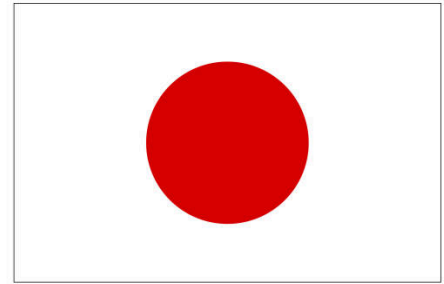


Committee: GA 6: LEGAL

Country: Japan

Agenda: Legal Framework Concerning
The Protection Of Prisoners Of War During
War Times And Its Safe Conduct

Delegate: Pelin Argüder



The struggle of members of the military is not limited to battlefields, they also face a lot of challenges if they become a prisoner of war by being captured by the enemy forces. They are usually being sent to camps where they have to do compulsory labor in order to prevent their return to the war. In these camps the prisoners of war can face with major issues such as: malnutrition, lack of medical treatment, sexual abuse, unethical biological experiments, unhygienic conditions and hostile treatment.

United Nations have signed the Geneva Conventions aiming to protect the humanitarian laws during war times and ensuring the security of civilians such as injured military workers on lands or seas, religious personnels, medical units, medical transports and most significantly the prisoners of war in 1864 and updated in 1949 after World War II. The Geneva Conventions play a crucial role to reduce the negative impacts of their captivity on the prisoners of war and to prevent governments from acting against humanitarian laws while detaining them. There are four Geneva Conventions and three protocols which are mentioned below.

1. **Geneva Convention I** aims to protect the injured civilians on lands during wars.
2. **Geneva Convention II** aims to protect the injured or shipwrecked civilians on seas.
3. **Geneva Convention III** is the most important one for this agenda and it aims to protect the rights of prisoners of war and ensure their security.
4. **Geneva Convention IV** aims to protect the security of the civilians in occupied territories.
5. **Protocol I** Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts
6. **Protocol II** Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts
7. **Protocol III** Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem

The Hague Conventions which were signed by the United Nations in 1899 and 1907 were the outlines of the Geneva Conventions. Their main aims were to create a legal path for countries to adhere to during war times and to reduce the negative impacts of war on members of the military by having articles about both protection of civilians and treatment of prisoners of war.

The members of United Nations shall cooperate with international institutions and non-governmental organizations in order to fasten the process and strengthen the implementation of Geneva Conventions and their protocols, help governments and their security departments on law enforcement and help member states on monitoring and examining the conditions of prisoners of war and the conditions that they are being held by the captives and ensure their safety on the process of their repatriation. The organizations and institutions member states can collaborate are below:

1. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
2. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
3. European Prison Education Association (EPEA)
4. International Corrections & Prisons Association (ICPA)
5. Amnesty International

The International Committee of the Red Cross is an organization that aims to ensure the safety of civilians who may be harmed in wars or other violent circumstances. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is an organization that protects civilians in need as well as prisoners of war. The European Prison Education Association is an organization which provides education and training across Europe in order to increase the intelligence of security workers which will lead them not to act against the conventions and laws. The International Corrections & Prisons Association is an international non-governmental organization which brings up professionals in their area in order to improve their actions upon protecting their rights and ensuring the safety of prisoners worldwide. Amnesty International is an international non-governmental organization which aims to defend and protect them by giving legal support to individuals in need.

The Japanese government has signed the Geneva Conventions and adhere to the humanitarian laws by providing prisoners of war adequate conditions such as hygienic and sanitary shelters, enough medical treatments and also training their security and military personnel about laws they need to adhere to and the articles of the conventions they need to implement.

The Japanese government suggests a lot of solution in order to strengthen the legal framework and ensure the implementation of laws, such as:

1. Collaborations with Non-Governmental Organizations
2. Creating and adhering to a new plan which shall be called 'International Plan for Examinations of the Prisoners of War (IPEP)'
3. Launching a new formal website which will contain a database that will help member states to share information among each other efficiently and fast
4. Encouraging every member state to enact domestic laws that will strengthen and fasten the implementation of conventions
5. Recommending The General Assembly to enact laws about the penalties that will be applied to the governments if they act against the humanitarian laws or the articles of the Geneva Conventions
6. Also Creating a new plan which will be called 'International Repatriation Plan for Prisoners of War (IRPP)

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