

# ***WHAT IF there were . . .***



**„International rules concerning the complete, personal, financial reparation by those responsible for the destruction of life and its bases by armed force”**

## ***In Hajar’s name***

### ***Prologue:***

*Hajar is four years old and lived near Deir Simeon, a refugee camp in northern Syria. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 her parents and siblings were killed in a bomb attack. She is the only survivor and was heavily injured. Sadly enough, Hajar’s case is similar to that of millions of children in all combat areas worldwide.*

For two years already, the East Tyrolean association „Education gives peace” has been providing financial support to 725 children, women, and old people in the region by financial means, like other NGOs in Austria and worldwide. And this, although none of us can be held responsible for the hell caused by a twelve-year-long battle.

In many other regions worldwide, there are similar situations. Innumerable people feel sympathy for the victims and are trying to help them. They often end up in despair because of their inability to change the causes of suffering.

In contrast to natural catastrophes, the causes of which are also often due to human misconduct, conflicts and their originators, helpers and profiteers can be defined exactly. They have a name.

Those people have so far hardly ever been held responsible for the damages caused to life, health, buildings, infrastructure, agriculture, cultural facilities etc.

We are convinced that international rules to end this unbearable situation should be discussed. The decision process will certainly be a long one, and it can be difficult to enforce it everywhere. The objective to end all forms of battles against human beings, however, is so important for the future of our planet that it's worthwhile talking about it.

**It's high time that everyone who, without being attacked,**

- **orders**
- **supports**
- **executes**
- **finances**
- **benefits from**

**military action against others is held responsible on a personal level with**

**all private financial means and property** as well as that of direct **family members** (partners, parents, children, siblings, uncles etc.) and means of **enterprises and other financial constructs**.

Relatives are exempt from shared financial responsibility only, if there is evidence that they have done everything to prevent the parties involved from causing damage.

**This law should be applied to:**

- political decision makers and their supporters
- military chains of command
- volunteer soldiers, mercenaries
- weapon producers, arms dealers
- shareholders in arms industry
- members of religious communities propagating violence
- media calling for or concealing violence
- individual offenders (and their family members) in political or religious violent crime

All those who, unaware of the pain and despair of innocent victims, are unwilling to stop their destructive actions should be motivated to change their attitudes knowing that their personal future and that of their families will lie in absolute poverty.

We invite everyone to promote and discuss these considerations in their professional and private surroundings.

**And maybe there will be a time when these rules are binding for everyone in this world.**

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