



Unilateral Declaration on Humanitarian Access and Assistance

Reaffirming our obligations under international law to meet the basic needs of the civilian population;

Upholding our determination to protect the civilian population and infrastructure and to respect civilians' fundamental rights, in particular their right to life, health, food, safe water, human dignity, and humane treatment,

Recognising that the deliberate deprivation of the civilian population of food, water, shelter, and other objects indispensable for their survival or access thereto is never justified and humanitarian organisations, complying with humanitarian principles, can offer assistance to address the basic needs of the population,

Expressing our commitment to respect the impartiality, independence, and neutrality of humanitarian actors,

Reaffirming the protection to which humanitarian assistance personnel, supplies, and equipment are entitled,

Underlining that anti-personnel mines should never impede humanitarian access and safe passage through humanitarian corridors,

Recognising the role of humanitarian corridors in guaranteeing the safe, rapid, and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance and allowing civilians to evacuate into safety,

Acknowledging the harmful direct and indirect impacts of the crisis on food security, and *deeply concerned* by the long-lasting consequences thereof, including for health, education, displacement, the environment, sustainability, and durable peace,

Resolved to actively address the need for humanitarian assistance, in particular food, safe water, health care, and shelter, in view of fulfilling our duty to provide for the basic needs of the civilian population, in an inclusive manner,

We, Georgian National Legion, hereby solemnly commit ourselves to the following terms:

1. To uphold and respect the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence.
2. To respect and protect the civilian character of infrastructure, such as IDP shelters, distribution sites and hospitals, to ensure civilians can enjoy safe access to humanitarian assistance.
3. To allow and facilitate rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian assistance supplies, equipment and personnel which are impartial in character and without adverse distinction, subject to our entitlement to prescribe technical arrangements. Technical arrangements may include the search of consignments to check they are not used for military purposes, the requirements that humanitarian assistance convoys use prescribed routes at specific times, and health and safety arrangements.

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4. To respect the provision of humanitarian assistance based on need only and without adverse distinction. This includes ensuring that the provision of such assistance is not interfered with even if it is offered to individuals considered friends or enemies.
5. To respect and protect humanitarian assistance personnel. This includes ensuring that they are not attacked, threatened, or otherwise pressurized.
6. To ensure the freedom of movement of authorized national and international humanitarian assistance personnel essential to the exercise of their functions. Only in case of imperative military necessity may their movements be temporarily restricted.
7. To respect and protect humanitarian assistance supplies and equipment. This includes ensuring that such supplies or equipment are not destroyed, looted or diverted.
8. To undertake efforts to negotiate with parties to the armed conflict and agree with all parties to open safe humanitarian corridors for the passage of humanitarian assistance and civilians aiming to evacuate into safety.
9. To reaffirm our obligation to protect the civilian population and infrastructure for those who choose to leave or remain, regardless of whether humanitarian corridors are negotiated and implemented.
10. To adhere to the prohibition of starvation of the civilian population as a method of warfare.
11. To nominate a centralized focal point to liaise and coordinate with representatives of humanitarian agencies.
12. To ensure that the adopted declaration is reflected in internal implementation and enforcement measures such as: the issuance of command orders and directives, the integration of the commitment in internal doctrine and regulations, the dissemination to and training of the rank and file, and the definition of investigation mechanisms along with appropriate sanctions in case of violations.
13. A reporting and monitoring mechanism will be established to prevent cases of non-compliance with the adopted declaration. If non-compliance occurs, we will initiate appropriate investigations, and adopt measures to ensure non-repetition of the violations.
14. This Unilateral Declaration supersedes any conflicting undertaking related to our present commitment and shall take effect immediately upon its signing.

In Kyiv, on 30 June 2022

Signatory
Commander Marika
Georgian National Legion



Witness
Head of Legation, Georgia, Marie Lequin
Cecilia Gini

