In international law, “attacks” are acts of violence against the adversary, whether in offence or defence and in whatever territory conducted.

This definition applies to

a. any act of land, air or sea warfare which may affect the civilian population or civilian objects on land;

b. all attacks from the sea or the air against objectives on land.

Attacks on the civilian population as such, acts of violence the primary purpose of which is to spread terror among the civilian population, and indiscriminate attacks on specified categories of places and civilian objects are prohibited. Precautions must be taken in preparing and carrying out attacks and against the effects of attacks.

**LEGAL SOURCE**

| PI, 49/1 |

**CASES**

Libya, NATO Intervention 2011

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Eastern Ukraine, OHCHR Report on the Situation: November 2016 - February 2017 [22]

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Precautions against the effect of attacks

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Prohibited attacks against the civilian population or intended to spread terror among the civilian population

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Chapter 9, a) attacks against the civilian population as such (including those intended to spread terror) [25]
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ICRC Appeals on the Near East (C. Para. 7)

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ICTY, The Prosecutor v. Martic (A. Paras. 8, 10-14 and 24-32)

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ICTY, The Prosecutor v. Galic (Paras. 16-137 and 561)


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ICTY, The Prosecutor v. Strugar (B. Paras. 223-228 and 282)

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