

58th IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)

The relationship of international humanitarian law and territorial sovereignty with the legal regulation of outer space (2)

Author: Prof. Mahulena Hofmann  
University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Mr. Loren François Florey  
Luxembourg

HUMANITARIAN LAW IMPLEMENTED: SPACE COMMUNICATION IN THE SERVICE OF  
INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

**Abstract**

Ius in bello as enshrined in the primary humanitarian law (1949 Geneva Conventions, 1977 Additional Protocols and international customary law) requires concrete measures in order to protect specific groups such as the civilian population. Such measures cannot be implemented without viable communication channels, including via satellites. One of the projects guaranteeing the fast deployment of satellite communication in situ in the context of humanitarian crises (natural or man made disasters) is the project emergency.lu which is based on a network of international agreements, including the ITU framework, European law, national legislation of Luxembourg and relevant contracts. The paper analyses this legal framework and qualifies it as a tertiary humanitarian law.