

Victims of the crimes of genocide, war crimes and terrorist acts

Dr. Arta Mehmeti Ademi

Abstract

In the literature and legal acts of states and various international organizations, there are many explanations and definitions regarding the meaning of victim.¹

Definition of victims for the purposes of the Statute and the Rules of Procedure and Evidence: "Victims" means natural persons who have suffered harm as a result of the commission of any crime within the jurisdiction of the Court, victims may include organizations or institutions that have sustained direct harm to any of their property which is dedicated to religion, education, art or science or charitable purposes, and to their historic monuments, hospitals and other places and objects for humanitarian purposes.²

In the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power Adopted by General Assembly resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985, Victims of crime, "Victims" means persons who, individually or collectively, have suffered harm, including physical or mental injury, emotional suffering, economic loss or substantial impairment of their fundamental rights, through acts or omissions that are in violation of criminal laws operative within Member States, including those laws proscribing criminal abuse of power. A person may be considered a victim, under this Declaration, regardless of whether the perpetrator is identified, apprehended, prosecuted or convicted and regardless of the familial relationship between the perpetrator and the victim. The term "victim" also includes, where appropriate, the immediate family or dependants of the direct victim and persons who have suffered harm in intervening to assist victims in distress or to prevent victimization. The provisions contained herein shall be applicable to all, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, age, language, religion, nationality, political or other opinion, cultural beliefs or practices, property, birth or family status, ethnic or social origin, and disability.³

When we talk about the victims of crimes against humanity, war crimes and terrorist acts, we usually think of people who are victimized in the circumstances of the violation of basic human rights and freedoms, which are related to the violation, violation and non-respect of the norms of conventions, laws and international agreements. These victimizations occur more during political conflicts, during local wars, during the rule of autocratic regimes, during terrorist actions and other conflicts around the world.⁴

Keywords: victims, crime of the genocide, war crimes, terrorists acts.

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