

Nuova Rivista Storica

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Abstracts

GIORGIO SECCIA, *Il disarmo chimico, Bruxelles 1874 - Parigi 1993*

General project of the modern laws of war was driven by the ambition to introduce internationally recognized legal into the practice of war itself. This goal was to be achieved by codifying existing customs and practice of armies, with the aim of mitigating, standardizing, and thus stabilizing the conduct of war. As a French military jurist, A. Brenet, explained: «Our goal here is to humanize, by which we mean that it must be regularized».

This article tells the story of one of the most complicated laws of war: chemical disarmament. About matter for debate began to speak during the Brussels Conference of 1874. This was followed by the Hague Conferences of 1899 and 1907 that led to conclusive results.

After the appalling experiences of the First World War, those of the Thirties and the arms race of the Cold War period, the international community finally reached an agreement in 1992. Agreement, almost general, to Chemical Weapons Convention suggests permanently removed the danger of chemical warfare.