The mortal remains of persons killed in action or who have died of wounds or disease contracted during hostilities must be respected, as must the mortal remains of persons who have died in captivity, internment or detention as a result of occupation of a territory. International law prescribes rules for the respect and marking of graves and the steps to be taken for such purposes at the end of hostilities.

See Missing persons;

**OUTLINE**

Chapter 7, Provisions on the Dead and the Missing

**LEGAL SOURCE**

examination confirming death

GCI, 17/1 (see ICRC updated Commentary)

GCII, 20 (see ICRC updated Commentary)

GCIII, 120/3
obligation to search and identify dead bodies and notify of deaths

HR, 14 [14], 19 [15]

GCI, 15 [16] (see ICRC updated Commentary [17]), 16 [18] (see ICRC updated Commentary [19]), 17 [8] (see ICRC updated Commentary [9])

GCI, 18/1 [20] (see ICRC updated Commentary [21]), 19 [22] (see ICRC updated Commentary [23])

GCI, 16/3 [12]

GCIV, 16/2 [24], 129/2 [13]

PI, 33 [25]

PII, 8 [26]

CIHL, 112 [27], 116 [28]

last wills, documents, personal effects and valuables

HR, 19 [15]

GCI, 16/3 [18] (see ICRC updated Commentary [19])
GCII, 19/3 [29] (see ICRC updated Commentary [23])

GCIII, 120/1 [12], 122/9 [30]

GCIV, 113 [31], 129/1 [13], 139 [32]

PI, 34/2(c) [33]

CIHL, 114 [34]

respect for mortal remains

GCI, 15/1 [35] (see ICRC updated Commentary [17])

GCII, 18/1 [36] (see ICRC updated Commentary [21])

GCIV, 16/2 [24]

PI, 34/1 [33]

PII, 8 [26]

CIHL, 113 [37]

decent burial

GCI, 17 [38] (see ICRC updated Commentary [9])
agreements on the return of remains

German Invasion of Crete

ICRC, Request to Visit Gravesites in the Falklands/Malvinas

United States of America, The Death of Osama bin Laden

Israel, Evacuation of bodies in Jenin

ICRC/Lebanon, Sabra and Chatila

Israel, The Rafah Case

Malaysia/Philippines, Conflict over the Sultanate of Sulu
Treatment of the Dead in Afghanistan

Sweden/Syria, Can Armed Groups Issue Judgments?

Colombia Peace Agreement

Central African Republic/Democratic Republic of Congo/Uganda, LRA attacks

Cameroon, Dead and Missing Persons

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