

Human dimension in the anti-terrorist operations and armed conflicts

Whilst fighting terrorism the main question arises not only how to ensure national security and protect human rights, but also how to protect individuals who suffer from terrorist acts and anti-terrorist operations, particularly during the armed conflict.

Since 2014 responding to the armed aggression of RF Ukrainian Government has been proceeding countering measures known as anti-terrorist operation. According to official data a significant human loss has taken place in Ukraine – approximately 13 000 of persons were killed because of Russian aggression, 3 300 among them are civilians. The armed conflict has caused an internal displacement of more than 1,3 million of persons, as well as the destruction or damage of more than 50 000 dwellings in both sides along the contact` line.

Although the hostilities take place within the Ukrainian territory, the responsibility for damages is laying on the aggressor state that occupied Crimean Peninsula and supports illegal troops in the Eastern Ukraine. Thus, the actions of RF are the origin of hostilities, the countering measures that followed, as well as damages that Ukrainian citizens meet with. So, in compliance with the principles and norms of international law the Russian Federation is charged for pecuniary and non-pecuniary damage caused to Ukraine as a result of the armed conflict.

Despite the Ukrainian Government is currently making a consolidated claim to the Government of Russian Federation, the way for victims to get justice through judicial institutions, domestic or international, can be very long. At least, some of them won`t simply survive until the compensation is paid by Russia. For this reason, the Ukrainian NGO – Charity Fund “Right to protection” which I`m representing suggests to Ukrainian Government to elaborate the legislative tools to compensate damages to Ukrainians without waiting reparations from Russia. On the other hand, we demand from Russian authorities to take full responsibility for its actions in Ukrainian Crimea and Donbas in compliance with international obligations and to make a clear and durable strategy to pay compensation for all victims of its armed aggression in Ukraine.

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