International law requires each party to the conflict to search for persons reported missing by an adverse party, as soon as circumstances permit and at the latest from the end of active hostilities.

See also Family reunification [1]; Dead persons [2]; Tracing [3]; Central Tracing Agency [4];

OUTLINE


Chapter 8, II. 2. e) restoring family links [6]

LEGAL SOURCE

obligation to search for persons reported missing

PI, 33/1 [7]

CIHL, 117 [8]
CASES

Bangladesh/India/Pakistan, 1974 Agreement (Art. 12) [10]


ECHR, Cyprus v. Turkey (Paras. 129-150) [12]

Inter-American Court of Human Rights, Bámaca-Velasquez v. Guatemala [13]

The Conflict in Western Sahara (Parts A. and B.) [14]

Colombia Peace Agreement [15]

Central African Republic/Democratic Republic of Congo/Uganda, LRA attacks [16]

Cameroon, Dead and Missing Persons [17]

UN, Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances: Report on Mission to Serbia, including Kosovo [18]

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les besoins des familles entre espoir et incertitude”, in *Frontières*, vol. 15/2, Spring 2003, pp. 38-44.


**Source URL:** https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/missing-persons

**Links**
[1] https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/family-reunification
[8] https://www.icrc.org/customary-ihl/eng/docs/v1_rul_rule117