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ASIL'S LIEBER SOCIETY PRESENTS 2011 PRIZES

WASHINGTON, DC – The American Society of International Law's (ASIL) Lieber Society on the Law of Armed Conflict presented three prizes at ASIL's recent 105th Annual Meeting: two **Francis Lieber Prizes** and a **Lieber Society Military Prize**.

Francis Lieber Prize

The **Lieber Prize** has been awarded annually since 2004 by ASIL's Francis Lieber Society on the Law of Armed Conflict to an author less than 35 years of age for outstanding scholarship in that field. Since 2009, the prize has been given for two categories: book and article. **Tom Ruys** won the 2011 book category award for his work "*Armed Attack*" and *Article 51 of the UN Charter: Evolutions in Customary Law and Practice* (Cambridge, 2010). **Naz Modirzadeh**, Senior Associate and Head of Policy at the Harvard Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research, won in the article category for "**The Dark Sides of Convergence: A Pro-Civilian Critique of the Extra Territorial Application of Human Rights in Armed Conflict**" (86 *International Law Studies* 349, 2010).

Lieber Society Military Prize

The **Lieber Society Military Prize**, awarded annually since 2007, recognizes a

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piece that significantly enhances the understanding and implementation of the law of war. The prize is given for exceptional writing in English by an active duty or retired member of the regular or reserve armed forces, regardless of nationality. This year's Lieber Society Military Prize award went to **Duncan Blake** and **Joseph S. Imburgia** for their essay "**Bloodless Weapons? The Need to Conduct Legal Reviews of Certain Capabilities and the Implications of Defining them as 'Weapons'**" (unpublished).

In addition to the winners, one other author was cited for excellence with a Certificate of Merit: **Christian DeCock** for his essay "**Counter-Insurgency Operations in Afghanistan. What about the 'Just ad Bellum' and the 'Jus in Bello': Is the Law Still Accurate?**" (unpublished).

ASIL Interest Groups, such as the Lieber Society, are organized by ASIL members for focused activity in particular fields of international law. The Lieber Society serves as ASIL's focal point for the study and dissemination of information about the law of armed conflict (international humanitarian law) and other public international law related to the conduct of military operations. The Lieber Society facilitates dialogue by bringing together academics and governmental and non-governmental practitioners, civilian and military, from the United States and throughout the world. In addition to its prize program, the group fulfills its mission by sponsoring panel discussions; publishing a quarterly newsletter; co-sponsoring symposia; and sharing and critiquing ideas, research, and papers.

For information concerning ASIL's Lieber Society, write to its Chair, Richard Jackson, at dick.jackson@us.army.mil. For information on the Lieber Prize, write to Professor Iain Scobbie at is17@soas.ac.uk, and on the Lieber Military Prize, to Professor

Eric Jensen at ejensen3@law.fordham.edu.

ASIL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization. It was founded in 1906, chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1950, and has held Category II Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1993. ASIL's mission is to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. The Society's 4,000 members (from nearly 100 countries) comprise attorneys, academics, corporate counsel, judges, representatives of governments and nongovernmental organizations, international civil servants, students, and others interested in international law. For more information, visit www.asil.org.

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