
ABSTRACT

This paper looks at the Catholic Church and its role in the protection of civilians during armed conflicts. The introduction gives the realities and impacts of armed conflict on civilians and describes who the civilians are. The second section examines some of the issues surrounding civilians which call for protection and what efforts are being made by the international community to do so. The third section introduces the church and examines its important role in this scenario, where there are many stakeholders and each has to play its role very distinctively towards an effective protection of civilians. Suggestions are made of areas and how the church contributes to protection of civilians with references to specific categories.