

most striking innovation was the fact that he considered the sovereign State as the subject of international law.

Was Vitoria the founder of international law or only an illustrious precursor? The eminent jurists meeting in Louvain do not agree on this point. Indeed, the question is academic. It is more important and useful to bear in mind Vitoria's tenet that the lawyer must not be a learned man at the service of the powerful, or indeed, just before we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the "discovery" of America (1492), that "there is a close relationship between maintaining freedom within each State and maintaining peace between States" (p. 96).

*René Kosirnik*

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## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### I. ICRC

- ***International Law Concerning the Conduct of Hostilities***

A collection of treaties of the law regulating the conduct of hostilities. It gives the texts of international legal instruments such as the Hague Conventions relating to the conduct of hostilities on land, at sea and in the air, followed by texts on the rights and duties of neutral States during war on land and at sea, and finally declarations and conventions on prohibitions or restrictions on the use of certain weapons.

In *English*, 196 pages. Price: Sfr.15.

- ***Frédéric de Mulinen: Manuel sur le droit de la guerre pour les forces armées***

*French* version of the original English edition *Handbook on the Law of War for Armed Forces* published in 1988. (See *IRRC* No. 264, May-June 1988, p. 316). 270 pages. Price: Sfr. 20.

- ***Coloquio sobre la protección jurídica internacional de la persona humana en las situaciones de excepción***

This joint publication by the ICRC and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIDH) gives an account of the symposium held in Mexico from 16 to 20 March 1987 by the IIDH and the ICRC in conjunction with the Mexican Red Cross and the Institute of Juridical Research at the Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM). It includes the following papers:

- “La regulación jurídica internacional de los estados de emergencia en América Latina” by H. Gros Espiell and D. Zovatto.
- “La regulación jurídica interna de los estados de excepción en el derecho constitucional latinoamericano comparado” by H. Fix-Zamudio, with the collaboration of H. Gros Espiell and D. Zovatto.
- “Actividades de protección y de asistencia del CICR en las situaciones que no abarca el derecho internacional humanitario”.
- “Modalidades de acción del CICR en las situaciones de disturbios interiores y de tensiones internas y sus actividades en América Latina” by J.-M. Bornet.
- “Un mínimo de humanidad en las situaciones de disturbios y tensiones interiores: Propuesta de un Código de Conducta” by Hans-Peter Gasser.  
In *Spanish*, 104 pages. Price: Sfr. 12.  
These publications may be obtained from the ICRC (COM/EDOC).

## 2. League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

- ***Guidelines for Red Cross and Red Crescent Social Welfare Work in Disasters***

This 44-page booklet is a summary of guidelines and responsibilities for implementing the social welfare part of a relief operation. It covers the National Societies’ role in the various phases—disaster preparedness, emergency phase, rehabilitation—and training in social welfare in disaster situations.

- ***Guidelines for Tracing in Disasters***

This 15-page booklet published jointly by the League and the ICRC complements the aforementioned booklet and the ICRC Central Tracing Agency’s *Guide for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies*. Whilst focusing on emergency situations, it examines the responsibilities of each of the Movement’s components.

These two publications, which can be obtained from the League Secretariat in *English, French, Spanish and Arabic*, are designed to help the National Societies to meet the social and psychological needs of disaster victims and their families.