

01

### Adopt National Policy Framework & Implementing Guidance

Governments should adopt policies establishing clear authorities, responsibilities, guidance, resources, and accountability for the prevention, mitigation, and response to civilian harm.

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### Model International Leadership

Countries should support civilian harm mitigation and protection at the UN & other multilateral institutions. They should also ratify and implement relevant international law sources and support the work of treaty-based and regional human rights bodies that focus on the protection of civilians in conflict.

03

### Support Oversight

Countries and their security institutions should cooperate with oversight bodies to ensure they operate lawfully and are held accountable for their conduct and the provision of security services.

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### Adopt POC Legislation

Legislative bodies should promote the protection of civilians by calling on executive counterparts to prevent, minimize, and address harm using legislative oversight, laws, and allocate necessary resources.

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### Prioritize Civilian Harm Mitigation in Military Planning

Countries and their armed forces should prioritize the prevention, minimization, and response to civilian harm in military planning and preparation, and communicate guidance in clear language through doctrine and orders. Armed forces should be trained accordingly.



**CENTER FOR CIVILIANS IN CONFLICT**

RECOGNIZE. PREVENT. PROTECT. AMEND.

## 10 Actions

Countries Can Take to Protect Civilians & Reduce Civilian Harm

06

### Respect Community Voices

Armed forces should recognize civilians in conflict are the experts and advocates for their own protection needs. Policies should ensure armed forces engage with communities in an inclusive and representative way.

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### Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas

Countries should restrict or refrain from using explosive weapons in populated areas as called for in the Political Declaration on strengthening the protection of civilians from the humanitarian consequences arising from the use of EWIPA.

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### Adopt an Approach to Investigate & Track Civilian Harm

Countries and armed forces should institute comprehensive measures to track and investigate civilian harm resulting from their actions.

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### Adopt Amends Policy

Countries should adopt post-harm amendment policies that include contrition, consultations with those affected, and contextually appropriate and victim-centered forms of assistance.

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### Support Relationships

Government policies and practices should ensure that support relationships (including arms sales, security assistance, and partnered operations) reinforce measures to prevent, mitigate, and address civilian harm.

Each action can be found in greater detail in CIVIC's Framework for Evaluating State Practice in the Prevention, Minimization, and Response to Civilian Harm