



## The challenges of respecting human rights in disaster situations

Natural or man-made disaster situations are times when respect for human rights may be needed most, but such instances also appear to create challenges for public authorities to fully respect all human rights. This conundrum could be understood through the prism of the exigencies of such moments where on most occasions, saving lives and maintaining public order and safety rank highest in the order of priorities. Understandably, human rights laws permit States to a certain extent to either limit the enjoyment of certain rights or derogate from their obligations as prescribed by international and national laws in order to guarantee public order.

### Applicable to:

Stakeholders: [Rule of law](#)

Disaster Phases: [Response](#)

Types of Actors Concerned: [Government](#), [National civil protection body](#)

Hazards: [Natural hazards](#), [Man-made non-intentional hazards or emergency situations](#)

### Recommendations:

- [Employ an overarching rights-based approach in disaster policies and operations](#)

### Source

[Deliverable D6.1 "Report on European fundamental rights in disaster situations" \(page 8\)](#)

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