

Statement on filing a complaint on an enforced disappearance case for the United Nations’ Working Team



Saturday, May 19, 2018

The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, independent group that is considered a primary source for the OHCHR on all death toll-related analyses in Syria.

The citizen Firas Qabalan

Enforced to Disappear since 2013

SNHR briefed the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary disappearances, of the case of the citizen “Firas Qabalan” from Sa’sa’ town in Damascus suburbs governorate, a mechanical worker, age 31 at the time of his arrest and asked to request of the Syrian authorities to release him as he was arrested arbitrarily on February 14, 2013, in a raid on his house in al Gharbi neighborhood in Sa’sa’ town in Damascus suburbs governorate by military security forces of Syrian regime forces. Since then, his fate remains unknown for the Syrian Network for Human Rights as well as his family.



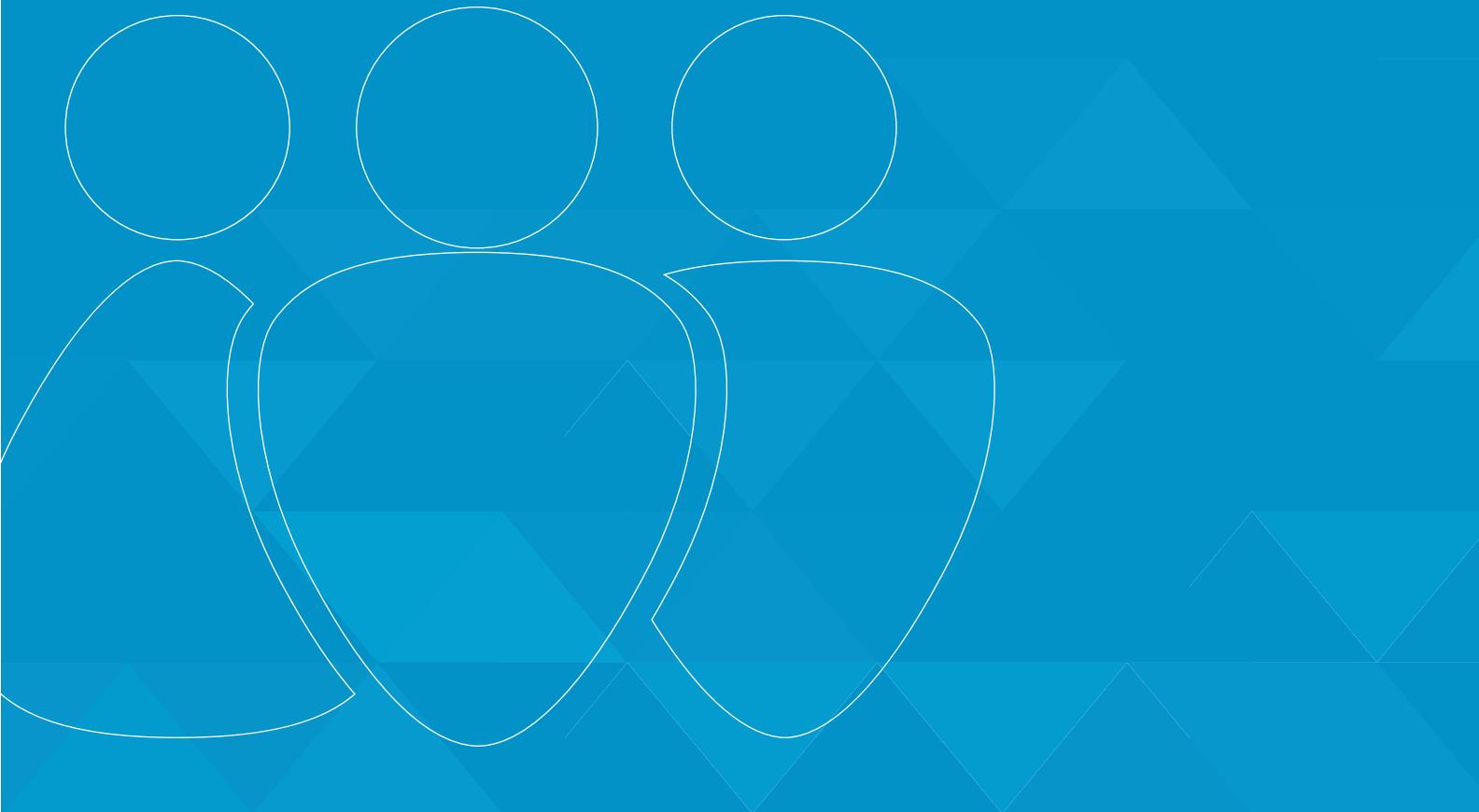
Syrian authorities deny enforcing the citizen Firas Qabalan to disappear, SNHR were unable to determine his fate until now, as is his family, and they are afraid of detention and torture in the event of repeating questions about him, as happened with many similar cases.

SNHR demanded the United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearance to intervene with the Syrian authorities for his immediate release, and the release of thousands of cases of enforced disappearances and the need to determine their fate.

And despite the fact that the Syrian government is not a party of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, but in contrast Party on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant, and the Arab Charter on Human Rights, which enforced disappearances violates both provisions.

SNHR also confirmed fears of torture and possibly death under torture against enforced disappeared since 2011, and the numbers of enforced disappearances still mounting.





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