



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

### **Joint written statement\* submitted by General Arab Women Federation, Iranian Elite Research Center, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status; International Institute for Peace, a non-governmental organization on the roster**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[21 August 2013]

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\* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

## **Violations of humanitarian rights in the Syrian Arab Republic**

For more than 2 years attempts have been made to destabilize the Syrian Arab Republic. It is clear that what is happening in Syria is more than a foreign invasion; the aim is to destroy and impoverish the country.

Today it is admitted by the international community that the aggression against Syrian people is a human tragedy. The massacres committed of innocent civilians, of the army, the police; the explosions of trains, transport, airports, electricity, schools and religious places; kidnapping and assassinating professionals, journalists, clergy selected on a religious basis under the rules of fanatic al-sharia.

The Syrian government has been unfairly treated by the mainstream media. Instead of informing about the realities on the ground, it has been promoting chaos and war through lies. This biased reporting, using particular sources of information – the so-called British secret services, the Observatory of Syrian Human rights, led by people who have never been in Syria and by the allied countries media directed to overthrow of the government at any cost.

The tensions and conflicts that have been created primarily by the US and its allies in the countries of the Middle East and now Syria under the pretext of helping the countries to establish democracy, they have mobilized world opinion against Syria, violating the country's sovereignty, enforcing unilateral punishment and imposing economic sanctions to starve the people.

We are shocked by this contradiction and the use of double standards primarily by the US and its allies. The US which claims to be fighting terrorism for more than 10 years, now closely collaborate with these groups whose leaders do not know other than the use of force and their multinational members do not know other than to kill and destroy. They are recruiting, training and arming them to the teeth and equip them with the most advanced communication tools, weapons, intelligence resources and logistical support, backed by an unlimited flow of petrodollars from Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

In contrast to what the ongoing propaganda war tries to make us believe, Syria is an institutional state which, despite the current difficulties imposed on it, has a functioning parliament, government and independent judicial system representing the legislative, executive and juridical branches of power. The functioning of the State is dependent on its institutions and not on the arbitrary will of certain individuals accountable to no one as is the case in the Gulf countries where Syrians occupied the high level positions as ministers for many years. This clearly shows that, despite the decision of a few responsible officials to leave the country, it did not create a political crisis in the day-to-day governance of the country as claimed by the enemies of Syria.

The real reason of this aggression against Syria is its vanguard position in the Pan-Arab movement, its support of the Palestinians in their struggle for self-determination and its resistance to Israeli hegemony in the region, and above all the US and the western concern for the security and protection of Israel and the control of the oil and gas and the diversion of the pipelines from Syria.

We consider it a crime against humanity to destroy a nation, kill its people for certain countries' political aims and national interests. It is in complete violation of the United Nations Charter and international law.

We believe that only the United Nations, in full respect of the UN Charter, can bring together the Syrian people for them to decide their own destiny, to restore the Syrians' long

lost trust in the international community - a trust that is crucial to peace in the country and in the region.

We therefore call on the UN and the international community to take the necessary steps to:

- Stop the war and put an end to this human tragedy.
- Ban the delivery of arms destined to Syria and all kind of logistical support particularly to the opposition.
- Stop the recruitment and sending of multinational fanatic groups.
- The countries that have been financing the war must be made accountable for their crimes against humanity.

Syria is the land with the oldest civilization, the land of humanity where all religions have lived and will continue to live in harmony must have peace.

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