Any object which is not a military objective [1].

A civilian object must not be attacked unless it is used in a way that renders it a military objective [1]. It may not be the target of reprisals [2].

In case of doubt whether an object which is normally a civilian object (e.g., a place of worship, a house or other dwellings, a school) is a military objective [1], it must be considered as a civilian object.

See Property [3]; Cultural property [4]; Environment [5]; Water [6];
Protection: general (+ principle of distinction)

HR, 23(g) [10], 25 [11], 26 [12], 27 [13], 28 [14], 46 [15], 47 [16], 52 [17], 53 [18], 54 [19]

GCIV, 33 [20], 46 [21], 53 [22]

PI, 48 [23], 51 [24], 52 [8], 57 [25]

CIHL, 7 [26], 8 [27], 9 [9], 10 [28]

Protection: precautionary measures (See also Precautions against the effets of attacks [29]; Precautions in attack [30])

HR, 26 [12]-27 [13]

PI, 48 [31], 51 [24], 56-58 [32]

Protection: prohibition of confiscation

HR, 46/2 [15]

CIHL, 51(a) and (c) [33]

Protection: prohibition of destruction and seizure unless required by military necessity (See also Property [3]; Seizure [34])

HR, 23(g) [10]
Protection: against direct attack

HR, 25 [37], 27 [38]

PI, 52/1 [39], 56 [32], 59-60 [40]

CIHL, 7 [26] and 10 [28]

Protection: prohibition of indiscriminate attacks (See also Indiscriminate attacks [41])

PI, 52/4-5 [39]

Protection: prohibition of pillage (See also Pillage [42])

HR, 28 [43]

GCI, 15/1 [44] (see ICRC updated Commentary [45])

GCII, 18/1 [46] (see ICRC updated Commentary [47])
Protection: presumption of civilian character

PI, 52/3 [39]

Protection: prohibition of reprisals (See also Reprisals [2])

GCIV, 33 [20]

PI, 52/1 [8]

Grave breach (See also Grave breaches [51])

GCIV, 147 [52]

PI, 85 [53]

specially protected objects

cultural objects (See Cultural objects [4])

indispensable for the survival of the civilian population (See Objects indispensables for the survival of the civilian population [54])
works and installations containing dangerous forces (See Works and installations containing dangerous forces [55])

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Israel, House Demolitions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory [56] [Parts D [57] and E [58]]

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ICTY, The Prosecutor v. Strugar [Part B., para. 282] [61]

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Cambodia/Thailand, Border Conflict around the Temple of Preah Vihear [71]
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Libya, NATO Intervention 2011 [75]

Libya, Report of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (2014/15) [76]

Mali, Accountability for the Destruction of Cultural Heritage [77]

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Iraq: Situation of Internally Displaced Persons [79]

Syria, Report by UN Commission of Inquiry (March 2017) [80]

Afghanistan, Bombing of a Civilian Truck [81]

Syria, the Battle for Aleppo [82]

ICRC, Statement - War in Cities ; What is at Stake? [83]

Iraq, The Battle for Mosul [84]
Eastern Ukraine, Attacks Against and Military Use of Schools [85]

Eastern Ukraine, OHCHR Report on the Situation: November 2016 - February 2017 [86]

South Sudan, Attack in Malakal UN Protection Site [87]

Central African Republic/Democratic Republic of Congo/Uganda, LRA attacks [88]

Central African Republic, Coup d'Etat [89]

Central African Republic, No Class: When Armed Groups Use Schools [90]

Somalia, IHL violations in Somalia's long-running armed conflict [91]

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES**

**Suggested readings:**


SASSÒLI Marco & CAMERON Lindsey, “The Protection of Civilian Objects

\textbf{Source URL}: https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/civilian-objects

\textbf{Links}
[74] https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/armed-conflict-syria
[77] https://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/mali-accountability-destruction-cultural-heritage
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