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**The disregarded fundamental principle of distinction in the  
Syrian conflict: what expectations for the currently deadlocked  
international criminal justice?**

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# Abstract

This thesis explores the unlawful killings targeting civilians taking place in the Syrian non-international armed conflict, and the options for an action from international criminal justice, almost inactive after six years of conflict. The relevant international humanitarian law dispositions are analysed to identify what crimes and violations of customary international law are committed. Regarding international criminal justice, the different options are developed, their advantages and drawbacks, and, when relevant, the reasons of their current blockage.

Introduction.....	4
I. Syria today: nature of the conflict and main parties .....	8
II. The Syrian civilian population as the central victim of the war .....	13
A. The “cardinal” principle of distinction .....	15
1. Rule of customary IHL .....	15
1.1. The concepts of civilian, combatant, and direct part in hostilities.....	16
1.2. Attack aimed at spreading terror among the civilian population.....	19
1.3. The concept of indiscriminate attack .....	20
1.4. The principles of proportionality and precautions .....	20
2. Article 3 Common to the four Geneva Conventions .....	22
B. The violations of the principle of distinction by the warring parties in Syria .....	24
1. Massacres.....	24
2. War crimes, crimes against humanity and violations of customary IHL.....	25
3. The expected intervention of international criminal justice .....	30
III. The current absence of international criminal justice .....	34
A. The ICC and the Security Council.....	34
1. Jurisdiction and admissibility criteria.....	34
2. The relation between the ICC and the Security Council.....	37
2.1. Context of the ICC creation: a will of emancipation from the Security Council.....	37
2.2. The partially implemented emancipation: the Security Council interference provided by different legal instruments .....	38
3. The Sino-Russian vetoes blocking the referral .....	40
4. Advantages and drawbacks of prosecutions at the ICC.....	43
B. An ad hoc international criminal tribunal .....	45
C. The cooperation with the national level: the option of a hybrid tribunal.....	47
D. The investigations regarding the use of chemical weapons.....	53
IV. The intervention of foreign domestic courts: the extraterritorial jurisdiction.....	56
A. Universal jurisdiction.....	58
B. Other basis to trigger extraterritorial jurisdiction .....	59
C. Advantages and drawbacks of the use of extraterritorial jurisdiction.....	62
V. Conclusion .....	67