#### **OUR WORLD. VIEWS FROM THE FIELD.**

# COLOMBIA

**OPINION SURVEY, 2009** 

This document contains the second set of research results, released to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions. Part 1 was released on 23 June 2009.





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# **Contents**

Executive Summary	1
Introduction	4
The Solferinos of Today	4
Research	4
Background & Objectives	5
Colombia - Research Methodology	5
Colombia in Context	6
The ICRC in Colombia	7
Part 2 - Behaviour During Armed Conflict	10
Limits to Behaviour	10
Threats to Civilians	11
Health Workers and Ambulances	13
Health Workers and Services: The Right to Health Care	14
The Geneva Conventions	15
Appendices	18
Sample Profile	18
Sampling Details	20
Marked-Up Questionnaire	21

# **Executive Summary**

### **Executive Summary**

This research was undertaken in eight countries that are currently experiencing or have experienced armed conflict or other situations of armed violence. The aim was to develop a better understanding of people's needs and expectations, to gather views and opinions, and to give a voice to those who have been adversely affected by armed conflict and other situations of armed violence.

The eight country opinion surveys will be complemented by more in-depth research (qualitative survey).

This research has been commissioned by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) within the framework of the **Our world. Your move.** campaign. Launched in 2009, the campaign's goal is to draw public attention to the vulnerability and ongoing suffering of people around the world. The intention is to emphasise the importance of humanitarian action and to convince individuals that they have the ability to make a difference and reduce suffering.

2009 is an important year for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement with three significant anniversaries (the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino, the 90th anniversary of the founding of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the 60th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions).

In 1999, the ICRC undertook a similar survey entitled People on War, which serves as a basis for comparison and as a means of highlighting trends in opinions 10 years on.

# **Behaviour During Armed Conflict**

#### **Acceptable Behaviour**

Nobody in Colombia supports the idea of totally unrestrained behaviour by combatants during armed conflict. All respondents (100%), for example, think it is unacceptable to take civilian hostages or to plant landmines which may harm civilians.

Furthermore, almost all (99%) oppose the destruction of historic/religious monuments, or attacks on combatants in towns/villages where civilians could be killed.

Even when civilians voluntarily help the enemy by transporting ammunition or supplying food, few Colombians feel attacks on them are acceptable (85% and 96% of respondents, respectively, are opposed).

Virtually all of the respondents (99.5%) support the principle that civilians should not be targeted during armed conflict. Almost nine people in 10 (88%) think civilians should not be attacked in any circumstances, as a matter of principle. The remaining 12% say they should be spared 'as much as possible'.

#### Health Workers, Ambulances and the Right to Health Care

A resounding 99% of respondents feel that health workers and ambulances are never acceptable targets. The overwhelming majority (98%) agree that 'everyone wounded or sick during an armed conflict should have the right to health care'.

The vast majority (96%) believe health workers should take care of the sick and wounded from all sides in armed conflicts.

#### **The Geneva Conventions**

Just under four people in 10 (38%) have heard of the Geneva Conventions – and more women than men view them as effective.

# Introduction

#### Introduction

# The Solferinos of Today

To raise awareness of the impact of armed conflict or other situations of armed violence on civilians, the ICRC decided to launch a vast research programme. This research focused on some of the most troubled places in the world – the Solferinos of today – which are either experiencing situations of armed conflict or violence or suffering their aftermath:

- Afghanistan
- Colombia (covered in this report)
- Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
- Georgia
- Haiti
- Lebanon
- Liberia
- The Philippines

#### Research

The ICRC commissioned Ipsos, a polling firm, to conduct quantitative (statistical) research surveys in all eight countries. A broadly representative sample of the adult general public was interviewed, either in person or by telephone, in each country. The specific sampling methods and any groups/areas excluded are described in the relevant country reports.

The aim of the questions – given in full together with overall results in the appendices – was to determine whether the respondents had personal experience of armed conflict or armed violence and, if so, the specific impact it had on them. Questions also explored respondents' views on what conduct is acceptable for combatants, the effectiveness of various groups and organizations in helping to reduce suffering during armed conflict or armed violence, the actions expected of the international community, awareness of the Geneva Conventions, and the role of health workers during armed conflict or armed violence.

Details of the survey carried out in Colombia are given in the next section.

The eight lpsos national surveys were but one element of a broader research programme undertaken by and for the ICRC, which also involved:

- Statistical research carried out (by Ipsos) on the basis of the results of the eight national surveys. This has yielded powerful insight into the experiences and opinions of civilians in some of the most troubled places in the world. The work was co-ordinated by the Ipsos office in Geneva.
- In-depth (qualitative) research. This has enabled the ICRC to deepen its understanding of the values, motivations, fears and aspirations of those who have been direct victims of armed conflict or armed violence. The research was carried out through focus groups and one-to-one in-depth interviews moderated by ICRC staff. Those covered include people separated from other members of their families, displaced people, first respondents and others directly affected by armed conflict or armed violence.

In 1999, ICRC carried out broadly similar opinion research as part of its People on War project. The programme covered some of the countries being reported on in 2009 – including Colombia – and several of the 1999 questions have therefore been revisited in order to provide trendlines. These are highlighted in the report where applicable.

# **Background & Objectives**

The year 2009 has great significance for the ICRC and the entire International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement ("the Movement"), as two major anniversaries in the history of humanitarian work will be celebrated:

- The 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino (24 June 1859). Exactly 150 years ago, Henry Dunant, a Swiss businessman, happened to witness the aftermath of one of the most brutal battles of the 19th century at Solferino, in what is now northern Italy and the carnage left on the battle field. The suffering he saw there prompted him to take the first steps towards the creation of the Movement. His book A Memory of Solferino led to the founding of the ICRC in 1863. In recognition of his work, Dunant was the joint first recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, in 1901.
- The 60th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions (12 August 1949). The four Geneva Conventions are the cornerstone of international humanitarian law. They protect, respectively, wounded and sick members of armed forces on the battlefield; wounded, sick and shipwrecked members of armed forces at sea; prisoners of war; and civilians in time of war.

To mark these anniversaries, as well as the 90th anniversary of the founding of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Movement launched a campaign — **Our world. Your move.** — to remind everyone of their individual responsibility to relieve human suffering.

The campaign is based on the premise that **Our world** faces unprecedented challenges, from conflict and mass displacement to climate change and migration; it contends that **Your move** reminds us of our collective responsibility to make the world a better place. Like Henry Dunant, we can all make a difference, even through the simplest of gestures.

Throughout 2009, the ICRC will be undertaking various activities to mark both these historic milestones, by highlighting the ongoing plight of people – particularly those who are most vulnerable – caught up in armed conflict or armed violence around the world.

## Colombia – Research Methodology

A total of 501 people aged 18 or over were interviewed in person (face-to-face) in the month of February 2009. Random probability sampling was used to ensure that the final sample would be broadly representative of the Colombian population (aged 18 years or over) as a whole. In addition, the results have been statistically 'weighted' by age to correct for any discrepancies between the sample profile and that of the equivalent-aged population.

According to 2009 estimates, Colombia's population is around 45,500,000. The median age is between 25 and 26 years old.

Those aged 18 or over make up 67% of the population – thus it follows that this survey is representative of approximately 30,500,000 people.

Because a sample was interviewed – not the whole population – the results are subject to 'sampling tolerances'. These show how accurately a result from the sample reflects the result that would have been obtained from the whole population had it been interviewed.

On the charts, a '\*' sign refers to a percentage of less than 0.5%, but greater than zero.

#### Report Structure

The report has been written to be accessible and relevant.

An Executive Summary with the main findings is followed by the main body of the report, covering each broad subject area in turn. Charts in the report draw on the overall findings from the Colombia survey and on a selection of key sub-group comparisons (e.g. between men and women, and people from different ethnic groups).

The Appendices contain the sample profile and 'marked up' questionnaire (i.e. the full questions, with overall results for Colombia added in – including the 1999 trend comparisons where applicable).

Please note that no country comparisons are made in this report. (These can be found in a separate Summary Report covering all eight countries.)

#### Colombia in Context

Colombia's conflict, still continuing after more than 47 years, has lasted longer than any other in modern times. The murder in Bogota in April 1948 of presidential candidate Jorge Eliécer Gaitán is generally viewed as the trigger that set off a huge outbreak of violence between Liberals and Conservatives which quickly spread from the capital to the rest of the country. These events influenced the non-international armed conflict in Colombia for many decades.

Guerrilla groups were formed in the 1950s and a state of virtual civil war broke out. Over 200,000 people lost their lives between 1948 and 1957. These groups have constituted the main armed opposition movement of the past 40 years.

The "Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia" (FARC), now the largest guerrilla organization in the country, was created in 1964.

Another major guerrilla organization is the "Ejército de Liberación Nacional" (ELN). Other armed opposition groups, like the "Ejército Popular de Liberación" (EPL), the "Organización Indigena Quintin Lame" and the "Movimiento 19 de Abril" (M-19) (formed between 1960 and 1970), were demobilised between 1991 and 1994. Paramilitary groups formed in the 1980s to counter these armed opposition groups quickly spread over a big part of the country. The paramilitary movements, the main objective of which is to fight the guerrillas, have been regrouped since April 1997 under the name of "Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia" (AUC).

On 21 June 1998, Andrés Pastrana of the Conservative party was elected president of Colombia. He based his electoral campaign on a platform of peace and reform. As president, he ceded an area in south-central Colombia to the FARC as a goodwill gesture.

On 20 May 2002, Álvaro Uribe Vélez, a right-wing candidate who promised to crack down on insurgents, won the presidential election. As a former member of the Liberal party who then went on to run as an independent, President Uribe declared a limited state of emergency, thereby broadening the government's authority in its campaign against the

armed groups. In December 2002, the AUC declared a unilateral cease-fire and initiated talks with the government. Peace talks with the FARC ended in 2002 without success.

In 2004, talks with the AUC continued and a safe zone was established. In 2006, more than 31,000 members of AUC were disarmed, and the Constitutional Court approved a constitutional amendment authorizing a presidential re-election, thereby enabling President Uribe to seek – and win – a second term that year.

In what was seen as a rare show of unity, hundreds of thousands of Colombians staged nationwide protests against kidnapping and the civil conflict in July 2007, demanding the release of some 3,000 people still being held hostage by different groups. In 2008, a series of military successes against the FARC took place.

In recent times, many members of armed groups have turned themselves in. Some groups have been dissolved, but others have survived or re-emerged. Millions of Colombians have had to flee their land for fear of being killed or persecuted by one or more of the armed groups involved in the conflict. In several regions of Colombia, armed hostilities persist and show little sign of abating, offering little hope to the thousands of civilians caught in the crossfire. Violent acts against the Colombia population are committed against a background of over four decades of violent political conflict between armed opposition groups and the State.

The consequences of Colombia's conflict are severe. Thousands of people have disappeared, and Colombia now has one of the world's largest internally displaced populations – between three and four million people have been displaced since 1985. In addition to massive displacement, there are summary executions, disappearances, hostagetaking, forced recruitment of children and an increasing number of mine related injuries or deaths. People flee their homes following threats against or executions of family members, or because they fear their children will be coerced into joining the armed groups.

#### The ICRC in Colombia

In Colombia, the ICRC has been at the forefront of efforts to provide emergency assistance, including food and household items, to people affected by the armed conflict. The ICRC has been present in Colombia since 1969, with its main objective being to ensure greater respect for international humanitarian law – particularly for provisions protecting persons not taking part in the conflict – by all armed groups. It also strives to provide emergency assistance to the displaced and other victims of the conflict and implements public health programmes and small-scale infrastructure renovation projects in conflict-affected areas. The ICRC provides victims with assistance and protection, reminds all parties of their obligation to respect and protect the civilian population, medical facilities and personnel and those *hors de combat* because they have laid down their arms or because they are wounded, sick or detained.

The inclusion of international humanitarian law in the training of the Colombian armed forces and of police taking part in military operations is another of the ICRC's priorities, along with efforts to strengthen the Colombian Red Cross's response capacity in conflict-affected areas.

In particular, the ICRC:

 visits places of detention to monitor detainees' treatment and conditions, especially with regard to health. It also seeks access to all prisoners held by armed groups;

- has assisted more than 1.1 million displaced people. The ICRC provides assistance during the first three months of displacement and up to six months for single-parent households. When mass displacements occur, the ICRC works hand-in-hand with the Colombian Red Cross to assess needs on the ground prior to organizing transportation and distribution of assistance. In addition, the ICRC seeks preventive measures to stem the flow of internal displacement by continuing its dialogue with both state and non-state actors to ensure greater respect for international humanitarian law;
- remains in constant contact with people affected by the armed conflict and collects
  allegations of possible violations of international humanitarian law. Where possible,
  the ICRC shares this information on a confidential basis with the alleged perpetrators

   whether the armed and security forces or organized armed groups reminding
  them of the rules of international humanitarian law, urging them to respect these
  rules and drawing their attention to the humanitarian consequences of the alleged
  acts:
- gathers reports of people who have disappeared in connection with the armed conflict;
- voices its concern for the safety of hostages held by organized armed groups, and talks to the parties to the conflict in order to secure the hostages' release. When hostages are freed, the ICRC provides logistical support to take them home;
- continues to facilitate the exchange of personal news between civilians in order to ease the suffering of those who have lost touch with their relatives;
- implements agricultural programmes designed to maintain or restore the means of survival of families affected by the armed conflict. In order to cover families' basic needs, the ICRC also distributes food parcels and essential household items such as hygiene articles, cooking utensils, plates, clothes, mattresses and/or hammocks, sheets, blankets and tarpaulins;
- has built, adapted and/or donated basic medical equipment and materials for Colombian health posts. These are now able to offer better medical care to communities in areas severely affected by the armed conflict. The ICRC has also accompanied health workers to different regions of the country, assisted victims of sexual violence and formed mobile health units which have carried out almost 4,000 medical consultations. It has also assisted victims of mine injuries and provided limbfitting centres with training;
- has made it a priority to include international humanitarian law in the training of the Colombian armed forces and of police taking part in military operations.

# Part 2 – Behaviour During Armed Conflict

## Part 2 - Behaviour During Armed Conflict

#### **Limits to Behaviour**

Every respondent in Colombia (100%) believes there should be limits regarding what combatants are allowed to do in armed conflicts.

Through an open question where respondents provided unprompted answers, people recognise there should be limits to conduct in armed conflict:

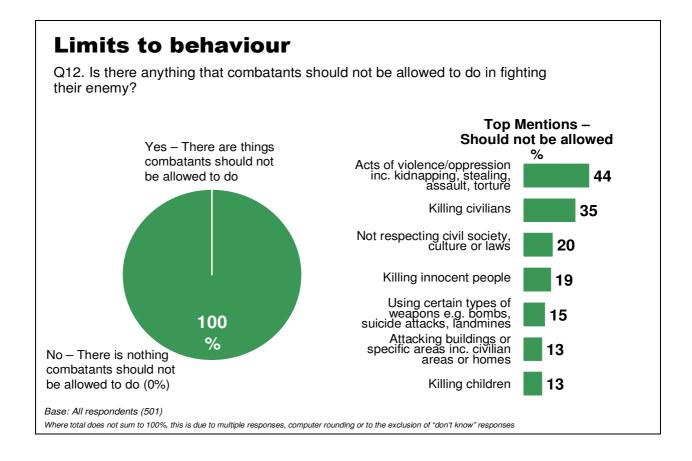
- Four in 10 (44%) felt that violence (including kidnapping, theft, assault and torture) is unacceptable.
- Over a third (35%) say that killing civilians is not acceptable, while a fifth (19%) are against the killing of innocent people.
- One fifth (20%) would like to see increased respect for civil and cultural laws.

Around one person in seven (15%) would avoid the use of certain weapons or types of attack and 13% would forbid the destruction of civilian buildings. One in eight (13%) specifically says that the killing of children should not be acceptable.

What do respondents mention as the basis for imposing limits?

The overwhelming majority (82%) feel that limits should be applied to combatants in the name of human rights. Nearly half (46%) say that limits should be imposed by law. Personal ethics are mentioned by 27% of respondents (33% of men and 22% of women), religion by 23% and culture by 15%.

Some people feel that certain kinds of behaviour should not be acceptable on the basis of the harm caused. For example, because certain behaviour produces too much destruction (mentioned by 31% of all respondents – 35% of women and 25% of men), or because it produces too much hate and division (21%).



#### Threats to Civilians

Almost everyone (99.5%) supports the principle that civilians should not be targeted during armed conflict – they should either be left alone entirely (88%) or at least avoided as much as possible (12%). Colombians are more emphatic now than they were in 1999 that civilians should be left alone.

Everyone is against hostage-taking (100%) and planting landmines (100%). Virtually everyone is also against attacking religious and historical monuments (99%) and attacking enemy combatants in populated villages and towns (99%).

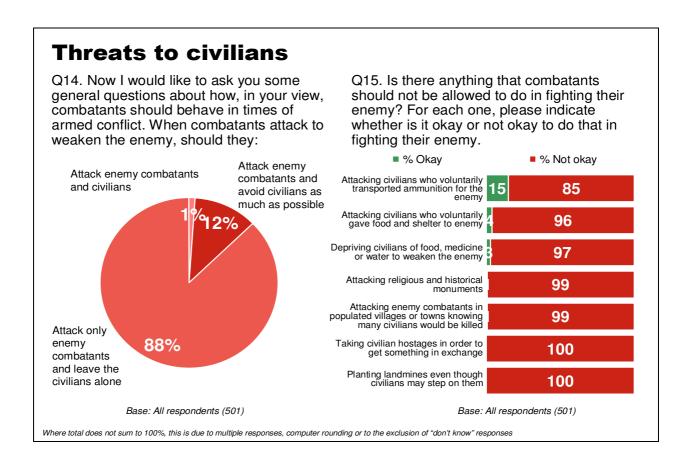
Respondents were asked if it is acceptable to attack civilians in order to 'weaken the enemy'.

The overwhelming majority of Colombians (88%) say that civilians should be left alone and only enemy combatants attacked. Significantly more women (92%) than men (82%) hold this view.

Overall, 12% say that civilians should be avoided 'as much as possible'. More men (17%) than women (7%) agree.

Just under 1% thinks it is acceptable to attack both enemy combatants and enemy civilians.

This 2009 study suggests more emphatically than the 1999 study that people feel civilians should not be involved in a conflict (88% in 2009, 72% in 1999). In 1999, 20% of respondents felt that civilians should be avoided as much as possible compared to 12% in 2009.



All of those asked say that it is inappropriate to take civilian hostages in order to get something in exchange or to plant landmines that civilians might step on.

Almost all (99%) say that attacking religious or historical monuments is not acceptable, and just as many are opposed to attacking enemy combatants in populated areas where civilians would be killed.

Ninety-seven per cent think that depriving civilians of food, medicine or water as a tactic to weaken the enemy is unacceptable.

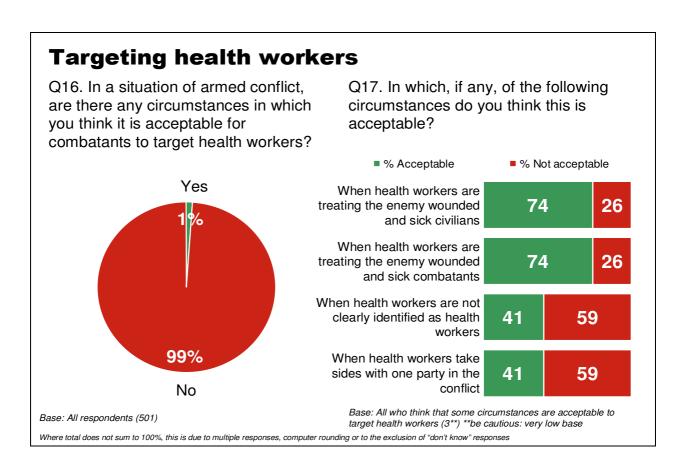
However, 15% say that it is acceptable to attack civilians who voluntarily transport ammunition for the enemy and 4% would allow civilians who voluntarily feed or shelter the enemy to be attacked.

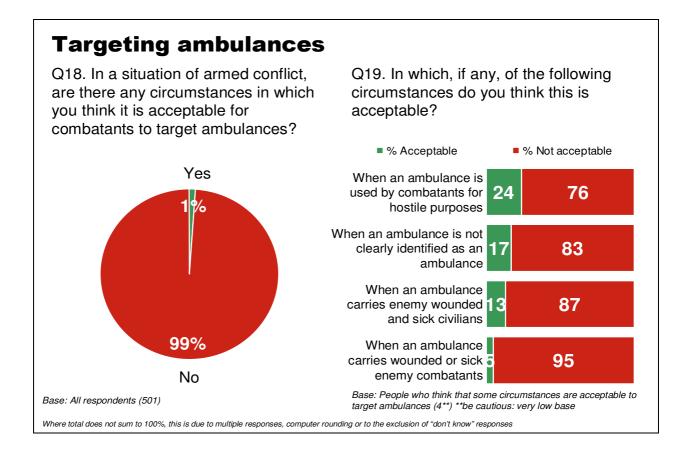
Please note that these results are not strictly comparable to those obtained in 1999. Nevertheless, it is clear that there has been an increase in the number of people saying that certain kinds of behaviour are not acceptable.

#### **Health Workers and Ambulances**

There is almost universal support for the notion that neither health workers nor ambulances should be targeted by combatants in any circumstances (support for both runs at 99%).

Please note that as the number of respondents for whom there do exist circumstances in which it is acceptable to target health workers and/or ambulances is very small (1% for both), insufficient data means that conclusions can not be drawn.



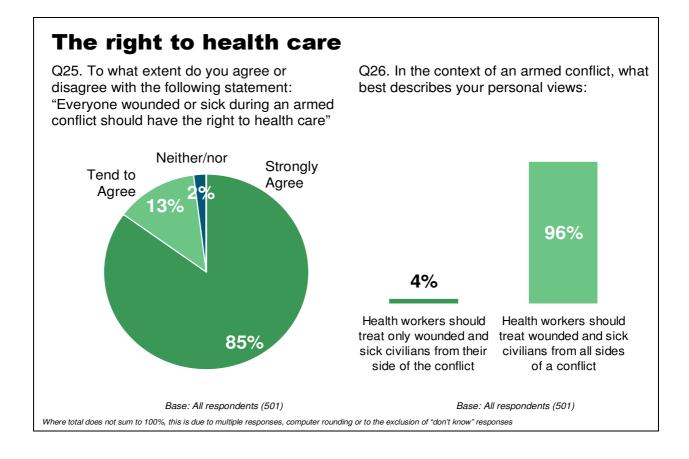


# Health Workers and Services: The Right to Health Care

Almost all of the respondents (98%) in Colombia agree to some extent that 'everyone wounded or sick during an armed conflict should have the right to health care'.

The overwhelming majority of people (85%) 'strongly' agree that everyone should have the right to health care, and a further 13% 'tend' to agree.

Almost all (96%) also agree that health workers should treat the sick and wounded from both sides – with 4% of respondents who think they should treat those on their side only.

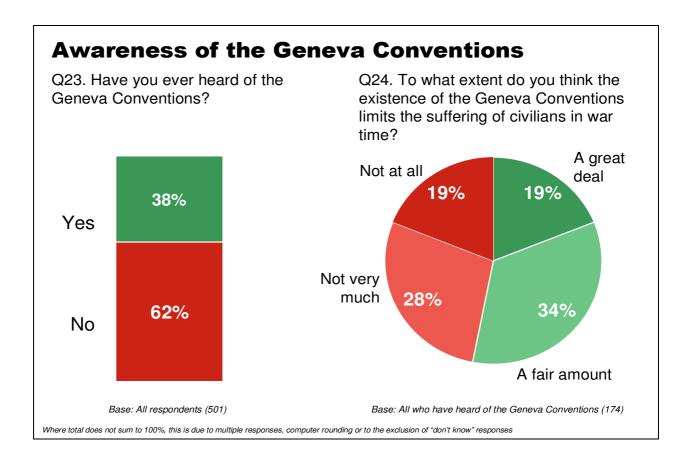


#### The Geneva Conventions

Around two people in five (38%) have heard of the Geneva Conventions. On balance, views are positive on their effectiveness in limiting suffering.

A sizeable minority of people (38%) have heard of the Geneva Conventions.

Among those who are aware of the Geneva Conventions, just over half think they have at least a fair amount of impact in limiting suffering (53%, including 19% who think they have 'a great deal' of impact). Fewer people hold negative views of the ability of the Geneva Conventions to limit suffering (47%, including 19% (28% of men) who think they have no impact at all).



This summary represents what respondents think of international humanitarian law (IHL), health care and their views on acceptable behaviour during times of armed conflict. Part 1 of this research study, representing the views of respondents regarding the impact of armed conflict or armed violence on their lives, was released on 23 June 2009.

# **Appendices**

# **Appendices**

# **Sample Profile**

	Colombia			
(Weighted Profile)				
N %				
Total	501	100		
Gender				
Male	232	46		
Female	269	54		
Age				
18-25	108	21		
26-35	116	23		
36-45	109	22		
46-55	78	16		
56 or over	91	18		
Education				
Primary school	88	18		
Secondary school	208	41		
Technical school	82	16		
University	99	19		
Master's degree	22	4		
Doctorate	3	1		
Employment				
Student	39	8		
Employee	231	46		
Student and employee	19	4		

Colombia (Weighted Profile)			
	N	%	
Total	501	100	
Employment (cont'd)			
Unemployed looking for a job	43	9	
Unemployed not looking for a job	10	2	
Disabled/ handicapped person	6	1	
Retired, Pensioner	27	5	
Housewife	126	25	
Cities			
Bogota	230	46	
Medellin	38	8	
Barranquilla	22	4	
Cali	36	7	
Bucaramanga	14	3	
Pasto	9	2	
Ibague	10	2	
Popayan	6	1	
Envigado	21	4	
Sabaneta	23	5	
Riohacha	10	2	
Fundación	10	2	
Desquebradas	6	1	
Chinchina	6	1	
Villavicencio	8	2	

Colombia					
(We	eighted P	rofile)			
	N %				
Total	501	100			
Cities (cont'd)					
Pamplona	8	2			
Santander de quilichao	5	1			
Tulúa	21	4			
Pradera	18	4			
Religion					
Catholic	397	79			
Evangelical	9	2			
Christian	56	11			
Jehovah's witness	4	1			
Mormon	1	*			
Other	2	*			
None	32	7			

Colombia (Weighted Profile)			
	N	%	
Total	501	100	
Income			
High	15	3	
Medium – High	31	6	
Medium	58	11	
Medium – Low	172	34	
Low	162	32	
Low - Low	64	13	
Marital status			
Single	152	30	
Married	205	41	
Cohabitation	96	19	
Divorced	28	6	
Widowed	20	4	

## **Sampling Details**

Sampling tolerances vary with the size of the sample and the percentage figure concerned. For example, for a question where 50% of the people in the full sample of 501 give a particular answer, the chances are 95 in 100 that this result would not vary by more than 4 percentage points plus or minus (ie between 46% and 54%) from the result that would have been obtained from a census of the *entire* population (using the same procedures).

Some examples of the tolerances that may apply in this report are given in the table below.

Approximate sampling tolerances applicable to percentages at or near these levels (at the 95% confidence level)			
Unweighted base (501)	10% or 90% <u>+</u>	30% or 70% <u>+</u>	50% <u>+</u>
Size of sample on which survey result is based (unweighted)			
501 (All respondents)	3	4	4
82 (Men affected by armed conflict)	7	10	11
116 (Catholics affected by armed conflict)	6	8	9
	•		Source: Ipsos

Tolerances are also involved in the comparison of results between different elements (subgroups) of the sample – and between the 1999 and 2009 results. A difference must be of at least a certain size to be statistically significant. The table below shows the sampling tolerances applicable to comparisons of sub-groups and between the 1999 & 2009 research.

Differences required for significance at the 95% confidence level at or near these percentages			
Unweighted base (501)	10% or 90% <u>+</u>	30% or 70% <u>+</u>	50% <u>+</u>
Size of 2009 sub-groups and 1999 vs. 2009 samples involved in this survey (unweighted)			
<ul><li>82 (Men affected by armed conflict) vs.</li><li>72 (Women affected by armed conflict)</li></ul>	10	15	16
857 (1999 full sample) vs. 501 (2009 full sample)	3	5	6
			Source: Ipsos

## Ipsos / ICRC

#### "Our World: Views from Colombia"

## Marked-Up Questionnaire

- Interviews with 501 people
- Aged 18+
- Conducted face-to-face, between the 13<sup>th</sup> of February to the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2009
- Results are weighted
- 'POW' indicates a question also asked in 1999
- An asterisk ( \* ) indicates a result of less than 1% (but not zero)
- A "n/a" denotes "not asked"
- Base for each question is all (501), unless shown otherwise

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Good morning/afternoon/evening. I am from Ipsos, an independent social research agency. We are conducting interviews in this area would like your help with this. The interview will last around 15 minutes and is about your experiences and opinions on the armed conflict in Colombia.

Results for questions Q1 to Q11 representing the views of respondents regarding the impact of armed conflict or armed violence on their lives, were released in Part 1 of this research study, on 23 June 2009.

#### **CC) WARFARE / COMBATANTS**

#### ASK ALL →

# Q12. Is there anything that combatants should <u>not</u> be allowed to do in fighting their enemy? (POW) And what else?

OPEN-ENDED QUESTION. DO NOT PROMPT - BUT PROBE FULLY.

TOP MENTIONS (> 5% of respondents)	%
TOTAL MENTIONS - KILLING/ TARGETING CERTAIN KIND OF PEOPLE	63
Kill civilians	35
Kill the innocent (unspecified)	19
Kill children	13
TOTAL MENTIONS - TYPES OF VIOLENCE/ OPPRESSION	44
Kidnapping/ Hostage taking	30
Fight/ Any fighting	9

Torture people	8
TOTAL MENTIONS - NOT RESPECT CIVIL SOCIETY/ CULTURE/ SOCIETY/ LAWS	20
Not respect human rights	10
Displace people/ More them from their homes/ Force them out	5
TOTAL MENTIONS - TYPES OF WEAPONS	15
Use landmines	7
Use children as combatants	4
TOTAL MENTIONS - ATTACK BUILDINGS / DESTROY SPECIFIC AREAS	13
Attack civilian areas	5

	%
There is nothing they should not be allowed to do	0
(Any answer indicating that some action/s should be allowed)	100
Don't know	0
Refused	0

#### ASK ALL WHO ANSWER SOMETHING AT QUESTION 12 $\Rightarrow$

**Q13.** And why do you think that combatants should not be allowed to do this? Is that because it...? READ OUT. ROTATE ORDER. MULTICODE OK

Base: All who identify some action/s that combatants should <u>not</u> be allowed to do - 501	%
Is against your religion	23
Is against your personal code/ethics	27
Is against the law	46
Is against your culture	15
Is against human rights	82
Produces too much hate and division	21
Produces too much destruction	31
Other (specify)	1
Do not know	2
Refused	0

#### ASK ALL →

**Q14.** Now I would like to ask you some general questions about how, in your view, combatants should behave in times of armed conflict. When combatants attack to weaken the enemy, should they: (POW) READ OUT. SINGLE CODE ONLY.

	1999	2009
	%	%
Attack enemy combatants and civilians	1	1
Attack enemy combatants and avoid civilians as much as possible	20	12
Attack only enemy combatants and leave the civilians alone	72	88
Don't know	6	0
Refused	0	0

ASK ALL →
Q15. Is there anything that combatants should not be allowed to do in fighting their enemy? For each one, please indicate whether it is okay or not okay to do that in fighting their enemy (POW)
READ OUT. SINGLE CODE EACH STATEMENT

	Ok	кау	Not	Okay	Don't know	Refused
	1999	2009	1999	2009	2009	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Depriving civilians of food, medicine or water to weaken the enemy ('Depriving the civilian population of food and water to gain a military advantage' in 1999)	17	3	74	97	0	0
Attacking religious and historical monuments ('Attacking religious monuments, mosques or churches in order to gain a military advantage' in 1999)	15	1	77	99	0	0
Attacking civilians who voluntarily transported ammunition for the enemy (Not asked in 1999)	n/a	15	n/a	85	0	0
Attacking enemy combatants in populated villages or towns knowing many civilians* would be killed (Not asked in 1999)	n/a	1	n/a	99	0	0
Taking civilian hostages in order to get something in exchange (Not asked in 1999)	n/a	*	n/a	100	0	0
Attacking civilians who voluntarily gave food and shelter to enemy (Not asked in 1999)	n/a	4	n/a	96	0	0
Planting landmines even though civilians may step on them (Not asked in 1999)	n/a	*	n/a	100	0	0

#### ASK ALL →

Q16. In a situation of armed conflict, are there any circumstances in which you think it is acceptable for combatants to target health workers?

SINGLE CODE ONLY

	%
Yes	1
No	99
Don't know	0
Refused	0

#### ASK IF YES AT Q16 →

#### Q17. In which, if any, of the following circumstances do you think this is acceptable?

READ OUT EACH STATEMENT. ROTATE ORDER. SINGLE CODE EACH STATEMENT

Base: All who think it is sometimes acceptable to target health workers – 3**	Yes, Acceptable	No, Not acceptable	Don't Know	Refused
	%	%	%	%
When health workers are treating the enemy wounded and sick <u>civilians</u>	74	26	0	0
When health workers are treating the enemy wounded and sick combatants	74	26	0	0
When health workers are not clearly identified as health workers	41	59	0	0
When health workers take sides with one party in the conflict	41	59	0	0

<sup>\*\*</sup>Very low base

#### ASK ALL →

# Q18. In a situation of armed conflict, are there any circumstances in which you think it is acceptable for combatants to target ambulances?

SINGLE CODE ONLY

	%
Yes	1
No	99
Don't know	0
Refused	0

#### ASK IF YES AT Q18 →

#### Q19. In which, if any, of the following circumstances do you think this is acceptable?

READ OUT EACH STATEMENT. ROTATE ORDER. SINGLE CODE EACH STATEMENT

Base: All who think it is sometimes acceptable to target ambulances – 4**	Yes, Acceptable	No, Not Acceptable	Don't Know	Refused
	%	%	%	%
When an ambulance is used by combatants for hostile purposes	24	76	0	0
When an ambulance carries wounded or sick enemy <u>combatants</u>	5	95	0	0
When an ambulance carries enemy wounded and sick <u>civilians</u>	13	87	0	0
When an ambulance is not clearly identified as an ambulance	17	83	0	0

<sup>\*\*</sup>Very low base

Results for questions Q20 to Q22 representing the views of respondents regarding the impact of armed conflict or armed violence on their lives, were released in Part 1 of this research study, on 23 June 2009.

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#### **EE) GENEVA CONVENTIONS**

#### ASK ALL →

#### Q23. Have you ever heard of the Geneva Conventions?

SINGLE CODE ONLY

	%
Yes	38
No	62
Don't know	0
Refused	0

#### ASK IF YES AT Q23 →

# Q24. To what extent do you think the existence of the Geneva Conventions limits the suffering of civilians in war time?

SINGLE CODE ONLY

Base: All who have heard of the Geneva Conventions – 174	%
A great deal	19
A fair amount	34
Not very much	28
Not at all	19
Don't know	0
Refused	0

#### FF) MEDICAL MISSION

#### ASK ALL →

#### Q25. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

READ OUT STATEMENT. SINGLE CODE ONLY

Εv	Everyone wounded or sick during an armed conflict should have the right to health care			
		%		
	Strongly Agree	85		
	Tend to Agree	13		
	Neither Agree nor Disagree	2		
	Tend to Disagree	*		
	Strongly Disagree	0		
	Don't Know	0		
	Refused	0		

#### ASK ALL →

#### Q26. In the context of an armed conflict, what best describes your personal views:

READ OUT STATEMENTS. ROTATE ORDER. SINGLE CODE ONLY.

	%
Health workers should treat only wounded and sick civilians from their side of the conflict	4
Health workers should treat wounded and sick civilians from $\underline{al}$ I sides of a conflict	96
Don't know	0
Refused	0

#### **Demographics**

#### ASK ALL →

#### **Respondent's Gender**

		%
	Male	46
	Female	54

#### ASK ALL ->

#### Respondent's Age

	%
18-25	21
26-35	23
36-45	22
46-55	16
56 or over	18

# ASK ALL → Education Level

	%
Primary school not completed / no education	7
Primary school	11
Secondary school not completed	16
Secondary school completed	25
Technical education not completed	3
Technical education completed	13
University not completed	10
University completed	9
Master's degree	4
Doctorate	1

#### ASK ALL → Employment

	%
Student	8
Employee	46
Student and employee	4
Unemployed looking for a job	9
Unemployed not looking for a job	2
Disabled person, Handicapped person	1
Retired, Pensioner	5
Housewife	25

# ASK ALL → Cities

	%
Bogota	46
Medellin	8
Barranquilla	4
Cali	7
Bucaramanga	3
Pasto	2
Ibague	2
Popayan	1
Envigado	4
Sabaneta	5
Riohacha	2
Fundación	2
Desquebradas	1
Chinchina	1
Villavicencio	2
Pampiona	2
Santander de quilichao	1
Tulúa	4
Pradera	4

# ASK ALL → Religion

	%
Catholic	79
Evangelical	2
Christian	11
Jeovah's witness	1
Mormon	*
Other	*
None	7

# ASK ALL → Income

	%
High	3
Medium – High	6
Medium	11
Medium – Low	34
Low	32
Low - Low	13

# ASK ALL → Marital status

	%
Single	30
Married	41
Cohabitation	19
Divorced	6
Widowed	4

- END OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE -

#### **MISSION**

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance.

The ICRC also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles.

Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the Geneva Conventions and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It directs and coordinates the international activities conducted by the Movement in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.

#### **ABOUT IPSOS**

lpsos is a leading international research agency, with offices in over 60 countries worldwide and global reach.

Established in 1975, it conducts qualitative and quantitative research with the private, public and voluntary sectors. One of its key areas of specialization is in social and opinion research. This includes extensive work with a wide range of national and international NGOs, charities and aid organizations.

This study was coordinated by Ipsos Switzerland, with fieldwork in Colombia conducted by Ipsos Napoleón Franco, based in the country.

