

# Windsor IHL conference 2026

## PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY DURING CONFLICT

**DATE:** MARCH 12TH, 2026

**TIME:** 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST

**LOCATION:** THE GREAT ROOM (LOCATED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR), CANTERBURY COLLEGE - 2500 UNIVERSITY AVE W, UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR.

### Agenda

12:30 pm	<b>Note: Doors open at 12:00pm for lunch &amp; refreshments</b> Opening Remarks	Yasaman Ahanin Senior Coordinator, Training & Education, IHL, Canadian Red Cross
12:40 pm	Introduction to IHL	Dr. Sophie Rondeau Director and Legal Advisor, IHL Education, Canadian Red Cross
1:10 pm	The Logistics of IHL: Global Museum Initiatives to Preserve Ukrainian Heritage	Prof. Jennifer Orange Assistant Professor, Lincoln Alexander School of Law
1:40 pm	Break	
1:55 pm	Cultural Property Protection: Perspective of the Canadian Armed Forces	Maj. Vahe Ohanessian Legal Officer - Office of the Judge Advocate General, Canadian Armed Forces
2:25 pm	Private Law in Ruins? Rethinking Cultural Property Protection	Dr. Shanthi E. Senthe Associate Professor of Law, University of Windsor
2:55 pm	Panel: Real-world challenges and practical approaches to safeguarding cultural heritage before, during, and after conflict	Moderator: Prof. Chris Waters Professor of Law, University of Windsor
3:35 pm	Q&A Period	
3:55 pm	Concluding Remarks	Yasaman Ahanin

**LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.**



Windsor Law  
University of Windsor



Canadian  
Red Cross

Croix-Rouge  
canadienne



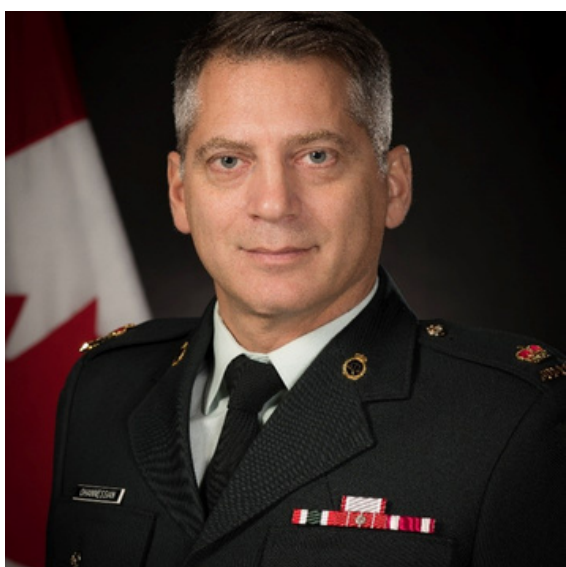
**Dr. Sophie Rondeau - Director and Legal Advisor, IHL Education, Canadian Red Cross**

Sophie Rondeau is currently Senior Lead, International Humanitarian Law, at the Canadian Red Cross. In the last 20 years, she has been a researcher, guest speaker, moderator and lecturer in various Canadian universities and she has worked in institutions such as the IHL Centre, Rights & Democracy and the Jean-Pictet Competition. A member of the Québec Bar, she graduated from Université de Montreal's Law Faculty, holds a Masters' degree in International Law from UQAM, and a Doctorate in Law from Geneva and Laval universities. She currently lives on the island of Tiohtiá:ke (Joh-jaw-gay) / Montreal with her husband, their two sons and their dog.



**Dr. Jennifer Orange - Assistant Professor, Lincoln Alexander School of Law**

Dr. Jennifer Orange is an Associate Professor at the Lincoln Alexander School of Law at Toronto Metropolitan University, with a specialized focus on domestic and international human rights law. She holds an S.J.D. from the University of Toronto, an LL.M. in International Legal Studies from New York University, an LL.B. from the University of Toronto, and a B.A. in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. Called to the Bar of Ontario, Dr. Orange practiced as a litigation lawyer at Torys LLP. Dr. Orange's research interests centre on the role of non-state actors, such as cultural institutions, in shaping both domestic and international law. Her scholarly work includes areas of dispute resolution, gender and the evolving relationships between sport organizations, schools, museums, cultural heritage, and human rights. Dr. Orange is currently a member of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal and has previously served on the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario.



**Major Vahe Ohanessian - Legal Advisor with the Directorate of International and Operational Law, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Canadian Armed Forces**

Major Vahe Ohanessian graduated from the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor of Social Science, concentration Criminology in 1992 and then a Bachelor of Law, Common Law in 1995.

He joined the CAF in 1992 as a Reservist with the Governor General Foot Guards, Ceremonial Guards. In 1994, he re-mustered into the Military Police and ultimately into the Office of the Judge Advocate General (OJAG) in 2001. He has held varied positions within the OJAG, including Prosecutor with Canadian Forces Military Prosecution Services, Legal Advisor with Military Justice Policy, Deputy Judge Advocate General to CFB Petawawa, CFB Borden, CFB Kingston, CFB Gagetown, CFB Halifax, ASU Toronto and NCR.

He has been deployed on many domestic and international operations, including Op Proteus (Jerusalem) in 2012 – Legal Advisor to the Commander of the Office of United States Security Coordinator, a multinational mission led by a U.S. General tasked with strengthening Palestinian Authority security forces and fostering security cooperation with Israel, Op Reassurance (Maritime) in 2019 – Legal Advisor to the Commander of the Standing NATO Maritime Group 2, a standing NATO alliance maritime fleet in the Mediterranean and Black Sea region positioned as a reaction force for immediate operational response capability, Op Globe 24-02 (Haiti) in 2024, Legal Advisor to the Commander of the Canadian Joint Task Force to support Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations and Canadian Embassy Operations in response to the rapidly deteriorating security situation in Haiti, Op Globe 24-07 (Lebanon) in 2024, Legal Advisor to the Commander of the Canadian Joint Task Force to support Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations in response to rising regional instability.



**Dr. Shanthi E. Senthe – Associate Professor of Law, University of Windsor**

Shanthi Elizabeth Senthe is an Associate Professor at Windsor Law and the Rodzik Chair in Law and Entrepreneurship. She holds a PhD from Osgoode Hall Law School, where her research focused on banking and finance regulation and governance. Professor Senthe teaches Business Associations, Secured Transactions, and Sports Law, and serves as faculty in the Dual JD program, teaching the Business Associations module. She has also taught Corporate Governance and Remedies.

She is the Director and founder of the Transnational Entertainment and Arts Clinic (TEALC). Her research engages creative entrepreneurship in Detroit. Her recent work includes co-curating The Once and Future City at AWE. More recently, Professor Senthe served as a member of Mayor Sheffield's Rise Higher Detroit's Transition Committee on Arts, Culture & Entertainment.



**Prof. Chris Waters – Professor of Law, University of Windsor**

Called to the Bar in 1996, Christopher Waters, DCL, LSM, is an international law professor at Windsor Law. He specialises in International Humanitarian Law and recently co-authored a Canadian handbook on the subject. Dr. Waters is a former Dean at Windsor Law and, since 2015, has been the co-editor of the Canadian Bar Review. In the Fall of 2025, Dr. Waters was the inaugural Scholar-in-residence at the Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Canadian Armed Forces.