

**Panel debate “International humanitarian law: what does Switzerland do?”
18 November 2020, 18h00 - 19h30, online**

Biographies of the panel participants

Corinne Cicéron Bühler

Corinne Cicéron Bühler holds a degree in law from the University of Fribourg and an LL.M in European Law from the College of Europe in Bruges.

She joined the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in 1999, working at the Directorate of International Law (DIL) and began her diplomatic career in 2003. She served successively in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Bern in the Legal Department of the Office of Integration (nowadays Directorate for European Affairs) and in Brussels at the Mission of Switzerland to the European Union. After leading the section of International law in the DIL, she began to work in 2015 at the Swiss Embassy in Israel as Deputy Head of Mission.

From March 2017 to January 2018, she served as Deputy Director of the DIL. She became Director a.i and then Director in Mai 2018.

She coordinated in 2010 the defense of Switzerland in the case "Belgium against Switzerland" before the ICJ and acts as Agent of the Swiss Confederation in the Case Switzerland vs. Nigeria before ITLOS.



Markus Mader

Since 2008 Markus Mader has been the Director-General of the Swiss Red Cross, with its 28 member organizations, i.e. 24 cantonal associations and 4 rescue organizations (SSB, SLRG, SMSV, REDOG) and its two Red Cross institutions (Swiss Transfusion SRC with 12 regional blood-transfusion centres; SRC Humanitarian Foundation). He heads the SRC Headquarters in Bern.

Markus Mader is a board member of the Foundation Council of the SRC Humanitarian Foundation, Swiss Solidarity and Swisscor. He is also a member of the Federal Council's Advisory Committee on International Cooperation and the Advisory Board of the Centre for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS) at the University of Basel, and a lecturer in Strategy and Leadership in NPOs at the University of Fribourg.

For seven years Markus Mader chaired the Foundation Board of the Kinderdorf Pestalozzi in Trogen. He spent 10 years as the honorary President of the St Gallen Red Cross cantonal association and a member of the SRC Management Control Commission. He was a co-founder and the first Chairman of the Kinderrechte Schweiz network and President of the Hospital Committee of the Foundation for Children's Hospitals in German-speaking Switzerland. He also spent almost 10 years as a member of the Rega Foundation Board, and from 2011 to 2015, he was a member of the Advisory Board of the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights (SCHR). On graduating from university Markus Mader became an ICRC delegate and spent five years on missions to Sri Lanka, Peru and Pakistan/Afghanistan. He then worked for six years full-time as an independent mayor of the commune of Eggersriet (SG). Markus Mader is the father of two grown-up adoptive children from Ethiopia.



Carl Marchand

After studying law at Bern University (1993), Carl Marchand became legal counsel for the Swiss armed forces. Since 2008, he has been head of International Humanitarian Law and senior legal counsel in the International Relations Division of the Defence Department.

Over the last 20 years, Carl Marchand has lectured on International Humanitarian Law in various international seminars. He is a faculty member at the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) in Sanremo, Italy, and since 2014 he has represented various federal departments on the IIHL Council.

Since 2008, he has been a faculty member of the ICRC's Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations (SWIRMO).

He is also a member of the Swiss Interdepartmental Committee for International Humanitarian Law and a former president of the Swiss section of the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War.

He served as an infantry officer and holds the rank of colonel. He now heads a military section of the Armed Forces Staff (International Humanitarian Law and operational law).

He has been deployed as legal counsel on a variety of peacebuilding missions abroad. From September to December 2019, he was the senior legal counsel at NATO's Kosovo Force (KFOR) headquarters in Pristina.



Dominik Stillhart

Dominik Stillhart took on his current position as Director of Operations at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in July 2014. He is responsible for the strategic definition, conduct and review of humanitarian operations carried out by the organization's 20'000 staff in some 100 countries. He conducts regular field visits to assess first-hand the humanitarian situation on the ground.

Dominik Stillhart joined the ICRC in 1990. Following assignments in Africa, Central Europe and the Middle-East with increasing management responsibilities he served the ICRC as Deputy Head of Assistance Division in Geneva from 2000 to 2003. He managed in particular a review of the organization's assistance policy through a multidisciplinary process resulting in an updated policy reflecting current practice and embracing a broad scope of action.

From 2003 to 2006 Dominik Stillhart served as Head of Delegation leading two of the largest and most exposed ICRC operations worldwide. In January 2007 he was called back to Geneva where he took up the global role as Deputy Director of Operations, managing the daily business of operations and being in charge of security and crisis management.

Prior to be selected as the Director of Operations, Dominik Stillhart was Head of the People Management Program, a large scale HR transformation project encompassing the entire ICRC workforce.

Dominik Stillhart holds a Master's degree in Economic Sciences from the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland) and an MSc in Social Policy and Planning from the London School of Economics (LSE). He is married with four children.



Elisabeth Schneider-Schneiter

Elisabeth Schneider-Schneiter was born in 1964 and is married with two children. She is a jurist by profession and was elected to the National Council of the Swiss Parliament for the Christian Democratic People's Party in 2010. She is currently a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.



Priska Seiler Graf

Priska Seiler Graf was born in 1968 and is married with three children. The secondary school teacher and ballet teacher was elected to the National Council of the Swiss Parliament for the Social Democratic Party in 2015 and is currently a member of the Security Policy Committee.

