



COURSES



# Weapons law and the legal review of weapons

## Master legal reviews of weapons

### Thematic cluster:

Security and Law

### Course dates:

2 - 6 December 2019

### Course location:

Geneva, Switzerland

States have a legal obligation to ensure that the weapons that are newly developed, manufactured or produced for their own armed forces are compliant with international law. Therefore, all States should conduct legal reviews of weapons at various stages in their manufacture or procurement. These reviews should be carried out by experts with a good understanding of the relevant legal provisions. This course will provide lawyers, diplomats and other officials with the knowledge and skills required for that purpose.

The course has been running since 2011 and is funded by the Swiss Government.

### COURSE FOCUS:

The course learning cycle starts with knowledge transfer in presentation sessions, continuing with the practical application of that knowledge in small groups through case studies (practical experience) and leading to consolidated expertise and skills. This learning cycle is applied to each of the themes covered in the course:

- defining weapons, means and methods of warfare
- the evolution and sources of weapons law
- unnecessary suffering and indiscriminate weapons
- weapons and the environment
- nuclear, biological and chemical weapons
- missiles, bombs, firearms and bullets
- new weapons technologies

### COURSE BENEFITS

As a participant, the course will enable you to:

- acquire new knowledge, tools and skills required to ensure your state's compliance with international weapons law
- exchange views among peers and experienced experts and practitioners in a neutral and open environment
- conceptualise and conduct a legal review of any category of new weapon
- develop your judgment and decision-making through practical case studies
- access an extensive network of experts in international affairs, law and security as a GCSP alumnus



**GCSP**  
Geneva Centre for  
Security Policy



## Course Director

**Tobias Vestner** heads Security and Law activities at the GCSP. A former Research Affiliate and Fellow at Georgetown University, he worked for the Export Control Policy Section and the Law of Armed Conflict Section of the Swiss Government. His work focuses on the nexus between security policy and international law.

## Expert Educators

Our educators include the GCSP's own international team composed of academics and practitioners with broad experience in security policy, diplomacy and/or military affairs, as well as guest speakers who are government officials, military officers, representatives from international institutions and civil society, academics and researchers.

Please visit the course page on the **GCSP website** for further details on speakers.

### Who should attend

The five-day course is designed for lawyers, diplomats and other officials, either currently involved or likely to be involved in legal weapons reviews and/or other weapons-related issues. It does not assume any particular knowledge of, or previous experience in international law or the law of armed conflict.

### Tuition fees

CHF 750

The course is offered at reduced tuition charges thanks to the generous support of the Swiss government.\*

GCSP reserves the right to modify the programme dates, location and fee at any time. Discounts are not cumulative.

### Registration deadline

01 November 2018

### Language requirements

The course will be held in English; no translation will be provided

### Venue

GCSP, Maison de la paix,  
Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2D, Geneva  
Switzerland

### Contact

For further details about the course or customised solutions, please contact:

**Email:** [excedu@gcsp.ch](mailto:excedu@gcsp.ch)

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**Web:** <http://www.gcsp.ch>

### Alumni Community

Completing the executive course gives you access to a global and expanding network of over 7'000 experts. Alumni are able to connect online through our Alumni Portal, attend numerous conferences and events, and benefit from reduced rates in future courses.

### GCSP

The Geneva Centre for Security Policy is an international foundation with 52 member states from across the globe. We bring people from every industry and nation together so they can thrive in today's ever-changing security landscape.

### In the heart of international Geneva

Home to over 35 international organisations, some 380 non-governmental organisations, and more than 175 diplomatic missions, representations and delegations, Geneva is a leading hub for international expertise.

### Customised solution

This course can be adapted to meet the needs of your organisation. The GCSP has more than 20 years of experience in delivering executive education for professionals working in government, non-profits, international organisations, as well as in the private sector.

### Testimonial from a past participant

“*The GCSP is where experienced professionals inspired me to construct arguments and use pragmatic tools.*”

**Mr Barakatullah Rahmiti**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Afghanistan

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