

organized crime groups communicate faster, hide their money in more locations, travel more cheaply, and may conceal their activities through encryption. The tools discussed in this article are essential to the U.S. government's efforts against such organized crime groups. Electronic surveillance, undercover operations, informants, RICO, compelled and cooperating witness testimony, witness protection, and financial tools such as forfeiture all help the U.S. government pierce the secretive and violent world of organized crime groups and bring those groups to justice [3, p. 23].

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THE RUSSIAN MILITARY AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE: WAR CRIME INVESTIGATIONS (22 MARCH – 5 APRIL 2022)

Human, the most superior and the highest value of the world. It is a creature who has already known its value and also its a creature which is trying to increase that value. So, what are the social necessity to help us to define it and necessity to make human be a human? That is of course RIGHTS. Rights are legal, social, or ethical principles of freedom or entitlement; that is, rights are the fundamental normative rules about what is allowed of people or owed to people according to some legal system, social convention, or ethical theory. So, what are the human rights and freedoms in conditions of military aggression?

In recent decades, armed conflict has blighted the lives of millions of civilians. Serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law are common in many armed conflicts. In certain circumstances, some of these violations may even constitute genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity. It is often during armed conflicts that human rights are infringed upon the most. Therefore, over the years, experts have focused much attention on the formulation of instruments aimed at alleviating human suffering during war and conflict. Today, three areas of modern international law attempt to provide protection to victims of war: human rights law, refugee law and humanitarian law. While these fields are closely linked, they need to be distinguished systematically.

International criminal law (ICL) and IHL prohibit torture and inhuman treatment of any person, regardless of status, whether civilian or military [1]. ICL and IHL also prohibit attacking or killing civilians [2]. Violations of the prohibition on killing civilians, as well as inhuman treatment, constitute serious violations of IHL [3]. Torture and killing constitute war crimes and/or crimes against humanity [4].

The Armed Forces of Ukraine regained control over the territory of Kyiv and Sumy Oblasts which had been occupied by the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation for several weeks. After the end of the occupation by the Russian Federation, about 400 executed and tortured civilians were found in Kyiv Oblast in Bucha, Hostomel, and Motyzhyn; another 200 people went missing in Borodyanka. It is also known that there have been persecutions and executions of civilians in Sumy and Chernihiv Oblasts.

The Russian troops in Ukraine had sexually assaulted women and men, including children and elderly people. Victims rarely publicly report sexual violence.

ICL and IHL establish rules for the general protection of civilian objects and entire cities, towns, dwellings, and buildings which are undefended and which are not military objectives.[5] Attacks and other forms of violence against such objects are prohibited in international armed conflict and are considered war crimes and violations of IHL.

International law prohibits both intentional and indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian objects. The prohibition includes attacks which are not directed at a specific military objective; attacks which employ a method or means of combat which cannot be directed at a specific military objective or of which the effects cannot be limited and consequently are of a nature to affect military objectives and civilians or civilian objects without distinction; an attack by bombardment by any methods or means which treats as a single military objective a number of clearly separated and distinct military objectives located in a city, town, village, or other area with a concentration of civilians or civilian objects; an attack which may be expected to cause incidental loss of civilian life, injury to civilians, damage to civilian objects, or a combination thereof, which would be excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated.[6]

The Russian Federation shelled with artillery and bombed the eastern and southern regions of Ukraine, including Kharkiv, Donetsk, Luhansk, and Mykolaiv Oblasts.

According to IHL and ICL standards, civilian objects receive special protection due to their humanitarian significance. Such facilities include hospitals, food warehouses, and installations containing dangerous forces, namely dams [7]. The Armed Forces of the Russian Federation attacked at least eight specially protected objects – hospitals, food warehouses, and a dam.

IHL and ICL have special rules for providing civilians with necessary humanitarian aid during hostilities, including food, water, and medicine. The parties to an international armed conflict have an obligation to allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian aid. Humanitarian

aid personnel and transport are protected under IHL. Actions that create obstacles to the provision of humanitarian aid constitute violations of IHL and can be considered part of the war crime of starvation of civilians [8].

In addition, IHL obliges the parties to the conflict to remove civilian populations, individual civilians and civilian objects under the control of one of the parties to the conflict from the vicinity of military objectives. The parties to the conflict are obliged to ensure the removal from encircled or besieged areas of wounded, sick, infirm, and aged persons, children, and maternity cases, as well as the passage of ministers of all religions, medical personnel, and medical equipment on their way to such areas [9].

During the reporting period, there were at least three cases in which the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation deliberately impeded access to humanitarian aid to the needy in Mariupol and Kharkiv; two cases of attacks on humanitarian personnel; and four cases of sabotage of evacuation corridors. ICL and IHL prohibit the forcible transfer or deportation of civilian populations from occupied territories. Violations of these norms represents a war crime and/or a crime against humanity and a serious violation of IHL norms [10].

During the reporting period, the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation forcibly transferred thousands of civilians from Mariupol, Kherson, Donetsk, and Luhansk Oblasts.

ICL and IHL protect civilian property from pillage by the parties to an armed conflict. They also prohibit the destruction and seizure of any property (including personal, collective, and state property) that is not justified by military necessity [11].

Russian troops loot the homes of locals, shops, and government offices in occupied territories. According to Ukrainian intelligence, in the Belarusian city of Naroulia, Russian soldiers organised a market where they sell looted Ukraine items – washing machines, dishwashers, refrigerators, jewelry, cars, bicycles, motorcycles, dishes, rugs, art, toys, and cosmetics. Russian military trucks are piling up in Mozyr, from which soldiers unload packages with pillaged items. The loot is sent to Russia by the Russian delivery service SDEK.

The protection of the natural environment is inextricably linked to the protection of the civilian population, as the latter will suffer from the consequences of serious damage to the natural environment. IHL and ICL prohibit attacks that can cause widespread, long-term, and severe damage to the natural environment [12].

Since the beginning Russian Federation's current campaign of armed aggression against Ukraine, the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation have bombed oil refineries, causing catastrophic fires and air pollution.

The number of war crimes committed by Russian forces during the reporting period is not limited to the ones analysed in this report. The total number is much higher. The cases that were included in this report were analysed as exemplary cases of war crimes and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed by Russia.

Список використаних джерел

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2. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court of 1998, Article 7.1(d); Article 8.2(a)(i); Geneva Convention (IV) of 1949, Article 32; Additional Protocol (I) to the Geneva Conventions of 1977, Article 85 3(a).
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COMBATING CORRUPTION IN GERMANY

Corruption is not a significant obstacle for businesses in Germany, and companies are unlikely to encounter bribery or other corrupt practices. Fraud and corruption risks are most prevalent in the construction and public procurement sectors. Germany has strong institutional and legal anti-