



**A Compass for a New Multilateralism - First International Conference**  
**March 28, 2026 - Geneva**

Dunant's Legacy

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**Reviving Multilateralism**  
**Through Dunant's Humanitarian,**  
**Moral and Spiritual Vision**

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# I. Henry Dunant: A Moral Compass for Today

- **Founder of Modern Humanitarian Action & Law:** Established the ICRC, the French Red Cross, and shaped the first Geneva Convention, laying the foundation for international humanitarian law.
- **Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (1901):** Honored for his lifelong commitment to protecting war victims and combating slavery
- **Champion of Faith and Charity:** Although Protestant, he embraced dialogue with all faiths, Christian, Jewish, and Muslim, and dedicated his life to universal compassion and justice.
- **Established and engage multidisciplinary networks,** including political and military leaders, healthcare professionals, media, artists, authors, and religious figures, across countries to promote and implement humanitarian law and action.

1



**access**

41

2



**respect**

42

## II. From Vision to Action: Reviving Multilateralism and Humanitarian Law Today

- **ACTION ORIENTED** Serve as both a frontline witness and active responder in emergencies, advancing sustainable solutions in humanitarian assistance and protection.
- **LEARN LESSONS OF PAST CONFLICTS** Demonstrate how collective traumas—from Solferino and Tsushima to the World Wars, Vietnam, Rwanda, and the former Yugoslavia—shaped the Geneva Conventions and reinforce the imperative to prevent the recurrence of such tragedies.
- **BE ALERT** Highlight the risks posed by scientific advances when misused, including their potential to destroy human life and humanity's shared heritage.
- **AWARE OF SELF-INTEREST** show that respect for international humanitarian law (IHL) aligns with the military, economic, political, and ethical interests of all parties to conflict.
- **NETWORK** Mobilize public conscience to build inclusive networks across governments, civil society, academia, media, faith leaders and communities, and former adversaries to build and strengthen networks supporting the implementation of IHL.
- **GENEVA** Promote Geneva as a global hub for the development of international humanitarian law and the coordination of humanitarian action, emphasizing the complementary role of civil society and the importance of preserving Geneva as a neutral and universal space for dialogue.
- **SPIRITUAL DIMENSION** Reinvigorate the ethical and spiritual foundations underpinning international humanitarian law.

**« Either we live  
together as brothers,  
or we perish as fools »**

**Martin Luther King**

**Vivre ensemble comme des frères  
ou périr comme des insensés**

**O bien vivimos como hermanos  
o bien morimos como insensatos**

**Entweder wir leben zusammen wie Geschwister  
oder wir gehen miteinander als Irre unter**

**« Se battre pour une vérité  
en veillant à ne pas la tuer  
des armes mêmes  
dont on la défend »**

*Albert Camus*

**“To fight for a truth without destroying it by  
the very means used to defend it”**

### III. Why do the Geneva Conventions remain indispensable ?

- **Legal:** They form the cornerstone of international humanitarian law, establishing universal jurisdiction over war crimes and imposing a collective obligation on all States to ensure respect for the law (Common Article 1).
- **Military:** They protect both combatants and non-combatants, while fostering conditions that encourage restraint and the pursuit of peaceful solutions, even amid the most intense hostilities.
- **Humanitarian:** They set out clear prohibitions against terrorism, torture, and collective punishment, and provide a flexible framework for special agreements tailored to specific crises (such as Afghanistan or the former Yugoslavia).
- **Ethical:** They uphold human dignity—the shared foundation of all cultures—and contribute to the legitimacy of military action in the eyes of the international community.
- **Political:** They safeguard the survival and protection of the wounded, the shipwrecked, prisoners of war, and civilians, thereby contributing to the preservation of humanity itself.

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**Either we live together as brothers, or we perish as fools.**

Martin Luther KING. The Strength to Love

**We become the healers, not the killers of our species.**

Robert LIFTON and Eric MARKUSEN. The Genocidal Mentality: Nazi Holocaust and Nuclear Threat

**So, let us be alert—alert in a twofold sense:**

**Since Auschwitz we know what man is capable of.**

**And since Hiroshima we know what is at stake.**

Viktor FRANKL. “The Case for a Tragic Optimism” in Man’s Search for Meaning

**A better system will not automatically ensure a better life. In fact, the opposite is true: only by creating a better life can a better system be developed.**

Václav HAVEL. The Power of the Powerless

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ACTIVITY REPORT  
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Empowering Global and Personal Awareness to Eradicate Trafficking in Persons

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## OUR WEBINARS

Our webinars are part of the *Ad Laudato Si* initiative, a collaborative network of international experts committed to combating human trafficking.

This project was launched to foster awareness, encourage joint research, and promote collective action to address this global scourge.

Through these online events, we aim to:

- Deepen understanding of the causes and consequences of trafficking
- Highlight effective strategies and policy responses
- Amplify the voices of survivors, placing their experiences at the heart of the conversation.



Rapport d'activité de la Fondation CUHD



Rapport de la Conférence de Rome sur la traite



Site internet de la Fondation CUHD



Site internet de la Conférence de Rome



Site internet de Michel Veuthey