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Identical letters dated 16 November 2020 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, I should like to draw your attention to the following.

On 28 October 2020, an American delegation led by Nadine Maenza, the head of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, and Steve Berger, the pastor of an evangelical church in Nashville, the capital of the American State of Tennessee, illegally entered the 7 km zone in the countryside of Dayr al-Zawr Governorate controlled by Kurdish militias that are the proxies of the American occupiers. They met with the militias' Joint Presidency of the General and Executive Council and held a press conference. The following day, they went to the city of Tabaqah in Raqqah Governorate and met with the Joint Presidency of the Legislative Council of Tabaqah, visited several places in the city and held a press conference.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic condemns the visit by the American delegation because it is a violation of the sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic. The United Nations, in all its resolutions concerning my country, has reaffirmed that the sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic must be respected and rigorously observed. The aforementioned visit is also an attempt to promote separatist militias that are proxies of the American occupiers and to champion illegitimate entities that are backed by the occupiers.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic renews its call to the Security Council and the Secretary-General to put an end to the violations of international law and the Charter of the United Nations that are being committed by the American Administration.

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

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



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