Young People and IHL: Exploring Humanitarian Law

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Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) is a resource pack for teachers to introduce students aged 13 to 18 to the basic rules of international humanitarian law. It was designed by the CICR in close association with the Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC). The learning materials, which provide 36 hours of activities, are based on real-life situations and show how IHL aims to protect life and human dignity during armed conflict and prevent and reduce the suffering and devastation caused by war.

The materials expose students to IHL by exploring ethical and humanitarian issues arising from armed conflict. By studying the behaviour of actual persons and the dilemmas they experience, young people develop a fresh perspective and begin to understand the need for rules during war and the complexity of their application. They also acquire an understanding of different perspectives and an interest in local and international events, opening the door to active participation in the life of their community.

Exploring Humanitarian Law : Pres…

EHL is not explicitly concerned with peace, tolerance, mutual understanding, prevention of violence or conflict resolution. It emphasizes the positive changes in attitude stemming from

ideas related to respect for life and human dignity, civic responsibility, and solidarity. Thus, EHL can be incorporated into a wide range of different subject areas that fall under the broad heading of citizenship education. Its teaching methods reinforce many important academic and life skills, such as communication, team-work, disagreeing respectfully, reasoning, research, problem-solving and critical thinking.

"We have a choice today. We can either sit back, watch the devastation wrought by war and try to make our children look the other way; or we can choose to tell our children that what they see − or what they are themselves experiencing − is not acceptable, that this is not how it is supposed to be, and that they can behave differently, in ways inspired by deep-rooted respect for human dignity, both in peacetime and in the midst of armed conflict.

Jacques Forster, ICRC Vice-President, European Leadership Education Conference on Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL), Vienna, May 2006."

EHL resource packs are available in 19 languages. A methodology guide in English spells out the teaching methods underpinning EHL.

Albanian / shqip	Albanian Ministry of Education Curriculum
Arabic / العربية	Introduction Introductory exploration Module 1 Module 2 – part 1 Module 2 – part 2

Module 3

Module 4

Module 5

Closing exploration

Photo collage Module 2

Photo collage Module 5

IHL guide

Bosnian / Bosanski	Modules
Chinese / 中文	Modules pack Module 4 Mini EHL IHL guide
English	Methodology guide Introduction Introductory exploration Module 1 Module 2 Module 3 Module 4 Module 5 Closing exploration Photo collage Module 2 Photo collage Module 5 Glossary IHL guideline Guidelines for experimentation and evaluation Mini EHL
Estonian / Eesti	Modules
French / français	Introduction Introductory exploration

	Module 1
	Module 2
	Module 3
	Module 4
	Module 5
	Closing exploration
	Photo collage Module 2
	Photo collage Module 5
	Methodology
	Glossary
	IHL Guide
	Guidelines for experimentation and evaluation
	Mini EHL
German / Deutsch	Mini EHL
	Modules
	Methodology
Italian / Italiano	Flyer
	Introduction
	Introductory exploration
	Module 1
	Module 2
	Module 3
	Module 4
	Module 5
	Closing exploration
	Photo collage Module 2
	Photo collage Module 5
	Methodology
	Glossary
	IHL Guide
	Guidelines for experimentation and evaluation
	Mini EHL
Japanese / 日本語	Modules

Korean / 한국어	Modules
Malay / Bahasa Melayu	Modules Modules (Adapted version for Civics and Citizenship education – Form 3) Methodology
Mongolian / Монгол хэл	Modules Methodology
Polish / Polski	Mini EHL
Portuguese / Português	Modules Preamble Methodology Implementation Glossary
Romanian / Română	Modules
Russian / Русский	Modules Methodology Implementation Glossary
Serbian / Srpski	Module 1 Module 2 Module 3 Module 4 Module 5 Annex Methodology Glossary

Slovenian / Slovenščina	Modules
Spanish / Español	Modules Methodology Implementation Preamble for teachers Photo collage Course structure Glossary Guidelines for experimentation and evaluation