

tool 6

The Six Grave Violations

Factsheet

<p>Killing and maiming</p> <p>Killing: Any action in the context of the armed conflict that results in the death of one or more children.</p> <p>Maiming: Any action that causes a serious, permanent, disabling injury, scarring or mutilation to a child.</p> <p>Killing and injuring of children as a result of direct targeting and also indirect actions, including: crossfire, landmines, cluster munitions, improvised explosive devices or other indiscriminate explosive devices. Killing or injuring can take place in the context of military operations, house demolitions, search-and-arrest campaigns or suicide attacks. Torture can also be reported under this category.</p>	<p>Recruitment and use of children</p> <p>Recruitment: Refers to compulsory, forced or voluntary conscription or enlistment of children into any kind of armed force or armed group(s) under the age stipulated in the international treaties applicable to the armed force or armed group in question.</p> <p>Use of children: Refers to the use of children by armed forces or armed groups in any capacity, including, but not limited to, children, boys and girls, used as fighters, cooks, porters, messengers, spies and collaborators. It does not only refer to a child who is taking or has taken a direct part in hostilities.</p>
<p>Attacks against schools and hospitals</p> <p>Attacks include the targeting of schools or medical facilities that cause the total or partial destruction of such facilities. Other interferences to the normal operation of the facility may also be reported, such as the occupation, shelling, targeting for propaganda of, or otherwise causing harm to schools or medical facilities or their personnel.</p> <p>» Note: A 'school' denotes a recognizable education facility or learning site. Education facilities and learning sites must be recognized and known by the community as a learning space and marked by visible boundaries.</p> <p>'Medical facilities' are places where the sick and wounded are collected and/or provided with health-care services.</p>	<p>Rape and sexual violence</p> <p>A violent act of a sexual nature to a child. This encompasses rape, other sexual violence, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced marriage/pregnancy or enforced sterilization.</p> <p>Rape/attempted rape: is an act of non-consensual sexual intercourse. This can include the invasion of any part of the body with a sexual organ and/or the invasion of the genital or anal opening with any object or body part. Any penetration is considered rape. Efforts to rape someone, which do not result in penetration, are considered attempted rape.</p> <p>Sexual violence: is any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or acts to traffic a child's sexuality. Sexual violence takes many forms, including rape, sexual slavery and/or trafficking, forced pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and/or abuse and forced abortion.</p>
<p>Abduction</p> <p>The unlawful removal, seizure, capture, apprehension, taking or enforced disappearance of a child either temporarily or permanently for the purpose of any form of exploitation of the child. This includes, but is not limited to, recruitment in armed forces or groups, participation in hostilities, sexual exploitation or abuse, forced labor, hostage-taking and indoctrination. If a child is recruited by force by an armed force or group, this is considered as two separate violations – abduction and recruitment.</p>	<p>Denial of humanitarian access</p> <p>The intentional deprivation of or impediment to the passage of humanitarian assistance indispensable to children's survival, by the parties to the conflict, including wilfully impeding relief supplies as provided for under the Geneva Conventions; and significant impediments to the ability of humanitarian or other relevant actors to access and assist affected children, in situations of armed conflict.</p> <p>The denial should be considered in terms of children's access to assistance as well as humanitarian agencies' ability to access vulnerable populations, including children.</p>

Definitions taken from *Field Manual – The Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on Grave Violations Against Children in Situations of Armed Conflict*, OSRSG-CAAC/UNICEF/DPKO, April 2010 p.10-11