



Military moral dilemmas and mental health

**HFM-284
3RD Lecture Series**

4-5 October 2018

The Hague, Netherlands

General Information Package

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1. Introduction

The NATO/CSO HFM Panel is holding the third of the lecture series on Military Moral Dilemmas and Mental Health. The lectures will be held over two days, 4-5 October 2018, at the Brasserskade Conference Centre, Delft, the Netherlands. This is a military facility.

This HFM-284 lecture series is open to all civilian and military citizens from NATO, Partnership-for-Peace (PfP), Mediterranean (MD) Nations, Australia, New Zealand and Singapore, with a maximum attendance level of 200.

Local organisation is in the hands of the Central Ethics and Integrity Organisation (COID) and the Military Mental Healthcare Organisation (MGGZ) under the auspices of the Main Directorate of Personnel.

This package, prepared with the help of our hosts from the Netherlands, contains information to assist you with the planning of your visit.

2. Site information

The lectures will take place on 4-5 October 2018:

The venue is the
Brasserskade Conference Centre,
Brasserskade 227A/B, 2497 NX
The Hague

Registration: Wednesday, 3 October 2018

Registration will take place in a designated area in the main hall of the Conference Centre and will commence at on 4 October 2018 at 08.30 hrs.

All participants are kindly reminded to bring a passport or military or civilian ID card with them in order to obtain a security badge to gain access to the Conference Centre.

3. About Delft/The Hague

A short history of The Hague

The Hague is a city of international importance with many faces, home to many different cultures. Once little more than a country house near a pond, The Hague has developed into a city of international character and importance, a never-ending story: a little bit of history is added every day.



'View of The Hague from the southeast' (1650) by Jan van Goyen

The Counts' Hedge

Though officially called Den Haag, the locals often refer to it as 's-Gravenhage, literally: 'The Counts' Hedges'. The Counts of Holland enjoyed hunting and took special interest in the area's vast forests that reached from Gravenzande to Leiden in the Middle Ages, the remains of which are now known as the *Haagse Bos*. Originally basing themselves near the pond now known as the *Hofvijver* in the centre of The Hague, in the 13th century Count Willem II built the *Binnenhof*, or current houses of parliament, on the same spot. Lacking city rights, The Hague was unable to build the traditional wall and moat system of the day, so a town hall was built which can still be seen today in the Groenmarkt.

The keys to the city

The Hague was first chartered as a village called *Die Haghe*. In 1806, when Louis Napoleon became king (until 1810). He insisted that on the day following his arrival, he 'be offered the keys of the city at a ceremony in The Hague.' Without walls, or even a gate, the city couldn't offer much in the line of actual keys. In some haste the elders asked the silversmith François Simons to produce 2 gilded silver keys which were offered to the king on an embroidered cushion. A few months later Napoleon proclaimed The Hague 'third city of the kingdom'.

The birth of a reputation

By 1851 local legislation no longer distinguished cities from villages and they all became municipalities, or *gemeenten*, with The Hague as the Royal Residence and Amsterdam as the capital. As a government town and seat of the monarchy, The Hague attracted many embassies and began its reputation as an international city.

The Royal Residence was not walled. In full view of its surroundings it rose proudly from the fields, water and dunes. Vulnerable but hospitable, the city welcomed all visitors who arrived by canal boat, stagecoach or ship, and the town grew gradually until the Industrial Revolution, when growth exploded. Suddenly The Hague attracted migrants from near and far, overcrowding the town and forcing development to continue outside the original city centre, an area known aptly enough as The Hague New Centre.



Binnenhof, 1768

The 20th century

The 20th century saw The Hague's coming of age as an international city of peace and justice. In 1899 hundreds of delegates from 26 countries gathered for 3 months at Huis ten Bosch for the First Peace Conference. An effort to set standards for conflict resolution between nations, it gave birth to the Permanent Court of Arbitration and was followed by an even larger Second Peace Conference in The Hague in 1907.¹

In The Hague, the ideals of the conferences were given physical form: the world-famous Peace Palace, financed by American benefactor Andrew Carnegie, was officially opened in 1913 on the eve of the First World War. Upon opening it became home to the Permanent Court of Arbitration (which dated from 1899), it welcomed the Permanent Court of International Justice (under the League of Nations) in 1922 and is now the seat of its successor, the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations.

The international reputation of The Hague continues to develop. The city centre still features the ancient buildings where its history was forged, with world-class, modern architecture sprouting like exotic flowers around, and the international organisations in the International Zone continue to expand in both reach and number. The UN Security Council established the Yugoslavia Tribunal in 1993 to try individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the former Yugoslavia. The International Criminal Court was established in The Hague in 2002, and the OPCW and many other organisations make their home here.

With over 100 ethnic groups living side by side, The Hague has embraced its heritage and strives to be deserving of the title 'International City of Peace and Justice'.

Interesting facts

- The Hague is the third largest city of the Netherlands with a population of over 500,000.

¹ The Third Hague Peace Conference, planned for 1915, could not take place due to the First World War, but 4 years of trench warfare did their work and the ideals of the Conferences ideals were institutionalised in a Permanent Meeting of the League of Nations in Switzerland.

- The Hague has traditionally been a city of storks, thus the stork on the coat of arms and as the logo of the municipality. In the Middle Ages they were domesticated to remove fish carcasses at the fish market and they nested on the buildings around the Binnenhof and in the area of the Groenmarkt. Storks are seen as bringers of luck and prosperity.
- In 1456, the thirty knights of the mighty Order of the Golden Fleece (*Orde van de Gulden Vlies*) came to The Hague for their first so-called *Chapter* meeting in full armour, some on horseback and many on foot. The Knights had their meeting in the Hall of Knights, or *Ridderzaal*, and at the *Grote Kerk* (Great Church) where you can still see remnants of their weaponry and the reproductions of the coats of arms of the knights who attended that meeting.
- The greenery in The Hague has always been protected. In the early Middle Ages by the Counts of Holland and, from the 14th century onwards, by forest wardens and citizens alike. They were supported by the 1576 Act of Redemption, a law banning the felling or selling of trees.

See the web site at <https://www.denhaag.nl/en/in-the-city/introducing-the-hague.htm> for more information.

4. Travelling to/from the Netherlands/Delft

By Air to Amsterdam Schiphol Airport:

This is an international airport with direct flights to and from Amsterdam from many destinations. The distance from the airport to the Conference Centre and hotels is approximately 43 kilometres.

By Train :

The quickest and easiest way to travel to/from Schiphol to the conference location is by train to station Den Haag Holland Spoor (*and not Den Haag Centraal*).² From there, you can take Tramline 1 in the direction of *Delft Tanthof* which will take you in approximately 15 minutes to Brasserskade.

Alternatively, you can take a taxi from the station.

The Schiphol train station is situated below the Schiphol departure and arrival hall. You can pick up a free baggage trolley from the platform. Via Schiphol Plaza, you can walk straight to the departure or arrival hall.

² Price of a taxi from Schiphol to the Conference Centre is approximately EUR 60.

5. Getting around

The conference site is not located in downtown The Hague. When ordering a taxi, tell the driver to take you to “Brassers-kaa-deu”. To call a taxi to return to downtown, you can ask any of the organizing team to assist you.

There is public transportation available from downtown The Hague. Here is the schedule for getting to the site starting from Central Station.

Save Calendar Print Share Feedback

07:56 Departure: Platform 6
 ☆ Station Den Haag Centraal

NS Sprinter
 Direction Gouda Govenwelle

+ Show all intermediate stops

08:03 Arrival: Platform 2
 ☆ Station Den Haag Ypenburg

08:03 Departure

Walk
 5 minutes

+ Show walk route

08:08 Arrival
 ☆ Bus-/tram stop Station Ypenburg, Den Haag

08:09 Departure

HTM Tram 19
 Direction Delft Station

+ Show all intermediate stops

08:16 Arrival
 ☆ Tram stop Anthony Fokkersingel, Den Haag

08:16 Departure

Walk
 14 minutes

+ Show walk route

☆ Brasserskade 227, Den Haag

08:30 Arrival

Save Calendar Print Share Feedback

Price of your journey
€ 3.66
 This is the price of a one-way journey with a public transport chip card with no discounts.

6. Accommodation

Accommodation for foreign attendees is not being centrally coordinated. The search for a hotel to meet your taste and your budget can be done easily via (among others) Trivago: <https://tinyurl.com/y9m9rcbh>.

You should bear the trip from the hotel to the conference centre by taxi, public transit or hire car in mind when making your selection.

7. Meals and refreshments

Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be served in the registration area during the meeting breaks. Lunch will be served in the restaurant.

8. Currency matters

The currency of The Netherlands is the Euro. There are ATMs throughout the city. Most large restaurants and shops accept international credit cards, but please check for the credit card stickers as you enter the door before you enter. American Express, MasterCard and Visa credit cards are the most widely used. Currency exchange is possible at daily exchange rates at the airport, all banks and specialist money-changing companies.

9. Weather

October weather can vary between chilly and warm (but not likely hot) with a strong likelihood of rain in unpredictable volumes and intensities. Umbrellas and something to serve as rain protection is highly advisable.

10. Tipping customs

Tipping in restaurants, bars and taxis is usually about 10%. It is not automatically added to foodservice bills or taxi trips.

11. Electricity conversions

The voltage in Amsterdam is EU standard of 220 volts/ 50 hertz. Please make sure you have the proper adapters (to fit in the outlets) and/or transformers (to step your voltage up or down) for your appliances. Use of the wrong voltage can cause serious damage to electronic devices.

12. Telephone

The international dialling code for the Netherlands is **31**, and the area code for The Hague is **70**. Where they can still be found, public phones require the use of phone cards, which can be purchased at post offices or at the airport.

13. Daily schedule

DRAFT VERSION OF THE PROGRAM (27-08-2018)

3 October Day 0		
14.30 hrs	Assembly at Conference venue for social excursion to Atlantik Wal	
15.00 hrs	Departure for excursion	
18.00 hrs	Diner and drinks in Hoek van Holland	
Later the same evening	Return to Conference venue/The Hague	
Day 1		
9.00 u	Opening ceremony & STO overview	VIP, Vermetten
9:10	Introduction & Overview	Vermetten, Jetly
09.15 u	Operational ethics: the modern context	Thompson
09.45	Combat exposure and attitudes towards ethical conduct: implications for leaders	Castro
10.15	Moral dilemmas associated with following military orders	
10.45 u	Break met coffee	
11.00 u	Small group sessions	
12.30 u	Lunch	
13.30 u	Mental health & ethical behaviours during deployment/combat; the US Mental Health Advisory Team reports	Castro
14.35	Intermezzo with music	
14.50	Battlefield ethics training: integrating ethical scenarios in high-intensity military field exercises	Thompson
15.20	Break	
15.35	Mental health, ethical decision-making and legal dilemmas + discussion	Greenberg
16.15 u	Discussion	
17.00 u	End of Day 1	
Day 2		
8.50 u	Welcome	
9.00 u	Military Ethics: Dutch approaches	Prof. Dr. Desiree Verweij
09.45 u	Emotional reactions and moral judgement	Dr. Miriam de Graaff
10.30 u	Coffee break	
10.45u	Relationship between unethical battlefield conduct and mental health	Castro
11.30 u	Moral injury – what's the evidence?	Greenberg
12.00 u	Small group sessions	
12.45 u	Lunch	
13.30 u	Film	
14.15 u	Clinical outlook on moral injuries	Vermetten, Jetly, Deheeger
15.00 u	Coffee break	
15.30 u	Discussion and concluding remarks	Castro, Jetly, Deheeger, de Graaff, Greenberg, Thompson, Vermetten, Verweij
16.00u	End of day 2	