Under the Fourth Geneva Convention, it is prohibited to remove or to carry out individual or mass forcible transfers[^1] of protected persons[^2] 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[^3]. In non-international armed conflicts[^4], there is a broader, and more general prohibition against forced movement of civilians[^5], unless their security or imperative military reasons so demand.

See Protected persons[^2]; Occupation[^6]; War crimes[^3]; Non-international armed conflict[^4]; Transfer[^1];

**OUTLINE**

Chapter 8, a) protection by IHL - prohibition of population displacements[^7]

Chapter 8, 8. a) Deportations + b) Transfer of the occupying power's own population[^8]
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]

PI, 85/4(a) [10]


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

GCIV, 70/2 [14]

GCIV, 147 [12]

PI, 73 [15]

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Switzerland, Prohibition of Deportations from Israeli Occupied Territories [21]

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OUTLINE

Chapter 12, II. b) more absolute prohibition of forced displacements [50]

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Sudan, Report of the UN Commission of Enquiry on Darfur [53] (Paras. 226 [54] and 328 [55])

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Bosnia and Herzegovina, Constitution of Safe Areas in 1992-1993

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

Links
[1] https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/transfer
[7] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/civilian-population#iii_1_aa
[8] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/civilian-population#iv_8