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The *ICRC*, which gave rise to the Movement, is an independent humanitarian institution. As a neutral intermediary in the event of armed conflict or unrest it endeavours, on its own initiative or on the basis of the Geneva Conventions, to bring protection and assistance to the victims of international and non-international armed conflict and internal disturbances and tension.

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Announcement

From 1998 the *International Review of the Red Cross* will be published quarterly instead of every two months. This decision has been taken as a cost-cutting measure. The editors will endeavour to make the *Review* even more interesting by offering a rich and varied selection of items and contributions by a wide range of authors.

We trust that the *Review* will continue to attract the same loyal readership.

International Committee of the Red Cross