



79th session of the United Nations General Assembly Violence of armed conflicts

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CANZ statement delivered by Laura McIlhenny, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations

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Thank you Chair,

I am pleased to deliver this statement today on behalf of Canada, New Zealand, and my own country, Australia

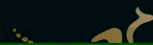
This discussion occurs at a time when the devastating impact of armed conflict around the world is an all too constant reality.

At the outset, we reaffirm our strong commitment to the implementation of, and compliance with, international humanitarian law (IHL).

As we commemorate this year the 75th Anniversary of the Geneva Conventions it is worth reflecting on the critical purpose the Geneva Conventions, and their Additional Protocols, serve in minimising the human cost of conflict. The Conventions seek to ensure that, even in the depths of



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protocols, remain more relevant and important than ever. These principles, to save lives and to reduce the suffering of those caught up in conflict, underpin our collective peace and security.

Ensuring strengthened understanding of, and compliance with, IHL by all must be our priority. Australia, Canada and New Zealand will continue to work to that end, and we encourage all States to do the same.

Thank you.