



# Humanitarian consequences of the use of explosive weapons in populated areas

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Humanity & Inclusion

# Explosive weapons with wide area effects



ROCKET LAUNCHERS



TANK GUNS



FIELD ARTILLERY



MORTARS



AIR BOMBS & MISSILES

Source: *GlCHD*, [www.characterisationexplosiveweapons.org](http://www.characterisationexplosiveweapons.org)






Ali, 1 year old boy  
from Syria.

Photo: Humanity & Inclusion





The first catalyst of forced displacements for Syrian refugees in Lebanon, for men and women alike, is **bombing and shelling**.

Data from HI report:  
“Everywhere the bombing followed us”  
*Perspectives of Syrian women refugees in Lebanon*

Photo: B. Almeras



There is no distinct treatment of explosive weapons in international humanitarian law, human rights law or weapon specific law



Photo: M. Garlasco

**When explosive weapons were used in populated areas 91% of the casualties were civilian.**



Source AOA V



Urbanization  
of conflict,  
civilians are  
too often at  
the center of  
hostilities

Photo: HH HRF





States should **review their national policies and practices**

International community should **strongly condemn the use of explosive weapons in populated areas** and **endorse the UN Secretary-General's recommendation**

States *should* support the development of an **international political instrument**



Photo Humanity & Inclusion





Thank you