THE LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT

The Law of Armed Conflict: International Humanitarian Law in War introduces law students and undergraduates to the law of war in an age of terrorism. Which law of armed conflict (LOAC) or its civilian counterpart, international humanitarian law (IHL), applies to a particular armed conflict? Does that law apply to terrorists? Can terrorists be obliged by the international community to abide by that law? What is the status of the participants in an armed conflict? What constitutes a war crime? What (or who) is a lawful target and how are targeting decisions made? What are "rules of engagement" and who formulates them? Which weapons are unlawful and what renders them such? What is the status of land mines, cluster munitions, and white phosphorus in LOAC, in international law, and in American law? This book takes the student through these LOAC/IHL questions and more, employing real-world examples, moving from the basics to the finer points of battlefield law. The book is a United States-weighted text that incorporates lessons and legal opinions from jurisdictions worldwide. From Nuremberg to 9/11, from courts-martial to the U.S. Supreme Court, from the nineteenth to the twenty-first centuries, the law of war is explained, interpreted, and applied.

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