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**Human security** is an approach to national and international security that gives primacy to human beings and their complex social and economic interactions. The human security focuses on the security of the [state](https://www.britannica.com/topic/state-sovereign-political-entity). The subjects of the human security approach are individuals, and its end goal is the protection of people from traditional (i.e., military) and nontraditional threats such as poverty and disease. Basically, human security means, first, safety from chronic threats like hunger, disease and repression and secondly, it means protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life whether in homes, in jobs or in communities. Such threats can exist at all levels of national income and development. In fact, this is the first definition that includes all types of people (including IDPs) and their security issues both in short and long term perspectives.

IDPs are "Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border".

Protection of IDPs has become an important issue among international organizations in the post Cold War period (after 1991). Prior to the Cold War period the international community used the concept of humanitarian-intervention2 and protected large numbers of civilians both from armed conflicts and human rights violations. However, after the Cold War ended, the concept of human security emerged and many national and international organizations began to employ this concept to call for the necessity of international community in protecting those who are victimized in civil wars and armed connflicts.

The UNDP-Human Development Report (HDR) published in 1994 is a key reference on human security. The UNDP-HDR identifies two important pillars of human security: freedom from fear and freedom from want. Freedom from fear mainly refers to threats caused by violent incidents such as armed conflicts, ethnic strife and human-rights violations, while freedom from want relates to non-violent threats such as hunger, disease, and natural disasters . One of the most important characteristics of the above mentioned UNDP report is that, the necessity of protection for both refugees and IDPs. The concept of human security enshrined in the report highlighted that how IDPs and refugees should be recognized as victims of armed conflicts and be the target of protection both at the national and international level.

It has been generally conceived that the protection of IDPs mainly relies on the national government. However it has been found that not all national governments fulfill this responsibility in the same manner and provide protection for its IDPs. Some national regimes deliberately subject their peoples to displacement, starvation, mass killings and other serious human rights violations while other countries do not have the capacity to deal with the problem on their own. In situation where states are unwilling or unable to protect IDPs in their countries the responsibility for protecting them goes to the international community.

International community provides two types of protection for IDPs: firstly, when human rights are violated and secondly, when people are affected by armed conflicts. As for the human rights violations, international community established a set of guiding principles in 1998. The guiding principle has five sections and thirty principles. Each section and principle explains the basic rights of IDPs and clarifies the role of national government and international community in protecting IDPs.

Over the past decade, many international such as UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, IOM, UN-OCHA, UN-HABITAT, World Food Program and the World Bank have initiated projects for protecting IDPs and have shown commitment to provide protection to the IDPs. Protection is a process where international organizations safeguard the basic rights of IDPs (both during and after the conflict).