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Dr René Värk Värk is Associate Professor of International Law at the School of Law, University of Tartu, Estonia. His specialities are military related law (use of armed force, law of armed conflict, national defence law), and diplomatic and consular law. He holds three bachelor's degrees (law, history, international relations), master's degree in public international law and doctoral degree in law. His doctoral thesis examined the use of armed force against terrorist non-state actors. Värk is a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration. In 2019–2021, he served as a military legal advisor at the United Nations peace operation in Mali. Värk is regular guest lecturer at the Estonian School of Diplomacy, Estonian Academy of Security Sciences and Baltic Defence College. He has taught also in other Estonian and foreign institutions. In recent years, he has been involved in international law training projects in Afghanistan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Ukraine and Tajikistan supported by the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His publications include numerous articles on different issues of international law and two Estonian language books (Introduction to International Law and Diplomatic Law).

