

The Red Cross – Glossary

carry out verb [transitive]

to do a particular piece of work, research etc

civilian noun [countable]

someone who does not belong to the armed forces or the police

Over 700 million civilians died as a direct result of the bombings.

conflict noun [countable/uncountable]

fighting between countries or groups

distribute verb [transitive]

to give something such as food, clothes, or money to a group of people, especially so that each person gets an equal share

horrified adjective

very shocked or frightened

humanitarian adjective

relating to efforts to help people who are living in very bad conditions and are suffering because of a war, flood, earthquake etc

Humanitarian relief efforts have been stopped by the attacks.

local adjective

in or related to the area that you live in, or to the particular area that you are talking about

natural disaster noun [countable]

something that happens in nature and causes a lot of damage or kills a lot of people, for example a flood or an earthquake

network noun [countable]

a group of people, organizations, or places that are connected or that work together

neutrality noun [uncountable]

behaviour that does not show strong feelings or opinions

organization noun [countable]

a group of people who have a particular shared purpose or interest, for example a political party or charity

a voluntary/charitable/aid organization

play a part phrase

to be involved in something, especially in a way that is important

principle noun [countable]

a basic belief, theory, or rule that has a major influence on the way in which something is done

prisoners of war noun [countable]

someone, usually a soldier, who is held as a prisoner by the enemy during a war

regardless adverb

without being affected or influenced by someone or something

relief noun [uncountable]

food, clothes, and money given to people who are in urgent need of help, for example because of a war or other bad situation

food/disaster/earthquake relief

reunite verb [intransitive/transitive]

to bring people or groups together again after they have not seen each other for a period of time, or to be brought together again after a period of time

seed noun [uncountable/countable]

a small hard part produced by a plant that can grow into a new plant of the same type

staff noun [singular/uncountable]

the people who work for a particular company, organization, or institution

suffer verb [intransitive/transitive]

to feel pain in your body or your mind

supplies noun [plural]

things such as food, medicine, and equipment that you need to live or to perform a particular activity

The truck carried medicine and other supplies across the border.

tool noun [countable]

a piece of equipment, usually one that you hold in your hand, that is designed to do a particular type of work

treatment noun [uncountable]

the particular way in which you deal with someone

the treatment of prisoners

wounded adjective

injured, especially with a cut in your flesh

The wounded men were taken to hospital.