Declaration concerning Expanding Bullets

The Hague, 29 July 1899

The undersigned, Plenipotentiaries of the Powers represented at the International Peace
Conference at The Hague, duly authorized to that effect by their Governments,
Inspired by the sentiments which found expression in the Declaration of St. Petersburg of 29
November (11 December) 1868,
Declare as follows:
The Contracting Parties agree to abstain from the use of bullets which expand or flatten easily in
the human body, such as bullets with a hard envelope which does not entirely cover the core or is pierced
with incisions.

The present Declaration is only binding for the Contracting Powers in the case of a war between
two or more of them.

It shall cease to be binding from the time when, in a war between the Contracting Powers, one of
the belligerents is joined by a non-Contracting Power.
The present Declaration shall be ratified as soon as possible.

The ratification shall be deposited at The Hague.
A ' procès-verbal ' shall be drawn up on the receipt of each ratification, a copy of which, duly
certified, shall be sent through the diplomatic channel to all the Contracting Powers.

The non-Signatory Powers may adhere to the present Declaration. For this purpose they must
make their adhesion known to the Contracting Powers by means of a written notification addressed to
the Netherlands Government, and by it communicated to all the other Contracting Powers.

In the event of one of the High Contracting Parties denouncing the present Declaration, such
denunciation shall not take effect until a year after the notification made in writing to the Netherlands
Government, and forthwith communicated by it to all the other Contracting Powers.
This denunciation shall only affect the notifying Power.

In faith of which the Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Declaration, and have affixed their
seals thereto.
Done at The Hague, 29 July 1899, in a single copy, which shall be kept in the archives of the
Netherlands Government, and copies of which, duly certified, shall be sent through the diplomatic
channel to the Contracting Powers.