Works and installations containing dangerous forces are those whose attack may cause the release of dangerous forces and consequent severe losses among the civilian population. They are mainly dams, dykes and nuclear electrical generating stations. They may not be attacked, even where they are military objectives\(^1\), if such attack may cause the release of dangerous forces and consequent losses among the civilian population. This special protection against attack ceases in certain specified circumstances. Reprisals\(^2\) against them are prohibited.

Works and installations containing dangerous forces must always bear the appropriate distinctive sign.

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**OUTLINE**

Chapter 9, II. 9. b) cc) works and installations containing dangerous forces\(^3\)

Chapter 12, IV. 3. c) cc) protection of works and installations containing dangerous forces\(^4\)

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**LEGAL SOURCE**
PI, 56 [5]

PI, 85/3(c) [6]

PII, 15 [7]

CIHL, 42 [8]

**CASES**

Croatia, Prosecutor v. Rajko Radulovic and Others [9]

Colombia, Constitutionality of IHL Implementing Legislation (Paras. 2, and E.3) [10]


**BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES**


**Source URL:** https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/works-and-installations-containing-dangerous-forces

**Links**


[8] https://www.icrc.org/customary-ihl/eng/docs/v1_rul_rule42