



## Research and resources for humanitarian response in real time

Research and resources to guide humanitarian response are not always at our fingertips at the moment we need them most – when a crisis hits. Working with our partners, we want to support the sector with at-a-glance information and links that can play a small part in ‘closing the loop’ between research and practice in real time.

### QUICK SNAPSHOT

“Civilians have suffered the deadly effects of armed conflict for too long. It is time we live up to our promise to protect them - the terrible truth is that the world is failing to live up to its commitments to protect civilians; commitments enshrined in international humanitarian law,”

UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres

“The world is facing the highest number of violent conflicts since the Second World War and 2 billion people – a quarter of humanity – live in places affected by such conflict.”

UN Security Council meeting, Deputy Secretary-General, Amina J. Mohammed

- ▶ As these conflicts have played out, there has been distinctive disregard for or ignorance of the international laws, principles, and guidelines that are afforded to civilians during armed conflicts



### HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

- ▶ [International Committee of the Red Cross](#)
- ▶ [International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies](#)
- ▶ [Médecins Sans Frontières](#)
- ▶ [Centre for Civilians in Conflict](#)

## RESEARCH & RESOURCES

### Protection of Civilians

- ▶ [International Committee of the Red Cross \(ICRC\) – Geneva Convention \(IV\) on the Protection of Civilians](#) – specifies the relevant protections afforded to civilians during conflict
- ▶ [Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas](#) – adopted and endorsed by 83 States in November 2022
- ▶ [ICRC – International Humanitarian Law and the Challenges of Contemporary Armed Conflicts](#) – provides information on the protections afforded to civilians from the use of new technologies in armed conflicts
- ▶ [From Principle to Practice: Protecting civilians in violent contexts: a field handbook](#) – provides practice examples and tools for building the protection of civilians into both humanitarian and military operations.
- ▶ [Norwegian Refugee Council – Principles under Pressure](#) – provides information on counterterrorism measures and how they impact the delivery of humanitarian services
- ▶ International Crisis Group’s [Hold Your Fire podcast](#)

### International Humanitarian Law

- ▶ [ICRC – Customary International Humanitarian Law Database](#) – provides a database on all customary humanitarian laws including those regarding the distinction of civilians
- ▶ [United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs – Compilation of military policy and practice](#) – specifies the particular rules relating to the use of explosive weapons in populated areas and the humanitarian implications of such acts

### Protected Groups

- ▶ [Healthcare in Danger](#) – an initiative that supports advocacy and resources to protect health-care workers and facilities
- ▶ [ICRC – Addressing the Needs of Women Affected by Armed Conflict](#) – aimed at raising awareness of how women are affected by armed conflict and what protections are provided to them
- ▶ [Office of the SRS for Children in Armed Conflict](#) – action to strengthen the protection of children affected by armed conflict, raise awareness and promote information gathering about the plight of children affected by war
- ▶ [International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies – Effective Law and Policy on Gender Equality and Protection from Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Disasters](#) – seeks to provide national law recommendations focusing on protecting and responding to sexual and gender-based violence
- ▶ [ICRC – Oxford Guidance on the Law Relating to Humanitarian Relief Operations in Situations of Armed Conflict](#) – provides information on the relevant laws designed to allow the delivery of humanitarian assistance during armed conflicts
- ▶ [UN Security Council Resolution 2475 \(2019\)](#) calls upon Member States and parties to armed conflict to protect persons with disabilities in conflict situations. See also related [ICRC Guidance: How Law Protects Persons with Disabilities in Armed Conflict](#)

