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Israel used white phosphorus over civilian homes in Lebanon, HRW says

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Human Rights Watch (HRW) has **urged** Israel to halt the use of white phosphorus munitions, reporting their use over civilian homes in Yohmor, a southern town in Lebanon, on March 3.

HRW's accusation of white phosphorus use is backed by seven images of airburst chemical munitions, which the rights group verified and geolocated. In one of the images, HRW identified use of the chemical by the shape of a smoke cloud. Other images HRW published revealed fires

on residential rooftops, balconies, and at least one car. We use cookies to improve the experience of our website. By continuing to use our website, you consent to the use of cookies. To understand more about how we use cookies, please see our [Privacy Policy](#). **Accept & Continue**

exposed Israel use of the chemical in Gaza.

White phosphorus can be dispersed in artillery shells, bombs, and rockets. The **dangerous** chemical ignites when exposed to oxygen, setting civilian objects on fire. On contact with human skin, white phosphorus can **dissolve** flesh to the bone, lead to organ failure, and cause wounds that re-inflame once the dressings are removed, with seemingly minor burns often being fatal.

International humanitarian law restricts the use of white phosphorus. Protocol III of the **Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons** prohibits “the use of weapons primarily designed to set fire to objects or cause burn injuries against civilians.” While Israel is a party to the convention, it is not a party to Protocol III.

Ramzi Kaiss, Lebanon researcher at HRW, urged Israel to halt the use of white phosphorus and urged all states supplying Israel with weapons to suspend shipments.

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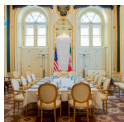
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THIS DAY @ LAW

Justinian I issues Corpus Juris Civilis

On April 7, 529 Byzantine Emperor Justinian I issued the first draft of Corpus Juris Civilis (Body of Civil Law). The Justinian Code represented a revival of Roman Law and a compilation of laws for the Byzantine Empire. It became the foundation of Canon Law in the Catholic Church and Civil Law in modern Europe. Learn more about the [Corpus Juris Civilis](#).

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