LIEBER INSTITUTE FOR LAW & LAND WARFARE

West Point READY

READY TO **SERVE**. READY TO **LEAD**.

Former Secretary of the Army Mark Esper meets with cadets during a summer AIAD.

Cadets visit the Yūshūkan military history museum in Tokyo, Japan, during the Far East War Crimes Staff Ride.

## LIEBER INSTITUTE FOR LAW & WARFARE

The Lieber Institute is a world leader in Law of Armed Conflict scholarship. The Institute fosters a deeper understanding of the complex and evolving relationship between law and warfare. It leverages a network of academic and military expertise to examine the role of the Law of Armed Conflict in emerging conflicts across the globe and to ensure the law's relevance in contemporary and future warfare.

The Institute conducts academic research on contemporary and developing Law of Armed Conflict issues. Through its Oxford University Press book series, *Lieber Studies,* the Institute explores international law in light of modern and future conditions of warfare. And through its weblog, *Articles of War,* it publishes the legal analysis of leading international legal scholars and practitioners on the most pressing Law of Armed Conflict issues. In fact, the *Articles of War's* series on the Ukraine-Russia conflict was recently recognized by NATO Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) as "a major facilitator to urgent and complex legal matters" in support of SHAPE's Legal Office.

The Lieber Institute also partners and collaborates with a wide range of organizations to further its mission. These include Harvard Law School, the International Committee of the Red Cross, Columbia Law School, the Army War College, and U.S. Army Futures Command. Each fall, the Institute hosts an invitation-only workshop to discuss and study a law of armed conflict subject chosen by our annual Lieber Scholar. The workshop features an interdisciplinary array of subject matter experts and results in the publication of an edited volume in the Lieber Studies.

The Lieber Institute not only contributes to scholarly advancement of the Law of Armed Conflict, but also provides a vehicle for unique and valuable developmental opportunities for West Point cadets and Department of Law & Philosophy faculty. Each of the Institute's collaborations and research projects involves extensive contributions by the Law & Philosophy Department and other West Point faculty. Furthermore, the Institute drives the Law & Philosophy Department's Law of Armed Conflict curriculum, which afford cadets unmatched exposure to the international law that relates to armed conflict, including courses on Advanced Law of War, Cyber Law, National Security Law, and more. Each summer, the Lieber Institute hosts the Military Operations Course, designed to give scholars without military experience an introduction to the legal issues and practical challenges associated with an understanding of the law and policy considered by the United States when conducting military operations.

The Department of Law & Philosophy emphasizes Law of Armed Conflict instruction as an integral part of part of its academic program. Law of Armed Conflict has been incorporated into the core curriculum as part of LW403 (Constitutional and Military Law). LW474 (Law of Armed Conflict) remains a required course for law majors and is increasingly popular as an elective for non-law majors. LW476 (Advanced Law of Armed Conflict) was added as an elective in 2018, and LW462 (Cyber Law) was added in 2019. Additionally, more sections will be added to LW481 (International Law) and LW482 (National Security Law) to accommodate cadet interest.

Created in 2016 under the umbrella of the West Point Center for the Rule of Law, the Lieber Institute for Law & Warfare has become a center for cutting-edge research and analysis on the Law of Armed Conflict. Today, the Institute is recognized as an influential contributor to scholarship in the field, and its affiliation with the Department of Law & Philosophy ensures cadets receive expert instruction on the Law of Armed Conflict as they develop their understanding of the law and principles applicable to armed conflict.

Cadets participate in the Lieber Institute's annual fall workshop.

Cadet participants at the international humanitarian law competition in Sanremo, Italy.

## CADET ENGAGEMENT

The Department of Law & Philosophy and the Lieber Institute for Law & Warfare sponsor a variety of events that expose cadets to high-level analysis related to law and warfare. For example, every year cadets are encouraged to attend the Lieber Institute's annual fall workshop where the subject matter and legal analysis of the next *Lieber Studies* volume are vigorously debated and refined. Cadets are also invited to participate in other conferences throughout the year. For instance, at a past Lieber Institute event at Harvard Law School, selected West Point law majors presented their thesis research to world-renowned scholars and leading experts in the field of the Law of Armed Conflict.

The Lieber Institute's involvement in the Department of Law & Philosophy's two war crimes staff rides, one to Asia and one to Europe, has also been critical to their success. The war crimes staff rides, which are part of the Department's Academic Individual Advanced Development (AIAD) program, are intended to provide cadets an immersive and enriching educational experience outside the normal academic programs offered at West Point. Giving cadets the opportunity to visit the sites of actual war crimes events, and to meet survivors and local experts, helps give context to the various subjects they study in class. More importantly, the staff rides provide perspective in a way that classroom study alone cannot.

Lastly, the Lieber Institute helps support other student enrichment programs during the academic year, including cadet participation at the annual Sanremo and Clara Barton international humanitarian law competitions. The Academies Competition hosted by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in Sanremo, Italy, brings together cadets from the world's top military academies in a multi-national competition stressing the critical importance of the Law of Armed Conflict during international military operations. The Clara Barton International Humanitarian Law Competition hosted by the Red Cross is a simulation-based, experiential competition that exposes cadets to the types of challenges Law of War practitioners face during armed conflict.

Understanding the Law of Armed Conflict is critical to upholding the rules-based international order and to our compliance with our international obligations. Accordingly, understanding the Law of Armed Conflict is critical to the education of every West Point cadet. The work of the Lieber Institute and its programs helps prepare cadets for the complexities of contemporary warfare, and in doing so, helps prepare them to be steadfast leaders, not just in the U.S. Army, but in the world at large.

Photo: Lee Ross '73

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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| Total Endowment | $8.2 million |

*Funding & Recognition Opportunities*

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| Law of Armed Conflict Program | $3.5 million/$140,000 annual |
| Distinguished Scholar Naming *(under consideration)* | $1.5 million |
| Lieber Publications | $1 million endowment/$40,000 annual |
| International Humanitarian Law Competitions | $1 million endowment/$40,000 annual |
| War Crimes Staff Ride | $900,000 endowment/$36,000 annual |
| Annual Workshops | $700,000 for 7 years/$100,000 annual |
| Military Operations Initiative | $175,000 for 7 years/$25,000 annual |

MARGIN OF EXCELLENCE

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