

**The 1949 Geneva Conventions Revisited:
Reflections on current challenges to International Humanitarian Law**
29 January 2010, Auditorium, Parliament (old building), Helsinki, Finland

09:00 – 09:10

Welcome & opening remarks

Krista Kiuru, Member of Parliament, Chair of Council, Finnish Red Cross, Chair, STETE

09:10 – 10:45

Helping and preventing suffering in conflicts of the 21st century.

Kalle Löövi, Head of international operations, Finnish Red Cross

Helping civilians through humanitarian organisations – the role of States

Ulla-Maija Finskas, Head of Unit for Humanitarian Assistance, Ministry for Foreign Affairs for Finland

Military involvement in contemporary international crisis management

Major General Arto Rätty, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Finnish Defence Forces

Discussion

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee

11:00 – 12:30

From grave breaches to the Rome Statute: International humanitarian law, human rights and the role of the International Criminal Court

Erkki Kourula, judge, International Criminal Court

Developing international and national mechanisms to enhance implementation of international humanitarian law

Päivi Kaukoranta, Director General for Legal Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs for Finland

Putting universal jurisdiction into practice on a domestic level: thoughts on prosecuting the Rwandan genocide in Finland 15 years on

Susanna Mehtonen, Amnesty International, Finnish Section

Discussion

12:30- 13:30 Lunch break (lunch not provided)

13:30 – 14:45

The Geneva Conventions, international humanitarian law and human rights in a post 9/11 world

Martin Scheinin, UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism; Professor European University Institute, former director of The Institute for Human Rights at Åbo Akademi University

Reflections on the legal definition of an armed conflict and its legal implications, including the situation of Finland in Afghanistan.

Legal Advisor from International Committee of the Red Cross

Discussion

14:45 – 15:00

Closing remarks

Allan Rosas, Judge at the European Court of Justice, former director of The Institute for Human Rights at Åbo Akademi University

**Please register to the seminar no later than January 26 by e-mail
stete@stete.org or by phone 09 2600 131 (Registration is obligatory).**