**Principles of a Just War**

* *Originating with Plato and Cicero; continued by St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas*

1. A war must have a just cause, confronting a danger that is beyond question.
2. It must be declared by a legitimate authority acting on behalf of the people.
3. It must be driven by the right intention, not ulterior, self-interested motives.
4. It must be a last resort.
5. It must be proportional, so that the harm inflicted does not outweigh the good achieved.
6. It must have a reasonable chance of success.
7. Civilians must not be targeted.