How to protect education in armed conflict?

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Do not attack schools and universities

They are civilian objects and as such protected from attack
Do not use schools and universities for any military purpose

If you do, they will lose their protection from attack
Do not base military forces or military equipment close to schools and universities.
If a school or a university is used for military purposes by the enemy, consider all other options before attacking.
Do not recruit children under the age of 18 years
Do not attack, threat, harass, against students, teachers and abduct or commit other violations other people involved in education
Take measures to ensure that all children receive education
Put these rules into practice

Respect them even if the enemy does not
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 in armed conflict
• The prohibition of sexual violence and the elimination of gender discrimination
• The ban of anti-personnel mines

Note

This booklet serves as guidance to fighters and leaders of armed non-State actors on how to ensure the protection of education in armed conflict. Their content is based on international law, the “Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict” and good practices.