Under the Fourth Geneva Convention, it is prohibited to remove or to carry out individual or mass forcible transfers of protected persons from the occupied territory to the territory of the Occupying Power or to that of any other country, regardless of the motive for such removal/transfer. There are good reasons for considering – and the jurisprudence of international criminal tribunals and the ICC Statute have recognized – that this prohibition applies equally to forcible transfers within an occupied territory. In international armed conflicts, such removals/transfers constitute war crimes. In non-international armed conflicts, there is a broader, and more general prohibition against forced movement of civilians, unless their security or imperative military reasons so demand.

See Protected persons; Occupation; War crimes; Non-international armed conflict; Transfer;
of own population to occupied territory

GCIV, 49/6 [9]

PI, 85/4(a) [10]

CIHL, 130 [11]

of protected persons from occupied territory

GCIV, 49/1 [9], 147 [12]

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of nationals of Occupying Power who have sought refuge in occupied territory

GCIV, 70/2 [14]

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Chapter 12, II. b) more absolute prohibition of forced displacements

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PII, 17/2

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Case Study, Armed Conflicts in the Great Lakes Region (part II. A.)

Georgia/Russia, Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in South Ossetia (Paras. 120-125)

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Suggested readings:


**Source URL:** [https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/deportation](https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/deportation)

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