

No less than 55 Major Violations in the First Week of Geneva Talks' Fourth Round

No less than 413 Individuals Killed
in One Week including 54 Children

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Wednesday, March 1, 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



Report Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. Executive Summary
- III. Details
- IV. Recommendations
- Acknowledgment and Condolences

I. Introduction

In this report, we document the major violations that were perpetrated in the first week of round 4 of Geneva Talks which took place between Monday, February 20, 2017 and Monday, February 27, 2017. Even though Ankara Ceasefire Agreement has been in force since December 30, 2016, we have documented many acts of unlawful killing and bombardment operations, where rates of massacre have increased, and civilians and vital civil facilities are being more heavily targeted following the commencement of Geneva Talks. Additionally, the detainees issue has yet to see any progress even though it was included in Security Council Resolution 2254, which was adopted on December 18, 2015, in provision 12 which states: “.... release any arbitrarily detained persons, particularly women and children.” Arbitrary arrests continue at the same rate in the areas under the control of Syrian regime forces either through inspection points or in raid and arrest campaigns that target areas and neighborhoods. Most of the arrests took place in arbitrary and mass arrest campaigns for the purpose of conscription. Usually, the detainee becomes a forcibly-disappeared person for months before he is taken to military points.

We haven't recorded any unconditional releases from Syrian regime detention centers, where releases are part of prisoner exchange deals Syrian regime forces struck with armed opposition factions, or by releasing detainees from the central prisons who are still under the jurisdiction of the terrorism court, after paying a cash bail, where the detainee remains on trial.

In addition, Syrian regime forces and pro-regime militias are still denying aids access to the besieged areas. On Monday, February 20, 2017, these militias detained a number of trucks that were part of an aid convoy heading to the besieged neighborhood of Al Wa'er,



located in western Homs city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The militias took the trucks to the Shiite village Al Mazra'a where they unloaded the medical supplies that were with the trucks, and assaulted the truck drivers before setting them free. The convoy returned without entering the neighborhood. This, certainly, doesn't mean that the rest of the areas are in a better situation, as the aids are barely sufficient, and most importantly, the siege must be lifted completely -in accordance with the international humanitarian law and the Security Council Resolutions- in all areas.

The Syrian government is still demanding that the UN, the UN's executive partners, or any relief organization have to ask for its permission before entering the besieged areas. However, the Syrian government, usually, denies permissions after an agonizingly and deliberately complicated procedures instead of facilitating access for aids.

SNHR documented breaches of the past Cessations of Hostilities in past [reports](#). This report sheds light on the most notable violations by the parties to the conflict in Syria even though some parties -such as the Kurdish Self-management forces- weren't part of the Talks. However, we believe that the parties that support it, who play a major role in the Talks process, have to apply pressure in order to cease these violations. We can confirm that the forces of the Russian-Syrian regime have perpetrated what amounts to 88% of all the violations.

We, at SNHR, hope that the ceasefire agreement will turn into a comprehensive ceasefire that is applicable in all of Syria with no exceptions, which would be the grounds for a political process, wherein victims are compensated, justice is fulfilled, and all violation perpetrators are held accountable including, and most notably, the current ruling regime, who perpetrated nearly 90% of the violations against the Syrian people and is, first and foremost, responsible for what has become of Syria.

II. Executive Summary

The number of most notable violations that we documented during the first week of round 4 of Geneva Talks, between Monday, February 20, 2017 and Monday, February 27, 2017, has amounted to 55 violations at least which include combat operations and arrest operations. The violations are distributed by the perpetrator party as follows:

- Syrian regime forces (Army, security, local militias, Shiite foreign militias): 44
- Russian forces: 4

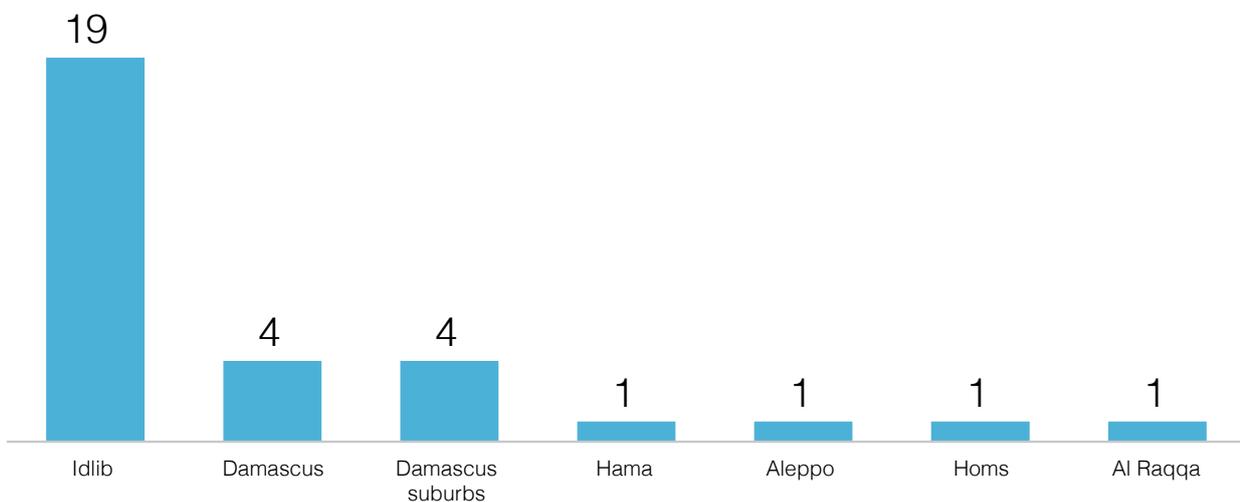


- Self-management forces (Consisting primarily of the Democratic Union Party – a branch for the Kurdistan Workers’ Party): 1
- Armed opposition factions: 2
- International coalition forces: 3
- Other parties: 1

1- Combat operations

SNHR documented 41 major violations. The violations are distributed by the perpetrator party as follows:

A. Syrian regime forces: we documented 31 violations that are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



B. Russian forces: we recorded 4 violations that are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:

- Idlib: 3
- Aleppo: 1

C. Armed opposition factions: we recorded 2 violations in Aleppo city.

D. International coalition forces: we recorded 3 violations in al Raqqa governorate

E. Other parties: 1 violation in Aleppo governorate

The attacks carried out by the perpetrator parties in the period of time covered by the report have resulted in the killing of 413 individuals:

- 282 civilians including 54 children and 35 women.
- 131 armed opposition fighters



The death toll is distributed by the perpetrator party as follows:

Syrian regime forces: 141 individuals, divided into:

- 99 civilians including 24 children and 14 women
- 42 armed opposition fighters

Russian forces

- 23 civilians including four children and nine women

Self-management forces:

- 5 civilians including three children and one woman

Extremist Islamic groups

- ISIS: 196 individuals, divided into:

- 118 civilians including six children and one woman
- 78 armed opposition fighters

Armed opposition factions

- 3 civilians including one child

International coalition forces: 26 individuals, divided into:

- 22 civilians including 11 children and six women
- 4 armed opposition fighters

Other parties: 19 individuals, divided into:

- 12 civilians including five children and four women
- 7 armed opposition fighters

2- Arrest operations

SNHR documented 14 arrest incidents in the period of time covered by the report, in which 74 civilians were arrested. The arrests are distributed by the perpetrator party as follows:

A. Syrian regime forces: 13 incidents, in which 63 civilians were arrested. The arrests are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:

Hama: 4 incidents, in which 29 civilians were arrested.

Damascus suburbs: 4 incidents, in which 18 civilians were arrested.

Al Hasaka: 1 incident, in which two civilians were arrested

Damascus: 4 incidents, in which 14 civilians were arrested.

B. Self-management forces: One arrest incident in Aleppo governorate, in which 11 civilians were arrested.



III. Details

1- Combat operations

A. Syrian regime forces

Damascus governorate

Barza neighborhood, Monday, February 20, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes carried out an airstrike with four missiles on the residential buildings in al Hafeth street in the neighborhood that is located in north-eastern Damascus city, which resulted in the killing of seven individuals at once including two children and two women. The neighborhood is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Al Qaboun neighborhood, Friday, February 24, 2017

Syrian regime forces rocket launchers fired a number of surface-to-surface rockets that fell near al Hayat surgical hospital in the neighborhood located in northeastern Damascus city. The [hospital](#) building, and its equipment were heavily damaged. As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. The neighborhood is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Tishreen neighborhood, Friday, February 24, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian/Russian regime forces warplanes (Investigations are still ongoing to identify the perpetrator party accurately) fired a number of missiles at the neighborhood located in northeastern Damascus city, which wounded a media activist. The neighborhood is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Al Qaboun neighborhood, Monday, 27 February, 2017

Syrian regime forces artillery fired mortar shells near Abu Bakr al Siddeeq, which is known as the Grand Mosque, in the neighborhood located in northeastern Damascus city. The mosque building, and its furniture were moderately damaged. The neighborhood is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Damascus suburbs governorate

Biqeen town, Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Syrian regime forces artillery fired a shell that fell near an ambulance belonging to the civil defense center in the town. As a result, a civil defense member was wounded, and the ambulance glass windows were shattered, and its structure was slightly damaged. The neighborhood is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Douma city, Saturday, 25 February, 2017

We recorded three violations by the Syrian regime forces. The city is under the control of armed opposition factions.

The first incident: around 12:30, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired four missiles at the city market, which moderately damaged a number of shops.

The second incident: around 12:30, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile near Ghazi high school for girls in the city. The missile fell 100 meters away from the high school, which resulted in slight damages.

The third incident: fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a number of missiles at the city, which resulted in the killing of 10 individuals including five children and one woman.

Al Raqqa governorate

Al Raqqa city, Monday, February 20, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes bombed al Qetar street area in the city, which resulted in the killing of five civilians at once including two children. The city is under the control of ISIS.

Idlib governorate

Termalla village, Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime warplanes fired a missile near Termalla Grand Mosque in the middle of the village in the southern suburbs of Idlib. The missile fell 50 meters away from the mosque building, where no damages were recorded. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Ma'ret Misreen city, Tuesday, February 21, 2017

We recorded two violations by the Syrian regime forces in the city that is located in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

The first incident: On Tuesday afternoon, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile at a residential building near the main road in the southern parts of the city, which resulted in the killing of five civilians including two women. Additionally, about 15 others were wounded.

The second incident: On Tuesday afternoon, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes



fired two missiles near the Martyr Mohammad Bath hospital in the city. The missile fell 50 meters away from the hospital and wounded five civilians. In addition, the hospital building's cladding materials and its equipment were moderately damaged.

Ma'aret Herma village, Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a number of missiles near the Syrian Journalism Center in Ma'aret Herma village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, which wounded two media activists. Additionally, the office building, as well as its equipment, was moderately damaged. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Jesr al Shoghour city, Thursday, February 23, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile near a complex for educational facilities which contains Walid Sha'ban high school, a high school for girls, and al Basel kindergarten -which occupies one of the girls' high school's buildings- in the northern parts of the city. The kindergarten building was partially destroyed and a fire broke out inside. Also, the other two school buildings were slightly damaged. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Binnesh city, Saturday, February 25, 2017

We recorded two violations by the Syrian regime forces in the city that is located in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

The first incident: Around 08:10, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile at a residential building that is adjacent to the Sharia Court which is affiliated to Ahrar al Sham Movement in the eastern parts of the city, which wounded eight civilians. Additionally, the building and its cladding materials were moderately damaged.

The second incident: fixed-wing Syrian regime warplanes came back and bombed the site of Sharia Court building again with two missiles after paramedics and civil defense members gathered, which wounded four civil defense centers to varying degrees.

Kafr Nobbol city, Saturday, February 25, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired two missiles near Sham Aiding Network hospital which is located on Hzarein road in west of the city in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The hospital building was slightly damaged. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



Khan Shaikhoun city, Saturday, February 25, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired two missiles at the residential houses in the western parts of the city which is located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, which resulted in the killing of five civilians including three children. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Idlib city, Saturday, February 25, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile near al Mashtal garden in Idlib city, which caused moderate damages to the garden and its fences. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Ariha city, Saturday, February 25, 2017

We recorded five violations perpetrated by the Syrian regime forces in the city which is located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

The first incident: around 16:00, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired two missiles at Al Dalla circle area in the western parts of the city, which resulted in the killing of eight civilians at once.

The second incident: around 16:00, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired three missiles at the main market near al Bazar circle in the middle of the city, which resulted in the killing of four civilians. Additionally, seven others were wounded. In addition, a number of shops were heavily destroyed, and the market facilities were heavily damaged.

The third incident: around 16:00, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired two mis-



siles near the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) branch which is located in al Hezb circle area in the western parts of the city. The missile fell approximately 100 meters away from the branch, and killed three civilians. Additionally, the cladding materials on the branch building were moderately damaged.

The fourth incident: fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile near al Sukkar institution in the middle the city. The institution was moderately damaged.

The fifth incident: fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile near al Ber association in the middle of the city, which killed one civilian.

Idlib city, Sunday, February 26, 2017

Around 14:52, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes (Su-22) fired two missiles near Shu'aib mosque in the western parts of the city. The two missiles fell approximately 100 meters away from the mosque, which resulted in slight damages to the mosque building. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Ariha city, Sunday, February 26, 2017

We recorded three violations by the Syrian regime forces in the city that is located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

The first incident: around 09:50, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes (Su-24) fired a missile at the civil defense center, which occupies the external transportation bus center (al Bolaman), in the northern parts of the city. Four civil defense members were wounded. Additionally, the center building and its equipment were partially destroyed, and a fire truck was moderately damaged.

The second incident: around 09:50, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes (Su-24) fired a missile near Ariha phone center in the middle of the city. The center building was moderately damaged.

The third incident: around 09:50, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes (Su-24) fired a missile at a relief warehouse which belongs to al Qalb al Kabir organization in the western parts of the city, which resulted in moderate damages to the warehouse. Additionally, the cladding number and the food baskets in the warehouse were moderately damaged.

Hama governorate

Al Hmeirat village in the western suburbs of Hama governorate, Friday, February 24, 2017 Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a number of missiles in the village, which resulted in the killing of eight civilians (Six children and their parents). The village is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Homs governorate

Al Wa'er neighborhood, Sunday, February 26, 2017

Fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a number of missiles next to Qurtaba elementary school in the neighborhood located in western Homs city. As a result, the school fence was partially destroyed, and the school building, as well as its cladding materials, was heavily damaged. The neighborhood is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Aleppo governorate

Hawwar village, Sunday, February 26, 2017

Sunday noon, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a number of missiles at al Huda surgical hospital in the village that is located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate, which heavily destroyed the hospital building and caused moderate damages to the hospital equipment as well as an ambulance belonging to the hospital. The village is under the control of armed opposition factions.

B. Russian forces

Aleppo governorate

Al Dawali village, Monday, February 20, 2017

Monday morning, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired a number of missiles at al Dawali village bridge which follows Der Hafer city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate. The bridge was completely destroyed, and was rendered out of commission. Al Dawali village is under the control of ISIS.

Idlib governorate

Al Der al Sharqi village, Sunday, February 26, 2017

Around 18:40, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired a missile near the hospital of the Syrian University which is located in the west of the village in the eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The missile fell approximately 100 meters away from the village. As a result, the hospital building was slightly damaged. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Ariha city, Monday, February 27, 2017

Around 03:40, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired two missiles at the residential buildings in the northern parts of the city located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, which resulted in [the killing of 19 civilians](#) including nine children and four women. Additionally, around 20 others were wounded. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



Al Der al Sharqi village, Monday, February 27, 2017

Around 14:30, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired four missiles at the hospital of the Syrian University on the western outskirts of the village which is located in the eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The hospital roof and walls were partially destroyed, and the cladding materials and equipment were moderately damaged. As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

C. Armed opposition factions

Aleppo governorate

New Aleppo neighborhood, Monday, February 20, 2017

We recorded two violations that were perpetrated by armed opposition factions. The neighborhood is under the control of Syrian regime forces

The first incident: armed opposition factions, which are stationing in the vicinity of al Bohouth al Elmiya, fired locally-made rocket shells, on Monday noon, at New Aleppo neighborhood in Aleppo city. One of the shells fell in Mousa ben Nussair school. The school fence and cladding materials were moderately damaged.

The second incident: armed opposition factions, which are stationing in the vicinity of al Bohouth al Elmiya, fired locally-made rocket shells that fell in the vicinity of Sad ben al Rabea mosque in Mnayyan area, which resulted in the killing of one child.

D. international coalition forces

Al Raqqa governorate

Al Raqqa city, Monday, February 20, 2017

Fixed-wing international coalition forces warplanes fired missiles at al Mansour bridge, known as the Old Bridge, which is located in the southern parts of the city. The bridge was partially destroyed. The city is under the control of ISIS.

Al Sahhamiya village, which follows Ma'dan city, Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Fixed-wing international coalition forces warplanes fired a number of missiles in al Sahhamiya village in the eastern suburbs of al Raqqa governorate, which resulted in the killing of 10 civilians including six children and two women. The village is under the control of ISIS.



Al Tabaqa city, Friday, February 24, 2017

Fixed-wing international coalition forces warplanes fired missile at the public institution building for Euphrates Dam in the 1st neighborhood, which heavily destroyed the building. As a result, the institution was rendered out of commission. The city is under the control of ISIS.

C. Other parties

Aleppo governorate

Al Bab city, Monday, February 20, 2017

Fixed-wing warplanes that back Euphrates Shield forces (Turkish forces-backed armed opposition factions) fired missiles at the residential buildings in al Najjar area in the city, which resulted in the killing of 12 civilians including five children and four women. Al Bab city was under the control of ISIS at the time of the massacre, whereas it is under the control of Euphrates Shield at the time of this writing.

2- Arrest operations

Hama governorate

Al Dabbagha neighborhood, Monday, February 20, 2017

Syrian regime forces arrested three civilians at one of their inspection point in al Dabbagha neighborhood in the middle of Hama city. The three civilians were taken to an undisclosed location.

Al Mahatta neighborhood, Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Syrian regime forces arrested two civilians after raiding their location in al Mahatta neighborhood in the southwestern parts of Hama city. The two civilians were taken to an undisclosed location.

Ain al Louza neighborhood, Friday, February 24, 2017

Syrian regime forces arrested six civilians at one of their inspection points in Ain al Louza neighborhood in southern Hama city. The six civilians were taken to the Military Security branch in the city.

Al Trimsa village, Sunday, February 26, 2017

Syrian regime forces arrested 18 civilians after they raided al Trimsa village in the north-western suburbs of Hama governorate. They were taken to an undisclosed location.



Damascus suburbs governorate

Bloudan city, Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Syrian regime forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in Bloudan city in western Damascus suburbs governorate. The arrest of four civilians for conscription purposes was documented. The four civilians were taken to an undisclosed location.

Hwash Bajd town, Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Syrian regime forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in Hwash Bajd town in western Damascus suburbs governorate. The arrest of three civilians for conscription purposes was documented. The three civilians were taken to an undisclosed location.

Al Masna' area, (A border area) Thursday, February 23, 2017

Syrian regime forces arrested six civilians at the inspection point in al Masna' area which is located on the Lebanese-Syrian borders.

Al Masna' area, (A border area) Sunday, February 26, 2017

Syrian regime forces arrested five civilians at the inspection point in al Masna' area which is located on the Lebanese-Syrian borders.

Al Hasaka governorate

Al Hasaka city, Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Military Security forces, affiliated to Syrian regime forces, arrested two civilians at one of their inspection points near the city market. The two civilians were taken to an undisclosed location.

Damascus governorate

Al Rawda neighborhood, Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Syrian regime force carried out a raid and arrest campaign in al Rawda neighborhood in north Damascus city. The arrest of three civilians for conscription purposes was documented. The three civilians were taken to an undisclosed location.

Al Amara neighborhood, Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Syrian regime forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in al Amara neighborhood in eastern Damascus city. The arrest one civilian for conscription purposes was documented. The civilian was taken to an undisclosed location.



Barza neighborhood, Friday, February 24, 2017

Syrian regime forces arrested seven civilians at one of their checkpoints at the entrance of Barza neighborhood in northeastern Damascus city.

Barza neighborhood, Saturday, February 25, 2017

Syrian regime forces arrested three civilians at one of their checkpoints at the entrance of Barza neighborhood in northeastern Damascus city.

B. Self-management forces

Aleppo governorate

Ain al Arab city, Monday, February 27, 2017

Self-management forces arrested 11 civilians in Ain al Arab city for the purpose of conscription. The 11 civilians were taken to an undisclosed location.

II. Recommendations

The United Nations

A U.N. committee must be present on the ground to monitor the breaches of the ceasefire agreement, and identify their perpetrators, in cooperation and coordination with active local human rights organizations.

Sanctions and consequences must be enforced on the violators of the ceasefire agreement in order to preserve its continuity and saving it from falling apart as what happened in all of the previous cases.

Releasing all detainees, and revealing their fates, and delivering aids to the besieged areas must be a priority that trumps all political considerations. These provisions establish the seriousness of the Talks in the eyes of the Syrian people. Otherwise, the Syrian people will disregard it.

The international community

We call upon the international community to link the ceasefire agreement with a political process that aim towards a transitional phase leading to a democratic regime, which will be an actual and real end for the suffering of the Syrian people.

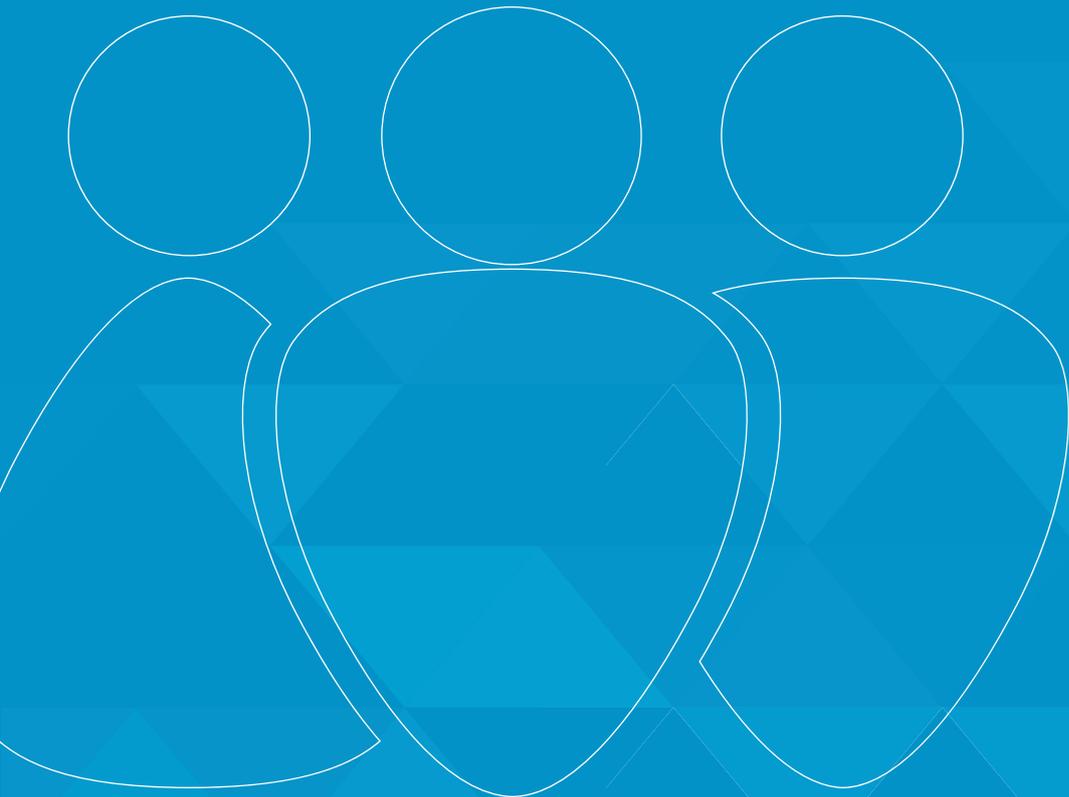


In case the breaches go on without a real deterrent, round 4 of Geneva Talks will, unfortunately, ultimately end as the previous rounds, which means more frustration and hopelessness for the Syrian people, and more crimes against humanity, genocides, and war crimes.

Acknowledgment and Condolences

Our most heartfelt appreciation and condolences for the residents and local activists who effectively contributed to this report.





@snhr



Info@sn4hr.org

www.sn4hr.org

