

**Statement**

## **No less than Nine Chemical Attacks since the Beginning of 2017**

The Syrian Regime has Breached Security Council Resolutions 167 Times

**SNHR**

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

The Syrian Network for Human Rights, founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, non-profit independent organization that is a primary source for the United Nations on all death toll-related statistics in Syria



In its 4th report which was published on October 21, 2016, the OPCW-UN Joint Investigative Mechanism, established in accordance with Security Council Resolution 2235 on August 7, 2015, has declared the Syrian regime responsible for three chemical attacks that took place between 2014 and 2015, and declared ISIS responsible for one attack in Marea city in Aleppo. SNHR has published [a report](#) that highlights the chemical attacks in the period of time between the 4th report and the end of 2016.

On February 13, 2017, the Joint Investigative Mechanism published its 5th report, and although the Syrian regime carried out 23 attacks at least between the 4th and the 5th report, the Joint Investigative Mechanism wasn't, sadly, able to determine who was responsible for these attacks, choosing to focus on only nine incidents.

Since the beginning of 2017, the Syrian regime has carried out several attacks using chemical weapons. SNHR team recorded nine chemical attacks by the Syrian regime between January 2017 and April 4, 2017 in Idlib, Hama, Damascus suburbs, and Damascus. These attacks resulted in the killing of 77 civilians, including 25 children and 16 women, in addition to one armed opposition fighter, and injured no less than 243 individuals. The most prominent attack was the one that took place in Khan Shaikhoun on April 4, 2017, which saw the death of 76 civilians, including 25 children and 16 women, who were suffocated to death after missiles loaded with poison gases were fired by fixed-wing Su-22 Syrian regime forces warplanes in the northern neighborhood of the city. [The videos filmed](#) by activists showed symptoms and signs of suffocation and heavy breathing.

If one was to look into and investigate these attacks, it would appear that they took place in areas to which the Syrian regime is trying to advance and seize control of, as these attacks were in conjunction with systematic bombardment operations using missiles and barrel bombs.



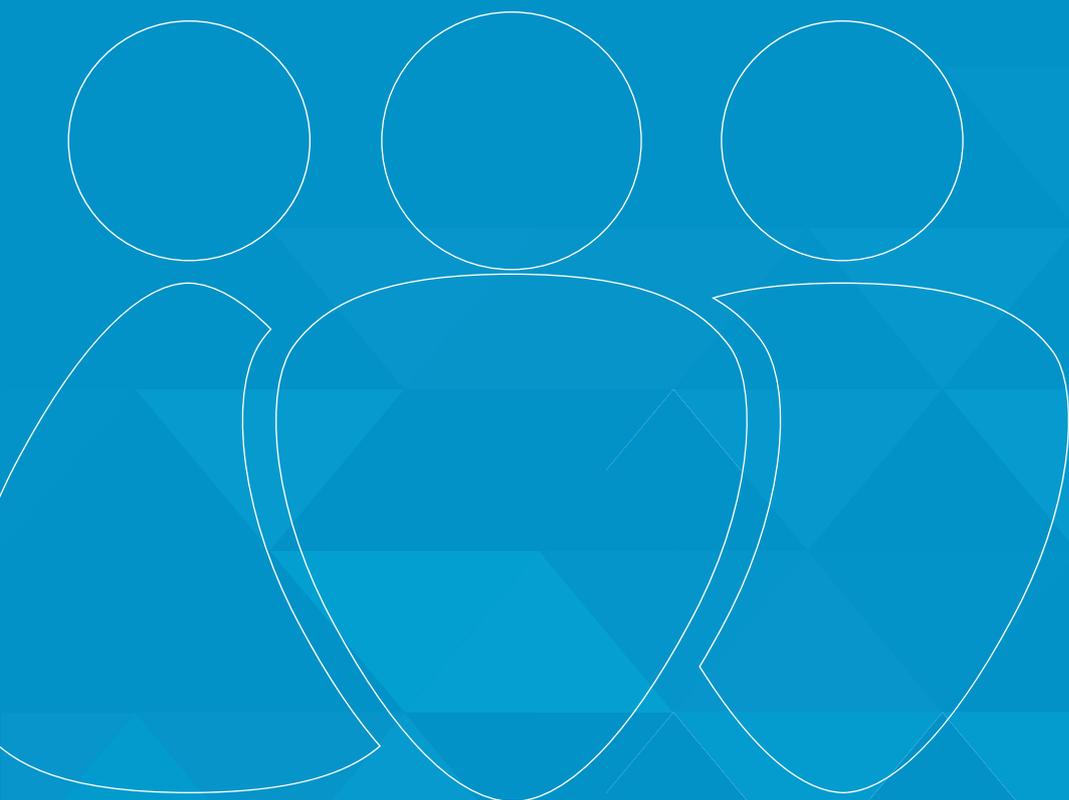
Adding these nine attacks to what we have cumulatively documented in our [periodic reports](#), the total is: 167 chemical attacks at least have been carried out by the Syrian regime after Security Council Resolution 2118, adopted on September 27, 2013, including 98 attacks after Security Council Resolution 2209, adopted on March 6, 2015, and 42 attacks after Security Council Resolution 2235, adopted on August 7, 2015, which established the Joint Investigative Mechanism. These attacks resulted in the killing of 208 individuals who are divided into:

- 155 civilians including 65 children and 29 women (Adult female).
- 46 armed opposition fighters.
- Seven captives from the Syrian regime forces who were being kept at an armed opposition prison.

Additionally, 2407 individuals were injured at least.

It seems to us at SNHR, through our extensive archive on the chemical weapons file that include 23 reports, that the international community will fail again to stop the Syrian regime, as the USA failed to commit to its famous phrase “The Red Line”. Consequently, the Syrian regime will continue to disregard the Security Council Resolutions, and violate the international humanitarian law. Therefore, our only urges are to supply the makeshift hospitals in Syria with the equipment that will enable them to treat the huge number of people who were injured by chemical weapons, given that the resources and capacities of these hospitals are overwhelmed as it is.





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