

International Responsibility for the Use of Non-conventional Weapons in International Armed Conflicts

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Abstract

The study tackles the issue of using non-conventional weapons prohibited by law for the devastating damage they cause to humans and living creatures. This study aims to identify non-conventional weapons, their types, and their uses. It will also explain the general principles of humanitarian international law, treaties, and agreements that prohibit using such weapons and the international responsibility toward users of these weapons to take deterrent measures and inflict suitable sanctions on them.

The study adopted the descriptive analytical approach together with the historical one to present the stages of using such weapons. It came up with numerous results, the foremost among them are: some of the non-conventional weapons such as nuclear and enriched uranium are not prohibited by special agreements. But these weapons are considered prohibited under several conventions, including the Hague agreements of 1899 and 1907 which prohibit using toxic Weapons, moreover, most of the principles of humanitarian international law prohibit using them as well. The other types of non-conventional weapons are also prohibited under certain agreements such as the agreement of 1993 which prohibits chemical weapons and the 1972 agreement which prohibits biological weapons.

The study proposes a number of recommendations, the foremost of which are:

_ The need to establish an international monitoring body to monitor countries that produce, stockpile or manufacture non-conventional weapons and impose strict penalties to limit the use of non-conventional weapons.

Keywords: International responsibility; non-conventional weapons; Sanctions; Weapons