National Societies act as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their own countries in the humanitarian field and provide a range of services including disaster relief, health and social programmes. During wartime, National Societies assist the affected civilian population and support the army medical services where appropriate. All National Societies must first be recognized by the ICRC, on the basis of a set of conditions for recognition, in order to become part of the Movement. Subsequently they may become members of the International Federation, the National Societies’ umbrella organization.

See IFRC [1]; Humanitarian organisations [2];

**OUTLINE**

- Chapter 13, VI. Role of National RCRC Societies [3]
- Chapter 17, I. 1. a) National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies [4]

**DOCUMENT**

- Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement [5] (Arts 4 and 5 [6])
The Seville Agreement [7] (Arts 5-9 [8])

ICRC, Model Law Concerning the Emblem (Art. 3) [9]

**CASES**

Ivory Coast, National Interministerial Commission (Arts 3 and 4) [10]


Cuba, Status of Captured “Guerrillas” [12]

ICRC/Lebanon, Sabra and Chatila [13]

Ethiopia/Somalia, Prisoners of War of the Ogaden Conflict [14]

United Kingdom, Misuse of the Emblem [15]

Syria, the Battle for Aleppo [16]

32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, Sexual and gender-based violence: joint action on prevention and response [17]

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES**


“Technical Note: The Red Cross and its Role as an Auxiliary to Military Medical Services”, in *IRRC*, No. 234, May 1983, pp. 139-141

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**Source URL:** https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/red-cross-and-red-crescent-societies

**Links**

[1] https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/international-federation-rcrc-societies
[4] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/icrc#i_1_a
gender-based-violence