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# South African Red Cross Society Bill



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## Background

- 1862
  - Henry Dunant "A Memory of Solferino"
  - Based on experiences in 1864 Napoleonic war
    - 3 themes
      - Battle
      - Aftermath
      - Plan
- 1863
  - Geneva Society of Public Welfare
  - International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
    - War related humanitarian action
- 1864
  - Geneva Conventions
  - Emblem : Red Cross on White Background



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## Background

cont.

- 1876
  - Red Crescent on White Background
- 1896
  - SA Red Cross Society Established
- 1919
  - League of Red Cross Societies
    - Non-war related humanitarian action
- 1991
  - International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## SA Red Cross Society

- A member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- Principles
  - Humanity
  - Impartiality
  - Neutrality
  - Independence
  - Voluntary Services
  - Unity
  - Universality



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## SA Red Cross Society

cont

- SARC Activities
  - Tracing services
  - Educating the public on International Humanitarian Law
  - Disaster relief
    - Relief personnel
    - Funds
    - Appeals
    - International network
  - Air Mercy services (fixed and rotor wing)
  - Community programs
  - First aid training



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## Red Cross Act

- Article 2 of the Statutes of the Movement;
  - Each State shall promote the establishment on its territory of a National Society and encourage its development.
  - The States, in particular those which have recognised the National Society constituted on their territory, support, whenever possible, the work of the components of the Movement.



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## Red Cross Act

cont.

- Formalising the present informal relationship between the State and the SARC by means of legal recognition,
- Legal protection of the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems.



## Benefits to the State

- A member of a major international non-governmental organisation
- Community based projects
- Sustainability of the association
- Air Mercy Service



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## Benefits to the State

cont.

- Disaster Management
  - Risk reduction measures
  - Humanitarian relief
  - Resources (personnel/equipment)
  - Donor funding
  - National network
  - International network



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