



Universiteit  
Leiden  
The Netherlands

## **Towards the establishment of a new international humanitarian law compliance mechanism: lessons learned from monitoring systems within the international humanitarian and human rights law frameworks**

Poulopoulou, S.

### **Citation**

Poulopoulou, S. (2024, June 18). *Towards the establishment of a new international humanitarian law compliance mechanism: lessons learned from monitoring systems within the international humanitarian and human rights law frameworks*. Meijers-reeks. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3764223>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3764223>

**Note:** To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

MI  
421



INSTITUUT VOOR  
RECHTSWETENSCHAPPELIJK  
ONDERZOEK

S. POULOPOULOU

Towards the establishment of a new International  
Humanitarian Law compliance mechanism

This dissertation examines various monitoring mechanisms within the International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law frameworks in order to draw lessons learned from their monitoring approaches and practices and assess whether they can be applied to a future compliance system under the four Geneva Conventions of 1949. The scope of the enquiry includes the existing compliance system of the Geneva Conventions, the compliance systems of other treaties within the International Humanitarian Law framework, the United Nations human rights monitoring system, and a number of mechanisms that supervise respect for humanitarian norms by States and/or armed non-State actors.

By adopting a comparative methodology, the dissertation examines the mandate and practice of monitoring mechanisms falling within its scope, draws lessons learned, and identifies which monitoring functions, approaches and practices could be incorporated into the International Humanitarian Law framework. The dissertation suggests that a future compliance system under the Geneva Conventions should encompass thematic reporting, a Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Conventions, and an International Humanitarian Law Committee. The establishment of effective compliance mechanisms that are tailored to the specifics of International Humanitarian Law would support and advance the implementation of the Geneva Conventions by States Parties as well as strengthen the ability to monitor their implementation from within the International Humanitarian Law framework.

The dissertation makes an original contribution to existing scholarship on the implementation and monitoring of International Humanitarian Law as well as to future initiatives aimed at strengthening compliance with this body of law.

*This is a volume in the series of the Meijers Research Institute and Graduate School of the Leiden Law School of Leiden University. This study is part of the Law School's research programme 'Exploring the Frontiers of International Law'.*



INSTITUUT VOOR  
RECHTSWETENSCHAPPELIJK  
ONDERZOEK

# Towards the establishment of a new International Humanitarian Law compliance mechanism

Lessons learned from monitoring systems  
within the International Humanitarian  
and Human Rights Law frameworks

S. POULOPOULOU