

AUDITORIUM A2 | MAISON DE LA PAIX | CHEMIN EUGÈNE RIGOT 2 | GENEVA | 26 FEBRUARY 2020 | 14:00-16:00



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New (military) technologies are set to revolutionize the ways wars are fought. Technological advances in the fields of cyberspace and artificial intelligence are at the forefront of contemporary geopolitical power struggles and are already bringing about major transformative shifts in military and humanitarian affairs. Military spending in these fields has increased dramatically in recent years, a new type of arms race has ensued and the deployment of new military technologies is no longer a hidden battlefield reality. These developments will have far-reaching and not yet fully understood consequences for future humanitarian protection needs and the humanitarian legal framework at large. Yet, in spite of many years of discussion and an inflation of norm clarification processes, dissent and ambiguity even around basic legal principles abound.

Against this backdrop, this ESIL Lecture by Robin Geiß will explore the disruptive potential of a range of new military technologies with a particular focus on those areas where these technologies could fall through the cracks of the international legal order.

ABOUT ROBIN GEISS

Robin Geiß is the Swiss Chair of International Humanitarian Law (Swiss IHL Chair) at the Geneva Academy. He is Professor of International Law and Security at the University of Glasgow, Director of the Glasgow Centre for International Law and Security (GCILS) and an invited visiting scholar at the Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po.

He has taught, researched and published on a variety of topics related to international humanitarian law, human rights law and the legal and ethical implications of new technologies, and is recognized as a leading expert in these fields.

As Swiss IHL Chair, Professor Geiß pursues research projects on disruptive military technologies, with a particular focus on the legal and ethical challenges raised by cyberwarfare and AI-supported decision-making in military affairs.