



Dr Nils MELZER

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Biography

Dr Nils Melzer has served for 12 years with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as a Legal Adviser and Deputy Head of Delegation in various conflict zones, as well as at the ICRC's headquarters in Geneva. In 2011, he was appointed Research Director of the Competence Centre for Human Rights at the University of Zürich and, in 2012, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP). He also holds the Swiss Chair for International Humanitarian Law at the Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights. Furthermore, Dr Melzer regularly serves on various committees and expert groups including, most recently, the Temporary Steering Committee for the "International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers", and a NATO-sponsored expert group tasked to draft the forthcoming "Manual on International Law in Cyber War" (Tallinn Manual). His advisory work has also included mandates from the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Swiss Military Academy and other military training institutions, the Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, the International Telecommunication Union, the German Bundestag and the European Union Parliament. A sought-after speaker at high-level military and academic conferences around the world, Dr Melzer has authored award-winning and widely translated publications relating to international legal challenges arising in the contemporary security environment. His areas of particular expertise include targeting and the use of force, cyber-conflict and the regulation of private military and security companies.