

Challenges facing humanitarian action

Peter Maurer, President of the ICRC
Federal Councillor Didier Burkhalter, Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Monday, 24th June 2013, 10.00 hrs
University of Geneva, Boulevard du Pont d'Arve 40, Geneva



On the occasion of the 150th anniversaries of the ICRC in 2013 and of the First Geneva Convention in 2014, Switzerland joins the ICRC in organizing a series of events focusing on humanitarian action and its challenges. June 24, which commemorates the Battle of Solferino, is an opportunity for Switzerland and the ICRC to reiterate their commitment toward the victims of armed conflicts. The challenges for humanitarian action today are many. Among these, and in an ever more unstable security environment, humanitarian actors are confronted with growing acceptance issues that hinder their access to beneficiaries.

Program:

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| 10.00 | Opening
Professor Yves Flückiger, Vice-Rector of the University Geneva |
| 10.15 – 10.30 | 150 years of humanitarian action
Peter Maurer, President of the ICRC |
| 10.30 – 10.45 | Switzerland's humanitarian responsibility
Federal Councillor Didier Burkhalter, Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| 10.45 – 12.00 | Challenges facing humanitarian action – Panel-Discussion
Between Peter Maurer, President of the ICRC, and Ambassador Manuel Bessler, Delegate for Humanitarian Aid and Head SHA, Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Moderated by Professor Doris Schopper, Director of the Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action CERAH
The Audience is invited to participate. |
| 12.00 – 13.00 | Aperitif
Offered by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC |