

Just War Theory

Using what you have learnt, complete the gaps to describe what the Just War theory is.

The idea of a '_____ ' war was developed by St. Thomas _____.

It says that a war is _____ if it meets the following criteria:

1. It is approved by a legitimate _____ (such as the government or the United _____).
2. There must be a good reasons for the war (such as _____ - _____).
3. It must be fought with the aim of establishing _____.
4. There must be a _____ chance of _____.
5. It must be the _____ resort (so you must try and negotiate first).
6. The _____ amount of force needed to win must be used.
7. _____ must not be harmed.

Help Sheet

Stuck? Use these words to help you.

Aquinas; winning; authority; justified; minimum; self; reasonable; civilians; Nations

Just War Theory Answers

The idea of a '**just**' war was developed by St. Thomas **Aquinas**. It says that a war is **justified** if it meets the following criteria:

1. It is approved by a legitimate **authority** (such as the government or the United **Nations**).
2. There must be a good reasons for the war (such as **self-defence**).
3. It must be fought with the aim of establishing **peace**.
4. There must be a **reasonable** chance of **winning**.
5. It must be the **last** resort (so you must try and negotiate first).
6. The **minimum** amount of force needed to win must be used.
7. **Civilians** must not be harmed.