

They have not always been fought by national armies, but by para-militaries and irregulars; in which process, civilians are the main victims. Most analyses indicate that whereas in earlier years, the percentage of military to civilian casualties in inter-state conflicts was 90 to 10, the situation today is the reverse; 90 percent of the casualties are among civilians. In many cases, state institutions have collapsed; in a few cases, there are no governments. As a result, humanitarian emergencies force the international community to intervene. This is why the demands on the military for the maintenance of international peace and security have gone well beyond traditional peacekeeping. Today they encompass activities like demobilization of troops and armed para-militaries or irregulars, promotion of national reconciliation, restoration of effective governments, the organization and monitoring of elections, provision of broader support to humanitarian aid missions, including protection of "safe areas" and escort of relief convoys, and so on. **Military operations of this nature have therefore become more expensive, more complex, and more dangerous.**

The application of the military for such intervention in conflicts raises a number of issues that need to be recognized, analyzed, and catered for in the conduct of future operations. Lessons from recent experience of operations undertaken by the international community need to be learned, and appropriate decisions taken by the international community.