was taught as part of the curriculum in schools and at the professional training centre of defence and security forces and that it carried out training and dissemination activities with civil society organizations.

24. Burkina Faso reported various actions that it had carried out to implement the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Convention, including the preparation of a dossier identifying cultural heritage sites for registration in 2022, a report on the national action plan for the implementation of international humanitarian law for the period 2019–2023 and a final report on the execution of the action plan for the period 2020–2022 on the recommendations of the preparatory studies for the identification of cultural heritage sites that require protection in the event of armed conflict. It was reported that as part of the efforts in 2023, a workshop had been organized to share the experiences of various State actors who intervened in the implementation of international humanitarian law, as well as a round table on humanitarian access with relevant stakeholders.

25. Burkina Faso reported its participation at the 19th Annual Review Meeting of the Economic Community of West African States and the International Committee of the Red Cross on the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law in West Africa.

Cabo Verde

26. Cabo Verde reported that it had ratified various international conventions, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction; the Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children; and the Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance.

27. Cabo Verde reported that it had national legislation in place for implementing the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions, including a general legal framework for the protection of children and adolescents at risk, adopted in January 2023.

28. Cabo Verde also reported initiatives at the national level, including the creation of a national observatory against trafficking in persons and a National Plan and Strategy against Trafficking in Persons in 2018, a National Action Plan for Human Rights and Citizenship effective for the period 2017–2022, a Communication Plan for Children and Adolescents and the National Communication Strategy for Preventing and Combating Sexual Violence in 2021.

29. Cabo Verde reported that various officers had received training to increase and consolidate their knowledge and sensitivity regarding human rights in the exercise of their functions, with an emphasis on constitutional law, criminal law and criminal procedure, and ethics, including professional deontology.

Colombia

30. Colombia reported that it was committed to respecting and observing international humanitarian law and stressed that it was a party to the Geneva Conventions, the Additional Protocols thereto and several other international instruments. It was reported that, at the national level, the Constitution granted treaties concerning international humanitarian law constitutional status. It was also reported that the Constitutional Court had established the automatic incorporation of rules of international humanitarian law into the domestic legal system, due to their *jus cogens* nature.

31. Colombia reported that its domestic law contained various provisions for the protection of humanitarian law, including in the criminal code, military penal code and the legislation on reparation for victims of armed conflict.

32. Colombia reported that various measures had been adopted to increase the familiarity of various stakeholders with international humanitarian law, which included a national education plan on human rights, as well as a course on international humanitarian law organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Presidential Council for Human Rights and International Affairs, the Ministry of National Defence, the Ministry of the Interior and the delegation of ICRC to Colombia.

33. Colombia reported that the Directorate for Transitional Justice in the Ministry of Justice would host training activities on collective reparations for the armed conflict, covering various communities. Colombia also reported that it carried out an annual activity relating to international humanitarian law, in partnership with ICRC, for military personnel and police, as well as conducting workshops and training at the national level.

34. Colombia reported that it was establishing a national commission for the application of international humanitarian law, which would advise the Government on aspects relating to international humanitarian law.

Czechia

35. Czechia reported that, through relevant ministries and its national committee on international humanitarian law, and supported by the Czech Red Cross, it had continued to work on the promotion and dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law in public administration, the armed forces, entities of the integrated rescue system, schools and universities. It also reported that various courses had been held or organized by the Czech Red Cross in cooperation with relevant ministries, including a course on the basic aspects of international humanitarian law, for civilian trainers in international humanitarian law and members of the Czech army. Training was also carried out in international humanitarian law for medical staff of emergency medical teams.

36. In 2022, the Faculty of Military Medicine of the University of Defence launched a new course for military medical personnel on the rules of international humanitarian law in relation to health-care personnel, facilities and transportation units. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized training for licensing officers in the arms trade to strengthen their ability in assessing export licence applications, and provided regular training with a focus on gender-based violence and gender dimension of the use, export and proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

37. Czechia also reported that its national committee on international humanitarian law had translated into Czech and published on its website the Safe Schools Declaration and the Guidelines for Protecting Schools And Universities From Military Use During Armed Conflict.

38. In November 2022, Czechia had endorsed the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas. The Ministry of Defence produced a study on ICRC recommendations relating to the use of explosive weapons in populated areas by armed forces.

39. In December 2022, during its Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Czechia, jointly with France, organized a virtual event for the launch of the fifth report on the European Union guidelines on promoting compliance with international humanitarian law.

40. It was also reported that, in February 2024, Czechia signed the Ljubljana-Hague Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes and other International Crimes. National legislation for implementing the Convention was due to be adopted by the end of 2027.

El Salvador

41. El Salvador reported on the actions carried out by the Inter-Institutional Committee on International Humanitarian Law. The Committee was an advisory body to the Government on measures related to the application and effective dissemination of international instruments of international humanitarian law; its work is made possible thanks to the efforts and support of the ministries of the executive branch responsible for foreign affairs, justice and security, education, national defence and

public health, as well as the Office of the Prosecutor, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman and the Salvadoran Red Cross.

42. El Salvador reported that workshops had been carried out with the staff of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the City Hall of San Salvador that focused on international humanitarian law and the protection of cultural property during armed conflict. Other efforts included the marking of a monument as protected.

43. El Salvador also reported that it was in the process of producing its first voluntary report on the application of international humanitarian law, based on information provided by the institutions on the Inter-Institutional Committee on International Humanitarian Law. El Salvador also reported that it had taken part in the regional meeting of the national commissions on international humanitarian law in Argentina and that the Inter-Institutional Committee on International Humanitarian Law was preparing a calendar of activities in order to contribute to the dissemination of international humanitarian law.

Guatemala

44. Guatemala reported that, after ratifying Additional Protocols I and II in 1987, it had created the Guatemalan Commission for the Application of International Humanitarian Law in 1999, which was an advisory organ of the Government for the adoption, application and dissemination of international humanitarian law. The country also reported that in 2023 it had resumed holding sessions of the Commission. The sessions included exchanges of good practices, a visit from the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, exchanges with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and ICRC on the rules for implementing national legislation on the protection and use of the emblems of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

45. Guatemala reported that the Ministry of the Interior carried out training activities with the national police that included aspects of international humanitarian law. The country also reported that there was an international human rights and humanitarian law division within the Ministry of Defence and that in March 2022 a national policy was adopted on human rights and international humanitarian law within the national army.

46. Guatemala also reported the adoption of national decrees, before 2022, concerning international treaties on the prohibition of certain types of weapon.

47. Guatemala reported that it planned to continue implementation activities for the protection of cultural heritage in 2024, including the creation of a “quick response” code for identifying protected cultural heritage sites, providing information on international humanitarian law, continuing to place the blue shields in protected areas, implementing a capacity-building programme for dissemination of information on topics such as the protection of cultural heritage sites, and developing legislation on cultural aspects and the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Ireland

48. Ireland reported that it had led consultations on the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences arising from the use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas, which sought to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict involving the use of such weapons. The Declaration had been adopted at a high-level international conference in Dublin in

November 2022 and, as of April 2024, had been endorsed by 87 States from all regions.

49. Ireland reported that its national committee on international humanitarian law continued to meet regularly under the Department of Foreign Affairs. Ireland also reported that it was preparing the first national voluntary report on the implementation of international humanitarian law at the domestic level.

50. Ireland reported that in 2022 it had established a national advisory committee on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict, which had met six times up to April 2024.

51. Ireland reported that in July 2023 it published a national position paper on the application of international law in cyberspace, which affirmed that cyberoperations which took place in the context of, or themselves amounted to, an armed conflict were regulated by international humanitarian law.

52. Ireland reported that it continued to be a strong supporter of the International Criminal Court and of the universality of the Rome Statute, and that its support had taken the form of voluntary financial contributions and cooperation with the Court in its investigations and prosecutions.

Italy

53. Italy reported that the National Commission for the study and development of international humanitarian law, established by a decree of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in 2021, continued its activities. It was reported that the establishment of the Commission had facilitated the participation of Italy in periodic international meetings, such as the Fifth Universal Meeting of National Committees and Similar Entities on International Humanitarian Law, organized by ICRC, and the Regional Conference of European National International Humanitarian Law Commissions, held on 13 and 14 March 2023.

54. Italy reported that, in 2022 and 2023, the National Commission for the study and development of international humanitarian law had drafted a voluntary report on the implementation of international humanitarian law in Italy, based on fruitful cooperation with the Italian Red Cross and extensive consultation with relevant stakeholders. The report was endorsed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in November 2023 and made publicly available both in Italian and English to facilitate its dissemination abroad.

55. Italy reported that the Ministry of Defence had established a working group to draft a military manual on the application of international law to military operations by decree in October 2023, and indicated that the drafting of the preliminary comprehensive version of the manual was scheduled for late 2024.

56. Italy reported various efforts to carry out training in international humanitarian law, such as by components of the armed forces. Other efforts included training courses and dissemination activities on international humanitarian law for the Ministry of Defence, organized by the Italian Red Cross. It was reported that such courses were taught with the involvement of legal and military experts, academics, staff and those with training in international humanitarian law from the Italian Red Cross. It was also reported that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided an annual financial contribution to the activities of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law.

57. Italy reported that the Ministry of Culture had adopted a ministerial decree on 31 March 2022 on establishing the “Blue Helmets of Culture” task force as a

permanent operational structure within the Ministry to manage activities related to the protection of cultural heritage at the national and international level in relation to crisis situations, with the possibility of being deployed on the basis of an invitation from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Following the adoption of the decree, activities had been carried out to make the task force operational.

58. Italy reported that it continued to support the International Criminal Court in its role to end impunity for atrocity crimes as provided for in its Statute through dedicated funds and institutional support. The country reported that in March 2022, the Ministry of Justice had established a commission for preparing a draft code on international crimes in order to increase the coherence of the national legal system with the provisions of the Rome Statute and other relevant obligations. In January 2023, a working group composed of experts and senior officials who had been part of the previous Commission was set up at the Legislative Office of the Ministry of Justice to finalize the draft. An amended text was approved by the Council of Ministers in March 2023.

59. Italy reported the creation of a national international humanitarian law competition for secondary school students (2022–2024), based on a three-year memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Education and the Italian Red Cross.

60. Italy reported that it continued to engage in several international forums and initiatives related to international humanitarian law. For example, it participated in the various forums established under the auspices of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, including the Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems. Italy also reported that it had endorsed the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas and continued to support intergovernmental initiatives as the Safe Schools Declaration. Similarly, Italy reported that it continued to support the removal of mines in countries affected by remnants of war through dedicated funds channelled through relevant actors, such as the United Nations and ICRC, and provision of technical expertise such as training activities carried out by its Ministry of Defence, in cooperation with its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Libya.

61. Italy reported that it had implemented a national plan of action, in accordance with Security Council Resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#), on women and peace and security, and indicated that a significant innovation had been the focus on the protection of women and minors, in particular girls, in conflict and post-conflict areas. It also indicated that the implementation of the international agenda through the plan of action for the period 2020–2024 provided for joint information and training activities at all levels, in particular within the armed forces, owing to greater synergy with civil society and universities. It was reported that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation signed the Compact on Women, Peace and Security on 15 April 2024. It was also reported that the Defence General Staff, through its gender policies section, provides training courses, with integral modules on international humanitarian law, for gender advisers and gender focal points aimed at officers, non-commissioned officers and civilian personnel of its administration.

62. Italy reported that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation provided a financial contribution and support to the Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict, the first international inter-university network aimed at

enhancing the protection of the rights and safety of children directly and indirectly involved in armed conflicts.

Niger

63. The Niger reported that it was a party to multiple treaties and conventions on international humanitarian law and that various national laws contained provisions on international humanitarian law, notably on the protection of victims of armed conflict. It also reported that in 2024 it had created a national committee on implementation of international humanitarian law, under the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.

64. The Niger indicated that it had prepared three annual voluntary reports on the implementation of international humanitarian law, in 2019, 2020 and 2022. The Niger reported that it had an action plan for the implementation of international humanitarian law for the period 2019–2023.

65. The Niger reported that during 2022 and 2023 the Ministry of Justice had carried out training and dissemination activities on the Geneva Conventions and national laws against torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and against enforced disappearances. Some of the training was aimed at judges, security and defence forces, civil society and public defenders in the regions of Dosso and Maradi.

66. The Niger reported that in 2023, the General Directorate of Prison Administration entered a partnership with the national delegation of ICRC in order to provide assistance to detainees in prisons and a number of actions have been carried out to improve the living conditions of persons deprived of their liberty.

67. The Niger reported other activities between 2022 and 2023, including activities by the National Commission for the Collection and Control of Illicit Weapons, such as awareness-raising campaigns related to small calibre weapons and against the use of explosives and explosive war remnants. The Niger also reported efforts by the Ministry of the Interior, Public Security and Territorial Administration, which included the assessment of requests by refugees, a revision of the law on asylum and preparing a law on missing persons for adoption.

68. The Niger reported that, under the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management, laws had been adopted on the protection of internally displaced persons, implementing the Kampala Convention, and on risk management and disaster relief, with an associated action plan and national strategy.

69. The Niger further reported various activities of the National Assembly of Actors for the Promotion and Respect of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, including education activities such as academic competitions, webinars and conferences.

Peru

70. Peru reported that, under its national Constitution, treaties to which it was a party were part of national law, and that the norms related to rights and freedoms in the Constitution should be interpreted in line with the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the associated international agreements to which Peru was a signatory. It also reported that the Constitutional Court had indicated that international humanitarian law was part of the national legal system.

71. Peru reported that its National Commission for the Study and Application of International Humanitarian Law had been established in 2001 and worked with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, for following up on the implementation of

international humanitarian law, including training and dissemination in that regard. It also reported that efforts to implement international humanitarian law included the preparation of publications and courses with military personnel, as well as with staff from the Ministries of Defence and of Foreign Affairs, and the police.

72. Peru reported that, pursuant to national decrees, the use of force in military operations was governed by international humanitarian law, and that there were several related instruments at the national level, such as handbooks on international human rights and international humanitarian law and an operational handbook for the armed forces.

73. Peru reported that it had created a National Council for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and a National Commission Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials. It also reported that it had several decrees relating to the protection of civilians in armed conflicts and the protection of internally displaced persons, including as a consequence of armed conflicts.

74. Peru also reported that it was taking various measures to assist victims of enforced disappearances and their families, in particular in the context of the violence experienced in the country between 1980 and 2000.

75. Peru reported that other efforts to implement international humanitarian law included assisting victims of antipersonnel mines, protecting national cultural heritage in case of armed conflict, and passing national legislation concerning the use and protection of the emblems of the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Crystal.

76. Peru reported the incorporation of criminal offences into its criminal code concerning conduct contrary to the principles and declarations of international humanitarian law, terrorism, and conduct prohibited under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. The country had issued a legislative decree regarding the responsibility of the commander for taking preventive or corrective measures to prevent violations of international humanitarian law. A new criminal procedure code had been adopted by decree, which included a section on cooperation with the International Criminal Court.

77. Peru also reported that, pursuant to its Constitution, the State was obliged to ensure the dissemination and teaching of human rights and international humanitarian law at all levels of civil or military education, and the country provided information on specific training and dissemination programmes within the Ministries of Justice and Human Rights, Defence and the Interior.

Poland

78. Poland reported that the national commission on international humanitarian law had prepared and adopted in 2024 the fifth report on the implementation and dissemination of international humanitarian law in Poland, for the period 2019–2023. Poland indicated that the current report demonstrated efforts towards the implementation of the country's international obligations and promotion of international humanitarian law, which had been achieved with the participation of, and support from, various ministries, the Polish Red Cross, and civilian and military academies.

79. Poland also reported that topics of international humanitarian law were included in the core curricula of general education for primary and secondary schools and disseminated through the curricula of the majority of civilian and military universities in the country. It also reported that between 2019 and 2023, a number of academic

conferences had been held and several publications issued on international humanitarian law.

80. Poland reported that it supported the activities of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission, established in 1991. It also reported that between 2019 and 2023, the Government had engaged in activities for the dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law.

81. Poland also provided information on the functions and tasks performed by the national commission on international humanitarian law. It was reported that the commission conducted reviews and analysis of international agreements relating to international humanitarian law and formulated opinions in that regard, as well as periodically providing the President of the Council of Ministers with opinions on the legislative, organizational and educational measures which should be undertaken with a view to ensuring that Poland met its obligations in the field of international humanitarian law, as well as formulating proposals related to the preparation of legislation aimed at transposing international humanitarian law into national law.

Saudi Arabia

82. Saudi Arabia reported that it has acceded to the four Geneva Conventions, and Additional Protocols I and II, and that it attached considerable importance to international humanitarian law and its application at all levels, reporting developments in national legislation, in line with international conventions, in particular those related to international humanitarian law. It reported that the most recent example was a royal decree approving the use and protection of the emblem and name of the red crescent and similar entities.

83. Saudi Arabia reported that it acted to disseminate the provisions of international humanitarian law on a wide scale and study its application by cooperating with foreign parties responsible for implementing international humanitarian law and by including international humanitarian law in higher education curricula and in military training. It also reported that numerous national institutions, including the Saudi Red Crescent Authority and the Standing Committee of International Humanitarian Law, cooperated with the entities of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to provide training and disseminate the provisions of international humanitarian law.

Senegal

84. Senegal suggested focusing on the following issues concerning gender mainstreaming and the status of implementation of the Additional Protocols at the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly: synergy between the Additional Protocols and the women, peace and security agenda; consideration of the particular vulnerabilities of women in conflict; and the strengthening of the rules for combating sexual violence. Senegal referred to Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#), which had established the women, peace and security agenda, and expressed the view that greater emphasis should be placed in international humanitarian law on the elements of the agenda that focused on the protection of women and girls to ensure that they did not become victims of any form of violence. It indicated that international humanitarian law should also be used to add legal force to the programme for the protection of women and girls.

85. Senegal reported that an examination of international humanitarian law and its history showed that the drafters of international humanitarian law treaties, who had

all been men, had a specific view about the roles of men and women in conflict, namely that men were combatants and women were potential victims of war. That view led to shortcomings that needed to be corrected, such as the need to consider providing sexual health care and care in detention for women combatants.

86. With regard to sexual abuse and exploitation, Senegal indicated that international humanitarian law, with its exclusive focus on the actions of enemy combatants, did not protect women from men within their own armed forces or armed groups. It also noted that the rules prohibiting sexual violence focused on the protection of women, and not of men, from types of violence, thereby reinforcing gender disparities. The fact that men could also be victims of sexual violence should be taken into consideration in the application of international humanitarian law.

Slovenia

87. Slovenia reported that, between 2022 and 2024, its Permanent Coordination Group for International Humanitarian Law had monitored the implementation and respect of international humanitarian law, and reiterated the country's commitment to upholding international law, including international humanitarian law and the fundamental principles of humanity.

88. Slovenia reported that, among other efforts, it had hosted the diplomatic conference at which the Ljubljana-The Hague Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of the Crime of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes and Other International Crimes had been adopted in May 2023. The Convention had been aimed at filling the gap in mutual legal assistance and strengthening international cooperation in the prosecution of core international crimes. Slovenia reported that 34 States had already signed the Convention and one State had decided on its provisional application from the date of signature.

89. Slovenia also reported that it had organized multiple events, including the first Slovenian Humanitarian Forum in Ljubljana in October 2023 and an event on international humanitarian law in January 2023. Slovenia reported that it had participated in the European regional conference of the national committees on international humanitarian law in March 2023.

90. Slovenia reported that in 2023 it had signed a memorandum of understanding with ICRC, which included a provision to support, promote and uphold international humanitarian law, and that the country had launched the Global Alliance to Spare Water from Armed Conflicts, in partnership with Switzerland and the Geneva Water Hub.

91. Slovenia reported that it was preparing a national report on the implementation of international humanitarian law and a translation of the Geneva list of principles on the protection of water infrastructure in Slovenian.

Switzerland

92. Switzerland reported that it actively contributed to the development of the Rome Statute by supporting the adoption of amendments concerning weapons. It reported that in 2022 it had ratified the amendment to article 8 of the Rome Statute to recognize the act of intentionally using starvation of civilians as a method of warfare as being a war crime both in non-international and international armed conflicts.

93. Switzerland reported that an amendment to a Federal law that had entered into force in June 2021 allowed for the provision of mutual assistance in criminal matters not only to States, but also to international tribunals and other inter-State or supranational institutions exercising functions as criminal authorities. Switzerland considered that the amendment strengthened its commitment to cooperate in the fight against war crimes.

94. Switzerland reported that it actively supported the mutual legal assistance initiative that had led to the Ljubljana-The Hague Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of the Crime of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes and Other International Crimes, which it had signed on 14 February 2024, and noted that the Convention would be ratified after its approval by Parliament. It also reported that 2023 was the fifteenth anniversary of the Montreux Document, which was supported by 59 States and 3 international organizations. Switzerland had organized a round table for regulators in December 2023 with the aim of creating a network among regulatory authorities concerning the Montreux Document.

95. Switzerland reported that as part of its presidency of the Second Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, it had coordinated the drafting of the Lausanne Declaration “Protecting lives, empowering victims, enabling development” and Lausanne Action Plan 2021–2026, aimed at advancing the universalization and implementation of the Convention. Switzerland also reported that in the context of the 75th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions, it had organized a series of discussions on international humanitarian law, in partnership with the Geneva Academy on International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

96. Switzerland reported that in 2023, the Court of Appeal of the Federal Criminal Court for the first time had announced a conviction for crimes against humanity on the basis of universal jurisdiction, which was a milestone in ensuring justice and accountability for serious violations of international humanitarian law.

97. Switzerland also reported that the Interdepartmental Committee for International Humanitarian Law played an important role in the implementation and dissemination of international humanitarian law in Switzerland, carrying out various activities such as facilitating information exchange, promoting national initiatives and participating in meetings of regional commissions in international humanitarian law.

98. Switzerland reported that it managed the secretariat of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission, established under article 90 of Additional Protocol I. In 2022, the Commission had offered its services to the Russian Federation and Ukraine to investigate the ongoing conflict. It was reported that in 2023, the Commission had offered its good offices to Israel and the State of Palestine concerning hostilities in Israel and the Gaza Strip. In 2024, the Commission had offered its good offices to the Governments of Australia, Canada, Poland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the State of Palestine concerning the incident of 1 April 2024 in the Gaza Strip, in which seven people working with the non-governmental organization World Central Kitchen had lost their lives. It was also reported that the Commission signed an agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland in June 2024 concerning the same incident, aimed at contributing to an explanation of the circumstances of the incident and facilitating the re-establishment of respect for international humanitarian law.

99. Switzerland reported that during its membership of the Security Council in 2023 and 2024, it included the protection of civilians in armed conflict among its priorities and, among other efforts, in May 2024, a resolution proposed by Switzerland had been adopted that reaffirmed the obligations of States and parties to armed conflict to

respect and protect humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel.

100. Switzerland also expressed its interest in favour of the application of international law, in particular of international humanitarian law, in cyberspace. In 2024, Switzerland had developed a joint working paper for an interregional group of States on the application of international humanitarian law to the use of information and communication technologies in situations of armed conflicts that had been submitted to the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

101. The United Kingdom reiterated information previously submitted (see, for example, [A/71/183](#) and [A/77/264](#)) and added that it continued to encourage and support other States in drafting voluntary reports on the national implementation of international humanitarian law and had produced a toolkit in various languages to provide guidance to States on researching and drafting those reports.

102. The United Kingdom reported that it had ratified the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol V). The United Kingdom reported that it had made available online the joint service manual on the law of armed conflict of the Ministry of Defence and that there was a programme in place for updating the manual. The United Kingdom also reported the publication of instruments during the reporting period on its defence doctrine, land power, air power, space power, intelligence, counter-intelligence and security support to joint operations.

103. The United Kingdom reported that it remained committed to addressing conflict-related sexual violence and indicated that, in November 2022, it had hosted the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative Conference and launched a new strategy on the matter, with funding for strengthening global response, preventing sexual violence in conflict, promoting justice and supporting survivors. During the conference, 53 States and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict had endorsed the political declaration on conflict-related sexual violence, with 42 States making national commitments to take specific actions to tackle conflict-related sexual violence.

104. The United Kingdom reported that since 2022 a member of the team of experts of the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative had supported the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine in addressing sexual violence in conflict and build national capacity for investigating war crimes.

105. The United Kingdom launched in 2022 its Accountability Commission and Task Force for Survivors, which provided funds to strengthen accountability for conflict-related sexual violence in affected countries. The initiative supported capacity-building activities with national institutions for preventing and responding to such violence and provided further funding to the Global Survivors Fund.

106. The United Kingdom reported that it continued to support the International Criminal Court and had co-chaired a meeting with ministers in March 2023 to formulate an international package of support to the Court's investigation of the situation in Ukraine.

107. The United Kingdom reported that the United Kingdom National Committee on International Humanitarian Law also carried out various activities. The research project "Beyond Compliance" was focusing on issues including the types of

humanitarian needs produced by armed conflicts, the specific international humanitarian law rules that were most relevant to reducing humanitarian needs and how such compliance, or restraint, might be promoted by outside actors.

108. The United Kingdom indicated that during the reporting period, members of the National Committee on Humanitarian Law had worked on the reissuance of the guidance of the Government of the United Kingdom and the British Red Cross on the publication of images of prisoners of war and the Geneva Convention rules concerning the protection of prisoners of war against insults and public curiosity. In the document, social media platforms were encouraged to develop policies to tackle online depictions of prisoners of war. It was also reported that in November 2022, the United Kingdom had endorsed the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas; it had worked with other States in encouraging universalization of the Political Declaration and, in April 2024, had attended the conference hosted by Norway to review the implementation of the Political Declaration.

III. Information received from the International Committee of the Red Cross

109. Following up on information that it had submitted previously (see [A/77/264](#)), ICRC reported on the period from June 2022 to June 2024. There were no new ratifications or accessions to the Additional Protocols during the reporting period and therefore, at the time of writing, the total numbers of States parties to Additional Protocols I, II and III was 174, 169 and 79, respectively. Seventy-six States had current declarations under article 90 of Additional Protocol I accepting the competence of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission.

110. During the period under review, ICRC noted the following accessions and ratifications: Solomon Islands to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict; South Sudan to the Biological Weapons Convention; Malawi and Singapore to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, including accepting its article 1 as amended, and consenting to be bound by its Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I); Malawi also became party to Protocol II of the Convention Prohibiting Certain Conventional Weapons which prohibits Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices; Singapore also consented to be bound by its Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III) and its Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV); Cabo Verde, Finland, Maldives and the Republic of Korea to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; Nigeria and South Sudan to the Convention on Cluster Munitions; Andorra and Gabon to the Arms Trade Treaty; Cabo Verde, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Malawi, Sao Tome and Principe, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; Iceland and Mauritania to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention) and the First Protocol thereto, and Mauritania and Yemen to the Second Protocol thereto; Armenia to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court; Mexico and Peru to the amendment to article 8 of the Rome Statute, adopted in Kampala in 2010; Niger and Peru to the amendment to articles 8 bis, 15 bis and 15 ter to the Rome Statute adopted in Kampala in 2010; Estonia, Germany and Uruguay to the amendment article 124 of the Rome Statute, adopted in The Hague in 2015; Chile, Estonia, Germany, Mexico, Slovenia and

Uruguay to the amendment to article 8 of the Rome Statute (weapons which use microbial or other biological agents, or toxins; weapons the primary effect of which is to injure by fragments undetectable by X-rays in the human body; and blinding laser weapons), adopted in New York in 2017; and Estonia, Germany, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Switzerland, Uruguay to the amendment to article 8 of the Rome Statute (intentionally using starvation of civilians), adopted in The Hague in 2019.

111. The Committee noted that 2024 marked the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the four Geneva Conventions and that the 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, entitled “Navigate uncertainty – strengthen humanity”, would take place in Geneva from 28 to 31 October 2024. It was reported that as part of the preparations for the Conference, ICRC had submitted two draft resolutions for adoption entitled “Toward a universal culture of compliance with international humanitarian law” and “Protecting civilians and other protected persons and objects against cyber and information operations during armed conflict”.

112. The adoption of the Ljubljana-The Hague Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of the Crime of Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes and Other International Crimes on 26 May 2023 was a major step forward in ending impunity for the victims of the most serious crimes. The Committee reported that it had been involved throughout the Ljubljana-The Hague process, with a specific focus on the need to align the definition of war crimes contained in the Convention with customary international law and to ensure that the Convention included provisions to enable cooperation in connection with universal jurisdiction proceedings.

113. The Committee reported that in November 2022, 83 States had endorsed the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences arising from the use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas. The first international follow-up conference to review implementation of the Political Declaration took place in Oslo in April 2024, and led to more States endorsing it, reaching 87 States at the time of writing.

114. During the reporting period, ICRC engaged in confidential bilateral dialogue with States on the inclusion of penal repression provisions within legislation implementing international humanitarian law. In addition, ICRC continued to support judicial training entities in integrating international humanitarian law into their judicial training curricula and provide advice on questions of international humanitarian law.

115. ICRC also reported that it had worked with States on adopting counter-terrorism legislation that complied with international humanitarian law, notably through the inclusion of humanitarian exemptions and saving clauses in several international instruments and national laws.

116. In the reporting period, ICRC endeavoured to promote universal adherence and faithful implementation of humanitarian disarmament treaties, with a focus on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Arms Trade Treaty, and the various protocols to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. For example, ICRC promoted universalization and implementation at meetings of States parties to those treaties and engaged in bilateral and regional dialogue to support States in becoming a party to or implementing the treaties.

117. ICRC also reported that, as it worked with States on their implementation of international humanitarian law at the national level, it had supported the establishment of new national committees and other similar entities, and the strengthening of existing

ones. During the period under review, two national international humanitarian law committees or similar entities had been created or re-established, namely in Estonia and Brazil.

118. The Committee reported that 14 States had published voluntary reports, often with the support of their national international humanitarian law committees.⁴ ICRC created a dedicated webpage containing information on the process of establishing voluntary reports and offered guidelines for interested States.

119. The Committee also reported that it continued to work with a team of experts to update the commentaries to the Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols. The updated commentaries to the First, Second and Third Geneva Conventions had already been published. The updated commentary on the Fourth Geneva Convention would be published in 2025.

120. In close cooperation with the British Red Cross, during the period under review, ICRC had made available new practice from eight States on the online customary international humanitarian law database: Colombia and Sweden (2022), Nigeria, Peru, South Africa and Tajikistan (2023) and Brazil and the Philippines (2024). The database contained 161 rules of customary international humanitarian law identified in the 2005 ICRC study, the practice underlying that study, and regular updates thereof.

121. To further efforts to prevent child-specific harm arising from hostilities in urban environments, in 2023, ICRC released a dedicated report entitled *Childhood in Rubble: The Humanitarian Consequences of Urban Warfare for Children*. In June 2023, ICRC co-organized an international conference entitled “Protecting Children in Armed Conflict – Our Common Future” together with Norway, Save the Children International, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and in partnership with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the African Union and a cross-regional group of States.

122. The Committee reported that promoting disability-inclusive interpretations and implementation of international humanitarian law, which complemented the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, was part of its Vision 2030 on Disability and in line with implementing inclusive protection activities under its institutional strategy for the period 2024–2027. In 2022, ICRC had co-hosted regional consultations which brought together State armed forces, organizations of persons with disabilities, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, the International Disability Alliance and other partners.

123. It was reported that the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement was working to better prevent and respond to the humanitarian impact of wars in cities, in accordance with the 2022–2027 Movement Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to the Humanitarian Impacts of War in Cities, adopted by resolution 6 of the 2022 Council of Delegates.

124. The Committee reported that it was seeking the support of States to create a digital Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Crystal emblem that could make it clear to cyberoperators that they had entered the computer systems or digital infrastructure of medical or humanitarian entities that enjoyed specific protections under international humanitarian law. In November 2022, ICRC published a detailed report presenting its analysis on the benefits and risks of a digital emblem, measures to mitigate any risks

⁴ The following States had published voluntary reports: Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Germany, Italy, Kuwait, Nicaragua, Niger, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

identified and possible technical solutions for the digital emblem's implementation. In 2024, ICRC conducted a series of consultations with States, national societies, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders to determine whether and how a digital emblem could be incorporated into international humanitarian law; a multilateral technical consultation, where the proposed technical solution would be presented in detail, was due to take place with States on 26 June 2024. ICRC also hoped for a dynamic discussion on the digital emblem at its 34th International Conference.

125. The Committee reported that in 2023, the ICRC President and the Secretary-General of the United Nations had issued a joint appeal to all States to negotiate rules by 2026 to address the dangers of autonomous weapons systems. In particular, ICRC recommended that the future rules include specific prohibitions on unpredictable autonomous weapons systems and those that target humans directly. In November 2023, 164 States voted in favour of a resolution of the First Committee of the General Assembly (78/241) on autonomous weapons systems, stressing the urgent need to address the challenges and concerns raised by the systems and mandating the Secretary-General to seek a broad range of views and report back in 2024. In April 2024, Austria had hosted an international conference on autonomous weapons systems, including representatives from 144 States. It was reported that a spotlight session on autonomous weapons systems was planned as part of the 34th International Conference.

126. The Committee reported that it had further developed and updated reference tools to support the teaching and research of international humanitarian law in universities worldwide. ICRC was creating a pilot syllabus to test teaching of the protection of the natural environment in armed conflict with specially selected lecturers worldwide, which was expected to be finalized in 2025, and also organized and supported various international humanitarian law student competitions, round tables and training courses. The Committee also reported that in 2021 and 2022, it had co-convened two expert meetings to deepen understandings of gendered impacts of armed conflict and to consider corresponding practical implications for the application of international humanitarian law, which had led to the adoption of the reports *Gendered Impacts of Armed Conflict and Implications for International Humanitarian Law* and *International Humanitarian Law and a Gender Perspective in the Planning and Conduct of Military Operations*.

Annex

List of States parties to the Additional Protocols of 1977 and 2005 to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 as at 14 June 2024¹

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
Afghanistan	I and II	10 November 2009
Albania	I and II	16 July 1993
	III	6 February 2008
Algeria ^a	I ^b and II	16 August 1989
Angola	I ^b	20 September 1984
	II	7 October 2019
Antigua and Barbuda	I and II	6 October 1986
Argentina ^a	I ^b and II ^b	26 November 1986
	III ^b	16 March 2011
Armenia	I and II	7 June 1993
	III	12 August 2011
Australia ^a	I ^b and II	21 June 1991
	III	15 July 2009
Austria ^a	I ^b and II ^b	13 August 1982
	III	3 June 2009
Bahamas	I and II	10 April 1980
Bahrain	I and II	30 October 1986
Bangladesh	I and II	8 September 1980
Barbados	I and II	19 February 1990
Belarus ^a	I and II	23 October 1989
	III	31 March 2011
Belgium ^a	I ^b and II	20 May 1986
	III	12 May 2015
Belize	I and II	29 June 1984
	III	3 April 2007
Benin	I and II	28 May 1986

¹ Switzerland is the depositary of the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols. Information was taken from the website of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (www.dfae.admin.ch/depositaire).

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
Bolivia (Plurinational State of) ^a	I and II	8 December 1983
Bosnia and Herzegovina ^a	I and II	31 December 1992
Botswana	I and II	23 May 1979
Brazil ^a	I and II	5 May 1992
	III	28 August 2009
Brunei Darussalam	I and II	14 October 1991
Bulgaria ^a	I and II	26 September 1989
	III	13 September 2006
Burkina Faso ^a	I and II	20 October 1987
	III	7 October 2016
Burundi	I and II	10 June 1993
Cambodia	I and II	14 January 1998
Cameroon	I and II	16 March 1984
	III	23 September 2021
Canada ^a	I ^b and II ^b	20 November 1990
	III ^b	26 November 2007
Cabo Verde ^a	I and II	16 March 1995
Central African Republic	I and II	17 July 1984
Chad	I and II	17 January 1997
Chile ^a	I and II	24 April 1991
	III	6 July 2009
China	I ^b and II ^b	14 September 1983
Colombia ^a	I	1 September 1993
	II	14 August 1995
Comoros	I and II	21 November 1985
Congo	I and II	10 November 1983
Cook Islands ^a	I and II	7 May 2002
	III	7 September 2011
Costa Rica ^a	I and II	15 December 1983
	III	30 June 2008
Côte d'Ivoire	I and II	20 September 1989

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
Croatia ^a	I and II	11 May 1992
	III	13 June 2007
Cuba	I	25 November 1982
	II	23 June 1999
Cyprus ^a	I	1 June 1979
	II	18 March 1996
	III	27 November 2007
Czechia ^a	I and II	5 February 1993
	III	23 May 2007
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	I	9 March 1988
Democratic Republic of the Congo ^a	I	3 June 1982
	II	12 December 2002
Denmark ^a	I ^b and II	17 June 1982
	III	25 May 2007
Djibouti	I and II	8 April 1991
Dominica	I and II	25 April 1996
Dominican Republic	I and II	26 May 1994
	III	1 April 2009
Ecuador	I and II	10 April 1979
	III	6 October 2020
Egypt	I ^b and II ^b	9 October 1992
El Salvador	I and II	23 November 1978
	III	12 September 2007
Equatorial Guinea	I and II	24 July 1986
Estonia ^a	I and II	18 January 1993
	III	28 February 2008
Eswatini	I and II	2 November 1995
Ethiopia	I and II	8 April 1994
Fiji	I, II and III	30 July 2008
Finland ^a	I ^b and II	7 August 1980
	III	14 January 2009

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
France	I ^b	11 April 2001
	II ^b	24 February 1984
	III	17 July 2009
Gabon	I and II	8 April 1980
Gambia	I and II	12 January 1989
Georgia	I and II	14 September 1993
	III	19 March 2007
Germany ^a	I ^b and II ^b	14 February 1991
	III	17 June 2009
Ghana	I and II	28 February 1978
Greece ^a	I	31 March 1989
	II	15 February 1993
	III	26 October 2009
Grenada	I and II	23 September 1998
Guatemala	I and II	19 October 1987
	III	14 March 2008
Guinea ^a	I and II	11 July 1984
Guinea-Bissau	I and II	21 October 1986
Guyana	I and II	18 January 1988
	III	21 September 2009
Haiti	I and II	20 December 2006
Holy See	I ^b and II ^b	21 November 1985
Honduras	I and II	16 February 1995
	III	8 December 2006
Hungary ^a	I and II	12 April 1989
	III	15 November 2006
Iceland ^a	I ^b and II	10 April 1987
	III	4 August 2006
Iraq	I	1 April 2010
Ireland ^a	I ^b and II ^b	19 May 1999
Israel	III ^b	22 November 2007

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
Italy ^a	I ^b and II	27 February 1986
	III	29 January 2009
Jamaica	I and II	29 July 1986
Japan ^a	I ^b and II	31 August 2004
Jordan	I and II	1 May 1979
Kazakhstan	I and II	5 May 1992
	III	24 June 2009
Kenya	I and II	23 February 1999
	III	28 October 2013
Kuwait ^a	I and II	17 January 1985
Kyrgyzstan	I and II	18 September 1992
	III	25 January 2019
Lao People's Democratic Republic ^a	I and II	18 November 1980
Latvia	I and II	24 December 1991
	III	2 April 2007
Lebanon	I and II	23 July 1997
Lesotho ^a	I and II	20 May 1994
	III	6 January 2020
Liberia	I and II	30 June 1988
Libya	I and II	7 June 1978
Liechtenstein ^a	I ^b and II ^b	10 August 1989
	III	24 August 2006
Lithuania ^a	I and II	13 July 2000
	III	28 November 2007
Luxembourg ^a	I and II	29 August 1989
	III	27 January 2015
Madagascar ^a	I and II	8 May 1992
	III	10 July 2018
Malawi ^a	I and II	7 October 1991
Maldives	I and II	3 September 1991
Mali ^a	I and II	8 February 1989

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
Malta ^a	I ^b and II ^b	17 April 1989
Mauritania	I and II	14 March 1980
Mauritius	I ^b and II ^b	22 March 1982
Mexico	I	10 March 1983
	III	7 July 2008
Micronesia (Federated States of)	I and II	19 September 1995
Monaco ^a	I and II	7 January 2000
	III	12 March 2007
Mongolia ^a	I ^b and II	6 December 1995
Montenegro ^a	I and II	2 August 2006
Morocco	I ^b and II	3 June 2011
Mozambique	I	14 March 1983
	II	12 November 2002
Namibia ^a	I ^b and II ^b	18 October 1983
Nauru	I and II	27 June 2006
	III	4 December 2012
Netherlands (Kingdom of the) ^a	I ^b and II ^b	26 June 1987
	III ^b	13 December 2006
New Zealand ^a	I ^b and II ^b	8 February 1988
	III	23 October 2013
Nicaragua	I and II	19 July 1999
	III	2 April 2009
Niger	I and II	8 June 1979
Nigeria	I and II	10 October 1988
North Macedonia ^a	I ^b and II	1 September 1993
	III	14 October 2008
Norway ^a	I and II	14 December 1981
	III	13 June 2006
Oman	I ^b and II ^b	29 March 1984
Palau	I and II	25 June 1996

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
Panama ^a	I and II	18 September 1995
	III	30 April 2012
Paraguay ^a	I and II	30 November 1990
	III	13 October 2008
Peru	I and II	14 July 1989
	III	9 October 2018
Philippines	I ^b	30 March 2012
	II	11 December 1986
	III	22 August 2006
Poland ^a	I and II	23 October 1991
	III	26 October 2009
Portugal ^a	I ^b and II ^b	27 May 1992
	III	22 April 2014
Qatar ^a	I ^b	5 April 1988
	II	5 January 2005
Republic of Korea ^a	I ^b and II	15 January 1982
Republic of Moldova	I and II	24 May 1993
	III ^b	19 August 2008
Romania ^a	I and II	21 June 1990
	III	15 May 2015
Russian Federation ^a	I ^b and II ^b	29 September 1989
Rwanda ^a	I and II	19 November 1984
Saint Kitts and Nevis ^a	I and II	14 February 1986
Saint Lucia	I and II	7 October 1982
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines ^a	I and II	8 April 1983
Samoa	I and II	23 August 1984
San Marino	I and II	5 April 1994
	III	22 June 2007
Sao Tome and Principe	I and II	5 July 1996
Saudi Arabia	I ^b	21 August 1987
	II	28 November 2001

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
Senegal	I and II	7 May 1985
Serbia ^a	I and II	16 October 2001
	III	18 August 2010
Seychelles ^a	I and II	8 November 1984
Sierra Leone	I and II	21 October 1986
Singapore	III	7 July 2008
Slovakia ^a	I and II	2 April 1993
	III	30 May 2007
Slovenia ^a	I and II	26 March 1992
	III	10 March 2008
Solomon Islands	I and II	19 September 1988
South Africa	I and II	21 November 1995
South Sudan	I, II and III	25 January 2013
Spain ^a	I ^b and II	21 April 1989
	III	10 December 2010
State of Palestine	I ^b	2 April 2014
	II and III	4 January 2015
Sudan	I	7 March 2006
	II	13 July 2006
Suriname	I and II	16 December 1985
	III	25 June 2013
Sweden ^a	I ^b and II	31 August 1979
	III ^b	21 August 2014
Switzerland ^a	I and II	17 February 1982
	III ^b	14 July 2006
Syrian Arab Republic	I ^b	14 November 1983
Tajikistan ^a	I and II	13 January 1993
Timor-Leste	I and II	12 April 2005
	III	29 July 2011
Togo ^a	I and II	21 June 1984
Tonga ^a	I and II	20 January 2003

<i>State</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>
Trinidad and Tobago ^a	I and II	20 July 2001
Tunisia	I and II	9 August 1979
Turkmenistan	I and II	10 April 1992
Uganda	I and II	13 March 1991
	III	21 May 2008
Ukraine ^a	I and II	25 January 1990
	III	19 January 2010
United Arab Emirates ^a	I ^b and II ^b	9 March 1983
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ^a	I ^b and II ^b	28 January 1998
	III ^b	23 October 2009
United Republic of Tanzania	I and II	15 February 1983
United States of America	III ^b	8 March 2007
Uruguay ^a	I and II	13 December 1985
	III	19 October 2012
Uzbekistan	I and II	8 October 1993
Vanuatu	I and II	28 February 1985
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	I and II	23 July 1998
Viet Nam	I	19 October 1981
Yemen	I and II	17 April 1990
Zambia	I and II	4 May 1995
Zimbabwe	I and II	19 October 1992

^a Party that has made the declaration provided for under article 90 of Protocol I.

^b Ratification, accession or succession accompanied by a reservation and/or a declaration.