

# Invitation to Peace Palace Lecture

## **Rules and Exceptions in War: Determinacy vs. Discretion** **Prof. Henry Shue - University of Oxford**

Henry Shue, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for International Studies [CIS] of the Department of Politics and International Relations, Professor Emeritus of Politics and International Relations, and Senior Research Fellow Emeritus at Merton College at the University of Oxford is best-known for his book, *Basic Rights*, (Princeton 1980; 2nd edition, 1996); for his articles, 'Torture' (1978) and 'Subsistence Emissions and Luxury Emissions' (1993); and for pioneering the sub-field of International Normative Theory.

**Panel Chair:** Prof.dr. M.J. van den Hoven

**Panel:** Prof. S.R.M. Miller  
Prof. T. Erskine

**Wednesday 31 August**  
**17:00h - 19:30h (drinks included)**

### **Abstract:**

The fundamental rules for the conduct of war in the laws of armed conflict are exceptionless: never target civilians, always select the military objective expected to cause the least danger to civilian lives, and so on, Philosophers tend to view this as crude and to believe the lawyers need help. Some terrorists claim exceptions for killing civilians in the name of necessity (and responsibility). Some counter-terrorists claim exceptions for killing civilians in the name of responsibility (and necessity). I will sketch a wide variety of reasons for believing that exceptionless laws are exactly appropriate for limiting killing.

This session is free of charge and open to all interested, [but registration is required](#). Registration deadline for Peace Palace to attend Shue is Tuesday 23 August. After this deadline, we cannot accept more registrations, due to the regulations of the Peace Palace.

Note that, for security reasons, you will have your passport with you in order to enter the building. You will be not allowed to enter without it even if you are registered!

