

Drones are unmanned, remotely directed weapons [1] platforms. The term is most commonly used to refer to unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), although terrestrial and maritime drones also exist. Aerial drones consist of unmanned aircraft [2] (i.e., they can be deployed without a pilot or passenger aboard), which operate either under remote control by a human operator, or autonomously. Drones are used to perform different functions including reconnaissance, surveillance and also to conduct attacks [3]. They are increasingly used in armed conflicts [4] and counter-terrorism [5] operations to undertake targeted killings [6].

See also: aircraft [2], armed conflicts [4], attacks [3], targeted killings [6], and terrorism and terrorists [5].

## CASES

- General Assembly, The use of drones in counter-terrorism operations [7]
- United States, Use of Armed Drones for Extraterritorial Targeted Killings [8]
- Iraq/Syria/UK, Drone Operations against ISIS [8]
- Germany: Ramstein Air Base's Role in Drone Attacks [9]

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