

Armed conflicts in the world in the last decades have caused millions of victims. A large majority of these victims are civilians who should be protected by the Geneva Conventions. In very difficult situations there are often men and women who struggle every day to put an end to violations of human rights, to enforce international humanitarian law and to prosecute war crimes.

On the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Conventions, Rémy Pagani, who is Mayor of Geneva – the city which gave its name to the Conventions – visited war-torn regions in former Yugoslavia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Israel and Palestine to support persons and organisations who demand the enforcement of the Conventions. Several persons encountered in these visits will attend the public workshops to be held in Geneva from May 6 to 8, 2010.

The public workshops will offer an opportunity for hearing and talking with representatives of citizen's movements engaged in the struggle to ensure the respect and the enforcement of the Geneva Conventions, which is one of the main instruments of international law aimed at protecting civilian populations in situations of armed conflict and occupation.



Genève, Maison des Associations  
Rue des Savoises 15

Informations, complete program:

[www.ville-ge.ch](http://www.ville-ge.ch)

Program coordinators:

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# With all those who struggle for the protection of civilians in war-torn countries

Public workshops – conferences  
May 6 – 8, 2010

Genève, Maison des Associations  
Rue des Savoises 15

Admission free

60 years of the Geneva Conventions

## With all those who struggle for the protection of civilians in war-torn countries

Public workshops – conferences

### Thursday, May 6, 2010

6:30 pm > **Presentation** by Rémy Pagani, Mayor of Geneva

**Introductions:** Annyssa Bellal, Geneva academy of international humanitarian law ADH; René Holenstein, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC; Jakob Kellenberger, International Committee of the Red Cross ICRC

### Friday, May 7

9 am – 12 am > **Workshop n° 1**

#### International Humanitarian Law confronting today's wars

International Humanitarian Law, actual problems

How to ensure the protection of civilians?

The enforcement of the Geneva Conventions

The prosecution of war crimes

2 pm – 5 pm > **Workshop n° 2**

#### War and violence against women

Evidence from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kivu and Palestine

Rape as weapon and war crime

The World March of Women towards Bukavu, October 2010

6 pm > Commented slide-show by photographer Christian Lutz about the visits of the delegation of the city of Geneva to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Israel and Palestine

### Saturday, May 8

9 am – 12 am > **Workshop n° 3**

#### The exploitation of natural resources, violence and war

The pillage of mineral resources: the case of gold

The mines and the war in Kivu

Alternatives to the destructions of gold mining in Peru

Traceability and the struggle against dirty gold in Switzerland

2 pm – 5 pm > **Workshop n° 4**

#### The Geneva Conventions as tools against violence to civilians

After the wars in the former Yugoslavia

Facing massive war crimes in the Kivus

Enforcement of international Humanitarian Law

in Palestine/Israël: a part of the solution

6 pm > **Concluding session**

**How to continue the action?** Closing remarks by Rémy Pagani, Mayor of Geneva

### May 3 – 17

Maison des Associations hosts an exhibition of the posters realized for the 60 years of the Geneva Conventions by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel and an exhibition of photographs of a trip through Kivu by Nathalie Guinand

**Speakers:** **Munira Subasic** Women Zepa-Srebrenica, **Natasa Kandic** HCL Belgrade, **Jasna Bastic** journalist Sarajevo/Zurich, **Srdan Dizdarevic** HCHR Sarajevo, **Justine Bihamba** SFVS Goma, **Delly Mawazo** CREDDHO Goma, **Raphael Wakenge** ICJP Bukavu, **Yves Polepole** journalist Bukavu, **Jeannine Mukaninva** CENADEP Bukavu, **Prudence Shamavu** WMW Kinshasa, **Michel Warschawski** AIC West Jerusalem, **Ehud Uziel** ACRI West Jerusalem, **Melanie Takefman** ACRI West Jerusalem, **Rawda Odeh** UPWC East Jerusalem, **Raji Sourani** PCHR Gaza, **Iyad Burnat** PC/FFJ Bil'in, **Jakob Kellenberger** ICRC Geneva, **Yves Sandoz** ICRC/ADH Neuchâtel, **René Holenstein** SDC Berne, **Denise Lüthi** SDC Berne, **Patrizia Palmiero** SDC Geneva, **Annyssa Bellal** ADH Geneva, **Sharon Weill** ADH Geneva, **Philip Grant** TRIALGeneva, **Gilles Labarthe** journalist Geneva/Paris, **Jean-Luc Pittet** TdH Suisse Geneva, **Marina Decarro** WMW Geneva, **Florian Rochat** CETIM Geneva