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The ICRC Library is home to unique collections retracing the parallel development of humanitarian action and law during the past 150+ years. With the core of these collections now digitized, this reference library on international humanitarian law (IHL) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is a resource available to all, anytime, anywhere.

Why digitize? Breaking down barriers to access and research



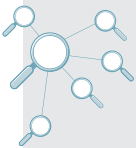
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Here are a few of the many questions the digitized ICRC Library's collections can help you answer:

Why was this specific wording/provision adopted by the drafters of the Geneva Conventions?

What was the position of such country regarding national liberation movements?

How did the ICRC account for its lack of action for victims of the Nazi persecutions?

Research Guides

Find your way through 220,000+ pages of digitized documents with our research guides on www.icrc.org/research-guides

International humanitarian law

[Diplomatic Conferences for the adoption of the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols \(1864-2005\)](#)

[Drafting history of the 1949 Geneva Conventions](#)

[Drafting history of the 1977 Additional Protocols](#)

The *travaux préparatoires*, minutes of meetings and official records of the Diplomatic Conferences leading to the adoption of these major IHL treaties.

International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

[International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent \(1863-2019\)](#)

[National Society documents](#)

Records and documents of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and the Council of Delegates, from 1863 to this day.

International Committee of the Red Cross

[ICRC Annual Reports](#)

[ICRC News Releases](#)

[ICRC Policy Documents](#)

[Circulars](#)

A comprehensive collection of sources of public information on ICRC activities (including for the post-1975 era, when the archives are not yet open to public consultation) + all digital ICRC publications.

[ICRC history in 5 volumes](#)

[The ICRC during World War I and World War II](#)

[The Central Tracing Agency](#)

**Focus on ICRC
history**



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