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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by the Institut international pour la paix, la justice et les droits de l'Homme- IIPJDH, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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

[25 May 2015]

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

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Trafficking and Blackmailing of people in conflict areas and the dangers they face after they leave their countries, and the responsibilities and duties of the states in those areas

The International Institute for Peace, Justice and Human rights notes that people in conflict zones have never been more in need of international assistance than at present. IIPJHR said in the statement that men, women, elderly people and children living in areas of conflict urgently need the United Nations, the Human Rights Council and NGOs to take care of them, protect them and help them.

It said 2015 has been *annus horribilis* for all those human beings who urgently need to leave their places of abode due to violent conflicts as they are usually the first victims when battles erupt. About 36 armed conflicts, open or latent, military or civil, are still shaking the world, IIPJHR said. According to the latest UNHCR data, at the end of 2013, nearly 51.2 million people were accounted for as refugees or displaced persons throughout the world. In 2014, that number increased by 5.5 million, including 1.4 million outside the borders of their native countries.

Such large-scale and disturbing movement of people is compounded by the horror of trafficking and exploitation of people trying to flee to safety, innocent victims who are duped by traffickers and divested by large amounts of cash as the price of being promised “means of escape.” Many such people have faced horrible deaths while being thwarted in their attempts to elicit support from many neighbouring countries.

The Mediterranean Sea has become a common grave under the gaze of the international community and of Europe, IIPJHR said.

Likewise the Bay of Bengal has become the antechamber of death for Bangladeshi and Myanmar’s Rohingya refugees who are repulsed with violence from neighbouring countries of Southeast Asia. And how many other places in the world have turned into mass graves amid a deafening silence of the media and governments and inaction from Western providers of weapons? IIPJHR asked in the statement.

“It is always possible to come to your noble assemblies to demand justice, to uphold and apply the law and international conventions, require a particular state to meet its obligations,” IIPJHR said.

“Yes, it is possible but it is neither sufficient nor effective!”

“It is always possible to imagine and organise punitive expeditions or military protection to put a little distance between rabid attackers and a civilian population doomed to a horrible death.

“Yes, it is possible but it is neither sufficient nor effective!”

“It is always possible to set up rescue boat flotillas to help the dying.

“Yes, it is possible but it is neither sufficient nor effective!”
