



## Security Council

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### **Identical letters dated 16 May 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

On instructions from my Government, and further to our previous letters regarding the attacks committed by the Turkish regime against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, in flagrant violation of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, Security Council resolutions and the principles governing friendly and good-neighbourly relations between States, I should like to convey to you the following information.

On instructions from the Turkish regime and under the supervision of occupying Turkish forces and their terrorist organization proxies, the so-called local council in Afrin district is striving to obliterate the Syrian national identity of this region and has taken measures that are aimed at stripping the region from Syria, fragmenting and isolating it geographically from the surrounding area, and undermining its legal status as an integral part of the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Those practices are in keeping with the hostile policies of the Erdoğan regime, which has built a concrete wall in order to strip Afrin district from northern Aleppo Governorate and has begun to disseminate Turkish culture in order to supplant Arab culture. Those actions portend an effort to repeat the taking of Iskenderun district from Syria by altering the identity and demographics of the region and obliterating its cultural characteristics. Those developments require the Security Council and the States members of the United Nations to pay close attention and take resolute and urgent action to prevent the Turkish regime from undermining the unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. They must also put an end Erdoğan's delusional efforts to revive the era of the Ottoman Empire, which has gone forever.

The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that the presence of any foreign military forces in its territory without its express consent constitutes aggression and occupation and will be treated as such. In that connection, it calls upon the Turkish regime to cease its hostile practices towards the Syrian Arab Republic, withdraw its military forces immediately and unconditionally from inside Syria, end its support for terrorist organizations and desist from its policies that are aimed at undermining the unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that the attacks committed by the Turkish regime and its practices and occupation of Syrian territory will not alter the legal status of that territory and the fact that it belongs to the Syrian Arab Republic, nor will they prejudice in any way the legal and sovereign rights of the Syrian Arab Republic.



The Syrian Arab Republic once again calls upon the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility to maintain international peace and security by putting an end to the Turkish regime's attacks against the sovereignty and territorial unity and integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, and by compelling that regime to withdraw its military forces immediately and unconditionally from Syrian territory and to stop supporting terrorism.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* **Bashar Ja'afari**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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