






The IHL Youth Action Campaign Training – Coordinator’s Presentation Guide

Icons Used In this Guide

	Coordinator’s Notes – This icon signifies what Coordinators should know about presenting the slide and any important steps that need to be taken.
	Say – This icon indicates what can be said during the presentation. Use it as a guide but do not feel that you need to read or describe the information exactly as is in the notes.
	Activity – This icon indicates that there is an activity. Follow the instructions outlined to conduct the activity.
	Optional Content – This icon represents optional questions, comments or activities for the slide. Use your discretion in what you wish to include.
	Module time – This icon represents the total time the module will take. It is always placed on the first slide of a new module.

**Coordinator's Notes:**

This slide should be open as participants come into the room, complete the survey and offer the initial welcome and introduction.



This module should take no more than **25 minutes**, including the survey, introductions and slides.

Introduction Module Objectives

- Complete the pre-survey, introduction and ground rules.
- Learn the short definition of IHL and what it aims to accomplish.
- Understand how IHL connects to the American Red Cross and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Learn the 7 Fundamental Principles of the Movement.



Introductions: Introduce yourself and your role within the IHL Youth Action Campaign. Ask the participants to introduce themselves as well. You can ask them to share why they are interested in IHL, why they joined the campaign, or what they are looking forward to the most about the program.

WARNING: Let your participants know that they will be discussing some challenging topics related to armed conflict and if at any point they would like leave, they are welcome to do so. If you have the number of a school counselor or outside resource, you can write it on the board or poster paper or share it in the group chat if training is done virtually.



**Coordinator's Notes:**

The purpose of this slide is to officially welcome the participants to the program.

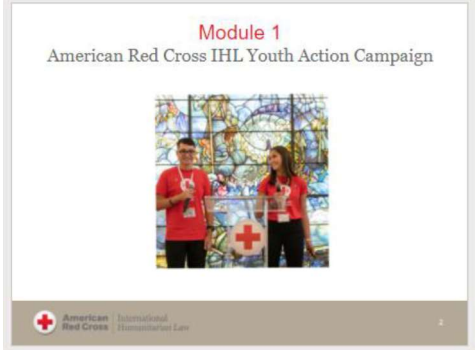


Say: *Thank you for joining the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Youth Action Campaign!*

The IHL Youth Action Campaign is an American Red Cross program that encourages youth and young adults to learn about the rules of armed conflict and empowers them to explore IHL through peer-to-peer campaigns.

Many Americans don't know about IHL and the American Red Cross thanks you for being our partners in promoting these laws in your communities.

We look forward to seeing your creative campaigns come to life and to learning from your experience teaching your peers about IHL.

**Coordinator's Notes:**

Say: *During this training you will learn about IHL and how to build a campaign. After the training, you will become a team of IHL Advocates tasked with raising awareness about IHL in your community. You will implement a campaign by conducting in-person and social media activities to promote awareness about IHL. In creating an awareness campaign, it is important to try to reach the most people possible, but also provide them with correct information. Each team focuses in their community but contributes to a larger movement of IHL Advocates who are educating thousands of people.*

After the campaigns are complete, apply to attend the Summit in Washington, D.C. to share what their regions have learned about promoting IHL.



**Coordinator's Notes:**

Ask: What is International Humanitarian Law?

Say: IHL are the rules of war, sometimes also referred to as LOAC, the laws of armed conflict. It aims to balance humanity and military necessity. Let's start with a brief video about the rules of war.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwpzzAefx9M&t=8s>

**Coordinator's Notes:**

Say: The mission of the American Red Cross is to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.

In the US, many people associate the American Red Cross's mission with disaster relief, emergency preparedness and blood donations.

It often comes as a surprise that the American Red Cross was founded as a response to the humanitarian challenges faced in war. Clara Barton, our founder, was inspired to establish the American Red Cross as a humanitarian during the Civil War. As a national society of the worldwide Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the American Red Cross also has a mandate to educate the public about IHL.



Optional Story: Clara Barton was working as a recording clerk in the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C. when the first units of federal troops began to



appear in the city in 1861. She started by taking supplies to the soldiers that were attacked in Baltimore, Maryland. She became known as the “Angel of the Battlefield” as she risked her life to treat the sick and wounded.

In 1869, Clara Barton traveled to Europe where she was introduced to the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland. Inspired by her experiences with the Red Cross in Europe, Barton traveled back to the United States of America and formed the American Red Cross.

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International Humanitarian Law

2 min



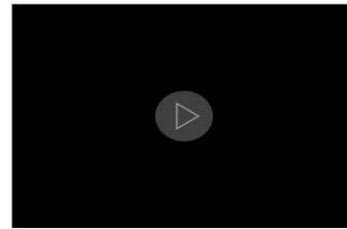
Coordinator's Notes:

Watch until minute 3:30



Say: IHL has been at the heart of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement since its inception. Watch this brief video and learn about the origin of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Henry Dunant – The Story of an Idea



American Red Cross

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9bsmnuJU-o&t=3s>

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International Humanitarian Law

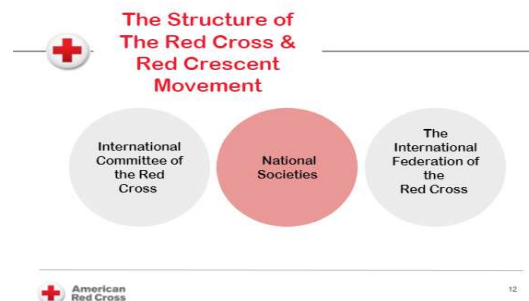
2 min



Coordinator's Notes:



Say: After Henry Dunant wrote the book *A Memory of Solferino* a commission in Geneva was inspired to begin the International Committee of the Red Cross. This organization protects the lives and dignity of the victims of armed conflict.



A year later a conference in Geneva developed the concept of National Societies. National societies are national organizations dedicated to assisting with humanitarian challenges. These national societies are called the Red Cross, Red Crescent, or Red Crystal. For example, in Turkey they have the Turkish Red Crescent, while in Mexico they have the Mexican Red Cross. Clara Barton founded the national society in the United States - the American Red Cross. The IHL Youth Action Campaign is put on by the American Red Cross.

The International Federation of the Red Cross was formed to facilitate and coordinate the efforts of the national societies. Though the organizations remain separate, they are co-equal partners in the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement .

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International Humanitarian Law

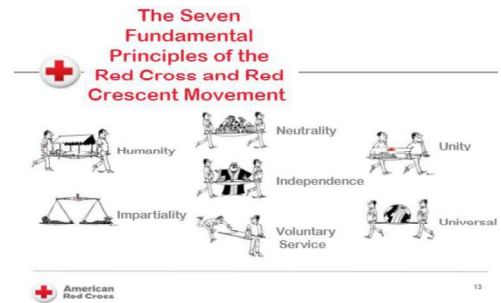
2 min



Coordinator's Notes:



Say: *Almost every country in the world has a Red Cross or Red Crescent National Society. Though the organizations are of the Movement are many and diverse, they remain equal partners in their mission and are guided by Seven Fundamental Principles:*



Humanity - Prevent human suffering wherever it is found.

Impartiality - Relieve suffering based on needs, without discrimination.

Neutrality - Take no sides in hostilities and controversies.

Independence - Maintain autonomy from governments.

Voluntary Service - Voluntary participation and not for personal gain.

Unity - Only one Red Cross or Red Crescent society in each country, open to all.

Universality - Red Cross and Red Crescent societies operate worldwide and all societies are equal.

These principles are the values that guide the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's mission to alleviate human suffering. As volunteers of the American Red

Cross, it is important that we use these principles while implementing the campaigns. As a note, these principles are separate from the IHL principles we will learn later!



Optional Activity: Ask youth to draw a picture, create a skit, tell a story, write a poem or have a discussion about one or more of the principles. If you have a small group, each person could take a different principle.



With smaller groups: Create a game. Conduct charades, Pictionary, taboo, or a combination of all three to help youth express and remember the principles.

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International Humanitarian Law

2 min



Coordinator's Notes:

Module 2 Objectives

Learn a brief history of and description of IHL.
Analyze situations that occur during armed conflicts and understand how principles of IHL apply.
Learn about protections under IHL for:

- Health care workers and facilities
- The wounded and sick
- Civilians and civilian objects
- Religious and cultural objects
- Red Cross and Red Crescent Emblems
- Prisoners of War

Module 2 International Humanitarian Law



American
Red Cross



Say: Now that we have learned that IHL has been a central part of the founding of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, let's learn more about building blocks and principles of IHL.