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## HF SIGNAL 01 – STRUCTURE, ETHICS AND LEGAL FOUNDATION

Updated version – with binding operational conditions (May 2025)

Human Flag Association

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

HF SIGNAL 01 is a humanitarian and technical proposal designed to make the act of surrender recognizable, even by automated systems such as armed drones or semi-autonomous weapons.

In the context of digitalized conflict, where human contact is reduced, the gesture of surrender risks no longer being understood or respected. This project responds to that threat with a universal, non-hostile signal.

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### 2. SIGNAL STRUCTURE

HF SIGNAL 01 is a multi-channel signal composed of:

- Visual channel: white flag / white LED blinking at 7Hz
- Audio channel: continuous tone at 144.000 MHz for 7 seconds
- Digital channel: encrypted packet with flag, coordinates, timestamp and status “surrendered”

The signal is designed to be interpreted by both humans and automated systems.

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### 3. ETHICAL BASIS

Surrender is a human act. It is not defeat — it is a request for protection.

To ignore a surrender is to deny human dignity.

HF SIGNAL 01 is a codified gesture of humanity, ensuring that even an automated system can recognize a plea for mercy.

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#### 4. LEGAL FOUNDATION

HF SIGNAL 01 aligns with International Humanitarian Law, in particular:

- Geneva Conventions (1949), Common Article 3
- Protocol I, Article 41: “A person who clearly expresses an intention to surrender shall not be attacked.”

This is not a legal rule, but a tool to help uphold legal obligations.

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#### 5. OPERATIONAL USE – CONDITIONS

Use in military, armed, or security contexts is \*\*prohibited without a formal agreement\*\* with the Human Flag Association.

Any entity wishing to implement it in operational systems must:

- sign an ethical-operational agreement
- allow technical verification and signal traceability
- accept all ethical limits and conditions defined by the project

If direct installation by the Association is not possible, the implementing entity must:

- publicly declare its use
- provide technical proof of installation
- accept remote monitoring, logs or verifiable inspection

These conditions apply \*\*to all users\*\*, without geopolitical exceptions.

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## 6. LICENSE

- Free to use for civil, educational, and humanitarian purposes
- Operational use prohibited without agreement
- License: Creative Commons BY-NC-ND 4.0

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## 7. CONTACT

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