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## The law of targeting / Michael N. Schmitt and Eric Widmar

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Abstract:	<p>The law of targeting rests at the heart of modern warfare, as well as contemporary controversies over such matters as drones and autonomous weapons. While the weaponry and tactics of targeting continue to evolve with unprecedented advances in technology and innovation, the fundamental principles of targeting law will remain binding rules for the foreseeable future. This chapter examines the law governing who or what is a lawful target, which weapons are permissible, what precautions must be taken prior to an attack, how operations are limited by potential collateral damage and where targeting may take place. A firm understanding of these norms will enable military forces to carry out their missions effectively while minimizing harm to civilians, civilian property and other protected persons and objects.</p>
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