



“In times of war, the laws fall silent”?

Why previously enacted laws are broken by the fighting sides in times of war?

On the basis of own knowledge concerning problems of contemporary world and historic sources from the World War II period in a form of international law documents, memories, photographs from POW's camps in Lamsdorf and a documental film, the students analyze words of Marcus Tullius Cicero (106–43 BC), a Roman philosopher and politician, who said that “In times of war, the laws fall silent”. They also try to answer the following questions:



- Why previously enacted laws are broken by the fighting sides in times of war?
- What kind of activities should be undertaken in order to respect the law?

Learning outcomes

14-18 years



60 minutes

Students will

- Acquaint themselves with the history of World War II in a way that will allow them to understand the present times (affects are the results of causes in history).
- Learn elements of international law.
- Acquire the ability to interpret historical sources enriching their history workshop.
- Develop empathy, tolerance and respect for the victims of armed conflicts both in the past and for those in present days.
- Learn language skills.
- Practice the ability to cooperate.
- Acquire the ability to present their views in public and the ability of logical justification their views.

Teacher Material
Activity Plan

Student Material
Worksheet

Acknowledgements

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More information about the sources is included in the material for teachers.

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