

## ARTICLE 6: PROHIBITIONS

**ISSUE:** The main issue relates to the expansion of restrictions on the use of booby traps, in particular whether there should be a ban on the use of booby-traps during non-international armed conflict.

### **BACKGROUND:**

This Article sets out prohibitions on certain uses of booby traps and other devices. Paragraph 1 is the same as the original text.

Paragraph 2, which is a French and German proposal, bans the use of booby traps which are specifically designed in the form of an apparently harmless portable object (such as binoculars) and which contains explosive material.

Paragraph 3 sets out a complete prohibition the use of booby traps in non-international conflict.

The French and other Western States had originally wanted to completely ban the use of booby traps but, at the same time, define "booby-trap" so narrowly as to avoid any practical restriction. This tactic has been abandoned.

The issue of the ban on the use of booby traps in non-international armed conflicts is related to the question of scope in Protocol II Article 1.

### **CANADIAN POSITION:**

Canada can support both proposed changes to the Article.

### **POSITIONS OF OTHER MAJOR PLAYERS/GROUPS ON THE ISSUE:**

See above.

### **LIKELY AREAS OF COMPROMISE:**

Unknown.