

Côte d'Ivoire: Both Sides Responsible for War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity

Amnesty International

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(...) Forces allied to both former Côte d'Ivoire President Laurent Gbagbo and incumbent Alassane Ouattara committed war crimes and crimes against humanity during six months of deadly violence following disputed elections, Amnesty International said in a report released today.

They looked at his identity card and shot him dead: Six months of post-electoral violence contains shocking testimonies from victims and witnesses to massacres, rapes and manhunts and concludes that forces loyal to both parties committed serious violations of international humanitarian law.

"Human rights violations are still being committed against real or perceived supporters of Laurent Gbagbo both in Abidjan and in the west of the country," said Gaëtan Mootoo, Amnesty International's West Africa researcher.

"Alassane Ouattara's failure to condemn these acts could be seen as a green light by many of his security forces and other armed elements fighting with them to continue. Alassane Ouattara must publically state that all violence against the civilian population must stop immediately." (...)

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