

Summary

The title of the thesis is *forbidden means and ways of conducting armed conflicts*. Obviously, this topic is too broad, so thesis is focused on the issue of chemical and biological weapons. These devices are among the weapons of mass destruction and undoubtedly pose one of the major dangers of the contemporary world. The overall goal of this work is to provide perspective on the issue of chemical and biological weapons from a historical perspective and particularly from a perspective of the international law. International legal documents are viewed in historical and political context. Through this analysis of international treaties, we can “effectively” consider their impacts and responses in a „real world“. The first part of the thesis serves as a historical introduction with some interesting chapters from early history of chemical and biological weapons. The second part deals with the birth of these weapons in a new and modern form in the 19th century. Great attention is paid to the period of the World War I. It was in this global conflict in which chemical weapons were used in their modern form and in the most massive form at the same time. In next chapters, this thesis examines how chemical and biological weapons and their international legal regulation evolved during the 20th century, especially during the cold war era. Finally, the thesis analyzes the position of these weapons today and possibilities for the future.