

The Extent of International Responsibility for Illegal Spread of Conventional Weapons in International Law

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Abstract

This study tried to identify the nature of the illegal spread of conventional weapons, and explore the consequential international responsibility according to the international law represented through conventions and international treaties. To this end, the historical approach was used through demonstrating the historical evolution of the spread of conventional weapons and the origins of efforts exerted to reducing this phenomenon. The descriptive and analytical approaches were also describing and analyzing the legal provisions and principles mentioned in the international law represented in the international conventions and treaties concerning fighting the illegal spread of conventional weapons. The study found, most importantly, that there are significant efforts exerted by the international community to combat the spread and illegal use of conventional weapons around the world. These efforts reflected in concluding international agreements, instruments and protocols aimed at reducing this dangerous phenomenon. In addition to the efforts exerted by the United Nations in fighting the illegal spread to conventional weapons through its different organs, primarily the Security Council. Despite the binding provisions of the rules concerning fighting the spread of conventional weapons in some of these conventions and treaties, there are still many violations, as there are ongoing processes of weapons trafficking and transfer to

areas of armed conflict, violating the human international law and the international human rights law. The study recommended the countries suffering from illegal spread and use of conventional weapons to study the reasons behind the spread of these weapons in a scientific way that involves much security, administrative and academic parties to identify reasons and develop solutions, including amending the legislations regulating the use of weapons in accordance with the conditions, developments and reasons behind these weapons spread.

Keywords: International responsibility, Illegal spread, Conventional weapons, International law.