An “organized armed group” is the armed wing of a non-state party to a non-international armed conflict, and may be comprised of either:

a. dissident armed forces (for example, breakaway parts of state armed forces); or

b. other organized armed groups which recruit their members primarily from the civilian population but have developed a sufficient degree of military organization to conduct hostilities on behalf of a party to the conflict.

The term organized armed group refers exclusively to the armed or military wing of a non-state party to a non-international armed conflict. It does not include those segments of the civilian population that are supportive of the non-state party such as its political wing.

See also Non-international armed conflict [1]
CASES

Israel/Lebanon/Hezbollah Conflict in 2006

South Africa, S. v. Petane

Case Study, Armed Conflicts in the former Yugoslavia

Former Yugoslavia, Special Agreements between the Parties to the Conflicts

ICTY, The Prosecutor v. Tadi?

United States, Kadic et al. v. Karadzic

Case Study, Armed Conflicts in the Great Lakes Region (1994-2005)

ICTR, The Prosecutor v. Jean-Paul Akayesu

Switzerland, The Niyonteze Case

Colombia, Constitutional Conformity of Protocol II

Germany, Government Reply on the Kurdistan Conflict

Philippines, Application of IHL by the National Democratic Front of the Philippines

UN Security Council Resolution on the Conflict in Syria
Yemen, Obstructing Medical Care [18]

UN, Secretary-General’s Reports on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict [19]

Geneva Call, Puntland State of Somalia adhering to a total ban on anti-personnel mines [20]


Health Care in Pakistan’s Tribal Areas [25]

Turkey/Iraq, Turkish Military Operations in Northern Iraq [26]

Engaging Non-state Armed Groups on the Protection of Children [27]

Central African Republic, Coup d’Etat [28]

United States, Use of Armed Drones for Extraterritorial Targeted Killings [29]

The armed conflict in Syria [30]

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Right of Everyone to the Enjoyment of the Highest Attainable Standard of Physical and Mental Health [31]

United States of America, Holder v. Humanitarian Law Project [32]
Philippines, Armed Group Undertakes to Respect Children [33]

Somalia, the fate of Children in the conflict [34]

Syria, Code of Conduct of the Free Syrian Army [35]

General Assembly, The use of drones in counter-terrorism operations [36]

U.S., Lethal Operations against Al-Qa’ida Leaders [37]

Syria, Press conference with French President Francois Hollande and Russian President Vladimir Putin [38]

ICRC, International Humanitarian Law and the challenges of contemporary armed conflicts in 2015 [39] (Paras. 70 [40], 71 [41], 82 [42])

ICTY, The Prosecutor v. Radovan Karadzic [43]

Libya, Report of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (2014/15) [44]

[45] South Sudan: Medical Care Under Fire

[46] Health Care in Pakistan’s Tribal Areas [25]

[46] Syria, Press conference with French President Francois Hollande and Russian President Vladimir Putin [38]
Israel/Palestine, Operation Protective Edge (Gaza, 13 June - 26 August 2014) [46]

Mali, Accountability for the Destruction of Cultural Heritage [48]

Sweden/Syria, Can Armed Groups Issue Judgments? [45]

Yemen, Potential Existence and Effects of Naval Blockade [49]

United Kingdom, The Case of Serdar Mohammed (Court of Appeal and Supreme Court Judgments) [50]

El Salvador, Supreme Court Judgment on the Unconstitutionality of the Amnesty Law [51]

United States, Jurisprudence Related to the Bombing of the U.S.S. Cole [52]


Syria, Report by UN Commission of Inquiry (March 2017) [54]

Afghanistan, Bombing of a Civilian Truck [55]

Syria, the Battle for Aleppo [56]
ICC, Confirmation of Charges against LRA Leader [57]

Colombia Peace Agreement [58]

UN/Colombia, Human Rights Committee Clarifications and Concluding Observations (2016) [59]

International Criminal Court, Trial Judgment in the Case of the Prosecutor V. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo [60]

Belgium, Prosecution of Terrorist Crimes in the context of Armed Conflict [61]

Iraq, The Battle for Mosul [62]

Germany, Aerial Drone Attack in Mir Ali/Pakistan [63]

Eastern Ukraine, Attacks Against and Military Use of Schools [64]

Eastern Ukraine, OHCHR Report on the Situation: November 2016 - February 2017 [65]

Syria, Syrian rebels treat captured Filipino soldiers as 'guests' [66]

Mexico, The "War on Drugs" [67]

Central African Republic/Democratic Republic of Congo/Uganda, LRA attacks [68]
Iraq, Crimes by Militia Groups [69]

Central African Republic, No Class: When Armed Groups Use Schools [70]

South Sudan, AU Commission of Inquiry on South Sudan [71]

Lake Chad Basin, Multinational Joint Task Force and Boko Haram [72]

Cameroon, Dead and Missing Persons [73]

Syria: Attacks on Oil Infrastructure [74]

Eastern Ukraine: Detention And Death Sentences By Armed Groups [75]

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES [48]

Suggested readings:


CLAPHAM Andrew, The Rights and Responsibilities of Armed Non-State Actors: The Legal Landscape and Issues Surrounding Engagement


**Further readings:**


Source URL: https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/armed-groups

Links