



The Legal Outcomes of the Russian Intervention Compensation and Accountability is a Must

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I. Introduction:

On 14 March 2016, the Russian president announced the sudden and partial withdrawal from Syria, which is considered as a positive aspect that would alleviate the Syrian people's suffering. The Russian forces committed crimes that would amount to war crimes, especially with their widespread use of cluster munitions, according to several reports issued by SNHR since the Russian military intervention started on 30 September 2015.

SNHR's chairperson, Fadel Abdul Ghani, says:

"The Russian forces, and consequently the Russian government, are responsible for committing war crimes. In SNHR, we believe that it should be held accountable for the crimes they committed, as the withdrawal alone is not enough. Serious investigations by the UN Independent International Investigation Committee, and the Russian government itself, should be conducted. Criminals should be held accountable, including politicians and military personnel. All vital centers, facilities and residential neighborhoods should be renovated."

This report depicts the time period of the Russian military intervention since 30 September 2015 and up till 15 March 2016. In this report, we will depict incidents that we recorded from previous incidents. We kept a record for all victims and eyewitnesses' names, their medical records, images and videos.

What is documented below constitutes the bare minimum of what we were able to record, as it also does not tackle the social, economical and psychological dimensions of this crisis.





Russian authorities deny all these accusations and state that all its targets were on military locations that belonged for ISIL or terrorist groups. Additionally, these authorities did not conduct a single investigation to inspect the incidents; neither did it hold any of its forces accountable for their killings, just as the Syrian regime.

II. Details:

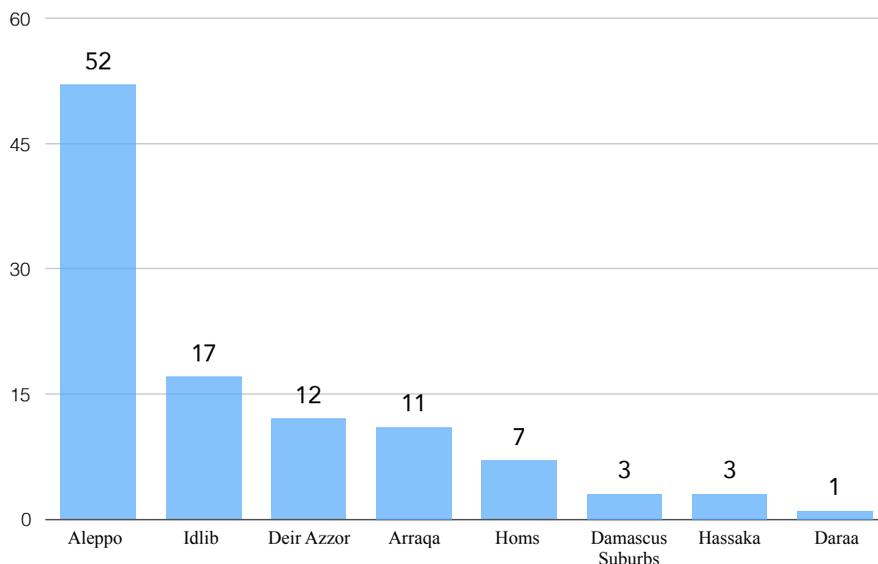
A. Extrajudicial Killing:

Since 30 September 2015 and up till 15 March 2016, Russian forces launched several raids on pure civilian regions. We did not record any military presence in those regions before or during the attacks whether from the armed opposition or ISIL even though 85% of the attacks were in regions that are under the control. These attacks killed 1984 civilians, including 443 children and 286 women. We kept records about all the victims and we are ready to provide the Russian government with necessary information in case they are serious about conducting investigations about the incidents, in preparation for the compensation process.

B. Massacres and Unlawful Killing:

Among the extrajudicial killings, several massacres were recorded. SNHR identifies a massacre by the unlawful killing of 5 or more unarmed civilians. SNHR recorded not less than 106 massacres, whereas the greatest number of massacres was recorded in January 2016 where it surpassed the Syrian regime regarding the civilians' death toll.

Distribution of these massacres according to the Syrian governorates:

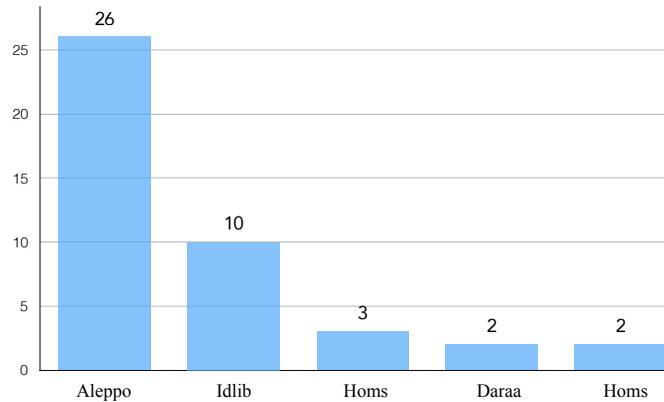




According to SNHR's documentation team, these massacres killed 1442 individuals including 382 children and 198 women. 40% of the victims were women and children, which is a strong indicator that civilians were targeted deliberately.

C. Unlawful Attacks – Use of Cluster Munitions:

Russian forces used cluster munitions in a widespread manner as we recorded not less than 43 cluster munitions attacks, detailed as follows:



D. Targeting Vital Facilities:

SNHR documented not less than 235 attacks on vital facilities by alleged Russian forces. These facilities are detailed as follows:

52 medical facilities (medical centers and ambulances), 47 places of worship, 56 infrastructure building, 47 educational facilities, 25 communal facilities, 2 cultural centers, 5 refugee camps, and 1 international humanitarian Insignia.

E. Targeting Medical Staffers:

SNHR documented the killing of 11 medical staffers due to alleged Russian shelling.

F. Targeting Media Activists

SNHR documented the killing of 5 media activists due to alleged Russian shelling.





III. Attachments

Allegedly Russian Warplanes Kills 104 Civilians, including 25 children and 15 women

[Syria's Sun Won't Rise From Moscow](#)

Russian Airstrikes Kills 254 Civilians Including 83 Children and 42 Women

[Russian Forces Kill More Civilians than the International Coalition Killed in a Year](#)

Caught between ISIL and the Russian Forces: the Displacement of 20 thousand Individuals

[The Displacement](#) of Nahiyat Maheen Residents in Homs's Northern Suburbs

After Using Cluster Munitions and Long-Range Missiles, Russian Forces Use Phosphorous Bombs in Syria

[Russian Regime's Violations Amount to War Crimes](#)

[Russian Forces Destroy a Market in Areeha and Kill its People](#)

Following the Steps of the Syrian Regime

[Russian Forces Kill 570 Civilians, including 152 Children and 60 Women](#)

“They Came to Kill Us”

[Russian Forces Breach UN Security Council Resolution 2254 and Kills Idlib Residents](#)

The Death of 42 civilians, including a child and two women at the hands of Russian Forces in Idlib

[Documentation of a Massacre: 48 Civilians Killed due to Russian Shelling on a Residential Building in Al Ghanto Town](#)

[Russian cannot be a Part in the Political Solution in Syria and an Accomplice in Crimes at the Same Time](#)

Russian Forces killed 99 civilians in 72 hours in Ma'art Al No'man City in Idlib

[Russian Forces Shell Civilian Regions ISIL Controlled Lands](#)

The Killing of 99 Civilians during 24 Hours in Deir Al Zour

[Not Less than 27 Medical Centers Shelled by Russian Forces since Its Intervention](#)

The Grozny Holocaust in Aleppo





III. Recommendations:

- To the Russian Government:

Serious investigations should be conducted to investigate whether some massacres were perpetrated by the Russian forces or not.

Issue compensations for all the victims' families and rebuild what the Russian forces have destroyed.

Effectively contribute to a political transition towards democracy where the state of the Syrian Republic shall remain unified.

- To UN Independent International Investigation Commission:

Investigate the massacres that were committed by alleged Russian forces.

Issue periodic reports about these investigations

- To the UNSC:

The rest of the UNSC members should hold Russia accountable for its violations for UNSC resolution 2245 that was issued on 18 December 2015 and demand it to pledge not to repeat those violations.

