

Here you can find a list of some of the types of abuse that are considered 'gross' or 'serious' human rights violations.

These elements can be regarded as merely descriptive. It is not presumed that they should be prescriptive criteria or are indicators that a violation must fulfil in order to be described as 'serious' ([What amounts to 'a serious violation of international human rights law'?](#) Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Briefing No 6. 2014.p. 5).

- Abduction/kidnapping
- Acts of intimidation, harassment and extortion
- Administrative detentions in large numbers
- Apprehension (of foreign journalists)
- Arbitrary arrests and detention in undisclosed locations
- Attacks on human rights defenders and journalists
- Attacks on schools and education facilities
- Blockades
- Collective reprisals
- Confiscation of land and property
- Crimes against humanity
- Deliberate/direct targeting of and indiscriminate attacks on civilians/civilian objects and infrastructure
- Denial of access to any legal process/violation of right to a fair trial
- Denial of access to work
- Denial to the right to freedom of conscience/persecution of a religious group
- Denial of the right to seek and obtain asylum/violation of the principle of non-refoulement
- Deplorable conditions of work and life/forced labour/sexual slavery/slave labour
- Deportation or transfer, directly or indirectly, by an occupying Power of parts of its own population into territory it occupies
- Discrimination/segregation
- Enforced disappearance
- Excessive use of force by security forces/disproportionate violence
- Excessive use of force/indiscriminate/unlawful attacks (incl. targeted aerial bombardment)
- Extrajudicial and summary execution
- Failure to distinguish in attacks and to protect civilians
- Failure to fulfil procedural obligations (failure to investigate)

- Failure to provide food and health care in prisons
- Female genital mutilation
- Firing bullets during demonstrations/disproportionate and excessive use of force against all forms of protest
- Forced displacement/massive population displacement/internal displacement
- Forced eviction
- Forced marriage
- Gender-based violence
- Impunity
- Inadequate after-care for victims of gender-based violence
- Incest
- Lack of citizenship and civil status
- Mass expulsion
- Massacres/extraordinarily large number of killings
- Obstruction of humanitarian and medical aid
- Rape (incl. mass rape) and other forms of sexual violence/violations
- Recruitment and/or seizure of children
- Repeated failure of authorities to end breaches of a right
- Severe restrictions on freedom of movement/violation of the right to leave and to return to one's country
- Torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment/physical abuse
- Use of civilians as "human shields"/refusal to evacuate wounded
- Violation of children's rights/sexual abuse of children/violence against children
- Violation of freedom of expression
- Violation of the right to an adequate standard of living/deprivation of basic services
- Violation of the right to associate freely
- Violation of the right to food
- Violation of the right to health and social security/attacks on hospitals
- Violation of the right to housing
- Violation of the right to humane treatment in custody, detention in degrading conditions
- Violation of the right to life/killing/murder/manslaughter
- Violation of the right to private and family life, home (mainly with regard to property)
- Violation of the right to property/destruction of property and houses/large scale demolition of houses and infrastructure
- Violation of the right to self-determination