

Solferino Seminar

The Centre for International & Public Law, ANU College of Law, The Australian National University and International Humanitarian Law Committee, Australian Red Cross ACT *present*

Conquering Cluster Munitions: Towards a New International Treaty

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Wednesday 13 February 2008, 5.30pm

Law Theatre

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Cluster munitions have become a persistent and increasingly severe humanitarian problem over the past decades, killing and injuring large numbers of civilians in war affected countries. Recently a number of governments have begun to take concerted action to address the tragic human costs of these weapons. Such action includes the initiation of a series of negotiations, called the "Oslo Process", aimed at achieving a new international treaty on cluster munitions by 2008. This presentation will both examine the nature and effects of cluster munitions and the process of developing a new international agreement limiting their use.

Mr Maresca works in the Legal Division of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva. His primary areas of work are the prohibitions and restrictions on the use of weapons under international humanitarian law and other international rules governing the conduct of hostilities. He is currently involved on behalf of ICRC in the Oslo Process negotiations.

Mr McGrath is the International Spokesperson on Cluster Munitions for Handicap International Network, a founding member of the international civil society group the Cluster Munitions Coalition. Having extensive field experience in unexploded ordnance clearance, in his current role he has major responsibility for coordinating input to the Oslo Process.



Solferino Seminars are organised by the International Humanitarian Law Committee of the Australian Red Cross, ACT. The name Solferino comes from the battlefield in Northern Italy where, in 1859, Henry Dunant witnessed great carnage and suffering, inspiring him to work for the establishment of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.