1



RECIMA21 - REVISTA CIENTÍFICA MULTIDISCIPLINAR ISSN 2675-6218

INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP

INFLUÊNCIAS NA PERCEPÇÃO GLOBAL DOS DIREITOS HUMANOS CAUSADAS PELA IMPUNIDADE POR CRIMES DE GUERRA NA FAIXA DE GAZA

INFLUENCIAS EN LA PERCEPCIÓN GLOBAL DE LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS PROVOCADAS POR LA IMPUNIDAD DE LOS CRÍMENES DE GUERRA EN LA FRANCIA DE GAZA

Marcelo Costa Ribeiro¹, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes², Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

> e616093 https://doi.org/10.47820/recima21.v6i1.6093 APPROVED: 01/15/2025 PUBLISHED: 01/23/2025

RECEIVED: 12/15/2024 ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the influence of war crimes impunity in the Israel-Gaza conflict on the international perspective regarding human rights. The academic relevance lies in its contribution to understanding the dynamics between International Humanitarian Law and the realities of armed conflicts. Legally, the study assesses the role of institutions such as the United Nations (UN) and the International Criminal Court (ICC) in holding perpetrators accountable for war crimes. Socially, the topic is crucial for discussing the protection of fundamental rights in war zones. The general objective is to understand how the failure to address war crimes affects the worldwide view of human rights. Specifically, the study aims to evaluate the role of international institutions and the divergence between countries regarding sanctions and accountability. The methodology is qualitative, based on bibliographic and documentary research, without fieldwork, using treaties, UN reports, and academic articles. The research question focuses on how impunity in the Israel-Gaza conflict shapes international perceptions of human rights. The expected result is a deeper understanding of the barriers to international justice and suggestions to enhance mechanisms for accountability in armed conflicts.

KEYWORDS: War crimes. Human rights. Israel-Gaza conflict. Impunity.

RESUMO

Este artigo analisa a influência da impunidade de crimes de guerra no conflito Israel-Gaza sobre a perspectiva internacional em relação aos direitos humanos. Sua relevância acadêmica reside na contribuição para o entendimento das dinâmicas entre o Direito Internacional Humanitário e as realidades dos conflitos armados. Sob o aspecto jurídico, o estudo avalia o papel de instituições como as Nações Unidas (ONU) e o Tribunal Penal Internacional (TPI) na responsabilização de perpetradores de crimes de guerra. Socialmente, o tema é crucial para debater a proteção dos direitos fundamentais em zonas de conflito. O objetivo geral é compreender como a ausência de responsabilização por crimes de guerra afeta a visão global sobre os direitos humanos. Especificamente, o estudo busca avaliar o papel das instituições internacionais e as divergências entre países em relação a sanções e responsabilizações. A metodologia é qualitativa, baseada em pesquisa bibliográfica e documental, sem trabalho de campo, utilizando tratados, relatórios da ONU e artigos acadêmicos. A pergunta de pesquisa foca em como a impunidade no conflito Israel-Gaza molda as percepções internacionais sobre os direitos humanos. O resultado esperado é um entendimento mais profundo das barreiras à justiça internacional e propostas para aprimorar os mecanismos de responsabilização em conflitos armados.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Crimes de guerra. Direitos humanos. Conflito Israel-Faixa de Gaza. Impunidade.

¹ PhD in Legal Sciences from the Pontifical Catholic University of Buenos Aires PUC-AR – Argentina. PhD candidate in Education, Knowledge and Society at the University of Vale do Sapucaí – UNIVÁS. Master in Education from the University of Vale do Sapucaí – UNIVÁS. Professor of Law. Universidade do Vale do Sapucaí – UNIVÁS.

² Asmec Integrated Colleges - Unisepe, Pouso Alegre MG Unit. Faculdades Integradas Asmec - Unisepe, Unidade Pouso Alegre MG.



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

RESUMEN

Este artículo analiza la influencia de la impunidad de los crímenes de guerra en el conflicto Israel-Gaza sobre la perspectiva internacional respecto a los derechos humanos. Su relevancia académica radica en la contribución al entendimiento de las dinámicas entre el Derecho Internacional Humanitario y las realidades de los conflictos armados. Desde el punto de vista jurídico, el estudio evalúa el papel de instituciones como las Naciones Unidas (ONU) y la Corte Penal Internacional (CPI) en la rendición de cuentas de los responsables de crímenes de guerra. Socialmente, el tema es crucial para debatir la protección de los derechos fundamentales en zonas de guerra. El objetivo general es comprender cómo la falta de respuesta ante los crímenes de guerra afecta la visión global sobre los derechos humanos. Específicamente, el estudio busca evaluar el papel de las instituciones internacionales y las divergencias entre países en cuanto a sanciones y responsabilidad. La metodología es cualitativa, basada en investigación bibliográfica y documental, sin trabajo de campo, utilizando tratados, informes de la ONU y artículos académicos. La pregunta de investigación se centra en cómo la impunidad en el conflicto Israel-Gaza configura las percepciones internacionales sobre los derechos humanos. El resultado esperado es un entendimiento más profundo de las barreras para la justicia internacional y propuestas para mejorar los mecanismos de rendición de cuentas en conflictos armados.

PALABRAS CLAVE: Crímenes de guerra. Derechos humanos. Conflicto Israel-Gaza. Impunidad.

1. INTRODUCTION

The theme "Influences on the global perception of human rights caused by the impunity of war crimes in the Gaza Strip" is both pertinent and timely. The ongoing conflict between Israel and Gaza continues to capture international attention due to persistent human rights violations and the challenge of ensuring justice. Addressing this issue provides an opportunity to explore how impunity for such crimes impacts global perceptions of human rights, particularly when atrocities against civilians go unpunished (UNRWA, 2024). Interest in this topic transcends regional boundaries as it involves multidimensional aspects requiring analysis from diverse perspectives. These include the roles of international institutions such as the United Nations (UN) and the International Criminal Court (ICC), alongside the influence of globalization in shaping public opinion. The study adopts an interdisciplinary approach, combining international law, political science, international relations, and human rights (AJLabs, 2024).

The impunity for war crimes, especially in highly publicized conflicts like the Gaza Strip, poses a significant challenge to international justice. Unaddressed atrocities undermine the credibility of human rights as a system of protection and justice. Thus, studying the systemic failures of the international community in addressing such crimes aims to contribute to discussions on potential improvements and the development of more effective mechanisms (Brasil, 2024a). Beyond legal considerations, impunity erodes public trust in the ability of international institutions to promote justice. Its social and political consequences are vast, shaping how nations perceive and apply human rights. This study identifies flaws in current mechanisms of international justice and suggests reforms, fostering a broader debate on the development of more equitable and efficient instruments (Uras; Quillen, 2024).

The theme also highlights a critical aspect of international relations: the divergence among states in imposing sanctions and holding perpetrators accountable for war crimes. Impunity, when viewed through the lens of international politics, reflects a landscape of conflicting interests, where



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

responses to war crimes are often politically motivated rather than based on universal human rights principles (UNRWA, 2024). Addressing the influence of impunity on the global perception of human rights is both relevant and urgent, as it facilitates profound reflections on the role of international justice, the challenges of inter-nation cooperation, and the need to reevaluate how global institutions respond to war crimes.

This research aims to analyze how the impunity for war crimes influences the global perception of human rights and its implications for trust in international justice, under the framework of the Rome Statute ratified by Brazil (Brasil, 2002). It seeks to examine the impact of impunity on the credibility of human rights, evaluating how the lack of accountability influences global perceptions, particularly in widely followed conflicts such as the Gaza Strip. Furthermore, it evaluates the role of the UN and the ICC, identifying their limitations and actions in addressing war crimes and human rights violations. Additionally, it explores the divergences and agreements among countries and organizations concerning sanctions and accountability, analyzing how these differences shape the global perception of human rights and international justice.

The central research question guiding this study is: How does the impunity for war crimes committed in the conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip influence the global perception of human rights and affect the credibility of international institutions such as the UN and the ICC? To answer this question, the study conducts a critical analysis of selected documents and texts, aiming to understand how the lack of accountability impacts the international community's perception of the effectiveness of human rights and international justice.

The methodology adopted is qualitative, based on bibliographic and documentary research. This approach reflects the international scope of the topic and the impossibility of direct access to the parties involved. The research focuses on analyzing secondary sources, such as international treaties, UN resolutions, reports from non-governmental organizations, academic articles, and specialized news. These sources address critical aspects of the Israel-Gaza conflict, the role of the ICC, and legal developments related to war crimes. This methodological approach aims to provide a robust theoretical understanding of the problem, offering a reflective analysis of the consequences of impunity for war crimes and its implications for the global perception of human rights.

By addressing the impunity of war crimes in the Israel-Gaza conflict, this study sheds light on how this reality impacts global perceptions of human rights and the actions of international institutions like the UN and ICC. Impunity in war zones not only affects local populations but also resonates globally, challenging the effectiveness of systems designed to protect human rights and deliver justice. This research contributes to a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by international justice systems in addressing complex conflicts like that of the Gaza Strip. It further opens discussions on the necessity of reforming current mechanisms to ensure accountability and bolster global trust in the protection of human rights.



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Conflicts in the Middle East have been a constant throughout the region's history, persisting to the present day under various social, legal, and political contexts. In 2023, the conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip gained greater visibility on the international stage, primarily due to numerous crimes committed against civilians and repeated violations of international treaties (Brasil, 2024b).

Based on global discussions about the impunity of war crimes perpetrated in this context, this study aims to understand where human rights are being violated and the role played by institutions such as the United Nations (UN) and the International Criminal Court (ICC) in addressing this issue (AJLabs, 2024). Therefore, the central question guiding this research is: Does the impunity for war crimes committed in the conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip generate divergences in global perceptions of human rights, or is there consensus on certain points?

To clarify these aspects, this article will address various topics crucial for understanding the impunity of war crimes in the Israel-Gaza conflict and their implications for global perceptions of human rights. First, globalization and its influence on global perceptions of human rights will be discussed, considering how global interactions shape views and reactions to human rights violations. Next, the role of the United Nations (UN) in wartime scenarios will be analyzed, highlighting its limitations and challenges in mediating conflicts and protecting civilians (Hastings, 2023).

The International Criminal Court (ICC) will also be a focal point, with an assessment of its effectiveness in prosecuting war crimes and ensuring justice amid armed conflicts. Following this, war crimes and their respective punishments under International Humanitarian Law will be examined, underscoring the gravity of violations and the difficulties in holding perpetrators accountable. The current state of the conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip at the time of this article's publication will also be analyzed, focusing on humanitarian impacts and the escalation of violence (Brasil, 2002).

In summary, the positions of different countries and international entities will be examined, revealing divergences and convergences in global responses to the conflict and human rights violations, with an emphasis on the diplomatic and strategic roles of each nation and organization.

a. Globalization and its Influence on Global Perceptions of Human Rights

Globalization is a historical and dynamic process that intensifies social, political, economic, and cultural interactions on a global scale, connecting different regions and peoples. This phenomenon not only facilitates the circulation of goods, capital, and ideas but also challenges traditional paradigms of international relations, particularly in the field of human rights. Global interconnectedness has the potential to disseminate universal norms, such as those established by the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which represents a civilizational milestone in recognizing fundamental values for human dignity and the preservation of life (Folha de S. Paulo, 2019; Heinzle; Pereira, 2023).

However, profound cultural, political, and religious differences between the West and the East, often exacerbated by globalization, have proven to be obstacles to the universal acceptance of these



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

rights. Although the Declaration's fundamental principles are widely recognized by countries within the international community, some nations and groups reject this Western conception of human rights, grounding their objections in religious and political values that may diverge from these principles. Fundamentalism—whether religious or political—often hinders the uniform application of these rights (Costa Ribeiro; Cristina Alves Ramalho, 2023).

Thus, while globalization has enabled greater interaction and exchange among cultures, it has not been sufficiently capable of harmonizing perspectives on human rights. The preservation of sovereignty and cultural traditions continues to pose a barrier to the uniform respect for these rights globally. The contribution of globalization, therefore, remains limited in its ability to overcome the deeply rooted divergences in these nations, given the multiplicity of interests not only among the subjugated nations but also those subjugating them (Smith; Browne, 2020).

b. The United Nations (UN) and its Role in Wartime Scenarios

The United Nations (UN), established in 1945 in the aftermath of World War II, was founded with the mission of promoting peace and international cooperation. Its creation represents humanity's collective response to the horrors of armed conflicts and atrocities committed during the war. Since then, the UN has played a fundamental role in promoting global peace and security, engaging in diverse areas such as economic development, public health, education, and humanitarian aid in conflict zones (Helliwell *et al.*, 2021; UNGA, 2021; UNHCR, 2021).

In contemporary conflicts across the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and Africa, the fragility of the UN becomes evident when addressing war atrocities committed by certain nations. This issue can be attributed to various structural, political, and legal factors that limit its effectiveness in armed conflicts and large-scale human rights violations. These limitations can be grouped into three categories: the structure of the Security Council, the principle of state sovereignty, and the requirement for international consensus and cooperation.

In wartime scenarios, the UN attempts to mediate peace negotiations, support affected populations and implement sanctions when necessary. However, its capacity to act is often hindered by the international system's structure, which prioritizes state sovereignty and relies on member countries' cooperation. Structural violence manifests itself in two main external forms, widely recognized in politics and economics: the repression and exploitation of economically fragile peoples, who often find themselves in deplorable conditions during war. While not necessarily intentional, this violence profoundly impacts its victims (Galtung, 1996).

At the root of this issue lies cultural violence. This manifests in symbols of religion and ideology and pervades language, art, science, and law. It influences media and education. Its function is to legitimize direct and structural violence. First, cultural violence is addressed, followed by political and economic violence, and finally direct violence. A broader concept than violence and peace is required this concept is power. Cultural power shapes notions of right and wrong. Economic power operates



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

through advantageous exchanges. Military power coerces with threats. Political power manifests in decision-making (Galtung, 1996).

Indeed, the UN lacks sufficient coercive mechanisms to impose an immediate end to hostilities, as its actions depend on the political will of states (UNRWA, 2024). Nonetheless, the UN plays a vital role in imposing sanctions, promoting peacekeeping operations, and referring war crimes cases to the International Criminal Court (ICC). Its role remains crucial for maintaining international order and defending human and humanitarian rights, even when its actions are perceived as insufficient in the face of the magnitude of certain conflicts.

c. The International Criminal Court and its Role in Wartime Scenarios

The International Criminal Court (ICC), established in 2002, has jurisdiction over war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, and crimes of aggression. Its primary function is to prosecute individuals accused of these crimes, marking a milestone in the international effort to combat impunity for grave human rights violations. The ICC was created to address the gaps left by national courts, which often prove incapable of effectively prosecuting perpetrators of large-scale atrocities (Cardoso, 2012).

Nevertheless, the ICC faces significant challenges in its operations. Although it has the authority to investigate and prosecute war crimes, it lacks its own police force and relies on member states' cooperation to enforce its orders (Dezalay, 2015). This reliance often results in governmental reluctance, particularly when high-ranking political leaders are accused. A notable example of this limitation is the arrest warrant issued against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, and Hamas leaders for war crimes committed during the Israel-Gaza conflict. However, the execution of these warrants faces severe obstacles due to state sovereignty (AJLabs, 2024).

While the ICC plays a crucial role in combating impunity, its capacity to deliver justice is intrinsically tied to international cooperation, undermining its effectiveness in conflicts involving sensitive geopolitical interests. Although state sovereignty remains a necessary principle in the international system, it limits the ICC's mission to ensure accountability for war crimes (Cardoso, 2012).

d. War Crimes and Their Punishments

War crimes, as defined by international treaties and the Geneva Conventions, constitute grave violations of humanitarian norms regulating armed conflicts, aimed at protecting civilians, wounded combatants, and prisoners of war. Practices constituting war crimes include deliberate attacks on civilians, the use of human shields, the destruction of essential infrastructure such as hospitals and schools, indiscriminate airstrikes, forced evacuation, and the blockade of humanitarian aid. These acts not only violate international law but also affront human dignity, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations, including individuals with disabilities, children, women, and the elderly (Robertson, 2000).



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

In conflicts such as that between Israel and the Gaza Strip, both sides have been accused of committing war crimes. According to UN reports, practices such as torture, murder, inhumane treatment, and outrage upon personal dignity have been widely documented on both sides. These violations highlight the complexity and brutality of contemporary conflicts, where the lines between combatants and civilians often blur, resulting in large-scale humanitarian tragedies (Wilson; Tesón, 2005).

Punishments for war crimes vary according to the jurisdiction and the tribunal involved, as stipulated under international law. The International Criminal Court is the primary body for adjudicating such violations, imposing criminal penalties that can include life imprisonment for those responsible. However, the enforcement of these punishments depends on apprehending the accused and securing state cooperation, which often delays or obstructs justice. The persistence of impunity for war crimes remains one of the international community's greatest challenges, particularly in prolonged and politically complex conflicts.

e. The Israel-Gaza Conflict at the Time of This Article's Publication

The Gaza Strip, located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea in the Middle East, is a Palestinian territory of significant geopolitical and historical importance. Following the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, the region became home to thousands of Palestinian refugees, evolving into a focal point of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In 2006, the Hamas group, known for its extremist stance and refusal to recognize Israel as a legitimate state, took political control of the Gaza Strip after winning the Palestinian legislative elections. Since then, the region has witnessed successive conflicts between Hamas and Israel, resulting in devastating consequences for the civilian population and infrastructure (AJLabs, 2024).

The conflict between Hamas and Israel escalated on October 7, 2023, when Hamas launched a series of coordinated attacks, including bombings and incursions into Israeli territory. These attacks coincided with diplomatic rapprochement efforts between Israel and Saudi Arabia, mediated by the United States, raising fears that the Palestinian cause was being sidelined. Additionally, the redeployment of Israeli military forces from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank due to regional conflicts facilitated Hamas's incursions (Uras; Quillen, 2024).

Israel's response to these attacks was immediate and massive, culminating in a military operation known as "Swords of Iron," which extended into southern Lebanon. This operation involved intensive bombings of Gaza and the imposition of a total blockade on the region, halting the supply of food, water, medicine, electricity, and fuel. According to a report by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Israel permitted only seven of the 29 planned humanitarian aid missions into Gaza, exacerbating the local humanitarian crisis.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared in a national address that the country was "at war," signaling that the military operation would continue until Hamas was completely neutralized. The escalation of the conflict caused immense destruction in Gaza, severely impacting the civilian population, with similar devastation observed in Lebanon. According to Israeli National Security Advisor



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

Tzachi Hanegbi, the war with Hamas in Gaza may last for months, with no clear resolution in the short term (AJLabs, 2024).

f. Positions of Entities and Countries on the Situation

United Nations (UN): The UN, through the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, has condemned both Israel and Hamas for possible war crimes committed during the conflict. UN High Commissioner Volker Turk emphasized in a recent report that both parties committed "clear violations of international humanitarian law." The UN has reiterated the need for impartial investigations to determine accountability and address the historical impunity surrounding the conflict (ONU, 2024).

Arab Nations: Countries such as Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and others have strongly condemned Israel's actions in Gaza, accusing it of practicing "collective punishment" against Palestinians and committing war crimes. These nations have urged the international community to take more assertive action to protect Palestinian rights and pursue a just and peaceful resolution to the conflict (UNRWA, 2024).

European Union (EU): The European Union has consistently demanded respect for international humanitarian law, condemning both Hamas's indiscriminate attacks on Israeli civilians and Israel's military actions that result in significant civilian casualties and the destruction of life-sustaining infrastructure. The EU has persistently called for a ceasefire and the resumption of diplomatic dialogue to mitigate atrocities, albeit with limited success (UNGA, 2021; UNRWA, 2024).

United States (US): The United States has balanced its traditional support for Israel with criticism of military actions that result in civilian casualties. While the US government defends Israel's right to self-defense, it has called for restraint to minimize harm to the civilian population. The US Department of State, in its annual human rights report, expressed concern over the escalation of the conflict, citing allegations of war crimes on both sides (Motamedi, 2024).

Brazil: Through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazil has called for an immediate ceasefire and adherence to international humanitarian law. The country condemns violence resulting in civilian deaths and has supported UN resolutions calling for investigations into possible human rights violations. Brazil has adopted a diplomatic stance favoring a peaceful and negotiated solution to the conflict, emphasizing the need to protect civilians and uphold international norms.

g. The Fall of Bashar al-Assad's Regime

The fall of Bashar al-Assad's regime in Syria, which occurred in December 2024, marks a significant turning point in Middle Eastern geopolitics, with profound implications for international order and human rights. After 24 years in power, al-Assad was overthrown by a coalition of rebel groups led by Hay'at Taḥrīr al-Shām (HTS), resulting in his flight to Moscow, where he was granted political asylum (Cãnas, 2024).

This development ends a regime defined by violent repression, systematic human rights violations, and a civil war that lasted over a decade, displacing millions and claiming hundreds of



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

thousands of lives (Morãn, Bañuelos & Riera, 2024). The discovery of facilities like the Sednaya Prison, described as a "human slaughterhouse," underscores the brutality of the deposed government (English, 2024).

In the aftermath of the regime's collapse, Syria faces a power vacuum, raising serious concerns about the country's future stability. Ethnic and sectarian diversity, coupled with the presence of multiple armed factions pursuing divergent agendas, complicates the establishment of an inclusive and effective transitional government (BBC, 2024).

Moreover, the influence of regional and global powers such as Russia, Iran, and Turkey adds further complexity to the post-Assad political landscape. The international community has also expressed concerns over the fate of the deposed regime's chemical weapons stockpiles, which were condemned globally during the early stages of the civil war. Ensuring the security of these arsenals is critical to preventing their proliferation and use by non-state actors or extremist groups.

Rebuilding post-Assad Syria will require coordinated efforts to establish democratic institutions, promote national reconciliation, and ensure transitional justice. Active participation by international organizations such as the United Nations will be essential to mediate negotiations among involved parties and facilitate the implementation of a legitimate and sustainable political process.

In summary, the fall of Bashar al-Assad marks the beginning of a new chapter in Syria, fraught with both challenges and opportunities. The transition to a peaceful and democratic future will depend on the ability of internal and external actors to collaborate in constructing a state that reflects the diversity and aspirations of the Syrian people.

3. CONCLUSION

In summary, it has been demonstrated, based on the points discussed, that the impunity for war crimes in the conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip generates divergent and partially compatible perceptions on the international stage. Countries like the United States adopt a cautious stance, balancing political and economic interests while projecting an image as a conflict mediator that does not enforce negotiations for a ceasefire. This caution reflects the complexity of taking a decisive position in a conflict involving strategic alliances and geopolitical sensitivities, especially in the context of arms trade to supply warring nations.

Recently, peace negotiations in Gaza have faced significant challenges, with Egypt, Qatar, and the United States playing central roles in mediation. Although the U.S. government is tasked with proposing a new agreement to the parties involved, the question remains whether there will be effective accountability for the war crimes already evidenced by the UN in its reports. The conflict's impact on the civilian population is immeasurable, far exceeding the bounds of what could be considered a fair and proper application of human rights, as prescribed by the principle of human dignity. UN committees have emphasized that "the immense number of civilian casualties in Gaza and the widespread destruction of civilian objects and infrastructure were the inevitable result of a strategy undertaken with



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

the intent to cause maximum damage, disregarding the principles of distinction, proportionality, and appropriate precautions."

Despite arrest warrants issued by the International Criminal Court against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the defense chief, and Hamas leaders, it remains uncertain whether they will be prosecuted and held accountable for their severe violations of fundamental principles of human dignity. The clearest conclusion is that both sides committed war crimes, as evidenced in the latest UN inquiry, which highlighted the use of starvation as a weapon of war, the denial of essential supplies, and indiscriminate attacks on civilian buildings, including hospitals and schools.

The international community, including Brazil, Arab nations, and the European Union, has shown solidarity with the conflict's victims, calling for investigations and accountability. However, the recent UN meetings revealed countries opting for cautious silence, demonstrating how political interests often overshadow the protection of human rights. What remains uncertain is whether, even with the end of this cycle of violence, new waves of conflict will arise, as the Middle East has historically been a stage for repeated violations of human and humanitarian rights.

4. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Throughout this study, it was possible to reflect on the complex relationship between the impunity for war crimes and the global perception of human rights within the context of the conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip. The analyses revealed that, despite international efforts to hold perpetrators accountable, the current scenario is marked by significant political divergences, geopolitical interests, and institutional limitations that hinder the effective application of international justice. The actions of organizations such as the UN and the International Criminal Court, while meaningful, remain constrained by issues of state sovereignty and the lack of cooperation among the parties involved.

This study contributes to the academic debate by deepening the understanding of how impunity for war crimes challenges the credibility of international justice systems. It underscores the necessity of rethinking mechanisms of accountability to address the structural and procedural gaps that allow violations of International Humanitarian Law to persist. The findings also provide a foundation for interdisciplinary discussions on the role of global institutions in ensuring justice and the protection of human rights in armed conflicts.

Moreover, the research highlights the broader implications of impunity, not only for those directly affected by the conflict but also for the international human rights order. By examining the interplay between political dynamics and justice mechanisms, this study emphasizes the urgent need for global cooperation and reform in addressing war crimes, particularly in high-visibility conflicts such as the one in the Gaza Strip.

In conclusion, the study paves the way for future investigations into the barriers to implementing international justice in armed conflicts and the long-term impacts of impunity on global human rights norms. It calls for further analysis on how the international community can strengthen mechanisms of



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

cooperation and accountability, ensuring that, in conflicts like that of the Gaza Strip, the principles of human dignity and justice take precedence over political and military interests. By doing so, this research aims to contribute to the ongoing pursuit of a more effective and equitable international justice system.

REFERENCES

AJLABS, Al-Jazeera. Israel-Gaza war in maps and charts: Live tracker. **Al-Jazeera**, Doha, Qatar, 2024. Available at: https://www.aljazeera.com/news/longform/2023/10/9/israel-hamas-war-in-maps-and-charts-live-tracker. Accessed at: 24 mar. 2024.

BBC News. Syria in maps: Who controls the country now Assad has gone? **BBC News**, 2024. Available at: https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c2ex7ek9pyeo. Accessed at: 14 dez. 2024.

BRASIL. Decreto n.º 4.388, de 25 de setembro de 2002. Promulga o Estatuto de Roma do Tribunal Penal Internacional. **Diário Oficial da União, de 26 set. 2002, p. 3**, Brasilia, DF, Porder Executivo, Publicação em: 25 set. 2002.

BRASIL. Ministério das Relações Exteriores. **Crianças e mulheres são as maiores vítimas da guerra na Faixa de Gaza, ressaltam debatedores**: Crianças somam 44% das vítimas, segundo a Federação Palestina no Brasil; mulheres são 24,5 %. Brasilia: Câmara dos Deputados do Brasil, 25 abr. 2024a.

BRASIL. MRE. **Nota à imprensa n.º 97**. Declaração sobre as ações israelenses em Jerusalém Oriental Ocupada e no resto do Território Palestino Ocupado. Buccament, 1º de março de 2024, Brasilia, DF, Brasil, Publicação em: 02-03–2024.

CÃNAS, Alejandro. La treta que utilizó Al Asad para huir a Rusia: "Mañana, mañana...". **DIARIO AS, S.L**, **Cadena Política**, Madri, 2024. Available at: https://as.com/actualidad/politica/la-treta-que-utilizoal-asad-para-huir-a-rusia-manana-manana-n/?utm_source=chatgpt.com. Accessed at: 14 dez. 2024.

CARDOSO, Elio. **Tribunal Penal Internacional**: conceitos, realidades e implicações para o Brasil. Brasília, DF, Brasil: FUNAG, 2012. (176 p.). ISBN: 978-8576313984.

COSTA RIBEIRO, Marcelo; CRISTINA ALVES RAMALHO, Michele. Perspectivas contemporâneas na cobrança de alimentos: uma análise da efetividade jurídica das medidas coercitivas indiretas. **RECIMA21 - Revista Científica Multidisciplinar**, v. 4, n. 6, p. e463248, 5 jun. 2023. Available at: https://recima21.com.br/index.php/recima21/article/view/3248. Accessed at: 1 out. 2023. ISSN: 2675-6218. DOI: 10.47820/recima21.v4i6.3248.

DEZALAY, Sara. Rough Justice: The International Criminal Court in a World of Power Politics, by David Bosco. International Journal: Canada's Journal of Global Policy Analysis, v. 70, n. 1, p. 159–161, 25 mar. 2015. Available at: https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0020702014564545. Accessed at: 24 set. 2024. ISSN: 0020-7020. DOI: 10.1177/0020702014564545.

ENGLISH, Georgie. HELL MACHINE Assad's chilling 'Iron Press' used to CRUSH victims after they had been executed found at 'human slaughterhouse' prison. **The Scottish Sun**, v. 10, p. 30, 9 Dec 2024. Updated: 2:10, 10 Dec 2024. Available at: https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/news/13988129/prisoners-trapped-assad-underground-human-slaughterhouse-jail-sednaya/?utm_source=chatgpt.com. Accessed at: 14 dez. 2024.

FOLHA DE S. PAULO. Desigualdade global: Europa. **Folha de S. Paulo**, São Paulo, 22 ago. 2019. Available at: http://temas.folha.uol.com.br/desigualdade-global/europa/globalizacao-fracassou-para-muitos-e-reacoes-podem-ser-violentas.shtml. Accessed at: 24 ago. 2019.



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

GALTUNG, Johan. **Peace by Peaceful Means**: Peace and Conflict, Development and Civilization (International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO)). Thousand Oaks, Califórnia, EUA: SAGE Publications Ltd, 1996. (292 p.). ISBN: 978-0803975118.

HASTINGS, Lynn. Humanitarian Coordinator Lynn Hastings briefs the press in Geneva. **Virtual Press Briefing to Geneva-Based UN Correspondents**, Suíça, p. 1–5, 2023. Available at: http://link.springer.com/10.1007/9783319593791%0Ahttp://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B9780124200708.0000 27%0Ahttp://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ab.2015.03.024%0Ahttps://doi.org/10.1080/07352689.2018.1441103 %0Ahttp://www.chile.bmw-motorrad.cl/sync/showroom/lam/es/. Accessed at: 2 jun. 2024. ISSN: 10960309.

HEINZLE, Marcia Regina Selpa; PEREIRA, Pablo. Políticas de internacionalização em universidades fundacionais: produção intelectual, intercâmbio, currículo e internacionalização integral. **Ensaio: Avaliação e Políticas Públicas em Educação**, v. 31, n. 119, 2023. Available at: http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0104-40362023000200209&tlng=pt. Accessed at: 29 fev. 2024. ISSN: 1809-4465. DOI: 10.1590/s0104-40362023003103354.

HELLIWELL, John F. et al. World Happiness Report 2021. New York, NY, USA: Sustainable
Development Solutions Network, 2021. Available at:
https://worldhappiness.report/ed/2021/#appendices-and-data.

MORÁN, Pablo; BAÑUELOS, Javier; RIERA, Lucía. El rastro de Al Assad. Sociedad Española de Radiodifusión, S.L.U. **Cadena SER**, s. d. Available at: https://cadenaser.com/nacional/2024/12/13/elrastrodealassadcadenaser/?utm_source=chatgpt.com. Accessed at: 14 dez. 2024.

MOTAMEDI, Maziar. UN votes against Israel's occupation of Palestine: Will it change anything? Al Jazeera Media Network, Doha, Qatar, 19 set. 2024. Available at: aljazeera.com/news/2024/9/19/unga-resolution-against-palestine-occupation-will-itchangeanything. Accessed at: 24 set. 2024.

ONU. **Chefe de Direitos Humanos da ONU faz alerta sobre um "futuro distópico"**: Durante sua atualização anual, Volker Turk pediu à comunidade internacional que rejeite o "novo normal" de violações, destacando conflitos como Gaza e Sudão; ele alertou sobre urgência de abordar desigualdades e regulamentar tecnologias digitais. Nova York, EUA: ONU News, set. 2024.

ROBERTSON, Geoffrey. **Crimes Against Humanity**: The Struggle For Global Justice. Westminster, England: Penguin Books, 2000. ISBN: 978-1565845978.

SMITH, Brad; BROWNE, Carol Ann. **Armas e ferramentas**: o futuro e o perigo da era digital. Tradução: RAVAGLIA, Cibelle. Rio de Janeiro, Brasil: Alta Books, 2020. 368 p. ISBN: 978-8550815664.

UNGA. **Consejo de Seguridad - Resolución 2601**: Aprobada por el Consejo de Seguridad en su 8889a sesión, celebrada el 29 de octubre de 2021. v. 2359, p. 2015–2018, 2021. Available at: https://www.bbc.co.uk/spanish/specials/1228_onu/page2.shtml.

UNHCR, Brasil. **Dados sobre Refúgio**: Relatório Semestral fornece estatísticas e números importantes sobre os primeiros seis meses de 2021 para ajudar as organizações e os Estados a planejarem suas respostas humanitárias. Brasília: UNHCR ACNUR Brasil, 19 abr. 2021. *Online*. Available at: https://www.acnur.org/portugues/dados-sobre-refugio/. Accessed at: 19 abr. 2022.

UNRWA, ONU. October, November and December: Gaza war. **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East**, 24 fev. 2024. Available at: https://www.unrwa.org/. Accessed at: 24 fev. 2024.

URAS, Umut; QUILLEN, Stephen. Israel's war on Gaza live news: Attacks intensify despite ICJ order.



INFLUENCES ON THE GLOBAL PERCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSED BY IMPUNITY FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE GAZA STRIP Marcelo Costa Ribeiro, Paulo Vitor de Alcântara Fernandes, Jamilly Carolini Siqueira, Sidney Severino da Silva, Lívia Emanuelle de Paula Vitorino, Lívia Maria Barcelos Dias

Al-Jazeera, Doha, 25 maio 2024. Available at: aljazeera.com/news/liveblog/2024/5/25/israels-war-on-gaza-live-news-end-this-nightmare. Accessed at: 19 abr. 2022.

WILSON, Richard Ashby; TESÓN, Fernando R. Human Rights in the "War on Terror". Cambridge, London: Cambridge University Press, 2005. ISBN: 9780521853194.