

## **Constraints on the Waging of War (continued)**

. . . Humanitarian law, the goal of which is to “mitigate the human suffering caused by war,” was developed initially as treaty law in the 1860s at two international conferences. It evolved into two branches—the law of The Hague, which relates to the conduct of war and permissible means and methods of war; and the law of Geneva, which relates to the condition of war victims in enemy hands. In the 1960s and 1970s the United Nations developed a third branch of humanitarian law to address the issue of human rights in armed conflict.

Following an introductory overview in Chapter I, the second chapter of this work discusses the development of these three branches of humanitarian law, as well as how they are linked to the field of international criminal law. The line of demarcation for the remainder of this work is the year 1977, when the two Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 were adopted by the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts (Geneva, 1974–1977).

Chapter III provides a survey of the character of the law of armed conflict as it was implemented and enforced prior to the adoption of the Protocols. Chapter IV reviews in detail the provisions of the two Protocols of 1977, one applicable in international armed conflicts, the other in non-international armed conflicts.

Chapter V surveys conventions and protocols adopted post–1977 to prohibit or restrict the use of weapons, protect cultural property, and amend the law of warfare at sea. Chapter VI discusses the implementation and enforcement of humanitarian law post–1977. This includes an overview of the jurisdiction of the Yugoslavia and Rwanda Tribunals, established in 1993 and 1994, respectively; major provisions of the Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted in 1998; and a summary of the work of the 27th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Geneva, 1999).