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: GICHD, 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.
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.
Thank you