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Home > Armistice

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A military agreement suspending active hostilities between the belligerents. An armistice can be local (i.e., suspend operations in just one area) or general (i.e., suspend all operations). If the duration of the armistice is not defined, the belligerent Parties may resume operations at any time, subject to previous warning in accordance with the terms of the armistice. An armistice does not put an end to the state of war, which subsists with all its legal consequences.

In case of a serious violation of the armistice by one **belligerent** <sup>[1]</sup> Party, an opposing Party may denounce it and, in cases of urgency, restart hostilities immediately.

Only a government may take the initiative in proposing an armistice. Besides making provision for the general armistice just mentioned, international law provides for local armistices for the collection, exchange and transfer of **wounded** <sup>[2]</sup>.

See also **Truce** <sup>[3]</sup>; **Cease fire** <sup>[4]</sup>

## OUTLINE

Chapter 2, temporal scope of application <sup>[5]</sup>

## LEGAL SOURCE

HR, 36 <sup>[6]</sup>

HR, 37 <sup>[7]</sup>

HR, 38 <sup>[8]</sup>

HR, 39 <sup>[9]</sup>

HR, 40 <sup>[10]</sup>

HR, 41 <sup>[11]</sup>

GCI, 15 <sup>[12]</sup> (see ICRC updated Commentary <sup>[13]</sup>)

## CASES

ICJ/Israel, Separation Wall/Security Fence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory <sup>[14]</sup>

United States Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, The Ministries Case <sup>[15]</sup>

Israel, Applicability of the Fourth Convention to Occupied Territories <sup>[16]</sup>

Georgia/Russia, Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in South Ossetia <sup>[17]</sup>

Switzerland, Prohibition of Deportation from Israeli Occupied Territories <sup>[18]</sup>

Israel, Cases Concerning Deportation Orders <sup>[19]</sup>

Colombia Peace Agreement <sup>[20]</sup>

## BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES

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### Links

[1] <https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/belligerence-belligerency>

[2] <https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/wounded-and-sick>

[3] <https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/truce>

[4] <https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/ceasefire>

[5] [https://casebook.icrc.org/law/fundamentals-ihl#b\\_iii\\_3](https://casebook.icrc.org/law/fundamentals-ihl#b_iii_3)

[6]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=7045DBD1E7D854B1C12563CD>

[7]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=9AFAD81DC121629FC12563CD>

[8]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=AC2CCA377B2BD65BC12563CD>

[9]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=C355F716DC1A6C74C12563CD>

[10]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=E71FB6078E7343ABC12563CD>

[11]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=E1B02D476A96865BC12563CD>

[12]

<https://www.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=8A4358F7FF38FFABC12563CD>

[13] [https://ihl-](https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Comment.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=7BDA3DBA22F405ACC1257F15)

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[14] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/icjisrael-separation-wallsecurity-fence-occupied-palestinian-territory>

[15] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/united-states-military-tribunal-nuremberg-ministries-case>

[16] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/israel-applicability-fourth-convention-occupied-territories>

[17] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/georgiarussia-independent-international-fact-finding-mission-conflict-south-ossetia>

[18] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/switzerland-prohibition-deportation-israeli-occupied-territories>

[19] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/israel-cases-concerning-deportation-orders>

[20] <https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/colombia-peace-agreement>