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0521811309 - Accountability of Armed Opposition Groups in International Law

Liesbeth Zegveld

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Accountability of Armed Opposition Groups in International Law

Who is accountable under international law for the acts committed by armed opposition groups? In today's world the great majority of political conflicts involve non-state actors attempting to exert a political influence (such as overthrowing a government or bringing about secession). Notwithstanding their impact on the course of events, however, we tend to know little about these groups, and even less about how to treat their actions legally.

In this award-winning scholarship, Liesbeth Zegveld examines the need to identify legally the parties involved when internal conflicts arise, and the reality of their demands for rights. Her study draws upon international humanitarian law, human rights law and international criminal law to consider a fundamental question: who is accountable for the acts committed by non-state actors, or for the failure to prevent or repress these acts?

This study will be of interest to academics, postgraduate students and professionals involved with armed conflict and international relations.

LIESBETH ZEGVELD practises as an international and criminal lawyer. In 1998, she received a Fulbright Scholarship to do research at New York University and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, DC. For her dissertation on armed opposition groups she received the degree 'cum laude' and the Netherlands' Human Rights Award, 2000. She is the co-author, with Frits Kalshoven, of the third edition of *Constraints on the Waging of War: an Introduction to International Humanitarian Law* (ICRC 2001).

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² The text of resolutions of the UN Commission on Human Rights is available on
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³ Text available on www.unhcr.ch.

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Abbreviations

AI	Amnesty International
AJIL	<i>American Journal of International Law</i>
Am. UJ Int'l L. & Pol'y	<i>American University Journal of International Law and Policy</i>
Ann. SDI	<i>Annuaire Suisse de Droit International</i>
Appl.	Application
Brownlie BDHR	I. Brownlie (ed.), <i>Basic Documents on Human Rights</i> (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 3 rd edn, reprint 1994) (1992)
Brownlie BDIL	I. Brownlie (ed.), <i>Basic Documents in International Law</i> (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 4 th edn. 1995)
BYIL	<i>British Yearbook of International Law</i>
Comm.	Communication
Denv. J. Int'l L. & Pol'y	<i>Denver Journal of International Law and Policy</i>
Doc.	Document
DR	<i>Decisions and Reports of the European Commission of Human Rights</i>
ECR	<i>European Court Reports. Reports of the Court of Justice of the European Communities</i>
EHRR	<i>European Human Rights Reports</i>
EJIL	<i>European Journal of International Law</i>
EPIL	<i>Encyclopedia of Public International Law</i>
Eur. Ct. HR	European Court of Human Rights
Ga. J. Int'l & Comp. L.	<i>Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law</i>
GYIL	<i>German Yearbook of International Law</i>
HV	<i>Humanitäres Völkerrecht</i>

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ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICJ Rep.	<i>International Court of Justice, Reports of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders</i>
ICLQ	<i>International and Comparative Law Quarterly</i>
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ILC	International Law Commission
ILCYb	<i>Yearbook of the International Law Commission</i>
ILM	<i>International Legal Materials</i>
Inter-Am. Ct. HR	Inter-American Court of Human Rights
IRRC	<i>International Review of the Red Cross</i>
Israel YBHR	<i>Israel Yearbook on Human Rights</i>
Mich. J. Int'l L.	<i>Michigan Journal of International Law</i>
Mil. L. Rev.	<i>Military Law Review</i>
MLJ	<i>Manitoba Law Journal</i>
n.	note
NILR	<i>Netherlands International Law Review</i>
NJB	<i>Nederlands Juristenblad</i>
NQHR	<i>Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights</i>
NWR	<i>Naval War Review</i>
NYIL	<i>Netherlands Yearbook of International Law</i>
NYUJ Int'l L & Pol.	<i>New York University Journal of International Law and Politics</i>
ONUSAL	United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador
para.	paragraph
pr.	preamble
RBDI	<i>Revue Belge de Droit International</i>
Rep.	Report
Reports	<i>Reports of Judgments and Decisions. Publication of the Case Law of the European Commission and Court of Human Rights (as from 1996).</i>
Res.	Resolution
RIAA	Reports of International Arbitral Awards
Ser.	Series
UN	United Nations
US	United States
vol.	volume
Yale LJ.	<i>Yale Law Journal</i>
YB ECHR	<i>Yearbook of the European Convention of Human Rights</i>
YIHL	<i>Yearbook of International Humanitarian Law</i>
YB ILC	<i>Yearbook of the International Law Commission</i>