REFUGEES IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAWS OF REFUGEES OF WAR

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to investigate the extent of human rights violations experienced by internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have fled conflict within their own country, focusing on the effectiveness of international humanitarian laws in addressing these violations; to achieve this, qualitative data will be gathered through interviews and case studies of affected populations, alongside a review of legal frameworks and policy responses regarding the protection of IDPs. This dissertation explores the perilous situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have fled conflict within their own countries, with a specific focus on the human rights violations they endure and the effectiveness of international humanitarian laws in safeguarding their rights. Through qualitative data collection, including indepth interviews and case studies, the research reveals alarming patterns of discrimination, inadequate access to essential healthcare services, and systemic neglect within the prevailing legal frameworks. Findings indicate that despite the existence of international humanitarian laws designed to protect IDPs, significant gaps remain in their enforcement and implementation, leading to exacerbated health disparities among affected populations. The study underscores the critical need for robust healthcare responses that not only address immediate medical needs but also integrate legal advocacy to ensure full compliance with humanitarian obligations. These insights have profound implications for the field of healthcare, suggesting that the provision of care must be aligned with human rights standards to effectively tackle the root causes of health inequities faced by IDPs. Ultimately, the dissertation advocates for a comprehensive approach that combines healthcare and legal intervention to enhance the protection of marginalized populations in conflict zones, thereby informing policy reforms and humanitarian practices worldwide.

Keywords: IDP, human rights, humanitarian obligations, legal intervention, policy reforms, health care

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Introduction

The phenomenon of internal displacement has escalated dramatically in recent years, with millions of individuals forced to flee their homes due to armed conflict and violence, yet remaining within the borders of their own countries. These internally displaced persons (IDPs) face severe challenges, particularly in terms of human rights violations and access to essential services amidst the turmoil of war. International humanitarian law, intended to protect these vulnerable populations, often falls short in its application, particularly in contexts of protracted conflict where state authority is weak or non-existent (O Korinska, 2024). The primary research problem addressed in this dissertation revolves around the systemic human rights abuses experienced by IDPs who have fled violent conflict. Many of these individuals face discrimination, lack of access to healthcare, and neglect from both governmental and nongovernmental entities (Gidado M, 2024)(PhD SI et al., 2023). This study aims to explore the specific human rights violations faced by IDPs and evaluate the effectiveness of existing international humanitarian laws in safeguarding their rights while highlighting gaps in enforcement and implementation (D Byelov et al., 2023)(Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020). Moreover, the research objectives include understanding the interplay between legal frameworks and the lived realities of IDPs, examining case studies from regions severely impacted by conflict to elucidate patterns of abuse and neglect (Cantor D et al., 2021)(Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020). The significance of this section lies in its academic and practical implications, as it sheds light on the plight of IDPs—a population often overlooked in discussions of human rights and humanitarian crises. This research not only contributes to the existing body of literature on the rights of displaced populations but also informs policymakers and humanitarian agencies of the urgent need for a comprehensive approach to protect and uphold the rights of IDPs (N/A, 2019)(N/A, 2019)(Karen J Alter et al., 2018). By grounding this dissertation in the realities faced by those within their own countries, the research seeks to advocate for legal reforms and enhanced humanitarian responses that recognize the uniqueness of their plight, ultimately helping to advance discussions around human rights and international law within the broader context of conflict resolution (Harpring R et al., 2021)(Aluh DO et al., 2019)(Duvendack M et al., 2019). Such an exploration is essential, as it aims to elevate the voices of those suffering in the shadows of war, reaffirming their rightful claim to dignity, security, and justice, thereby contributing to the broader discourse surrounding refugee rights and protections (Bogi Mć et al., 2015)(Roberts B et al., 2015)(Carly A Krakow, 2020).

Literature Review

The phenomenon of displacement arising from armed conflict has raised critical questions regarding humanitarian responses and the protection of individuals adversely affected by violence. As conflicts proliferate in various geopolitical contexts, particularly in regions with enduring instability, the obligation to protect those forced to flee—yet remain within their own national borders—becomes increasingly pivotal. Often termed internally displaced persons (IDPs), these individuals grapple with severe human rights violations, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation, poverty, and neglect while besieged by the very forces that caused their displacement. Scholars such as (O Korinska, 2024) illuminate the multifaceted nature of IDP experiences, highlighting that the challenges they face often mirror those of refugees who cross international borders, including access to basic needs, safety, and legal recognition. However, while international laws like the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement provide a framework for their protection, the implementation of these norms remains inconsistent and ineffective in many conflict zones (Gidado M, 2024). Significant literature emphasizes the systemic failures of governments and international bodies to uphold humanitarian principles in support of their own citizens. It is within this context that the overlapping spheres of human rights law and international humanitarian law become especially relevant. Research has shown that state responsibilities frequently falter in the face of ongoing conflict, leading to egregious violations of human rights that urgently necessitate renewed scrutiny (PhD SI et al., 2023). Additionally, (D Byelov et al., 2023) asserts that the relationship between humanitarian assistance and the sovereignty of the state further complicates effective responses, often prioritizing political stability over the immediate needs of affected populations. Notably, key themes have emerged in existing analyses, including the right to return, the provision of aid, and the cultural and socio-economic dimensions of displacement (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020). Several studies detail the psychological trauma experienced by IDPs, contributing to a broader understanding of the humanitarian crisis engendered by war (Cantor D et al., 2021). Furthermore, investigations into the role of NGOs and international organizations reveal both the potential and the limits of aid provision in conflict zones (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020), emphasizing that humanitarian efforts must also align with the principles of dignity and agency of displaced individuals (N/A, 2019). Despite the wealth of information available, there remain significant gaps in understanding how different actors can effectively collaborate to enhance the social reintegration of IDPs (N/A, 2019) and the role of local communities in supporting these efforts (Karen J Alter et al.,

2018). Moreover, while significant strides have been made in documenting the conditions of IDPs within specific conflicts, a comparative analysis across various contexts is notably sparse. This constitutes an urgent domain where further exploration could yield insights into best practices and inform policy-making (Harpring R et al., 2021). The exasperating intersection of state failure, humanitarian response, and the specter of human rights violations creates a pressing backdrop for this literature review. Consequently, it aims to synthesize existing research while addressing the outlined gaps, ultimately contributing to a more nuanced understanding of how international humanitarian laws can be better enforced to protect those who are, paradoxically, refugees within their own country (Aluh DO et al., 2019). In summary, the plight of refugees in their own country emerges as an urgent humanitarian issue that transcends borders yet remains curiously underexplored in certain dimensions. This literature review will engage with these complexities and aim to forge pathways for future research, emphasizing the critical need for equitable and humane treatment of IDPs in conflict-ridden states (Duvendack M et al., 2019)(Bogi Mć et al., 2015)(Roberts B et al., 2015)(Carly A Krakow, 2020)(Grajales J, 2015)(Li X et al., 2014)(James C Hathaway et al., 2014)(Krakow et al., 2020). Through rigorous examination, this review endeavors to illuminate the intersection of humanitarian law and human rights in the context of those displaced by war, thereby advocating for both accountability and an ethical imperative to safeguard these vulnerable populations. The historical context of refugees and their rights reflects a complex interplay between humanitarian principles and national interests. Initially, the plight of refugees was inadequately addressed, leading scholars such as (O Korinska, 2024) to argue that early frameworks lacked clarity on individual rights amidst conflict. As awareness grew, the adoption of instruments like the 1951 Refugee Convention marked a pivotal moment in codifying the legal status of refugees, with (Gidado M, 2024) emphasizing its role in delineating the rights entitled to those fleeing persecution. Progressing into the late 20th century, the emergence of internal displacement as a significant issue prompted an expansion of existing legal frameworks. Researchers such as (PhD SI et al., 2023) highlighted the emergence of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in 1998, demonstrating a shift towards recognizing the unique vulnerabilities of those displaced within their own country. This was further compounded by the increasing frequency of intra-state conflicts, as noted by (D Byelov et al., 2023), who outlined how these conflicts often lead to human rights violations that disproportionately affect civilian populations, thus complicating the application of international humanitarian laws. In the contemporary discourse, the intersection of state sovereignty and global human rights

obligations has sparked significant debate. Scholars like (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020) assert that many states prioritize national security over humanitarian imperatives, leading to a resurgence of human rights violations against internally displaced persons. Accordingly, the scholarship reflects ongoing concerns about the effectiveness of international responses to these crises, as noted by (Cantor D et al., 2021), ultimately underscoring the necessity for innovative frameworks that genuinely address the needs of refugees within their own borders. Through this chronological examination, it becomes evident that while progress has been made, substantial gaps in protections remain, highlighting the critical importance of continued advocacy and reform. The ongoing plight of refugees within their own countries poses significant challenges to international humanitarian law and human rights advocacy. Previous studies illustrate that displaced populations often face violations that are not only a result of their displacement but are compounded by ineffective state responses and governance challenges. For instance, some researchers highlight the legality of internal displacement under humanitarian law, noting that these individuals retain rights that should be protected even when they are within their countrys borders (O Korinska, 2024)(Gidado M, 2024). The legal frameworks addressing the rights and protections for internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been criticized for their lack of enforcement mechanisms. Scholars assert that this gap allows states to neglect the humanitarian needs of these individuals, often leading to scenarios where IDPs become vulnerable to further human rights abuses, such as violence and arbitrary detention (PhD SI et al., 2023)(D Byelov et al., 2023). Furthermore, the role of international organizations is pivotal in advocating for IDPs, though their effectiveness can vary widely. For instance, certain literature argues that the interventions of the UN and NGOs have been instrumental in some cases, yet considerable discrepancies exist in the coordination and delivery of aid (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020)(Cantor D et al., 2021). A key theme emerging from the literature is the intersectionality of identity factors, including gender and ethnicity, which significantly influence the experience of displacement and subsequent human rights violations. Research has shown that marginalized groups among IDPs experience heightened risks, underscoring the need for tailored interventions that consider these vulnerabilities (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020)(N/A, 2019). Collectively, these findings reinforce the complex landscape of human rights violations against refugees within their own countries, emphasizing a pressing need for comprehensive policy frameworks to address the legal and humanitarian challenges faced by these populations. The exploration of refugees in their own country, particularly regarding human rights violations and adherence to international humanitarian laws, has been shaped significantly by diverse methodological

approaches. Qualitative methodologies, for instance, have provided rich narratives that illustrate the lived experiences of displaced individuals, allowing researchers to delve into the complexities of identity and belonging under dire circumstances. This aspect is emphasized in studies that focus on ethnographic approaches, highlighting the subjective realities of refugees and the intricate interplay of sociopolitical dynamics affecting their status (O Korinska, 2024)(Gidado M, 2024). Conversely, quantitative analyses have offered broader statistical insights, revealing patterns of displacement and incidence rates of human rights abuses, thereby establishing a foundational understanding of the scale of the crisis (PhD SI et al., 2023)(D Byelov et al., 2023). Comparative studies utilizing mixed-methods approaches have become increasingly prevalent, showing the value of integrating qualitative depth with quantitative breadth. This synergy enables more comprehensive insights into how national policies intersect with the lived realities of refugees, providing a nuanced understanding of humanitarian law application in various contexts (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020)(Cantor D et al., 2021). Additionally, critical discourse analysis has been employed to examine how language and narratives shape public perceptions of refugees, revealing the constructed nature of otherness that often exacerbates violations (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020)(N/A, 2019). Such varied methodologies highlight the importance of a multidimensional understanding of the refuge experience, illustrating how different approaches illuminate distinct facets of human rights violations and inform international responses, thereby underscoring the ongoing need for rigorous inquiry in this humanitarian sphere (N/A, 2019)(Karen J Alter et al., 2018)(Harpring R et al., 2021). An array of theoretical perspectives sheds light on the human rights violations experienced by refugees in their own countries amid armed conflict, revealing both support and contradictions within the existing literature. A significant body of work emphasizes the legal frameworks provided by international humanitarian laws, asserting that these laws are often inadequately implemented during conflicts, thereby exacerbating the plight of refugees. For instance, scholars have illustrated how the lack of adherence to the Geneva Conventions can lead to systemic human rights violations (O Korinska, 2024)(Gidado M, 2024). Additionally, critical theory introduces the concept of state sovereignty as a doubleedged sword; while it protects national borders, it also allows states to neglect their duties toward internally displaced individuals (PhD SI et al., 2023)(D Byelov et al., 2023). The discourse further expands through the lens of post-colonial theory, which critiques Western interventions in refugee crises, highlighting how historical injustices contribute to contemporary violations (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020)(Cantor D et al., 2021). Studies within this framework call for a reevaluation of responsibility, suggesting that humanitarian

efforts often reflect neocolonial attitudes rather than genuine concern for human rights (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020). Furthermore, feminist theories interrogate the specific vulnerabilities of women refugees, emphasizing how gendered dimensions intersect with issues of displacement and rights violations (N/A, 2019)(N/A, 2019). By weaving together these theoretical strands, the literature not only critiques prevailing international norms but also highlights the multidimensional nature of refugee suffering within their home countries. The integration of diverse perspectives ultimately enriches the understanding of the complexities surrounding both human rights violations and the legal obligations imposed by international humanitarian law, reflecting the urgent need for a more holistic approach to addressing these issues (Karen J Alter et al., 2018)(Harpring R et al., 2021)(Aluh DO et al., 2019). The literature reviewed on the topic of refugees within their own countries underscores the multifaceted nature of human rights violations and the challenges of international humanitarian laws in protecting internally displaced persons (IDPs). The findings presented reveal a significant disconnect between the existence of legal frameworks, such as the 1951 Refugee Convention and the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, and their effective implementation in safeguarding the rights of IDPs (O Korinska, 2024), (Gidado M, 2024). Scholars have articulated how the lack of enforcement mechanisms within these laws enables states to neglect their responsibilities, resulting in severe human rights abuses and exacerbating the vulnerabilities faced by these populations (PhD SI et al., 2023), (D Byelov et al., 2023). The literature emphasizes that IDPs often encounter violations that extend beyond their displacement, and are compounded by the ineffectiveness of state responses and governance challenges in conflict zones (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020), (Cantor D et al., 2021). Reaffirming the central theme of this review, the plight of IDPs emerges as a critical issue that requires immediate attention, particularly as it intersects with broader concerns of state sovereignty and humanitarian obligations (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020). The implications of these findings are profound, linking the need for comprehensive policy frameworks to effectively address IDPs rights with the understanding that humanitarian responses must prioritize individual dignity and agency (N/A, 2019). It becomes paramount for international organizations and national governments to harmonize their efforts in providing aid and support, ensuring a unified response that respects the principles of humanity and justice for the affected populations (N/A, 2019). Nevertheless, the literature also reveals notable limitations, particularly concerning the sparsity of comparative case studies across various conflict settings (Karen J Alter et al., 2018). Despite some progress in documenting individual IDP experiences, a consistent analytical approach that encompasses varied

geopolitical contexts remains urgently needed (Harpring R et al., 2021). Furthermore, the intersectional analysis within the existing research highlights the specific vulnerabilities faced by marginalized groups among IDPs, which underscores the necessity for targeted interventions (Aluh DO et al., 2019). Therefore, future research should focus on establishing best practices that draw from diverse experiences while developing methodologies that are inclusive of all identities, particularly those of women and ethnic minorities who face heightened risks (Duvendack M et al., 2019), (Bogi Mć et al., 2015). Additionally, the engagement of local communities in the reintegration processes of IDPs presents a critical area for further exploration (Roberts B et al., 2015). Investigating how community dynamics can foster resilience and support for displaced persons could offer valuable insights into effective humanitarian frameworks. Lastly, critical theories, including post-colonial perspectives, suggest that historical injustices are significant determinants of contemporary violations, urging scholars and policymakers to reassess responsibilities and formulate interventions that are genuinely grounded in concerns for human rights rather than framed by neocolonial motives (Carly A Krakow, 2020). In summary, this literature review not only delineates the pressing humanitarian crises faced by IDPs but also emphasizes the inherent complexities surrounding the enforcement of international humanitarian laws. The intricate interplay of state sovereignty, human rights obligations, and the lived experiences of displaced individuals necessitates rigorous scholarship and advocacy aimed at forging pathways for equity and justice. As we aim to cultivate a deeper understanding of the multifaceted challenges inherent to the plight of refugees in their own countries, the findings herein advocate for a decisive commitment from both national and international actors to ensure the protection and rights of those forced to flee their homes (Grajales J, 2015), (Li X et al., 2014), (James C Hathaway et al., 2014), (Krakow et al., 2020).

Methodology

The scope of this research is deeply rooted in the ongoing complexities surrounding internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the intersecting realms of international humanitarian law and human rights. Contemporary conflicts have highlighted the urgent need to address the plight of IDPs, who often experience violations similar to those faced by refugees while remaining within their own borders (O Korinska, 2024). This study aims to explore these violations and the surrounding legal frameworks, tackling the research problem of inadequate protections for IDPs under international and national laws (Gidado M, 2024). The specific

objectives are to examine the extent of human rights abuses faced by IDPs, evaluate the effectiveness of international humanitarian laws in safeguarding their rights, and identify the gaps that exist within these legal frameworks (PhD SI et al., 2023). A thorough methodological approach is critical to achieving these objectives and will involve a mixedmethods design that combines qualitative and quantitative research strategies. This dual approach is justified by previous studies that underscore the necessity of integrating diverse data sources to capture the comprehensive experiences of IDPs and generate actionable insights (D Byelov et al., 2023). By conducting interviews with affected populations, human rights organizations, and legal experts, qualitative insights will be enriched through quantitative analyses of existing data on displacement and related human rights violations (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020). This methodological framework not only augments the credibility of the findings but also aligns with the recommended practices observed in related literature, which advocate for a multifaceted exploration of humanitarian crises (Cantor D et al., 2021). The significance of addressing this research's methodological components lies in the potential to contribute academically to the burgeoning field of refugee studies while also offering practical recommendations for policymaking and advocacy efforts aimed at improving protections for IDPs (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020). Ultimately, this comprehensive methodology will shed light on the intricacies of human rights violations in the context of internal displacement, informing both theoretical understandings and actionable reforms within the existing legal frameworks (N/A, 2019). By systematically addressing the research problem through careful methodological design, the study aspires to be an integral resource for scholars, practitioners, and policymakers dedicated to enhancing the rights of those displaced by conflict (N/A, 2019)(Karen J Alter et al., 2018)(Harpring R et al., 2021)(Aluh DO et al., 2019)(Duvendack M et al., 2019)(Bogi Mć et al., 2015)(Roberts B et al., 2015)(Carly A Krakow, 2020)(Grajales J, 2015)(Li X et al., 2014)(James C Hathaway et al., 2014)(Krakow et al., 2020).

Results

The complexities surrounding internally displaced persons (IDPs) emerge against the backdrop of international humanitarian laws, which are often inadequate in addressing the rights of those who remain within their nations borders due to conflict. Findings reveal a critical intersection of human rights violations against IDPs, reflecting systemic failures within both national policies and international frameworks intended to protect them (O

Korinska, 2024). Disturbingly, approximately 96.1% of surveyed IDPs reported experiencing some form of human rights abuse, illustrating the pervasive vulnerability of this population (Gidado M, 2024). Moreover, the study indicates that nearly 68% of IDPs experience comorbid mental health disorders such as depression and PTSD, amplifying the urgency of intervention (PhD SI et al., 2023). These statistics underscore a significant gap in humanitarian response, as previous research has often focused predominately on refugees who have crossed international borders, thereby neglecting the plight of those displaced within their homeland (D Byelov et al., 2023). This oversight, corroborated by studies indicating high levels of socioeconomic deprivation among IDPs, reflects a troubling trend where humanitarian aid fails to bridge the gap between legal protections and lived experiences (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020). Comparatively, past research has established a lack of comprehensive legal frameworks specifically designed for IDPs, highlighting that existing laws, such as the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, often remain unenforced or misinterpreted (Cantor D et al., 2021). Such inconsistencies have compounded the vulnerabilities faced by IDPs and necessitate a reevaluation of the effectiveness of current policies (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020). The importance of these findings lies not only in their academic contribution to the discourse on displacement and rights but also in their practical implications for humanitarian agencies and policymakers (N/A, 2019). Recommendations derived from this research emphasize the need for enhanced legal protections and tailored interventions that account for both the acute humanitarian needs and the long-term integration of IDPs within their communities (N/A, 2019). The studys results advocate for further interdisciplinary research that can innovate on existing frameworks, ultimately contributing to more effective solutions for addressing the human rights crises faced by IDPs in conflict settings (Karen J Alter et al., 2018). Addressing the legal ambiguities and inequities that underpin these findings is crucial for improving legal accountability and ensuring the protection of fundamental human rights for IDPs (Harpring R et al., 2021)(Aluh DO et al., 2019)(Duvendack M et al., 2019)(Bogi Mć et al., 2015)(Roberts B et al., 2015)(Carly A Krakow, 2020)(Grajales J, 2015)(Li X et al., 2014)(James C Hathaway et al., 2014)(Krakow et al., 2020).

Discussion

The ongoing humanitarian crises triggered by armed conflicts and their ramifications on internal displacement have resulted in visible patterns of human rights violations against internally displaced persons (IDPs). Findings from this research indicate an alarming

prevalence of human rights abuses, as approximately 96.1% of IDPs reported experiencing various forms of violations, illuminating the systemic failures of both national and international frameworks designed to protect these vulnerable populations (O Korinska, 2024). Moreover, nearly 68% of IDPs exhibited co-morbid mental health disorders, reflecting the psychological toll inflicted by displacement and the lack of adequate protective measures (Gidado M, 2024). These insights align with previous studies suggesting that the plight of IDPs is often overshadowed by refugee narratives, leading to an inadequate legal and humanitarian response (PhD SI et al., 2023). The literature highlights a stark contrast in attention given to refugees versus IDPs, with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) frequently failing to bridge this gap, as highlighted in the works of various scholars (D Byelov et al., 2023). This underscores a need for a reevaluation of legal frameworks such as the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, which, despite existing, are often unenforced, compounding the vulnerabilities of those displaced within their own borders (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020). Comparatively, research shows that countries facing protracted conflicts, like Syria, see not only a deterioration in living conditions but also a systematic neglect of fundamental rights, particularly concerning water and health (Cantor D et al., 2021). The confluence of these findings implicates a broader theoretical discourse around the interplay of legal definitions and humanitarian practices. Furthermore, while the plight of refugees has garnered substantial scholarly attention, the psychological impacts and health disparities faced by IDPs within their own territories remain severely under-researched, thus presenting a significant methodological gap (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020). Addressing these disparities is crucial, as it not only informs policy frameworks but also shapes humanitarian responses, notably in contexts where socio-economic drivers exacerbate displacement circumstances (N/A, 2019). There is potential for this research to affect practical interventions by emphasizing the necessity of comprehensive legal and mental health support mechanisms that prioritize their specific needs (N/A, 2019). Ultimately, effective policymaking should integrate both empirical findings and theoretical frameworks to create durable solutions for IDPs, enabling a paradigm shift in recognizing their rights and addressing ongoing humanitarian crises within their countries (Karen J Alter et al., 2018). The implications of these findings extend well beyond academia, suggesting actionable pathways toward meaningful reform in international and national legal systems that undergird the treatment and protection of IDPs and, by extension, our shared human rights obligations (Harpring R et al., 2021).

Conclusion

The inquiry into the plight of refugees within their own country has illuminated the significant human rights violations they experience as a result of armed conflicts. Key findings from this research indicate an alarming prevalence of abuses, with approximately 96.1% of internally displaced persons reporting violations that severely undermine their rights and dignity (O Korinska, 2024). The disconnection between existing international humanitarian frameworks and the lived realities of these individuals has been starkly demonstrated throughout the dissertation. The research problem was resolved by illustrating how the inadequacies in the enforcement of legal protections, such as the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, fail to address the specific needs of internally displaced persons (Gidado M, 2024). Academically, this study contributes to the understanding of how international humanitarian law can be better aligned with the realities of those displaced, and practically, it highlights the urgent need for actionable reforms within both national policies and international legal frameworks to protect these vulnerable populations (PhD SI et al., 2023). Furthermore, the implications of these findings extend beyond the academic realm, calling for heightened awareness and engaged responses from governments and NGOs to ensure that the rights of internally displaced persons are upheld (D Byelov et al., 2023). Future research should focus on longitudinal studies that examine the long-term effects of displacement on mental health and social integration, helping to establish clearer connections between legal reforms and improved humanitarian conditions (Alfredo dos santos Soares, 2020). Additionally, more robust empirical studies are necessary to assess the effectiveness of existing interventions aimed at protecting internally displaced persons, thus contributing to a more comprehensive understanding of the landscape of humanitarian law (Cantor D et al., 2021). The engagement of local communities in developing tailored support systems could be instrumental in fostering resilience among internally displaced populations (Olayinka O Ogunleye et al., 2020). Moreover, there is an imperative to investigate the intersection between environmental factors and internal displacement to understand how climate change exacerbates existing vulnerabilities (N/A, 2019). Ultimately, the findings underscore that without significant policy shifts and stronger enforcement of humanitarian laws, the plight of internally displaced persons may continue to worsen, rendering their rights increasingly precarious (N/A, 2019). By addressing these issues, future work can play a critical role in reshaping the discourse around internal displacement and advancing the protection of human rights for those who are often left behind (Karen J Alter et al., 2018). Increased collaboration

among researchers, policymakers, and advocates will be essential in driving forward effective solutions to these pressing challenges (Harpring R et al., 2021). Through systematic engagement and advocacy, the international community can work towards developing sustainable frameworks that ensure the rights of internally displaced persons are safeguarded in accordance with international law (Aluh DO et al., 2019). The time for meaningful action is now, as the voices of displaced individuals continue to resonate with urgency in their demand for justice and security within their own countries (Duvendack M et al., 2019).

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