



APPEL DE GENÈVE
GENEVA CALL

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In partnership with



With the support of



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15 key rules of behavior for fighters in internal armed conflict





1

Do not attack civilians, civilian

property or civilian public buildings



2

**Do not launch any attack
if civilian collateral damage
is expected to be greater**

**if civilian collateral damage
than the military advantage**



3

Take the necessary precautions to

protect civilians before and during attacks



4

Do not use prohibited weapons and

do not engage in unlawful methods of war



5

Collect and care for the wounded

and dead, whether friend or enemy



6

Respect the rights of prisoners and all other people under your control and treat them humanely



Do not commit summary executions



7

Do not take hostages or use human shields



8

Do not displace civilians, unless necessary for

their own safety or for imperative military reasons



9

Respect civilian property

Do not loot or steal



10

Respect women. Do not commit or permit rape or sexual abuse against anyone



11

Protect children



Do not recruit them into your armed forces and do not use them in hostilities



12

Respect medical personnel,
hospitals and ambulances



Do not misuse protective symbols
such as the Red Cross or Red Crescent



13

Allow impartial humanitarian relief for civilians in need



14

**Put these rules into practice
Respect them even
if the enemy does not**

**Abstain from reprisals
which are in violation of the law
of armed conflict**



15

**Prevent violations of these rules
If violations occur,
report to your commander**

**Violations must be investigated
and sanctioned in accordance
with international standards**



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Geneva Call

Geneva Call is a neutral and impartial non-governmental organization that engages in dialogue with armed non-State actors to promote their adherence to, and respect for international humanitarian norms.

Geneva Call focuses its action on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, and in particular:

- The protection of children
- The prohibition of sexual violence and the elimination of gender discrimination
- The ban of anti-personnel mines

Geneva Call has developed a formal document known as the *Deed of Commitment* that gives armed non-State actors the opportunity to undertake to respect these international norms.

The Deed of Commitment

The *Deeds of Commitments* are formal documents signed by armed non-State actors which undertake to respect specific international humanitarian norms. To date, Geneva Call has developed three such documents:

- The *Deed of Commitment for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines and for Cooperation in Mine Action*
- The *Deed of Commitment for the Protection of Children from the Effects of Armed Conflict*
- The *Deed of Commitment for the Prohibition of Sexual Violence in Situations of Armed Conflict and towards the Elimination of Gender Discrimination*

Geneva Call supports and monitors the implementation of the *Deeds of Commitment* by signatory armed non-State actors.

The rules of war

International Humanitarian Law is a set of rules which seek, for humanitarian reasons, to limit the effects of armed conflict. It protects persons who are not or are no longer participating in the hostilities and restricts the means and methods of warfare.

Geneva Call seeks to build armed non-State actors' knowledge of broad International humanitarian norms, and their capacities to implement them.

Geneva Call provides training and technical advice to armed non-State actors on how to incorporate these rules into their policies, codes of conduct and other internal regulations.