

**THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
LAW OF WAR MANUAL**

Commentary and Critique

The United States Department of Defense Law of War Manual: Commentary and Critique provides an irreplaceable resource for any politician, international expert, or military practitioner who wishes to understand the approach taken by the American military in the complex range of modern conflicts. Readers will understand the strengths and weaknesses of US legal and policy pronouncements and the reasons behind the modern American way of war, whether US forces deploy alone or in coalitions. This book provides unprecedented and precise analysis of the US approach to the most pressing problems in modern wars, including controversies surrounding use of human shields, fighting in urban areas, the use of cyberwar and modern weaponry, expanding understanding of human rights, and the rise of ISIS. This group of authors, including academics and military practitioners, provides a wealth of expertise that demystifies overlapping threads of law and policy amidst the world's seemingly intractable conflicts.

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The United States Department
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Commentary and Critique

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Abbreviations

API	Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions
AP II	Additional Protocol II to the 1949 Geneva Conventions
CCW	Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons
CDE	collateral damage estimate
CIL	customary international law
DoD	US Department of Defense
DoJ	Department of Justice
DoS	Department of State
DPH	direct participation in hostilities
GC I	First Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded in Armies in the Field
GC II	Second Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea
GC III	Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War
GC IV	Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War
IAC	international armed conflict
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia
IFOR	Implementation Force
IHL	international humanitarian law
IMT	International Military Tribunal
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force

ISIS	Islamic State in Iraq and Syria
JAG	judge advocate
LOAC	law of armed conflict
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGO	nongovernmental organizations
NIAC	non-international armed conflict
NSL	no-strike list
PID	personal identification
PGM	precision-guided munitions
PoW	prisoner of war
PUC	persons under control
ROE	rules of engagement
STANAG	Standardization Agreement

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PART I
BACKGROUND AND BUREAUCRATIC FORMATION
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