

**Written Input of the Republic of Armenia
Regarding the Global Initiative to Galvanize Political Commitment to International
Humanitarian Law – Progress Report**

The Republic of Armenia welcomes the Global Initiative to Galvanize Political Commitment to International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and underscores the significance of the preparation of this progress report. Armenia regards this initiative as a vital contribution to strengthening state-level compliance with IHL, enhancing international cooperation, and promoting the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

Armenia attaches particular importance to encouraging political leadership and accountability for IHL compliance, strengthening national legal frameworks for implementing IHL obligations, supporting public awareness and education on IHL principles, and promoting constructive engagement with humanitarian actors, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and United Nations agencies. These elements are closely aligned with Armenia's ongoing efforts to uphold IHL and provide humanitarian assistance in conflict-affected areas.

While welcoming the report, Armenia notes the following observations: the report's focus on strict neutrality, particularly regarding the ICRC, may inadvertently limit accountability and hinder advocacy against IHL violations. While impartiality is a core principle of humanitarian action, it should be complemented by measures that ensure the protection of civilians, compliance, and reporting in contexts where IHL violations occur.

To further strengthen global political commitment to IHL, Armenia emphasizes the following:

1. **Balanced Humanitarian Neutrality** – Neutrality should not impede accountability or the protection of civilians. Mechanisms must exist to address violations while respecting humanitarian principles.
2. **Strengthening National Capacities** – Legislative and institutional reforms should be supported to reinforce national IHL implementation, including robust humanitarian response frameworks.
3. **Enhanced International Cooperation** – Partnerships between states, humanitarian actors, and multilateral organizations should be fostered to share best practices, resources, and technical expertise.
4. **Context-Sensitive Approaches** – Humanitarian and IHL measures should be tailored to the specific realities of conflict zones, including areas affected by blockades and displacement.

Armenia reaffirms its unwavering commitment to International Humanitarian Law and welcomes initiatives that galvanize political will for its implementation, emphasizing that effective IHL promotion requires a careful balance between humanitarian neutrality and accountability, supported by sustained international cooperation. Armenia remains ready to engage constructively with the Global Initiative and the international community to advance IHL objectives.