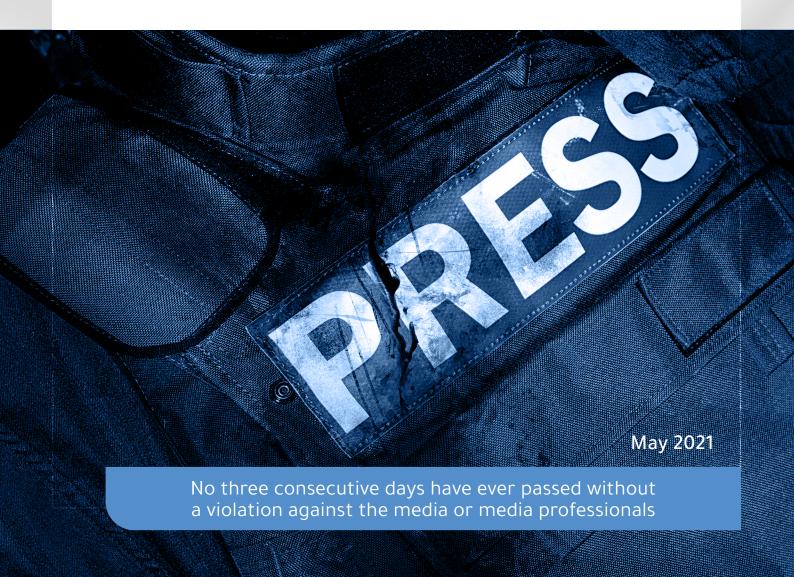


Syria: The Black Hole for Media Work

10 Years of Violations



Thanks Note

The Syrian center for media and freedom of expression thanks all male and female team members for their efforts to complete this report from 2018 until this date, within the Journalist House project or SCM work team.

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Reporters without Borders (RSF)

International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX)







Executive Summary

During the Data classification process we committed to

- The database collected by the SCM's violations watch team included 1992 documented cases during the conflict years from 2011 until the end of 2020. After the data undergo two stage validation processes (1670 documentation, 1609 violations) against the male and female media worker has been retained, in addition to 61 attacks against the media buildings.
- Adoption of the journalist definition according to a 1973 draft United Nations convention: (any correspondent, reporter, photographer, and their technical assistants in films, radio and television assistants, who are ordinarily engaged in any of these activities as their principal occupation).
- Excluding of following categories:
 - Authors, artists, bloggers, civic activists and human rights defenders, who have been violated due to exercising their fundamental rights to freedom of expression.
 - Military personnel and those who are directly involved in military operations.
- Names in three cases have been withheld, at their request, for good reasons to endanger their lives if their real names were published and people under aliases and pseudonyms like (Abo, Ibn...).

Numbers and statistics

- The Syrian government topped the violations list with total 795 violations, and that's four times the opposition forces violations number, which comes in second place with total 196 violations. And the lowest rate was for Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria with total 171 violations, although the largest percentage of journalists and media institutions in Syria are within their areas of control.
- 70 violations against female journalists, and this low rate is due to the few in numbers of female journalists inside Syria, where 2011 has recorded 11 violations against female journalists, and 12 violations in 2012 and declined to 2 violations in 2013 and 4 in 2014.
- 2011 year was the year of arbitrary detention: 106 were committed by the Syrian government forces which were solely responsible for these violations in this year.
- 2013 was the year of the armed opposition's control of Raqqa and military airfields in the north, and the announcement of Hezbollah's public participation in the Al-Qusayr battles and the expansion of the Islamic State in Iraq and Levant. It was the bloodiest year for the media, with 167 killings or extrajudicial executions.
- 2014 year was the year of declaring the caliphate, and starting the battles between the armed opposition and ISIL, and between the armed opposition and Syrian government all over the war fronts. And this year witnessed the highest rate of enforced disappearance and kidnapping with a total of 43 cases, in the extension of the male and female journalists kidnapping for ransom phenomenon, which began in 2013 and led to the expulsion of the international press from Syria.
- 2016 year: the Russian Air Force perpetrated the largest number of violations against male and female journalists since its intervention in 2015 until today with total 38 violations.

- 2016 Euphrates shield operation was started on August, and the international military intervention against ISIL continued during this year in addition of the presence of Iranian forces and Tehran militias all over the map, which reflected on the violations numbers and its types (261 violations) and the largest number of injuries (121) recorded during the years of conflict. And the largest number of violations against minors working in the media with total 7 violations, 6 murders and one arrest case.
- 2019 year with a total 23 violations, Turkey has committed the largest number of violations against the media since the beginning of its intervention in 2015 until today. In contrast, the country has seen a decline in violations not due to a decrease in the level of violence, rather the decline of media work due to the government's control over large areas of the country and thus the decline of the media work in these areas.
- 118 violations against foreign journalists: 6 of them are Syrian with European and American citizenship, the year 2012 witnessed the highest number of violations against them (28 violations), and the lowest was in 2020, although the calm of the battles, 2 violations were documented due to the receding international interest in the Syrian event.
- The year 2020 witnessed a lower rate of violations during the years of conflict, due to the decline in media work and the Covid-19 pandemic, and the unannounced truce between the parties, from the end of March until the end of the year.

| Violations perpetrators according to the number of victims | | | |
|--|----------------|---|--|
| Syrian Government | 795 violations | | |
| Opposition forces | 171 violations | Syrian Interim Government 1 violation | |
| The Islamic State | 164 violation | | |
| Al-Nusra Front | 140 violations | Syrian Salvation Government 6 violations | |
| the Autonomous Administration | 106 violations | | |
| Russian federation | 78 violations | | |
| Turkey | 38 violations | | |
| Jordan public security | 5 viol | ations | |
| Lebanese security forces | 5 viol | ations | |
| Contracting actors | 5 viol | ations | |
| Civilian assault | 4 violations | | |
| Unknown | | | |
| Unknown actors | 129 vio | lations | |
| Explosions + mines | 13 c | ases | |
| Clashes between government forces and armed opposition without the possibility of identifying the source of fire | 10 c | ases | |

| Vocabulary semantics in the tables | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Opposition forces | Syrian Opposition Factions which previously dominated or is still dominating on regions in Syria and its affiliated agencies and bodies, including the judicial apparatus. | |
| | Syrian Interim Government with one violation. | |
| The Autonomous Administration | Syrian Democratic Forces, People's Protection Units, Women Protection Units, Asayish and the Autonomous Administration with all its bodies. | |
| The Syrian Government | Various state entities, Syrian armed forces and its branch, executive authority, judicial and legislative authority. | |
| Al-Nusra Front | Jabhat Fatah al-Sham, Jabhat al-Nusra, Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) | |
| | Syrian Salvation Government with 6 violations | |
| ISIL | The Islamic State of Iraq until 2013 and The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant until this day. | |
| Contracting actors | Civil society organization or media institution the rights of its employees have been violated. | |

| Types of violations | | |
|---------------------|---|--|
| 720 violations | Extrajudicial killings | |
| 434 violations | Arbitrary Detention | |
| 140 violations | Enforced Disappearance and kidnaping | |
| 61 violations | Attacks on media headquarters | |
| 222 violations | Injuries by direct and indirect targeting | |
| 40 violations | Physical and verbal abuse | |
| 24 violations | preventing from work or covering | |
| 59 violations | Arbitrary dismissal , forcing to resign ,expulsion and deportation, forcing media appearances ,contumacious judgements ,contractual disagreements | |

| GBV | Gender-based violence |
|-------|---|
| HRC | Human Rights Council |
| ICC | International Criminal Court |
| ICCPR | International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights |
| ICSER | International Covenant on Social and Economic Rights |
| IHL | International Humanitarian Law and the |
| IHRL | International Human Rights Law |
| OHCHR | United Nations Human Rights Committee |
| UNGA | General Assembly of the United Nations |
| UDHR | Universal Declaration of Human Rights |

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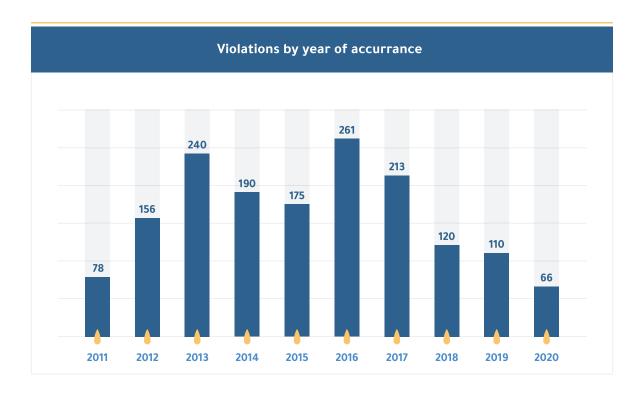
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Between March 15, 2011 and the end of December 2020 - 1670 violations against the media and media workers were reported

One violation against media workers has been reported each three days



With 261 violations in 2016, Syria was the world's bloodiest country

Summary

The report "Syria: Black Hole for Media Work", issued by the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression, reviews ten years of violations against media and media professionals (from March 2011 until the end of 2020), and presents the conflict implications on freedom of media and their impact on the media work, which in turn, witnessed rounds of expansion, replacement and contraction according to the security, geographic and economic circumstances. During the months of peaceful movement, the media enjoyed an open ceiling as the technological and regulatory environment did not enable the government to exercise its previous role of monitoring, preventing and curbing freedoms, and that is why it resorted to bare violence, arrests and killing against other parties to restore this role.

The report is the result of a documentation process throughout Syria by dozens of monitors who recorded **1992** violations against the media and media workers. After two phases of screening and verification using the SCM methodology to check compliance with the definition of a "journalist", **1670** violations were included. These took place in a period of **3518** days (no three consecutive days passed without a gross human rights violation against media professionals) and all parties were involved. These included killing, arbitrary arrest and detention, enforced disappearance, ill-treatment, torture, violence, child recruitment and prevention of basic rights including the right to life, physical safety and freedom of expression among others.

The report consists of two parts. Part One "Conceptual and Legal Framework" includes two chapters. Chapter One provides general definitions of the media-related freedoms and rights including equality and non-discrimination in basic rights and freedoms, freedom of expression, access to information, and the right to the media, all of which are both fundamental rights of individuals and collective rights related to societal security, protection of democracy, stability and development. The chapter also presents the legal and judicial structures that protect these rights and provide the ground for claiming justice against violations. It reviews international conventions that oblige states to adopt laws consistent with human rights and not to violate them, avoid a philosophy of restriction and punishment, and comply with the requirements of due process. The latter is discussed in an independent chapter as it is the guarantor of the rights and freedoms of individuals against the abuse of authority, and its incorporation into the national legislation is key to any future reform process in Syria.

To complete the conceptual framework of the report, Chapter Two reviews the rules of protecting journalists as civilians in armed conflicts and then presents the specific definitions of journalists in the international law and their categories in the international humanitarian law (IHL), the terms of protection established for them and for media offices (their scope, suspension and attributes). The chapter then looks at the international protection for women journalists in conflict based on the Syria case, to assess the impact and adequacy of the protection rules, and discusses responsibility for violating them: state responsibility for unlawful acts committed by its forces or subordinate groups as well as individual responsibility for any violation of the rights of the protected groups or objects, during or in connection with military missions, whether committed alone or in operations, whether individually or in collaboration with others.

Part Two "The most prominent violations against the media" analyzes the violation structure (definition, criminal elements etc.) and the rules of criminalization in international contractual and criminal laws, and how obligatory they are to the parties to the conflict. This Part also analyzes the violations in Syria in three different areas of control: The Syrian government, the armed opposition, and the Democratic Autonomous Administration. In the government-controlled areas, focus was on arbitrary arrest, enforced disappearance, torture and extrajudicial killings in an attempt to read the laws and judicial jurisprudence that criminalize violations, and to shed light on the shortcomings and defects to be addressed in any future legislative process. A separate chapter was dedicated to the legislative and administrative structures that reinforce and sustain a culture of impunity.

In the areas currently or previously under the opposition control or Autonomous Administration control, the report discussed the legislative and judicial structure and its role in protecting rights and freedoms or promoting violations against media and media workers, to map the violations and identify the security and legal structures that supported their expansion and continuation as a systematic policy by the Syrian government and as extensive and continuous practices by the other parties. Chapter Two includes sections devoted to the situation of media rights and freedoms in the areas controlled by the Turkish forces and in those formerly controlled by ISIS and by the Jaysh al-Islam as an example of how the de facto authorities deal with the media and their direct involvement in violations against media workers.

Chapter Two also devoted a special section to child recruitment and child labor that appears to be more widespread than the cases mentioned in the report, which documented murders and two arrests of children (one of whom was killed at the age of 14) after being recruited by armed opposition factions or employed by media outlets including international agencies to collect front-line photos and recordings, in a very complex violation, the responsibility of which should be that of those who carried out the act of killing and arrest, those who recruited, and the media outlets that employed children despite their ineligibility or accepted to buy media materials from them despite their knowledge of their ages (e.g., Reuters).

Finally, the Annex includes a chronology of 1670 violations (between 2011 and 2020), showing the name of the victim, violating party, violation type and date, in addition to the graphs and statistics attached to each of the headings and main sections, which enables the readers and researchers to make comparisons and draw conclusions.

Introduction



The Syrian revolution is now ten years' old. Yet, the question "what is the outcome and what next" still persists; is it a defeat driving the Syrian society again into a phase of stagnation and stalemate that will sooner or later explode again? Is it a path of change, triggered in 2011 and adopted by an entire generation, that cannot stop and that can continue and resume the battles of a collective national identity, public and individual freedoms, freedom of opinion, belief and expression, freedom of media, independent judiciary, and building of a constitution that protects the rights and freedoms of citizens? Will the international parties trying to reshape the scene be able to stop it or turn back the clock after the process of liberating the Syrian individual and building a culture of change has begun and after awareness of it has crystallized as organized human efforts to transform the situations and establish new systems and forms of relations within the society.

In the course of change, free media is a key driver and is equivalent to democracy. At a time when the world was in transition from totalitarian regimes to the rule of law, the press became the fourth authority, and had the upper hand in the birth and growth of democracy through the dissemination of knowledge, awareness and enlightenment, and through a virtual or informal authority that enabled it to monitor the performance of the three powers and check their compliance with the principle of separation/cooperation among each other. With the successive waves of democracy, the principles and applications of democracy can no longer be envisaged without considering the role of the media establishing them in any society through shaping the public opinion, free exchange of ideas, and transparency and construction systems.

The year 2016 witnessed a record rate of violations, followed by 2013, while 2020 recorded the lowest rate as a result of the reduction in military operations due to the impact of Covid-19 pandemic, and the decline in the number of journalists/media activists working with the military factions due to the shrinking of the geographical area outside the control of the government that managed, with its allies, to regain large areas of the Syrian territory during the years 2018-2019 till now.

In Syria, the demands for radical democratic transition - that would give society immunity against the government that dominates it by controlling its organizations and institutions - coincided with the emergence of a free media that keeps pace with the events and expresses the people's demands and orientations, but the government considered such media a major enemy. Consequently, a series of deliberate violations and crimes started against media workers, and is still ongoing at a rate of one violation every three days by different parties to the conflict, which have all been involved in an attempt to reverse the state of resurgence and awareness created by the revolution to break off with the unilateralism and seclusion that have prevailed in the government media for decades and to head towards multiple options expressed by the unprecedented expansion of the media as a result of the movement.

The media that redefines the political and social characteristics of society, and play a key role in raising the public awareness (through information and knowledge sharing and deepening of belonging), and which emerged with the beginning of the revolution to support mass demonstrations,

and monitor and document all violations of government forces (and of the de facto powers later on),

has been targeted by all parties in an attempt to monopolize the news outlets and deny any other narrative in order to restore and strengthen the wall of fear so that people become familiar with it again as a single feature of relations within society; to falsify public awareness by promoting the legitimacy of power through monopolizing violence and intimidation, and repressive and punitive measures; and to redefine the media as a tool of theirs and means to mobilize and recruit the masses, and redefine the journalist as follower to the authority and its various entities rather than a monitor of its performance.

According to a paper presented by the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression on the sideline of the Human Rights Council in Geneva in 2015, "The list of violations against media workers extends from direct targeting, arbitrary arrest, torture, enforced disappearance, and long periods of detention without trial, to extralegal trials practiced by various parties." Instead of aiming at truth and accountability and revealing the fate of the victims as the key pillars of transitional justice, then realizing administrative and institutional reforms to ensure that violations do not recur, initiatives and visions of political solution tended to present political and field consensus on the principles of justice with only general references to accountability and forced disappearance without providing any serious solution.

Therefore, this report in general is part of the human rights effort aimed at pressuring the conflict parties and their regional and international sponsors to stop violations against civilians (and media workers in particular) and to stop the killings and intimidation as well as detention and disappearance policies that often increase with the retreat of military operations, because the parties focus on liquidating actual and potential opponents to eliminate any witness who can tell the truth. The report also reflects the SCM vision of violations documentation and its critical role in fighting impunity, whether before the national judiciary or when seeking the international justice whose jurisdiction extends beyond borders and does not recognize the statute of limitations. This doubles the importance of documentation in opening doors of justice currently closed due to politicization and influence of international actors, through continuous and accumulated actions that continue to pursue the perpetrators even after their death.

For the statistical level of documentation, the SCM seeks - through this report - to map the violations against media workers and highlight the complex nature of these violations; they target the basic rights of victims/ survivors as well as the collective rights such as the right of media and the right to the free flow of information, in a situation where information is blocked and exaggeration or prejudice is a common practice when sharing it. The report also determines the responsibility of both the Syrian government and its affiliated security and legal bodies, and the de facto forces who currently control or previously controlled parts of the country including the armed opposition, Autonomous Administration, extremist groups and international actors.

It also outlines the conflict's social repercussions, which are the most dangerous given their deep and long-term impact. Justifying violence against others reflects a state of deep social division that gave way to the emergence of sub-identities at the expense of the national identity. The report also explains the paths and progress of the Syrian media, where digital media has won the battle and is reshaping the news industry in this part of the world, leaving the traditional forms of media far behind.

Finally, this report comes within the SCM vision that the best and perhaps the only way out of the current national impasse and the state of retreat, despair and overwhelming sense of uselessness, is by countering the discourse of defeat and the desire to resign or evade failure by generalizing it and considering it a collective sin for which the Syrian people bear responsibility; by undertaking civil and legal initiatives based on human rights; and by working peacefully and legally to restore the rights, hold perpetrators accountable and rebuild faith in justice and rejection of violence.

3

Methodology

The report used the descriptive statistics approach by collecting data and statistics as numerical values and verifying their accuracy against various sources, and then extracting results, analyzing and auditing them by the SCM team using monitoring, observation and content analysis tools as well as related supporting sub-approaches such as field or historical studies to formulate and establish the legal and analytical attribution of violations (arbitrary arrest, enforced disappearance, murder and extrajudicial execution, killing as a result of torture, conditions of prisons, detention facilities and denial of medical care, attacks on press offices and injuries) that were collected and documented using the SCM methodology that includes the following stages:

- Collection of data from monitors.
- · Initial verification and validation of primary sources.
- · Final verification via secondary sources.
- Data tabulation and classification.

Upon receiving initial information about the violation, the recording process begins to create an integrated file that contains details, facts, events and evidence based on two types of direct sources by cross-referencing three sources: "point of contact", "documenter" and an additional source or statement by the person concerned. In certain cases, when the three-source condition cannot be fulfilled, the violation is listed based on two sources only, while the database is continuously verified, cross-referenced and reviewed in full on a regular basis.

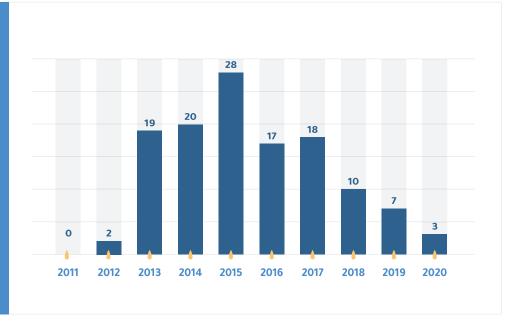
Secondary sources, such as reports from other human rights organizations and media reports, are verified against the information gathered from the direct source, as recommended in the OHCHR Handbook. The most common principle in ensuring credibility in the truth-finding process about human rights is consistency of information with the materials collected from independent and reliable sources as well. Secondary sources are chosen based on their accuracy, reliability, consistency, clarity and verifiability from another source. They also should be responsible, integral and scientific.

The SCM follows professional documentation rules and controls that require professional and ethical obligations and responsibility in monitoring, collection and tabulation processes, complete neutrality and objectivity, and documenting the violation regardless of the victim's title, identity, opinion or political affiliation. That is why the lists at the end of report contain the names of media workers who issued statements/contributions that may be considered as incitement to commit genocide (Article 3 of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (48) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda) but their acts do not justify violation against them or failure to document it.

In line with the SCM methodology, the report used the definition of "journalist" stated in Article 2(a) of the draft international convention on the protection of journalists engaged in dangerous professional missions in zones of armed conflict: "any reporter, press correspondent or photographer and their technical assistants as well as radio and TV assistants who usually participate in any of these activities as their main occupation." Accordingly, media workers with direct or indirect involvement in any military groups are not included in the same lists of journalists or media workers. According to the IHL,

journalists working in the media offices of military groups are covered by legal protection for journalists unless they undertake direct acts of hostilities, but if they are combatants, they are excluded from these lists because they are excluded from the IHL protections for civilian journalists in armed conflicts.





The use of the specific definition of a journalist does not contradict with the SCM position that all persons have the right to express themselves through mass media, not just those deemed qualified or suitable. The mandatory qualification requirements restrict the right of expression to a specific category, and may impede the flow of information. However, due to the complexities of the Syrian case, we had to adhere to the definition and exclude groups such as writers, artists and bloggers who were victims to violations due to the exercise of their basic rights and the right to freedom of expression in particular. They were classified under special research categories. Therefore, while the SCM documented 1992 violations, the lists annexed to the report included only the 1670 violations that fulfilled the definition.

The data collection process faced challenges at different levels:

- Making sure the violation is linked to media work and the right to obtain, exchange and publish information, and not to other rights such as the right to peaceful assembly or political participation, particularly in 2011. Political and civil activity is different from media work and should be examined in a different research context. This was extremely difficult because the protests remained civilian till 2012 and media professionals took part beside other intellectuals and civil and human rights activists. Also, when the military situations became complicated, it became difficult to prove that journalists were independent from armed groups and not participating in military operations.
- Many violations were complex or multi-faceted (e.g., some journalists were arrested and then killed under torture; some arrest or arbitrary detention events turned into enforced disappearances). The SCM considered the violation itself as a determinant of documentation. Violations were reported on the date of their occurrence without considering previous violations, because the criminal acts that constitute each violation are separate.

- Verifying the names was a problem because many people would use initial letters, pseudonyms, etc. We
 documented these cases internally and did not include them in the lists because the documentation process is
 the first step in the litigations that do not address the case of unknown victims.
- Linking violations with the practice of media work was particularly difficult in cases of indiscriminate attacks/ bombings on civilians; deaths resulting from such attacks or from explosions were excluded unless there is evidence that the injury/death occurred while practicing the media work. We also excluded cases of mass arrests, arrests resulting from violating laws and instructions or criminal or personal acts.
- In the cases of murder also, and even after determining that the violation is related to the media work, we faced complexities; should the killing be considered as murder or extrajudicial execution (i.e. "Assassination of a specific individual with the deliberate use of lethal force by the state, its agents, or by an organized armed group.") or a death resulting from indirect / non-individual attacks on civilians, specifically in the cases of indiscriminate sniper shooting commonly used during the conflict?
- In addition, the field situation was extremely complex. In a relatively small territory, there are many actors that practice violations, including the Syrian government, its security services, armed forces, and foreign militias as well as extremist organizations, armed opposition factions, the Syrian Democratic Forces, and the Turkish occupation forces, in conjunction with the criminal activities of gangs throughout Syria, which maximized the difficulty of the documentation work and explains why some violations were recorded against unknown perpetrators.

The report included detailed accounts of violations in light of the international law and IHL governing the conflict in Syria and a review of the country's legal and regulatory context supporting violations based on **the SCM vision that legal reforms and change of legislation and laws that are noncompliant with human rights, since the 60s** is key for creating a political environment that can initiate a process of change and build the country. The report also includes details about those provisions in the national and international laws criminalizing violations and guaranteeing a due process.



Part I: General Conceptual and Legal Framework

Chapter One: Rights and Freedoms

The report addresses complex violations of basic rights to life, liberty, physical safety, and fair trial, as well as of media rights and freedoms, and freedom of opinion and expression. In addition to their individual character, these rights constitute a collective asset, and violating them affects the whole society because they provide the foundations for building democracy and societies by allowing free flow of information and awareness-raising, the very antithesis of tyranny and authoritarianism.

Section 1: Freedom of expression

Right to freedom of expression: "The actual and law-supported right of all citizens to individual expression, especially political expression, including criticizing the government and its approach and the political, economic and social system and the dominant political ideology" ¹. It is the backbone of intellectual freedoms and the mediator between the mind of the individual and the group. It is the basis for exchanging views and ideas and expressing the characteristic inherent in every human being and the original human right stipulated unconditionally in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), and linked to other rights and freedoms such as the right to information, which enables individuals to establish their positions and choices, to exercise the right to expression, demonstrate and participate, as well as freedom of media, freedom of communication and electronic publishing, which cannot be achieved without the freedom of expression. However, Article 19(3) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) put exclusive restrictions on the freedom of expression that cannot be exceeded or be further restricted:

3- Accordingly, it may be subject to some restrictions, provided these are stipulated in the law and are necessary to (a) respect the rights or reputation of others; and (b) protect national security, public order, public health or public morals.

This is also recognized by Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms:

- 1. Everyone has the right to freedom of expression, which includes freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This Article shall not prevent States from requiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enterprises.
- 2. The exercise of these freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

Section 2: Freedom of media and the right to information

Freedom of media means the right to obtain information from any legitimate source and to publish news and ideas without restrictions, while freedom of media controls mean the restrictions that protect them while also preventing them from crossing the legitimate limits. They give the right to publish ideas and news in a manner that does not conflict with the publishing laws, while ensuring that the authority will not restrict them, whether by laws or censorship, as freedom of media is a public right that reflects pluralism in the society, and not a right of media professionals alone.

Freedom of media is based on the freedoms of expression, opinion, publication and distribution, and the use of communication channels, in addition to economic freedoms based on competition and freedom of trading in media products ². Freedom of media is the freedom to share thoughts with the public by all means (speeches, singing, writing, theater, cinema, radio and television) ³.

Freedom of media is also the right of the media to publish everything that people need to know, exchange information and obtain news from any source, as well as the right of the public to publish newspapers and express their opinions without censorship ⁴. ESCWA defined freedom of media as "the right to access news that public institutions possess."

The right to media is the right of individuals, groups and nations to obtain news, ideas and various types of correct information, to receive and transmit them to others by various legal methods (written, printed or in any form) regardless of location or borders, to enhance participation in guiding the public opinion, decision-making and development. The right to information is the legal framework of freedom of media. It reflects the legal powers granted to individuals to exercise partial freedoms of the media, that is, a set of abstract rights to reach full rights. The latter lead to the right to receive media messages and extend to legal powers to access correct and impartial information and authorize practitioners to perform their profession objectively ⁵.

The freedom/right to the media is a twin of the freedom of expression. It is a key determinant of the civil and political rights in civil systems. A wider margin of freedom of media means a higher and more established practice of democracy, and vice versa.

Reference texts on the freedom of media

Legal guarantees of media freedom were established in the "Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen" after the French Revolution. Voltaire expressed the philosophy of the revolution, saying: "I disapprove of what you say but I will defend to the death your right to say it". Supporting texts accumulated out later:

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 19) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Article 19).
- **UN General Assembly:** The UN General Assembly has issued many decisions regarding freedom of media, which considered the freedom of information a basic human right against which all other freedoms adopted by the United Nations are measured.
- **UNESCO** issued declarations on the freedom of media, including the Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding (1978), Windhoek Declaration, Namibia (1991) and Declaration on the Right to Information (2010).
- In 1993, the United Nations Human Rights Committee established the mechanism of the Special Rapporteur
 on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and expanded its mandate
 in 1998 to include the right to seek, receive and impart information.
- Article 13 of the **United Nations Convention against Corruption** (2005) oblige states to take all appropriate measures to enable the active participation of the media to implementing its provisions.
- The European Court of Human Rights stated that freedom of media is the core of democracy (6) and that its vital role is to monitor the performance of various authorities (7).
- The Arab Charter on Human Rights (2004) guarantees the right to information and to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any medium, regardless of geographical boundaries.

Section 3: Right to due process

Among the most prominent criteria of a fair trial is the right to investigate allegations of torture and reject confessions extracted under torture as evidence to convict the accused, and the right not to be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention in any form and under any circumstances. It is absolutely prohibited to deprive anyone of his freedom except for the reasons and conditions and in the manner stipulated by the law. Abuse is not only unlawful acts; it also includes impropriety, unfairness, oppression, injustice and everything that affects human dignity in any way. Criteria also include additional safeguards against death sentences, as they target the right to life, the entire basket of rights and freedoms. Under Article 9 of the ICCPR, death penalty can only be carried out pursuant to a final judgement, and anyone sentenced to death shall have the right to seek pardon or commutation of the sentence. Death penalty may only be decided upon when the judgment is based on conclusive, clear and convincing evidence that leaves no room for another interpretation of the facts of the accusation.

The right to a fair trial is evidence of a sound judicial system, in both its procedural dimension (the trial process) ⁹, penalty its conceptual dimension (the value of justice, i.e. the legal system guarantees to ensure relative justice, which is the minimum that humanity has agreed around since absolute justice is impossible ¹⁰. It is also linked to the rule of law principle, which provides guarantees against some types of official abuse ¹¹ by obligating the government to ensure equality before the law for all ¹². A fair trial is not limited to criminal courts; it includes civil, administrative and other types of courts. Also, it is not limited to trial, and must be implemented during research and investigation by the judicial police, interrogation before the public prosecution, investigation, charges and all subsequent stages (appeal and enforcement).

Fair trial is mentioned in Articles 7-11 of the UDHR, Article 14 of the ICCPR, and in the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Rome Statute and regional human rights conventions. Commenting on Article 4 of the ICCPR, the Human Rights Committee affirmed that the basic principles of a fair trial cannot be violated even during states of emergency.

A major guarantee of a fair trial is that the verdict is issued by an independent, impartial and legally constituted court. According to Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions, "only a regularly constituted court can issue a verdict against an accused person." In order for the court to be independent, it must be able to perform its work independently of any authority, especially the executive. Integrity requires the judges not to have a biased idea about the case, and not to act in a way that supports the interests of one of the parties. In addition to personal integrity, judges must also be impartial and provide sufficient guarantees to dispel any doubts about their integrity.

Chapter Two: Protection of Journalists in the International Law

Section 1: Definition of journalists

The resurgence and awareness expressed by the revolution marked a break with the directive and introversive media that the Syrian government had enshrined for decades, and heading towards more credible options. This was expressed by the unprecedented expansion of the emerging media, which adopted citizen journalism to ensure independence and freedom from censorship. Civil activists and citizen journalists, who challenged the most severe forms of repression and censorship with their mobile phones, became a source of timely transmission of news.

On January 18, 2013, Al-Jazeera reporter, Muhammad Al-Masalmeh (Al-Horani) was killed by a sniper while covering the news in Buser al-Harir, Daraa. A video recording showed that he was hit by two bullets while carrying a microphone and crossing a road in civilian clothes. Al-lazeera later removed this video because it constituted a clear condemnation against the channel as it demonstrated their failure to train journalists on safety issues and to provide them with minimum equipment while covering conflicts.

Al-Horani's case shows the complexity of the Syrian conflict which makes it almost impossible for one definition to cover all media workers throughout the ten years that witnessed new categories of journalists practiced journalism based on militant, rather than professional backgrounds.

During his work with Al-Jazeera, Al-Horani submitted dozens of reports from Daraa and fulfilled the entire mission of reporting the truth. Yet, he did not fulfill any of the various definitions of a journalist. He used to work in designing kitchens and furnishings and he did not receive any education or training in the media. He also did not depend on journalism as a main source of income, and chose not to receive payments for his journalistic work, and was not a member in any professional association.

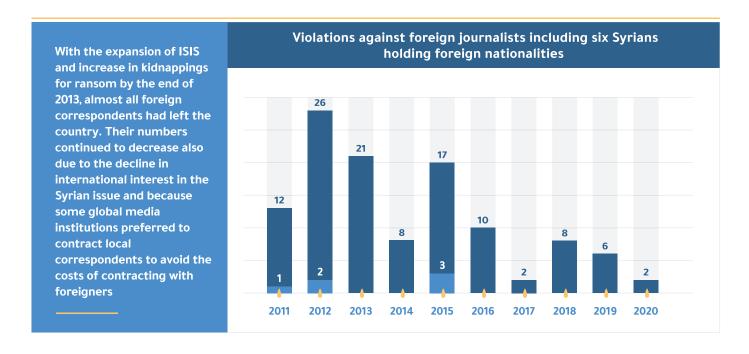
This made them the first to be targeted. The first documented cases of people killed as a result of their media work include Farzat Jarban, Mazhar Tayyarah, Anas Tarsheh and many others. This added another question to those raised by the revolution and the Arab Spring uprisings: what is the definition of a journalist?

A journalist is a person whose main profession and main source of income is journalism. Full-time work is a key determinant in this regard. The journalist is not only the person who issues or edit the contents of a newspaper, but also everyone who takes part in any area of the journalism industry and has a role in the publication process (editor, reporter, photographer or painter) ¹³. A journalist is also defined as a person whose profession is to gather news and opinions and publish them in a newspaper or magazine periodically, i.e. practicing journalism mainly and regularly by writing or by speaking or photographing ¹⁴.

The Syrian Media Law promulgated by Decree 108 of 2011 defines the media worker as "anyone whose profession is to author, prepare, edit or analyze media content or collect the information necessary for that in order to publish this content in any physical or virtual media outlet that publishes non personal content, including printed and/or electronic publications.

In its Comment No. 34, the UN Human Rights Committee defined journalism as: A function shared by a wide range of actors who engage in collecting and publishing information to the public through the mass media. It stressed that the general State systems of registration or licensing of journalists must be compatible with article 19 of the ICCPR, applied in a manner that is nondiscriminatory and based on objective criteria and intended only to enable journalists to access and share information. The UN General Assembly Resolution 68/163 defined journalism as: "inputs from media institutions, private individuals and a range of organizations that seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, online as well as offline", in the exercise of freedom of opinion and expression, thereby contributing to shape public debate.

Jurisprudence has different attitudes toward the patterns of the new media work. The European Court of Justice grants the citizen journalist full privileges and protections established for traditional journalists. Some U.S. and Australian courts have expanded the definition of a journalist, while others retain the narrow concept, similar to the French judiciary, which adopts the objective criterion of "institution" rather than the subjective criterion of "journalist" and defines a journalist as a person who works in/with a media institution.



In the IHL, the international conventions that address the protection of journalists did not define the journalist or media. The special regulations for the laws and customs of war annexed to the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907 also did not define the press correspondents accompanying the armed forces mentioned in Article 13 thereof. The same applies to the Third Geneva Convention and its first Protocol.

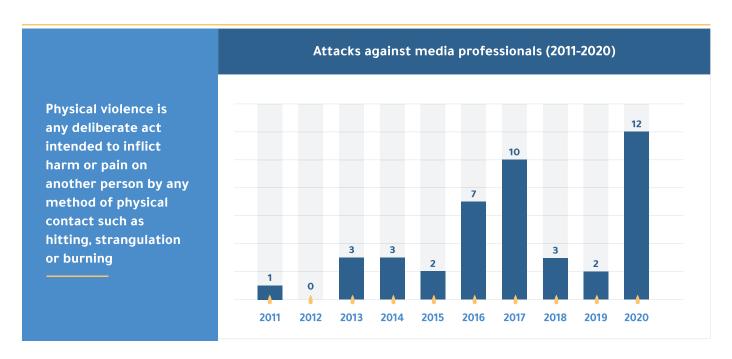
According to Article 2/5 of the draft United Nations Convention for the Protection of Journalists in 1975, a journalist is "any correspondent, reporter, photographer, and their technical film, radio, and television assistants that are ordinarily engaged in any of these activities as their principal occupation and who, in countries where such activities are assigned their particular status by virtue of laws, regulations or, in default thereof, recognized practices, have that status (by virtue of the said laws, regulations). The last paragraph of the draft preamble to the 2007 International Convention for the Protection of Journalists in Armed Conflicts defines journalists as: "Civilians who work as reporters, photographers, and their assistants in the print, radio, cinema, television and electronic press and carry out their work on a regular, full-time or part-time basis, regardless of their gender or religion" ¹⁵.

There is no unified definition for the media, but some refer to it as "government and civil institutions that spread culture to the public and are concerned with education to help individuals adapt with the community", such as: the press, radio, television and cinema. These are entities that enjoy the general protection established for civilian objects ¹⁶.

Section 2: Protection of journalists in armed conflicts

In 2011, the French journalist Gilles Jacquier was killed in Homs while accompanying the Syrian army, with a permit from the Syrian government. His case is still pending before the French courts amid exchange of accusations between the government and the armed opposition, because his murder was a violation of the IHL, which guarantees protection for journalists covering armed conflict from deliberate attacks and direct military action, as civilians not participating in hostilities (Rule 34 of the customary IHL). Some consider it insufficient protection that ignores the nature of this profession which requires the journalist to move through the front lines, unlike civilian journalists who, while not participating in the fighting as well, stay away from the conflict dangers. That is why journalists covering conflicts are included in the special protection category, not as civilians.

However, some argue that journalists are not included in the special protection categories like ambulance personnel, civil defense and medical workers because international legislators chose to keep a minimum number of special situations because any increase would mean an increase in the protection badges, which leads to weakening the protective value of the already accepted badges. Protected groups work to help victims of war and ease their suffering, while journalists cover wars for professional motives that do not include protecting the victims. Some people consider this as unfair arguing that the media contributes to saving civilians by documenting the violations and calling for international intervention to protect the victims, as was the case in Somalia in 1992.



Protection for journalists is not limited to keeping them, as civilians, away from the effects of hostilities. The IHL obliges states to incorporate international conventions that protect journalists in the national legislation according to Article 08 of the First Protocol additional to Geneva Conventions:

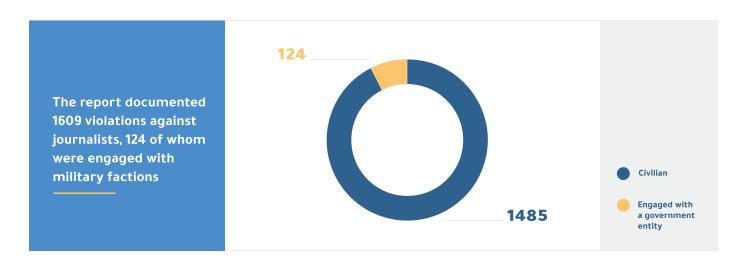
- The Contracting Parties and parties to the conflict shall take immediate action to fulfill their obligations under the conventions and this Protocol.
- The Contracting Parties and the parties to the conflict shall issue instructions to ensure respect for this Protocol and supervise its implementation.

Protection also includes a preventive aspect by raising awareness of protective laws to prevent using ignorance of IHL to justify violations. Disseminating the provisions of this law is an obligation of the member states according to the common Article 144 of the Geneva Conventions and Article 83 of the First Protocol which stipulates that the parties should, in time of war and peace, disseminate the text of the conventions as widely as possible. Publication should not be limited to the armed forces but should cover educational institutions and media outlets.

With regard to direct protection, the IHL rules include three categories of journalists in armed conflicts:

1. War correspondent: A journalist directly mandated by one of the parties to a conflict to cover the news of their forces, and who, if captured while performing his duties in a conflict zone, is granted the prisoner of war status specified in Article 4 of the Third Geneva Convention: "Persons who accompany the armed forces without actually being members thereof, such as civilian members of military aircraft crews, war correspondents, supply contractors, members of labour units or of services responsible for the welfare of the armed forces, provided that they have received authorization from the armed forces which they accompany".

The Convention stipulated that the war correspondent should be provided with an identity card in accordance with the form contained in the Protocol to the First Convention. The form should specify the "country and issuing military authority, a personal photo, date and place of birth, other information including height, weight, eye color, hair, blood type, religion, fingerprint stamps and any other marks". The correspondent must carry the card all the time and present it to the detaining authorities once captured, so that his/her identity can be identified after translating the card to two or three languages, one of which is international.



Accordingly, the war correspondent is the journalist who accompanies the armed forces without being a part of them, provided that he is equipped with an ID card according to the form in the Protocol to Convention (I) and works with authorization from the leadership of the military forces and is allowed to accompany them, whether the correspondent is from the same country or holds the nationality of the enemy or any other country. If doubts arise about his entitlement to the prisoner-of-war status, the correspondent continues to hold this status until a competent court determines the issue in accordance with Article 5(2) of Convention (III). If the court decides that the correspondent does not belong to the category of persons referred to in Article 4(A-4) of Convention (III), and consequently is not a prisoner of war, the correspondent falls under the protection of Convention (IV).

2. Independent journalists protected under Article 79 of Protocol (I):

- Journalists engaged in dangerous missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered as civilians in line with Article 50(1).
- They shall be protected as such under the Conventions and this Protocol, provided that they take no action adversely affecting their status as civilians, and without prejudice to the right of war correspondents accredited to the armed forces to the status provided for in Article 4 (A4) of the Third Convention.
- They may obtain an identity card ... This card shall be issued by the government of the State of which the journalist is a national or in whose territory he resides or in which the news medium employing him is located, and shall attest to his status as a journalist.

The identity card mentioned in the previous paragraph does not mean a distinctive legal status of its holder; rather, it reveals the journalist's identity if he/she gets arrested. The card should include the phrase "This card is issued to journalists handling dangerous civil missions in conflict zones, and its holder is entitled to be treated as a civilian in accordance with the Fourth Geneva Convention and the Additional Protocol". The card holder must carry it all the time and hand it over immediately to the arresting authority to help determine his identity. On the front side, the name of the issuing country is written, and the back side should show the holder's photo, name, surname, place and date of birth, and distinctive features. This card proves the journalist's profession not his status as a civilian, which he deserves, even without holding this card.

In 2015, Palestinian photographer Niraz Saeed was killed under torture in a security branch in Damascus. He was arrested after leaving the Yarmouk camp, south of Damascus, which was captured by ISIS, but his death was announced three years later. Saeed documented the humanitarian situation of the besieged Yarmouk camp. He won many awards, including the UNRWA award for the best press photo in 2013, in addition to the film "Letters from Yarmouk".

3. The journalist accompanying armed forces: The journalist who moves with military units in time of war and has a kind of contract with them (engagement document) that obliges him/her to strictly follow the related unit that would guarantees his/her protection, without adopting their narrative of the conflict events, but rather enjoys independence in journalist work, unlike the war correspondent. Examples of this category include the journalists who accompanied the U.S. forces during the invasion of Iraq and the U.S. Journalist Mary Colvin, Sunday Times correspondent who was killed in the targeting of the Baba Amr Media Center.

The IHL does not have clear provision on this category. The UK Ministry of Defense media guidelines classify it as war correspondent under the Third Geneva Convention, which thus gives the journalist a prisoner-of-war status. The French military treats them as independent journalists who have no rights except being civilians ¹⁷.

On May 20, 2013, Yara Abbas, a journalist in the government TV, was killed in the north of Al-Qusayr. She was traveling with the army, wearing military uniform and a helmet with no reference to her journalist work, when they were ambushed by the armed opposition during the battles of the Dabaa airport. Her case is a typical example where Paragraph 3 of Article 51 of the First Additional Protocol to Geneva Convention is suspended.

In Syria, categorizing journalists was extremely complex, because none of the above definitions applied to media professionals working with armed factions. A journalist working in the media office of an armed faction must strictly follow their media policies, which means he/she is not independent. It is also difficult to confirm whether these journalists are working under a contract with the faction in order to be considered as "accompanying reporters". They also can never be categorized as war correspondents because they do not have the model identity card required by Geneva Conventions. Meanwhile, these factions do not follow strict rules in distributing tasks as is the case in regular armies, because they basically are local groups who took up arms for self-defense rather than a career option. In addition, those working in such media offices may be involved in direct military operations, which means they are no longer entitled to the right to protection. Even activists working under contracts with these factions but are not part of their media offices may not be neutral and independent from them, which raised questions about professionalism, independence and impartiality by various media and international bodies on several occasions.

Suspension of protection for journalists

Journalists enjoy full protection unless they take part in hostilities, through unusual acts that contribute directly and effectively to military action. The word "directly" justifies the lifting of protection, as the lifting requires a close link between the journalist's behavior and such hostilities. This includes acts of war which, by their nature or purpose, are likely to cause actual harm to the personnel and equipment of the enemy forces." The suspension of protection here is required by military logic rather than by criminalization, and is limited to the period when the **journalist participates directly in hostilities**. He loses protection and becomes a legitimate target, but once he ceases to participate, the journalist regains the right to protection.

According to the ICRC comment on Article 51(3) of the First Protocol: "The journalist loses legal protection if he wears a uniform that is very similar to the military uniform; if he stays with and follows a military unit during the course of the battles; and if he is present in areas that may be targeted and the law permits that." This is underlined by the Safety Guide for Journalists issued by Reporters Without Borders in February 2015, which advised journalists to be careful in the front lines and at all times wear uniforms different from the military uniforms and display the words "press - and TV". They should pay attention to what their appearance and behavior may look like from afar. A research by the Committee to Protect Journalists showed cases where journalists carrying cameras and other equipment were mistakenly targeted because snipers thought they were carrying light weapons.

On April 27, 2016, unknown persons stormed Arta FM radio station in Amuda, Hasakeh, and threatened the Executive Director with death if the station did not stop broadcasting. Then, they looted some equipment and set the building on fire.

International legal protection for journalists is also forfeited in the case of Article 33 of the draft International Law Commission on State Responsibility, which stipulates that it should be the only means to protect the State against a grave and imminent threat and that its use does not cause harm to the essential interest of the other right-holder state, and that necessity may never be used to justify a violation of IHL and the laws of war.

Section 3: Protection of media premises

Between March 15, 2011 and the end of 2020, 61 media offices were targeted

Media facilities are civilian objects and targeting them is fully prohibited by the IHL since the beginning of the twentieth century. This is confirmed by the protocols of Geneva Conventions and International Criminal Court Statute. All media equipment and facilities are included as civilian objects that should not be targeted unless they are used militarily. Article 48 of Protocol I distinguishes between civilian objects; operations must only be directed against military objectives. Civilian objects shall enjoy the general protection under Article 52 of Protocol I. The IHL does not provide special protection to press headquarters and does not prohibit targeting them, as is the case in Article 53 of Protocol I, which prohibits attacking historic monuments, works of art and places of worship.

In February 2019, a US federal court ruled that Syrian government officials including Maher Al-Assad, brother of the President, were responsible for the murder of U.S. journalist Marie Colvin, because they issued direct orders, in 2012, to shell a temporary broadcast studio that was a residence and workplace of Colvin and other journalists in Bab Amr neighborhood in Homs. The lawsuit was initiated by Colvin's family in 2016. In the same year, the Syrian President had said in an interview with NBC News that Colvin bears responsibility for her death because she entered the country illegally and worked with the terrorists.

Civilian objects are objects that do not effectively contribute to military action. According to Rule 9 of the rules of customary IHL, "Civilian objects are all objects that are not military objectives." The initial ruling by the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia against the Croatian leader, Tihomir Blaškić in 2000 defined them as "all objects that cannot be legitimately considered military objectives."

To become legitimate targets, facilities must meet the criteria for a military objective. They should, by nature, location or purpose contribute effectively to military action, and their complete or partial destruction, seizure or disruption in the related circumstances should realize a definite military advantage. Advantage here is measured using the principles of military necessity and proportionality. This criterion does not apply to attacks on objects that are uncertain to be legitimate objectives.

The legitimacy of the attack does not depend only on the nature of the target. It should also meet other requirements including the 'duty to warn' principle, the general protection principles for civilian persons and civilian objects, the rule of proportionality that requires avoiding excessive harm to infrastructure and environment, compared to the military advantage anticipated.

Objects usually devoted to media outlets (like facilities of radio and TV stations) benefit from the assumption of civilian use in the event of uncertainty even when they are in a war zone. If this assumption proves wrong, the military persons must act in accordance with the precautions during the attack set forth in Article 57 of Protocol I and must consider the protection of civilian population and civilian objects.

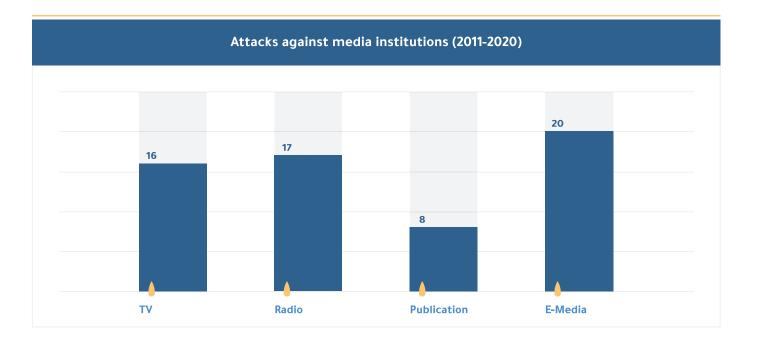
Suspending the protection of media facilities

The protection for civilian objects is suspended if these objects are used for hostile purposes, such as hosting military personnel, equipment or supplies, or effectively contributing to the war effort inconsistent with their status as protected objects. The use of a media outlet for advertising purposes does not jeopardize such a status. According to Amnesty International, propaganda can undermine the morale of both the population and the armed forces, but this may not justify attacking civilian objects, because it expands the concept of "effective contribution to military action" and "the definite military advantage" stipulated in "Article 52 beyond the acceptable limits".

Propaganda here means the propaganda that supports one of the parties to the conflict and raises the morale of fighters and supporters, not the propaganda that incites the perpetration of serious IHL violations or acts of genocide or violence such as those practiced by the Rwandan media in 1994 which made them legitimate targets at the time. The committee formed by the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, also admitted that "if the media is used to incite crimes, as was the case in Rwanda, it becomes a legitimate military target".

This is based on Article 30 of the UDHR, which states that "Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein." This means that using repressive and deterrent means against those violating human rights is legitimate."

The provisions of international law aim to provide adequate protection for the population and civilian objects; they also aim to prevent racism and ethnic hatred crimes or incitement, as stipulated in Paragraph 1 of the 1936 Convention concerning the Use of Broadcasting in the Cause of Peace, which states that "the states parties must immediately prohibit on their respective territories any broadcasting that harms the good international understanding, including inciting the population of one province to act against the bylaws or the regional security of one of the contracting parties."



What Journalist Yagen Baidou (Mirna Al-Hassan), winner of the Courage in Journalism Award 2020, had been subjected to by various parties is an example of the hostile environment against female journalists. In March 2020, Syrian Parliament member Fares Al-Shehabi launched a genderbased Twitter campaign, which was circulated by pro-government sites, claiming that "she was assassinated after being raped by terrorists," adding that "This is the fate of everyone who deals with terrorism and betrays their homeland." In June, another campaign began by opposition supporters, in which she was subjected to bullying, verbal insult and she was dismissed from the "Media Activists Union of Aleppo and Its Countryside" simply because she was exercising her right to freedom of expression, in a statement she made to one of the platforms in which she expressed her opinion in the media at the beginning of the revolution.

Section 4: female journalists in armed conflicts

Protection of female journalists in the IHL

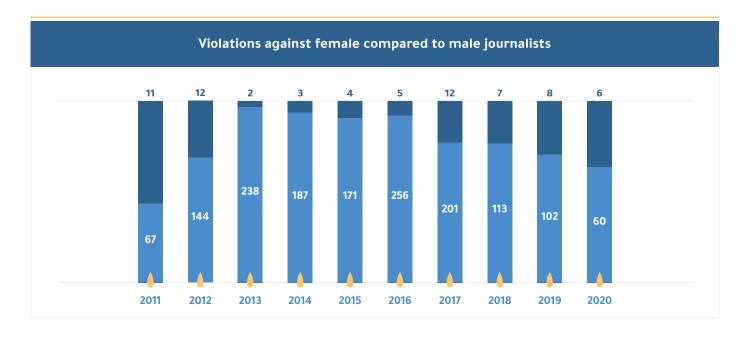
In addition to killing, arrest, disappearance, threats, violence and work denial, female media workers experience pressures based on stereotypes that do not recognize women's capabilities or role in challenging the oppressive authorities, whether social or political, and from the public attitude that blames the victims and subject them to stigmatization, discrimination, bullying and control, and trying to control their bodies and appearances as well. Female journalists in armed conflicts face disproportionate violence, based on their gender. They are more vulnerable to harassment and sexual violence, which is used to discourage them from working in the media.

Legal provisions related to the protection of women in armed conflicts vary between general rules on the protection of civilians and special protections for women, starting from the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, through the Geneva Conventions and the two Protocols annexed to UNSC Resolutions 1325 and 2241. The Third Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners of war provided women with special provisions. The Fourth Convention also underlined their protection from rape in Article 27, "Women shall be especially protected against any attack on their honour, in particular against rape, enforced prostitution, or any form of indecent assault".

Articles 79, 127 and 132 ensured special treatment for pregnant women and young mothers, which was supplemented by Article 76 of the First Protocol ¹⁸.

With regard to women journalists, there are established protections for the work environment in times of peace and war, including the General Recommendation No. 19 of 1992 by the CEDAW Committee and ILO Convention No. 190 of 2019, which "protects all workers irrespective of their contractual status, including persons in training, workers whose employment has been terminated, volunteers, jobseekers and job applicants." During armed conflicts, UNSC Resolution No. 2222 included an important reference to the protection of female journalists, condemned grave violations and abuses against journalists and media outlets and called upon parties to conflicts to reduce such violations, conduct serious investigations, bring the perpetrators to justice and prevent impunity and ensure redress for the victims.

Some people think laws are not enough to protect women during armed conflicts; they must be supplemented by enforcement and monitoring mechanisms. Others argue that the problem lies in the IHL that does not provide adequate protection for civilian women, including journalists. In certain legal and social contexts, laws are enacted by dominant male legislators who have gender stereotypes that deny equal treatment for women and consider them weak human beings burdened with honor, dignity and family reputation issues ¹⁹. They also define women based on their reproductive functions restricting the forms of violence to sexual violence and forced pregnancy while ignoring other forms such as psychological violence, which suggests that protections are mainly provided to children by securing only pregnant and breastfeeding women, rather than all women.



Women journalists in the Syrian conflict

The 2011 revolution at the beginning created spaces for freedom of opinion and expression and expanded the presence of women in the media work. However, the country's entry into the stage of armed conflict represented a challenge for female journalists in Syria, the world's most dangerous place for journalists, given the environment that can be described as hostile toward women. In addition to the exceptional risks facing media workers in general, women were already marginalized and deprived from symbolic and material resources.

They face the dangers of war, displacement, killing or injury in poor health care conditions, kidnapping and physical and sexual abuse. In addition, women assume all family support burdens; they try hard to secure livelihoods under exceptional circumstances that lack deterrence and protection mechanisms. Moreover, while the Internet and digital platforms provided women with opportunities in the media work and with knowledge, training and information sharing, they also produced forms of violence against women journalists. Such platforms have easily turned into platforms for defamation, harassment and abuse and violence hence deepening prejudices and discrimination against women, and reinforcing abuse and bullying that often suppress human dignity in an elusive way.

In the Syrian conflict, violence against women can be recognized in two different contexts:

- 1. Direct gender-based violence, defined by the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life". This was practiced mainly by extremist organizations such as ISIS and Al-Nusra Front, which targeted women journalists as visible and outspoken representatives of women's rights and prevented women from any activity in their areas.
- 2. Violence committed against women by all parties (mainly the government), including arrest due to political opinion or affiliation rather than gender reasons. Here sexual violence was used to extract information during interrogation or to humiliate the detainees. It was also used to force opponents to concede, surrender, or to evacuate cities through forced displacement.

The report does not address GBV because it focuses on violations against media professionals, though sexual violence was systematically practiced against detained male and female journalists by the Syrian government forces as reported by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic.

Also, the report does not document harassment incidents that media professionals may face because of, or during, their journalistic work. Another reason why the report does not address sexual violence is the fact that the society culture discourages reporting such violations and tends to blame the victim rather than the perpetrator.



Section 5: Responsibility for violating the journalist protection rules

Between March 15 and end of December 2020, 1609 violations against the media and media workers were documented

According to the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, all people enjoy the same rights and deserve the same protection while exercising these rights. However, some - such as journalists - face special threats given their role in society and therefore should receive special protection. The state is responsible for ensuring this protection, regardless of the perpetrator. The Special Rapporteur mentioned four key elements of journalist protection:

- · Response mechanisms for urgent calls and hazards during emergency situations.
- · Political will by leadership figures.
- Legal measures such as decriminalizing defamation, abolishing all forms of censorship, as well as national security or counter-terrorism laws that are used to silence journalists who investigate corruption or other sensitive issues.
- Addressing impunity and taking proactive and preventive measures, such as training security agencies to
 manage demonstrations or take necessary action during political or electoral activities, while respecting the
 role of journalists and ensuring their safety.

In May 2013, the UN General Assembly condemned all the Syrian government IHL violations, including the killing and persecution of protesters, human rights defenders and journalists.

UNGA Resolution 67/262

There is international responsibility for breaching the provisions of the international law, such as assaulting protected persons during conflicts. The state is responsible for the acts of its forces during the conflict, as stipulated in Article 3 of the 1907 Hague Convention on the Rules and Customs of Land War: "A belligerent party which violates the provisions of the said Regulations shall, if the case demands, be liable to pay compensation. It shall be responsible for all acts committed by persons forming part of its armed forces." and in Article 91 of its First Additional Protocol: "A party to the conflict shall be responsible for all acts committed by persons who are part of its armed forces".

Violating the protection established for journalists and their headquarters recalls international sanction established by the IHL, which requires the state to stop unlawful acts by its forces, ensure non-repetition, and compensate for the damage caused through full reparation or fair compensation, and according to Rule 149 of the rules of customary IHL. The state's responsibility for IHL violations attributed to it, includes:

- · Violations committed by its organs, including its armed forces;
- · Violations committed by persons or entities it empowered to exercise elements of governmental authority;
- · Violations committed by persons or groups acting in fact on its instructions, or under its direction or control; and
- · Violations committed by private persons or groups which it acknowledges and adopts as its own conduct.

Adult individuals bear individual criminal responsibility for violating any IHR rules including the rules for protecting journalists during armed conflicts. Members of the armed forces of various parties to the conflict are subject to punishment for the violations they commit against protected groups in the course of carrying out their military duties, whether committed individually or jointly with others.

States also undertake to enact legislations that criminalize grave violations, according to Articles 49 of the First Geneva Convention, Article 50 of the Second Convention and Article 129 of the Third Convention. A state may not be waived the responsibility for violations committed by its authorities or its citizens or committed in its name, according to Article 51 of the First Convention, Article 52 of the Second Convention, Article 131 of the Third Convention and Article 148 of the Fourth Convention. State failure to prosecute the perpetrators of violations that constitute war crimes at the national level can fall under the ICC jurisdiction (if the country is a signatory) or under a binding UNSC resolution.



Part II: Key violations against the media and media professionals

Chapter One: Enforced disappearance, arbitrary arrest and torture in the International Law

Section 1: Enforced disappearance

Enforced disappearance is the process of hiding a person against his will including through kidnapping and arrest of civilians during periods of conflict or dictatorship. After kidnapping, the victim is stripped of legal protection and their family and relatives are prevented from knowing their fate. Enforced disappearance occurs in the early stages of detention or after that and sometimes in broad daylight in front of witnesses, which suggests the perpetrators have impunity ²⁰. Authorities use enforced disappearance to intimidate the society. The resulting feeling of insecurity is not limited to the victim's relatives, but extends to the whole community.

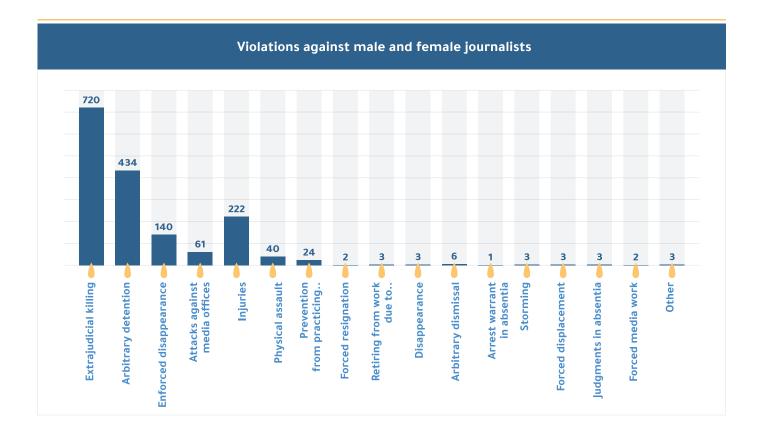
The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance defined enforced disappearance as: "the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law." According to the International Criminal Court, "Enforced disappearance of persons means the arrest, detention or abduction of persons by, or with the authorization, support or acquiescence of, a State or a political organization, followed by a refusal to acknowledge that deprivation of freedom or to give information on the fate or whereabouts of those persons, with an aim of removing them from the protection of the law for a prolonged period of time." Amnesty International states that "Victims of enforced disappearance are people who have literally disappeared; from their loved ones and their community. They go missing when state officials (or someone acting with state consent) grabs them from the street or from their homes and then deny it, or refuse to say where they are. Sometimes disappearances may be committed by armed non-state actors, like armed opposition groups. And it is always a crime under international law."

On September 3, 2011, the Air Force Intelligence stormed the house of the writer, Hussein Esso (68 years old) in Hasakeh city, and arrested him. The following day, he was transferred to Deir Ezzor city, according to activist and former detainee Shebal Ibrahim who had shared the same cell with him before they were both transferred to the Air Force Intelligence Branch at the Mezzeh Military Airport, in Damascus. In 2010, the SCM received an eye-witness testimony from a former detainee that Esso had hemiplegia and heart problems (he had undergone a cardiac catheterization shortly before his arrest). Since that date, his fate remains unknown.

Disappearance is based on two key elements that may occur together or individually: Unknown place of detention and unknown perpetrator. This means that the definition of enforced disappearance persists even if the identity of the perpetrator(s) is known. The crime elements are complete, whether enforced disappearance is committed by an individual, a terrorist group, an agent working for a government agency ²¹ or de facto authorities that replace the state. The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance required that states must investigate, prosecute or extradite those responsible for enforced disappearance, including individuals or groups who act "without authorization, support or approval from the state."

According to the UN Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (1992), any act of enforced disappearance is an offence to human dignity. It is condemned as a denial of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and as a grave and flagrant violation of the UDHR. According to the ICC statute, this may amount to crimes against humanity if it is proven to have been committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilians, which was confirmed by Article 5 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in 2000, which categorized it as crimes against humanity.

Enforced disappearance is also a violation of Article 9 of the ICCPR. In its general comment on Article 4 thereof, OHCHR affirmed that the prohibition of kidnapping and unacknowledged detention is an absolute rule that applies even in state of emergency. It constitutes a rule of the customary international law. In addition to violating basic human rights, enforced disappearance violates the economic, social and cultural rights of the disappeared and members of his family. According to Article 24 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, "victim means the disappeared person and any individual who has suffered harm as the direct result of an enforced disappearance."



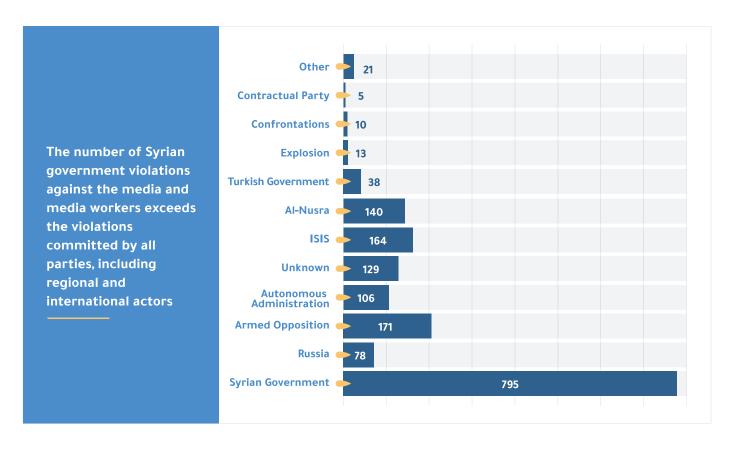
According to Article 32 of the First Protocol to the Geneva Conventions, enforced disappearance violates the right to know the truth, "that is, the right of every family to know the fate of its members, the main motivation for the activities of the High Contracting Parties, the parties to a conflict and organizations." When the enforced disappearance incidents end with death under torture and the bodies are hidden and buried in mass graves, this also constitutes a violation of the international law (customary rules 114, 115 and 116 and the additional Protocols to Geneva Conventions).

Finally, Article 24 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance states that "Each State Party shall ensure in its legal system that the victims of enforced disappearance have the right to obtain reparation and prompt, fair and adequate compensation." The right to obtain reparation includes for example: restitution; rehabilitation; satisfaction, including restoration of dignity and reputation; guarantees of non-repetition. The latest international efforts in combating enforced disappearance was the unanimously adopted UNSC resolution No. 2474 (2019), which called upon parties to armed conflict to take all appropriate measures, to actively search for persons reported missing, to enable the return of their remains.

Section 2: Abduction

Kidnapping overlaps with enforced disappearance, and there is often confusion between the two terms, due to the similarity or even identicalness of the material element of these two crimes on the one hand and the violation of the rights and freedoms on the other hand. They both violate a number of the rights established in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: security of person (Article 3), prohibition of torture and ill-treatment (Article 5), protection of private and family life (Article 12), freedom of movement (Article 13), and in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: the right to life and personal security (Article 6), and prohibition of violating the freedoms of persons (Article 10).

However, similarity between the two terms does not mean that they are identical. Kidnapping in the domestic law is the criminal equivalent of enforced disappearance in the international contractual law, implemented by state agencies or political organizations. The international law limits kidnapping to the "taking of hostages" stipulated in the UNGA Resolution No. 31/103 of 1976, which considered the taking of hostages a crime threatening the human being and human dignity. This is also stipulated in the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages (1979) which entered into force in 1983, and is applied in times of war and peace.



Section 3: Arbitrary detention

Contrary to enforced disappearance, where all the acts are committed unlawfully with complete disregard for law requirements, arbitrary detention is often practiced within the framework of the law but violate some or all of its requirements, such as the constitutional and penal principles in Syria. Detention is considered arbitrary if it lacks any legal ground for the deprivation of liberty. The lack of legal ground here may be prior to the act of arrest or occur later when a person is kept in detention even after the end of the imprisonment term, as in the case of the blogger Tal Al-Mallouhi and others. The deprivation of liberty is also arbitrary if used as a penalty for the victim's practice of one of the internationally recognized rights or freedoms, such as the rights to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly. **Arbitrary detention extends to rulings issued by exceptional courts, such as the Counterterrorism Court, the Military Field Court, and others.**

Any deprivation of liberty completely or partially disregarding the right to a fair trial enshrined in the UDHR and other international instruments is considered arbitrary.

On February 16, 2012, government security forces stormed the SCM office in Damascus and arrested its chairman, journalist and rights activist Mazen Darwish, and all the fourteen persons who were in the office without any warrant. Mr. Darwish and four SCM employees were detained for nine months in Mazzeh Airport branch of the Air Force Intelligence and the Fourth Division branch, and were subjected to psychological and physical torture before they were referred to the court. In this regard, OHCHR Working Group on Arbitrary Detention issued its Resolution No. (43/2013) titled "Mazen Darwish et al. v. Syrian Arab Republic", which called upon the Syrian authorities to immediately disclose their fate and grant them the right to reparation.

However, temporary or preventive detention of suspects who have not yet been proved guilty is lawful and not included under "arbitrary detention", provided that it is carried out through a decision by an impartial judicial authority whose role is to facilitate investigation, preserve rights and prevent suspects from escaping. Temporary detention must respect the timeframes specified by the law; detained persons must be released automatically unless they are accused of another crime and unless a reasoned judicial decision is issued to extend the temporary detention period. Any violation of the previous requirements turns temporary detention to arbitrary detention.

Arbitrary detention means "depriving a person's freedom unnecessarily, contrary to the rules established by law" ²². According to Amnesty International, it means "arresting people without legitimate cause or without legal procedures". The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention defines it as "an arrest that violates the provisions of human rights and lacks any legal ground, which results in depriving the detainee of the rights or freedoms guaranteed under human rights conventions." Arbitrary detention violates Article 9 of the UDHR, Article 9 of the ICCPR, Customary Rules No. 99 (prohibition of arbitrary deprivation of liberty), 100 (fair trial guarantees) and 102 (No one may be convicted of an offence except on the basis of individual criminal responsibility) and the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Reference texts against arbitrary detention

In addition to the rules of IHRL, IHL and the ICC Rome Statute, the international legislator has assigned arbitrary detention with a set of rules that intersect with those of enforced disappearance and torture:

- The Body of Principles Relating to the Protection of All Persons Under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment (1998).
- Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (1957).
- UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules).
- UN Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty.
- UN Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (Tokyo Rules), Criminal Justice Systems.

OHCHRalso established the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention by Resolution 42/1991, with the following tasks:

- Investigate cases of arbitrary deprivation of liberty.
- Seek and receive information from governments, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and from the victims, their families or their representatives.
- Conduct field tours to track cases on the ground.
- Submit a detailed annual report to the Human Rights Council.

Section 4: Torture

Arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance are closely linked to torture. Torture means the intentional infliction of severe physical or psychological pain or suffering, on a person who is under the supervision or control of the accused. Torture includes not only any pain or suffering that results from punishments or are part of it or as a result of it but also actions and inactions with the aim of reach tangible unlawful results through inflicting physical and emotional pain on the victim ²³. According to the ICC Dutch judge, Peter Kooijmans, torture is a violation of the right to human dignity, the most intimate human right, because it occurs in isolated places and is often practiced by an anonymous tormentor who deals with victims as objects ²⁴. The UK judiciary defined torture as "inhuman treatment that causes mental or physical suffering and is aimed to obtain information or confessions or to impose a punishment, and is characterized by particular injustice and severity" ²⁵.

The UN Declaration on the Protection from Torture (1975) defines torture as "any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted by or at the instigation of a public official on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or confession, punishing him for an act he has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating him or other persons. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to, lawful sanctions to the extent consistent with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. Article 1 of the UN Convention Against Torture (1984) defines it as "any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions."

The International Law does not provide a comprehensive definition of torture. It does not provide a clear definition for the term 'pain', which includes physical and psychological pain as well as the pain from being placed in psychiatric care facilities. It also limits the purpose of torture to obtaining confessions while it was used as a punitive measure and daily routine as is the case in Syrian prisons in recent decades. It also restricts acts of torture to public officials and the like, while it involves government officials, rebels and even family members (honor crimes or revenge).

In September 2015, the Syrian cartoonist Akram Raslan was reported killed. Raslan was arrested by Military Intelligence in October 2012 from the headquarters of the government local newspaper Al-Fida in Hama, because he drew a cartoon of the President of the Republic. In July 2013, he was referred to the Counterterrorism Court and underwent a summary trial and returned to the prison where he was subjected to continual torture. When his health deteriorated, he was transferred to hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. End of 2013.

Torture may constitute a criminal offense in individual cases; a crime against humanity if committed systematically or on a large scale; or genocide. According to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948), genocide means "the acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group through causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group". This is also referred to in the judgment by the International Court of Justice on February 22, 2007 on the genocide in Srebrenica, which was the first time to issue a ruling against a state on Genocide charges.

Torture practices constitute slow genocide that damages the ability of group members to exercise their functions in society, causes them to lose their identity and distorts their character. Torture in the context of genocide is often based on discriminatory motives against a specific group, and the criminal intent behind it is to destroy a group, in whole or in part. In the case of Adolf Eichmann, who was convicted of crimes against Jews in Nazi Germany on December 12, 1961, the

court indicated that the serious damage to the physical or mental integrity of the members of the group could result from subjugating the group to slavery, starvation, displacement and persecution, as well as detaining them under conditions that deny them basic human rights and could lead to their extermination ²⁶.

The customary nature of the prohibition on torture

The Geneva Conventions and their Protocols fully prohibit cruel or inhuman treatment and assault on human dignity. Torture is a gross violation that may amount to a crime against humanity as stipulated in the Nuremberg Charter and Article 5 of the Statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Prohibition of torture is a peremptory norm in the international law and IHL. It may not be restricted even in emergency situations, according to in Rule 90 of the International Committee of Customary Law and the International Court of Justice decision with regard to the customary character of most of IHL rules, as stated in the verdict in the Nicaragua case in 1986. Being stipulated in several UNGA regulations reflect the international unanimity. The peremptory norm of the principle of prohibition is key for the rule of Non-statute of limitations in global jurisdiction and the lifting of immunity.

Non-statute of limitations

Torture, as a crime against humanity, is not subject to the statute of limitations. The Criminal Chamber of Lyon Court of Cassation stated in the case of Klaus Barbie in 1985 that in order to consider acts as crimes against humanity, they should be committed in the name of the government with a policy of systematic ideological dominance against individuals because of their ethnic or religious affiliation and against political opponents. This crime may not subject to the statute of limitations and can prosecuted in France, regardless of the place and date of its occurrence." ²⁷

On November 20, 2011, the body of the photojournalist Ferzat Jarban was found in a street in Al-Qsair city, one day after he was arrested while photographing anti-government demonstrations in the city. His body was mutilated and his eyes were gouged out, which illustrated the brutality suffered. Ferzat was the first victims of torture among the revolution journalists.

The preamble of the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity, adopted by UNGA Resolution 2391 of 1968, provided justification for such non-applicability: "War crimes and crimes against humanity are among the gravest crimes in international law and their effective punishment is an important element in the prevention of such crimes, the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Principle of universal jurisdiction

The crime of torture falls under universal jurisdiction based on the well-established international law rule "Collective Responsibility" that authorises any state to exercise jurisdiction over those suspected of committing crimes against humanity, including torture. Universal jurisdiction means the right of

states to prosecute the perpetrators of international crimes that affect not only the victim but humanity as a whole. The international community recognizes the right of each country to exercise universal jurisdiction and bring to justice those responsible for enforced disappearance, considered a form of torture by OHCHR, which stated that enforced disappearance exposes the families of the victims to severe psychological pain. This violates Article 7 of the Rome Statute which criminalizes torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment.

The UNGA Resolution No. 3074 of 1973 (Principles of international co-operation in the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity) included expanded cooperation obligations among countries to bring perpetrators of crimes against humanity, including torture, to justice wherever these crimes are committed.

Lifting of immunity

Despite the core importance of the principle of national sovereignty in the international law and the idea of immunity in contemporary political thought, international law admits that immunity and privileges granted to leaders of states and governments may not be maintained in cases of torture and crimes against humanity under Article 227 of the Treaty of Versailles (1919), under which the Allies publicly indicted the German Tsar, Wilhelm II for violating the international ethics ²⁸. This was confirmed by the Nuremberg Tribunal, Tokyo Tribunal ²⁹, Article 27 of the ICC Statute, and the report of the UN Secretary-General to the UNSC on the establishment of the Special Court for Yugoslavia, which said that the Court Statute must stipulate that the act being committed by the accused in his capacity as head of state should not reduce the penalty." ³⁰.

Section 5: Extrajudicial killing

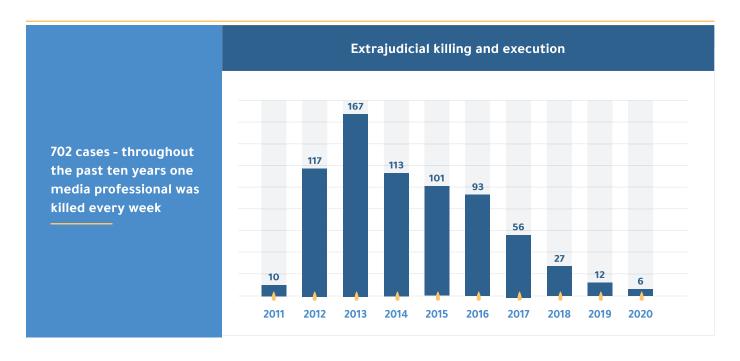
702 murders against media professionals in ten years (one every five days)

Philip Alston, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, defines extrajudicial executions as "an assassination carried out with the deliberate use of lethal force by an actor in international law, that is, by States or their agents who act in accordance with the law or by an organized armed group in an armed conflict directed against individuals who are not under the physical guardianship of the aggressor."

Extrajudicial killing means executions by government authorities or de facto powers outside the judicial system. Summary execution means killing someone following a summary trial that does not meet the requirements of a fair trial, which is fully applicable to the Counterterrorism Court and other exceptional courts in Syria, as well as to the death sentences issued by quasi-judicial bodies in the armed opposition areas. Arbitrary execution means killing upon an order by the government, in collusion with it or in acquiescence to it without legal proceedings (e.g., The death sentences by the Military Field Court in Syria).

Since the right to life is the basis of the related rights and freedoms, governments may not contradict the absolute prohibition of extrajudicial execution or to justify it by invoking force majeure circumstances of war, threat of war, internal political instability or any state of emergency, whatever the circumstances are including during internal armed conflict, or to justify cases of excessive or unlawful use of force by public officials or any person acting at their instigation or with their explicit or implicit consent, including deaths in custody.

In its comment on Article 6 of the ICCPR regarding the right to life, the Human Rights Committee stressed the duty of states parties to prevent arbitrary killings committed by their own security forces and that the deprivation of life by state authorities is extremely dangerous. Consequently, the law must impose strict control and limit the circumstances where these authorities can deprive a person of their life.



The prohibition of extrajudicial executions requires states to oblige law enforcement officials (police, army, or other government forces) to use lethal force only in very limited cases where other means are ineffective or fail to achieve the desired result according to Principle 4 of the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials. Non-state actors including militias and armed groups operating in support of state authorities or as agents thereof are also responsible for violating such prohibition. States also have a positive obligation to exercise due diligence to protect the right to life from threats posed by others by establishing effective criminal justice response systems. There are numerous international covenants that criminalize extrajudicial killings and summary executions.

- The UDHR (Article 3), the ICCPR (Article 6 and Articles 2 and 4, as well as Articles 14 and 15 related to the death penalty).
- The UN Declaration of 1975 on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
- Economic and Social Council Resolution No. 35 of 1982 establishing the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions.
- UNGA Resolution No. 41-144 of 1986 condemning the extrajudicial and arbitrary executions still occurring in different parts of the world.
- The UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1987).
- The ICC Statute that includes acts of killing individuals or groups under specific conditions that constitute crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, or war crimes.

Journalist and TV producer Bilal Ahmed Bilal was arrested on September 13, 2011, by the Air Force Intelligence Branch, and was transferred to Seidnaya prison after he had received a 15-year imprisonment verdict from the Military Field Court. He was denied any kind of health care despite his critical health status resulting from torture in the Air Force Intelligence branch, according to testimonies by former detainees. The SCM issued a statement in 2013 expressing deep concerns about his poor health. The government did not respond and in December 2013, sent his family an official letter indicating his death.

- The UN Economic and Social Council Resolution No. 1989-65
 (Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of
 Extra-legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions). Principle
 4 states the governments must guarantee effective
 protection, through judicial or other means, to individuals
 and groups who are in danger of extra-legal, arbitrary or
 summary executions, including those who receive death
 threats.
- To track the implementation of the principles of the effective prevention and investigation of extra-legal, arbitrary and summary executions, the United Nations adopted the Minnesota Protocol in 1989.

Since the end of 2011, various parties to the Syrian conflict have practiced extrajudicial executions, mainly the government forces. The latter have practiced extrajudicial executions since the 1960s, which escalated after their military campaign against cities and towns considered as opposition strongholds. The campaign has left tens of thousands of victims in indiscriminate and deliberate attacks, sniper fire and lack of medical aid. When government forces and allied militias enter any opposition-controlled area, they not only execute surrendering opposition fighters but carry out extrajudicial executions against civilians regardless of their age or mental state.

Chapter Two: Enforced Disappearance, Arbitrary Detention and Torture in Government-controlled Areas

Section 1: General Framework of Violations

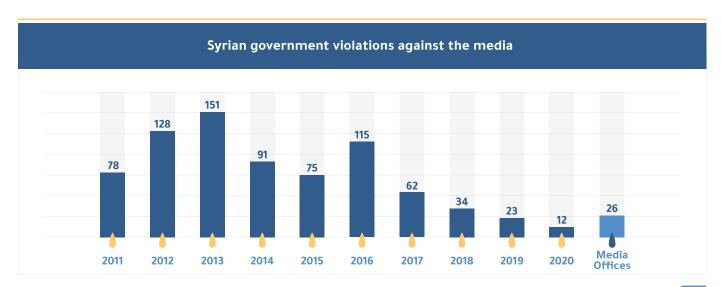
On April 17, 2020, Khaled Qabisho, a photographer who was known as Idlib's journalist, was brutally killed after the security forces took him from his home. His head was crushed using an army tank in the region for filming and documenting the shelling of the city of Idlib and its countryside and posting the videos on his YouTube channel.

Upon the outbreak of the revolution, the government carried out huge number of arbitrary arrests. That was followed by the disappearance of thousands of civilians including, at the beginning, the leaders and organizers of peaceful demonstrations, journalists, aid workers and doctors. To contain thousands of detainees, the government established many temporary detention centers including in sport halls, military bases, schools and hospitals, where people would be gathered and detained following huge raids and then transferred to various security branches where they would be subjected to horrific torture.

Some believe that as the name of Argentina was associated with enforced disappearance given the huge number of victims under the military rule and the epic struggle of their families to know the fate of their children; and as the name of South Africa was associated with apartheid, Syria will be associated with the crime of torture due to the huge number of torture victims and

systematic brutal violence. Despite all the efforts by international human rights organizations and Syrian human rights activists, it is very difficult to document the accurate number of torture victims in Syria.

Torture accompanied all kinds of violations including detention and enforced disappearance which escalated over the conflict years and reached horrific levels. Most of these violations were committed by the Syrian government and its militias. However, in a later stage, other parties to the conflict including the ISIS, the People's Protection Units (YPG), Fath Al-Sham Front and other armed opposition factions committed violations as a war tool to put pressure on their enemies and conceal facts ³⁵. Syria came on top of the list of countries which suffer from enforced disappearance according to a report by the Arab Organization for Human Rights in September 2016. According to an Amnesty International report issued in August 2020, 82,000 people were enforcedly disappeared since 2011, most of them in government detention centers and 2,000 were disappeared by armed groups and ISIS.



This crime of arbitrary detention, initially committed by the Syrian government was compounded by the horrible detention conditions. Overcrowding as well as the lack of ventilation, hygiene, clean water, toilets and healthcare are direct causes of death in detention centers in addition to the deaths caused by torture. Based on the testimonies of former detainees, international reports indicate that the main causes of death in the government prisons is torture, harsh conditions ³⁶ and executions carried out after very brief false trials before the Counterterrorism Court or the Military Field Court, a 3-minute procedure by a military officer where the name of the detainee is actually transferred to the death register ³⁷.

Meanwhile, the Syrian government continued to deny national and international human rights organizations (including the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic) access to government prisons and detention centers. In addition, the detention centers run by other conflict parties could not be accessed by international monitors due to the unstable situations, and because these parties would deny having detainees and conceal any information leading to their whereabouts.

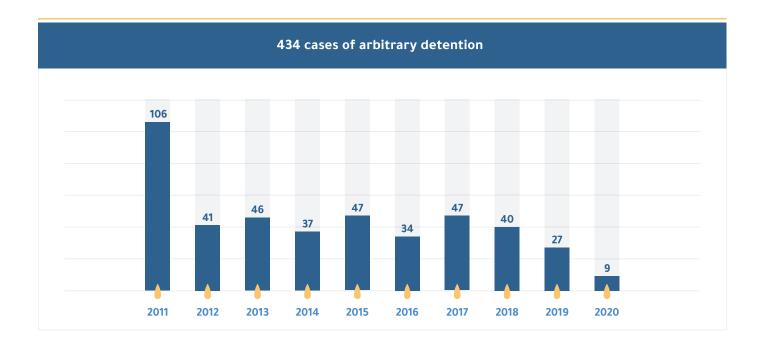
Section 2: Arbitrary Detention, Enforced Disappearance and Torture in the Syrian Laws

434 Arbitrary detentions and 140 enforced disappearances/abduction cases

Many Syrian laws stipulate compliance with the UDHR, which includes the right to freedom and prohibits its unlawful deprivation, the right to physical safety and prohibition of beating, injury and all other forms of torture since the protection of the sanctity of human life in the criminal procedures is a top priority for the state including its legislative, judicial and executive powers. However, the Syrian reality is completely different and far from these legal texts, something the Syrians have experienced very well for decades. This report observed 430 arbitrary detentions carried out by the Syrian government as an example of a long list of violations which all human rights reports agree on their brutality especially torture, extrajudicial killings or summary executions such as the death sentences issued by the Military Field Court. An Amnesty International report featured a testimony of a former Saydnaya Prison guard saying that "more than 13,000 prisoners were hanged to death in the prison between September 2011 and December 2015, stressing that they used to beat detainees with all their strength and vengeance".

Constitution of the Syrian Arab Republic

All the Syrian constitutions, including that of the Arab Kingdom of Syria (1920), recognize the rule of law and protection of personal freedom from abuse, detention, torture and harm. Article 50 of the 2012 constitution, which assigned an entire chapter for the rule of the law, provides that "The rule of law shall be the basis of governance in the state," and Article 51 provides that "Every defendant shall be presumed innocent until convicted by a final court ruling in a fair trial" and "Any provision of the law shall prohibit the immunity of any act or administrative decision from judicial review." Article 53 prohibits arrest without the permission of "the competent judicial authority" and criminalizes torture and humiliating treatment and Article 54 provides that "Any assault on individual freedom, on the inviolability of private life or any other rights and public freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution shall be considered a punishable crime by the law."



Criminal Law

The criminal law does not define arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance. It only criminalizes the acts of detention and abduction committed by individuals or officials, accuses them of abusing their powers and holds them personally accountable for their acts without convicting the state or its agencies. The same applies to torture. Arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance were featured in articles 357, 358, 359, 555 and 556 of the Penal Code and articles 104 and 105 of the Code of Criminal Procedures which considers any detention exceeding one day without interrogation or referral to the public prosecutor a crime against personal freedom (Article 358 of the Penal Code). Abduction is featured in Decree 20 of 2013. Article 1 provides that "Whoever kidnaps a person to deprive them of their freedom, achieve a political or material goal, for reprisal or revenge, for sectarian reasons or to demand a ransom, shall be punished with life imprisonment with hard labor".

Torture is featured in articles 391, 534 and 556 of the Penal Code. The Syrian Police Regulation issued under Decision No. 1962 of 1930 stipulates that the police forces shall avoid harsh treatment and prohibits extralegal confinement. Article 30 of the Prisons Law prohibits "any prison officer or guard to treat detainees in a harsh manner, give them derogatory nicknames, address them with foul language, make fun of them".

The Judgments of the Court of Cassation of Syria provides that:

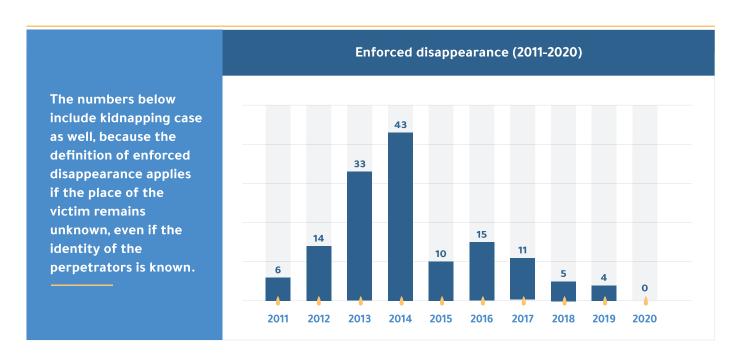
- The court shall expand investigation to verify confessions (Judgment No. 357/314 dated 15/4/1953).
- Confessions obtained under duress and torture shall not be recognized (Judgment No. 1460/1503 dated 10/11/1980).
- In case the judge doubts that the confessions are obtained by coercion, they shall investigate the matter in light of the legal principles to establish justice (Judgment No. 297/374 dated 20/4/1966).

In July 2012, the HRC condemned the Syrian government's violations; extrajudicial killings; killing and oppression of demonstrators, human rights advocates and journalists; arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance; limiting access to medical treatment and torture and abuse.

Resolution No. 20/22

While such Jurisprudence seems more progressive than the law itself, it cannot decide full protection or even redress for the torture effects. The Court of Cassation judgments did not exceed Article 180 of the Code of Criminal Procedure which provides that other police reports shall only be considered normal information and the initial investigation report is only used to get information which is not sufficient for judges to convict a suspect or form an opinion. The French Code of Criminal Procedure stipulates that invalid procedures and documents should be withdrawn from the case file and considered null and void and thus the judge cannot use them even for consultation.

After Syria ratified the Convention against Torture in 2004, it became part of its national legislation and it prevails in case of conflict, according to Article 25 of the Civil Law, Article 311 of the Code of Civil Procedure and court judgments. Theoretically, the police should comply with the equivalent provisions under the Minister of Interior circular No. 19439 dated 4/7/2004 ratifying the Convention against Torture. However, reality in Syria is completely different.



Testimony about Torture in the Syrian government Prisons

The testimony the SCM Violations Documentation Team obtained from the journalist M. D. after his release, confirms what this report stated about torture as a systematic policy in the Syrian government prisons and detention centers and about the economic and political backgrounds of detention and enforced disappearance. According to this testimony, the journalist was arrested on 31/7/2018 at a security checkpoint in Damascus and remained disappeared for four months before he was referred to the Counterterrorism Court:

I was arrested at a security checkpoint, inspected and taken to the Military Security Branch 235 (Palestine Branch). I was accused of establishing anti-government social media sites. I remained in detention for about four months during which I was subjected to all kinds of torture including by the green pipe (also called Al-Akhdar Al-Ibrahimi), nail removal, front and back flogging and on the German chair. Three interrogators and the branch head Brigadier General Kamal Al-Hasan himself took shift in 25 interrogation and torture sessions.

The journalist was put in Dormitory 9 with a large number of detainees:

"I caught tuberculosis which spread in the entire dormitory and led to the death of many inmates. It nearly killed me as well due to the total absence of healthcare. During that period, the interrogators threated me that I would not get out alive unless I admitted that I was a journalist and correspondent."

His family was blackmailed in order for their son to be released.

"During my 4-month detention, my father managed to reach an interrogator in Palestine Branch and negotiated with him just to refer me to the court rather than release me in exchange for paying SYP 2,000,000 (USD 4,000). I was taken to the Counterterrorism Court in Al-Mezza, Damascus and brought before the seventh investigating judge. He imprisoned me for concealment of felonies, promoting terrorist acts and providing terrorists with information. After negotiations, I was released on 19/9/2019 on trial after paying SYP 7,000,000 (USD 14,000)."

On May 25, 2015, Nabil Shurbaji, a journalist from Darayya in Rural Damascus, was announced dead three years after his disappearance. We could not verify whether he died under torture in Saydnaya Prison or executed upon a death sentence by the Military Field Court. He was arrested by the Air Force Intelligence in Darayya on February 26, 2012, spent the initial detention period in the Air Force Intelligence branch in Mezzeh Airport in Damascus and then moved to Adra Prison and later to Saydnaya Prison where he was subjected to the harshest kinds of torture, according to testimonies by detainees who were in the same cell.

Section 3: Impunity

The year of 2019 witnessed a unique event when three journalists living in the government-controlled areas announced quitting their media work due to security harassment and pressures as a result of the impunity policy of the Syrian government. According to a report issued on October 28, 2020 by the Committee to Protect Journalist on the countries where journalists are murdered and their killers go free, Somalia, Syria, Iraq and South Sudan took the lead in terms of violence perpetuation, lawlessness and impunity. This implies that filing criminal, civil, administrative or disciplinary lawsuits against human rights violators is not possible as they enjoy complete impunity even if they are convicted. Impunity is a double human rights violation; it deprives the victims' families and relatives of the right to know the truth, establish justice and receive compensation and prolongs the victims' agony through denying the occurrence of their ordeal.

According to the Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, the normal measures to limit the law-enforcement abuses, including more training of police forces, cannot reduce impunity unless accompanied with real attempts to ensure accountability. Impunity can be the result of weak and ineffective police internal regulations, poor forensic capacities, insufficient programs for protecting witnesses who file complaints against officials, inappropriate criminal justice systems, weak investigation committees, or lack or ineffective civil monitoring over law-enforcement personnel.

The defacto impunity (also called physical or actual impunity) happens as a result of poor investigation institutions and is directly or indirectly encouraged by authorities through intervening to derail investigations in light of the inability of the judicial system to perform its duties including investigation and prosecution. The legal impunity, however, is based on the legitimacy of laws, which are used to issue pardons and exceptions, or provide immunity to certain persons/entities, putting them above the law and beyond accountability.

In Syria, a range of exceptional laws, the structural weakness of judicial power and its independence and the dominance of security forces over institutions provided an integrated environment for impunity which became the norm in administration. The absolute powers given to security and defense institutions and their interference in managing the government work made them, in effect, the source of laws governing society and the key authority for defining what is permitted and what is not.

Independence of the Judiciary

In Syria, the judiciary obviously lacks any form of independence; they complicit in protecting perpetrators. The laws have turned the judiciary into a tool in the hands of the executive power. The amended Article 65 of the Judicial Power Law provides that the Minister of Justice shall preside over the Supreme Judicial Council on behalf of the President based on Article 133 of the Constitution which granted the latter this power. Legislative Decree No. 40 of 1966 granted the Council of Ministers the power to dismiss and transfer judges when deemed appropriate without justification. This implies depriving judges of their immunity provided for in the constitution and making them followers of the executive power. Legislative Decree No. 95 of 2005 also entitled the Council of Ministers to dismiss any judge without giving compelling reasons.

The executive power controls even the lawyer profession, the other half of the judicial process. Article 107 of the Legal Profession Regulation Law of 2011 entitled the Council of Ministers to solve the general conference, syndicate councils and councils of branches in case any of them deviate from its mission and goals from the security point of view. Such decisions may not be reviewed or appealed in any way.

Impunity Laws

Legislative Decree No. 14 of 1969 establishing the General Intelligence Directorate (State Security) is one of the laws which establish the impunity and immunity for perpetrators in Syria and protect them from accountability. Article 16 provides that: "The Directorate personnel shall not be prosecuted for any offenses committed while implementing their tasks unless upon a prosecution order issued by the director".

Article 74 of Decree No. 549 of 1969 on the Internal Regulations of the State Security Directorate provides that "The directorate' permanent, temporary or contracted staff may not be prosecuted for offenses committed while performing their duties before they are referred to an internal disciplinary council and a prosecution order is issued by the director."

In July 2012, the HRC condemned the Syrian government violations; extrajudicial killings; killing and oppression of demonstrators, human rights advocates and journalists; arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance; limiting access to medical treatment and torture and abuse.

Resolution No. 20/22

Legislative decrees No. 64 of 2008 and No. 55 of 2011 consider the special courts as a government arm to establish the culture of impunity through legalizing violations and endorsing extrajudicial killings and arbitrary detentions as final verdicts including those issued by the Military Field Court and the Counterterrorism Court.

While the security forces, military establishment and judicial police are granted exceptional immunity, media workers are granted none. The Information Law of 2011 does not provide for any protection from detention. Although it does not provide for sanctions that undermine freedom, it includes references to articles in the Penal Code and Military Criminal Code including for example Article 287 for "undermining the state prestige", Article 285 for "spreading false news", Article 286 for "spreading false or exaggerated information to weaken the national sentiment" and Article 376 for "insulting the President of the Republic".

Amnesty Laws

When talking about a political solution for a national crises, civil war or other descriptions of political conflicts in countries witnessing human rights violations including enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention, torture and deprivation of fundamental rights, pardons are often promoted as the easiest way for reconciliation and alleviating tensions and as an attempt to forget the past and put an end to conflicts. However, in fact, they are part of a public policy aiming to establish human rights violations and impunity. The states which issue amnesty laws aim primarily to cover up the crimes committed by its entities or with government collusion one way or another.

The Customary IHL clearly and unequivocally states that during armed and non-armed conflicts, governments shall investigate the alleged war crimes committed by its citizens or armed forces or on its territories and prosecute suspects when needed. In addition, many international human rights treaties and the international law provide that member states shall punish the perpetrators of certain offenses either in their local courts or in other appropriate jurisdictions.

It is well-known that amnesty laws which waive accountability for offenses covered by such treaties violate these treaties. It is also known that certain amnesty laws violate human rights treaties which - while not explicitly mentioning prosecution - implicitly require member states to take criminal proceedings in response to gross violations. The amnesties for gross human rights violations and serious violations of the humanitarian law can also violate the Customary IHL.

Examples of laws which legalized impunity include the French Act of Amnesty issued on 31/7/1968 for French soldiers who committed violations in Algeria; and the Charter for Peace and National Reconciliation in Algeria which exempted the state of criminal accountability and only required it to provide civil compensation to the victims, hence protecting perpetrators from punishment in the cases of 15,000 missing persons whose fate is yet to be known. The amnesty laws in Lebanon, Argentina and Chile kept silent about enforced disappearances and accountability.

Death Lists: The government treatment of those killed in its prisons and detention centers is an example of systemic impunity. In the beginning of 2018, the government, under Russian patronage, released lists of detainees who were extrajudicially executed or killed under torture or due to the detention conditions. The government claimed that they died of different diseases including heart attacks based on official forensic reports. It informed their families of their death through referrals to the civil affairs directorates or summons to the military hospitals. These lists covered a large percentage of detainees or disappeared people and were intended to give the impression that the government is cooperating in revealing the fate of detainees. In fact, they simply brought the detainees' cause away from the judicial and legal system and off the priority list of any final solution or settlement. Consequently, the perpetrators go unpunished.

Political economy of violations: The Syrian government uses detention as a political and economic tool to spread corruption and blackmailing. The randomness of arrest incidents and large number of detainees confirm

On April 14, 2014, Alaa Hasan Al-Douri, a media activist known as Abu Hasan, was killed at the age of 22 in Qalaat al-Madiq in Rural Hama. He was shot by the soldiers of a temporary checkpoint which turned to be an ambush that was 700 meters away from the main checkpoint. He was wounded, arrested and died due to non-stop torture for two days and his body was delivered on the third day.

that arbitrary detention is used as an economic means to support government policies. The government enables its security forces to get rich to maintain their loyalty without any additional financial burdens. By doing so, the government does not only establish impunity but also indirectly promote the cycle of violations through corruption and war economies 39.

Chapter Three: Violations against Media in the Areas Outside Government Control

On April 14, 2014, Alaa Hasan Al-Douri, a media activist known as Abu Hasan, was killed at the age of 22 in Qalaat al-Madiq in Rural Hama. He was shot by the soldiers of a temporary checkpoint which turned to be an ambush that was 700 meters away from the main checkpoint. He was wounded, arrested and died due to non-stop torture for two days and his body was delivered on the third day.

Section 1: Opposition-Controlled Areas

The control map in Syria has changed dozens of times during the ongoing war since 2011. The Syrian government was initially in control of the entire country but within two years, it lost more than 70% of Syria's territory to the armed opposition forces. The latter later started to retreat with the emergence of ISIS and its swift control of many towns and cities. In 2015, the Russian intervention gradually changed the landscape and in 2018, the Syrian opposition lost most of its areas. The current control map is as follows: 62% of Syrian territories are under the government, 25% under the Democratic Autonomous Administration. The areas controlled by the opposition (Hay'at Tahrir Al-Sham), the Turkish occupation (areas of Peace Spring, Euphrates Shield and Olive Branch operations) and the Tanf (US Military Base) constitute 11%.

After controlling some Syrian territories, the opposition was unable to form an inclusive administration with minimum effectiveness to meet the needs of population in their areas. This situation encouraged armed factions, regardless of their backgrounds, to force themselves as de facto authorities which adopted the same oppressive practices used by the government including violence, abduction, arbitrary detention of civilians. None of opposition-controlled areas has managed to provide a good model for rights and freedoms including media freedoms.

In June 2017, Khaled Al-Issa, a media activist and photographer, passed away nearly one week after an explosive device was burst in the house where he lived with his colleague journalist Hadi Al-Abdullah in an area controlled by the armed opposition in eastern Aleppo. They were badly injured and transferred to the city of Antakya, south of Turkey, for treatment. However, Khaled did not survive due to a serious head injury.

A 2013 report by the UN Fact-Finding Mission on Syria indicated that the opposition fighters and allied foreign extremists executed civilians and captive soldiers after summary trials and that they posed a continuous threat to civilians through locating military targets within residential areas. However, the war crimes committed by opposition fighters including murder, torture and abduction did not reach the level of violence committed by the government forces and its allies ³⁸.

The exceptional situation in these areas including siege and constant bombardment does not relieve their de facto rulers of the responsibility for the direct violations committed by some fighters or leaders, the protection of civilians in their areas and the violations committed by unknown entities due to their inability to maintain security and protect people from crimes and explosions. Their policies of excluding moderate members of local community and promoting the extremist discourse of some Islamic preachers and judges who incite violence and hatred against media workers, are themselves considered violations or direct causes of other violations. These are the same policies and discourse adopted by the Syrian government against free media.

The continuous violations against the media, the absence of any form of protection, the structural weakness of media institutions, lack of planning and the change in the international donors' policies led to the decline of media work in the opposition areas. In the period 2019-2020, dozens of media projects disappeared after years of production. Out of 304 prints registered in the Syrian Prints Archive, less than ten are currently published

According to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, opposition groups like Jaysh Al-Islam, Ahrar Al-Sham and Al-Rahman Legion detained civilians arbitrarily and tortured them in Douma in Rural Damascus when the area was under their control including people belonging to religious minorities. In addition, Hay'at Tahrir Al-Sham in Idlib detained and abducted local political dissidents and media professionals and banned any media activity without prior permissions from their Salvation Government or the group's Security Office. It banned journalists from approaching its headquarters, prisons and detention centers and the areas of the groups of Hurras Al-Din (religion guards) and the Turkmenistan Islamic Party in the western countryside of Jisr al-Shughur ³⁹. The factions of Nour Al-Din Zenki Movement, Al-Shamiya Front and Division 16, Fath Al-Sham and other groups committed human rights violations and violations against the international law which amount to war crimes including torture, abuse and summary executions 40.

The deteriorated situation of media freedoms continued over the conflict years regardless of the ruling powers of opposition areas, although nothing like the brutality experienced by media professionals in in the government-controlled areas. The offices of four opposition newspapers Souriatna, Enab Baladi, Sada Al-Sham and Tamadun in the part of Aleppo controlled by the opposition factions were burned at the beginning of 2015 for sympathizing with the French Charlie Hebdo magazine. They were burned by the Division of Information in cooperation with Ahrar Al-Sham and they were banned in thar area. In addition, the magazines of Rising for Freedom and Kite were closed and their owners and staff were prosecuted by Jaysh Al-Islam in Douma in February 2017 supported by the courthouse in Hauran and the Supreme Judicial Council in Aleppo. In July 2018, the Local Council of Azaz banned Syria TV from working in Azaz and its countryside under the pretext that the council is committed to the revolution's principles and in response to the channel's work and reports. Moreover, media professionals were subject to assassinations and assaults, the most recent of which happened in Al-Bab City. Bahaa Al-Halabi, a media activist, barely escaped an assassination attempt in the beginning of 2021 and Hussein Khattab was assassinated in a similar way on December 12, 2020.

The approach of the political opposition represented by the National Coalition of Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces and other entities to dealing with the international reports on the human rights violations in the opposition areas has not been any better. It was based on denial and shifting the blame onto the Syrian government and its collaborators especially after the President said in 2013 that he had allies and fighters working for him within the opposition forces. They either denied the reports validity or considered them exaggerations based on sources of the terrorist groups or Syrian government. One example was the National Coalition reply to the report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic issued in September 2019 which stated that the practices of the armed groups in Afrin City might amount to "war crimes". It is again the same approach that the Syrian government has adopted for decades.

Legal Structure of Impunity

The armed factions' violations against media professionals and freedoms were enhanced by the fragile judicial structure in the opposition areas. The judicial entities did not have the power to protect civilians from these violations. The essential defects in their establishment and work mechanisms did not make them legally-constituted courts including the revolutionary courts established in the first years and kept affiliated with the factions and the religious courts, initially established with the rise of Islamic factions to solve the internal disputes among their members, but their authorities extended to other local fighters and civilians and these courts are not affiliated with any legal system. Some of the religious judges issued many verdicts based on their personal opinions which opposes the principal that there is no crime nor punishment without a legal text. As a result, impunity and lack of accountability became the norm and the faction members or some leaders went unpunished for the violations they committed against civilians in general and media professionals in particular.

Some factions established military courts to prosecute their own members and leaders, meaning that it is practically impossible for people to resort to such courts to file complaints or grievances against these factions' members or leaders who commit violations due to the lack of separation between the judicial and executive powers. The work of units similar to the judicial police, and the police forces including the revolutionary police stations established in 2012 (e.g., Free Police in Aleppo and Idlib, Police Leadership in eastern Ghouta, eastern Qalamoun and the Syrian desert and the Internal Security in Homs) remained problematically overlapped with the work of the armed factions.

The use of the term "Security People" became common and refers to the "individuals and groups responsible for maintaining security within and outside the factions." They interfered in the private life of civilians, just like the Syrian government security forces. On the other hand, extremist factions like Jabhat Al-Nusra established their own security units which enjoyed security and military expertise brought by cross-border fighters from Iraq, Afghanistan and others and they violated the rights and freedoms of citizens instead of protecting them. The prisons cannot be considered legal detention centers as they are not subject to legal monitoring. They are more like illegal centers of arbitrary detention. They do not meet the minimum international standards of the treatment of prisoners. Citizens are arrested without warrants and, in some cases, for personal and malicious motives. The title of the report issued by the UN Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic in September 2020 "No clean hands - behind the frontlines" summarizes the situation of rights and freedoms with all the parties to the conflict.

Jaysh Al-Islam Model

Focusing specifically on Jaysh Al-Isalm (Army of Islam) more than other factions that showed animosity toward the media and media professionals was because after their full control of Douma and parts of eastern Ghouta, they benefited from regional support as well as family structures and local alliances to establish a totalitarian government which intervened in all daily life aspects including health, education, services, aid and others and provided an example of the problem of public freedoms, freedom of expression and media. It became evident that this issue is not related to a certain rule or specific period but extends horizontally and vertically in the social and cultural structures in Syria, and require social, educational and legislative solutions to be integrated in any possible vision of Syria's future.

In 2012, the Free Syrian Army drove the government forces out of Ghouta. Jaysh al-Islam was established in 2013 under the leadership of Zahran Alloush. It consisted of Liwa Al-Islam and most of the brigades of the central part of eastern Ghouta. In 2014, it had 15,000 members, half of them are fighters and the other half security and administrative personnel. It had highly centralized leadership controlling all governance aspects. However, ending the civil and peaceful activity in Ghouta was among its unannounced goals.

Jaysh al-Islam explicitly opposed democracy and pluralism and practiced systematic coercion and oppression policies against opponents. It controlled the Unified Judicial Council established in 2014 and supervised courts in the cities of Douma and Al-Marj. It attempted to impose its vision on the local people and control public opinion through incitement and mobilization. In addition to many detention centers, Jaysh al-Islam established three prisons (Al-Tawba, Al-Batoun and Al-Kahf) in the small geographical area it controlled to tighten its grip internally under the pretext that the battle priorities were more important than fundamental freedoms and rights. That recalls the approach used by the Syrian government for decades under the pretext of fighting Israel. Instead of focusing on fighting the Syrian government forces, Jaysh al-Islam started battles with other factions in Ghouta which was divided into war zones, leading to hundreds of deaths and paving the way for the return of the government forces and displacement of the Ghouta population in 2018.

In response to the demonstrations against Jaysh al-Islam corruption and starvation practices and its failure to support Qalamoun, Darraya and other areas which were falling one by one, some of Jaysh Al-Islam leaders continued the policies of violence, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, assassinations and direct attacks against media professionals and all those who attempted to document the truth. In the end of 2013, unknown persons abducted Razan Zaitouneh, a lawyer and human rights advocate, her husband and her colleagues Samira Al-Khalil and Nazem Hamadi from the office of the Violations Documentation Center in the middle of Douma and their fate is yet to be known. The Jaysh Al-Islam responsibility for this crime is still being considered by the judiciary.

Jaysh Al-Islam animosity toward the civil society and media, which continued throughout the period of its control of the area, can be described as a structural or institutional animosity because they used the judiciary and even citizens in their war against the media. On June 30, 2013, Jaysh Al-Islam arrested Anas Al-Khouli, a media activist, in Mesraba for filming the demonstrations against the faction practices in Ghouta. However, their spokesman denied this allegation, stating that the arrest was based on a warrant issued by the Unified Judicial Council for inciting sedition. In addition, Moneeb Nassar, a media activist, was arrested in Douma on August 22, 2017. His house was raided and his equipment were confiscated for working with the Ghouta Media Center which was close to Al-Rahman Legion. In addition to harassment of correspondents and media activists and violations against the media, in 2017, Jaysh Al-Islam closed the office of the Rising to Freedom Magazine after sponsoring an attack against this office by an angry mob claiming that the magazine had published an article insulting the divine self.

An affiliated court issued many rulings in absentia against the magazine editors and staff. The closure decision included the offices of other civil society organizations including the Childhood Guards, the Local Development and Small Businesses Office, the Day After Organization and the Violations Documentation Center in Syria, all of which had nothing to do with the above-mentioned article.

Section 2: Areas Controlled by the Kurdish Autonomous Administration

The Kurdish media were completely banned and subjected to discrimination and marginalization and the national Kurdish identity was targeted by the Baath governments which criminalized speaking in Kurdish and prohibited any form of cultural and media expression except for some newspapers and periodicals published by certain Kurdish parties. The security grip had banned any development of Kurdish media. After 2011, the Kurdish media witnessed a new start in the areas that later formed the territory of the Democratic Autonomous Administration, thanks to media activists and citizen journalists.

The media landscape developed in the areas covering parts of the governorates of Al-Hasakah, Raqqa and Deir ez-Zor which have more than 50,000 square kilometers and a population of 2-3 million people. Dozens of media outlets were established including printed journals, TV and radio channels and websites. In the beginning, they were concentrated in Qamishli and Amuda, the two relatively stable cities, with remarkable women engagement. These include Jin TV which broadcasts from Amuda and is staffed entirely by women (30 media and technical staffers). The channel specializes in discussing the issues of women and defending their rights. The Charter of the Social Contract of Democratic Autonomous Administration provides for the freedom of media and expression and the right to information sharing.

- The Social Contract: Article 33 (Everyone has the freedom to obtain, receive and circulate information and to communicate ideas, opinions and emotions, whether orally, in writing, in pictorial representations, or in any other way; Article 34 (Everyone has the right of peaceful assembly, including the right to peaceful protect, demonstration and strike); Article 35 (Everyone has the right to freely experience and contribute to academic, scientific, artistic and cultural expressions and creations.)
- The Information Law (Decree No. 1 of 2016): the preamble states that "Putting legal controls over the media work to protect it from infringements does not imply, in any form, restricting media freedom and independence but rather affirming them."; The Law also provides that the penalties against media professionals should be limited to financial ones or suspension sanctions and that journalists shall not be detained due to their work in the media; Article 32 provides that "Any person, regardless of their title, who insults or assaults a journalist or a media professional due to or during their work shall be punished according to the Penal Code of Al-Jazira Province.

In spite of the theoretical protection provided for in the laws, many criticisms were leveled at the Autonomous Administration and its approach to the media work. Many journalists were arrested due to their political views and some media outlets were suspended under the pretext of not having work permits or licenses. Members of Autonomous Administration entities including the People Protection Units and the Syrian Democratic Forces committed violations against media workers including arbitrary detentions and enforced disappearance and specifically targeted those opposing the Democratic Union Party. Although these entities often release the detainees after short periods, they hide them and do not allow them to contact their families or lawyers i.e. legal procedures are completely absent⁴².

In 2014, the violations committed by the Autonomous Administration forces increased after it started to institutionalize its work, establish its administrative structures and consolidate its power. It detained many media professionals for covering the demonstrations against the Administration under the pretext of not having permits. Some of them were referred to the judiciary for "dealing with foreign hostile entities and fabricating lies to incite the public opinion against the Administration".

In general, the relationship between the executive and partisan power and the media can be described as constant attempts by the former to control and direct the latter. In August 2016, the Autonomous Administration's Supreme Council of Media issued a brief statement, banning the media professionals in Al-Hasakah Governorate from covering events and activities which are unlicensed by the Autonomous Administration and those who do not comply will be held accountable. At the time, media professionals considered that as a warning against covering the demonstrations and protests against the Democratic Union Party. In the end of 2020, the Autonomous Administration Media Office issued a unified media ID card to all media institutions and professionals and banned the old card models issued by the Supreme Council of Media and the Free Media Union and the ID cards of institutions under the penalty of confiscation and legal accountability. This raised some concerns that this ban may be a pretext to restrict the work of media professionals and their right to access information.

However, according to the SCM databases and in comparison with the other areas controlled by different parties including the government, the opposition, Jabhat Al-Nusra or ISIS 43, the Autonomous Administration territory is the best in terms of freedom of expression and media. Although the number of violations in this area is close to that in the opposition-controlled areas, they differ in their intensity and type, percentage of extrajudicial killings and the duration of detention or enforced disappearance. This does not imply that the situation there is ideal as Syria comes at the bottom of international reports on the freedom of media and journalism. There is a tendency to exaggerate the positive aspects of the Autonomous Administration experience, but the reality is still far from the international standards of media freedoms and the rights of media professionals.

The most prominent violations committed by the Autonomous Administration include arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance which violate the IHL and their Charter of the Social Contract which provides for:

- Article 20: The Charter holds as inviolable the fundamental rights and freedoms set out in international human rights treaties, conventions and declarations.
- Article 21: The Charter incorporates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as other internationally recognized human rights conventions.
- Article 71: Searches of houses and other private property must be done upon a properly executed warrant, issued by a judicial authority.
- Article 72: Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal.
- Article 73: No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedure as are established by law.

In addition to the legal framework failure to secure media independence and create enabling and safe environment for media work, the judiciary, in its current situation, cannot guarantee the freedom of media in light of the challenges emerging from individuals or the authority oppression. The courts do not meet the fair trials requirements whether the ones established with the announcement of the Autonomous Administration or under Decree No. 21 of 2015 which came into effect in April 2017.

As is the case in the opposition and government areas, and for different reasons, the current judicial system might not meet the requirements for fair trials because it only includes two levels of litigation after canceling the Court of Cassation and considering the court of appeal as the supreme court ⁴⁴. In addition, the tribunal courts and the People Defense Court face many criticisms. The tribunal courts do not meet the judicial body requirements and the clarity and neutrality of laws requirement and they are specialized in the crimes which pose danger to society and public opinion. Their governing bodies include representatives of social bodies, representatives of the civil institutions in the area where the crime happens and an audience which is chosen by the Justice Bureau based on the crime conditions, danger and impact on society ⁴⁵. In many cases, final verdicts are issued by people who lack any knowledge of laws and due process ⁴⁶. They do not provide the defendants with sufficient opportunity to defend themselves and prove their innocence without ignoring the influence of the audience on their work outcome ⁴⁷.

The People Defense Court ⁴⁸ was established during the war against ISIS, violating Article 72 of the Charter of Social Contract which prohibits trying civilians before military courts and establishing special courts. It issued final verdicts that cannot be appealed against terrorism suspects including politicians and media activists for undermining the national unity, peaceful coexistence among the region's components, society safety and public security and stability. This court violates the requirements for judicial bodies formation as it includes members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) as consultants and does not allow defendants to defend themselves which is a key requirement for fair trials. It also employs SDF officers who have no knowledge of the law.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that in September 2019, an expanded committee of representatives of the Autonomous Administration's Media Office, the Free Media Union, independent journalists, TV channels operating in the Autonomous Administration's areas and the military media started working on drafting a new media law to replace the media laws currently applied in northern and north eastern Syria. The law is yet to be approved.

Section 3: The Areas Controlled by the Turkish Forces

After the Olive Branch and Peace Spring military operations, the Turkish forces, with direct participation of the Syrian opposition's National Syrian Army, controlled Afrin and parts of the areas previously controlled by SDF in 2018. According to Amnesty International, some members of the Turkish forces and allied armed groups showed a shameful disregard of the life of civilians and committed violations and war crimes including deliberate murder and illegal attacks which killed and injured civilians. The most prominent violation happened in 2019 when the Turkish air force targeted a convoy of journalists and media activists in Ras Al-Ain which joined the city's convoy to cover Operation Peace Spring on October 7, 2019. The air strike killed four journalists and injured nine others. Thus, there was an additional enemy against the media in Syria and new violations were added including forced displacement of media professionals and depriving the population including media professionals from returning to their homes which were seized by the members of military factions and their families and some of them were used as military facilities.

In 2019, the Turkish air force targeted a convoy of journalists and media activists in Ras Al-Ain which joined the city's convoy to cover Operation Peace Spring, a military operation launched by the Turkish armed forces in northern Syria on October 7, 2019. The air strike inflicted the largest number of casualties among media professionals in a single incident; nine were wounded and four died

The Syrian National Army, which consists of factions in the north, is the inheritor of the Free Syrian Army which retreated gradually in favor of the extremist groups starting from 2013. It could not compete with them due to the lack of support, funding and political will. FSA was finished as a unified institution or structure after the government recaptured the City of Aleppo. FSA fighters joined different factions and in 2016 participated in Ankara's first operation near the Turkish borders. Later, these factions were unified under Turkish management and support to form the Syrian National Army which, although promoted as a coherent military body, suffers from weak leadership and inability to maintain security and reduce abuses.

The Turkish presence in Syria can be described as military occupation which is defined by the international law as: "A stage of war which immediately follows an invasion where the

belligerent forces enter the enemy's territory and put it under their actual control after they dominate in an undisputed manner and the conflict stops and the peace is completely restored in the territories on which battles took place." Article 42 of The Hague Regulations of 1907 provides that "Territory is considered occupied when it is actually placed under the authority of the hostile army. The occupation extends only to the territory where such authority has been established and can be exercised." and the Common Article 2 of the Geneva Conventions provides that these conventions cover "situations of occupation resulting from hostilities between States." It also covers the cases in which the occupation of a territory is not met by any kind of armed resistance.

As an occupying power, the Turkish government shall be held accountable for the duties provided for in articles 42-56 of The Hague Regulations and articles 27-34 and 47-78 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, the terms of the Protocol I and the rules of the Customary IHL. Under the IHL, the Turkish government is responsible for protecting journalists, first, as human beings. Article 47 of the Fourth Geneva Convention provides that the right to protection is inalienable and that "Protected persons who are in occupied territory shall not be deprived, in any case or in any manner whatsoever, of the benefits of the present Convention ... nor by any agreement concluded between the authorities of the occupied territories and the Occupying Power." This protection responsibility is not limited to the violations committed by the Turkish army in Syria but extends to those committed by the allied armed groups as Turkey effectively controls these groups. The responsibility is not limited to the criminal side but extends to compensating for the damages due to the violation of the IHL, entailing an obligation to compensation or reparation as confirmed by the International Court of Justice: "The ICJ affirms, not only according to the principles of international law, but also to the general concept of law, that any breach of commitments entails compensation."

In addition to the deteriorated situation of rights and freedoms, the chaotic situations (multiple authorities and direct regional interventions) increased the risks of media work in the region which witnessed more deterioration because the Turkish forces and Syrian National Army targeted journalists and because of the insecurity, assassinations and car bombs.

These incidents are reported "against unknown" although Turkey and allied Syrian factions normally accuse agents of the Syrian government or SDF. The judicial power or the local councils administratively affiliated with the Turkish government do not play any role in protecting the media freedoms and journalists.

According to some observers, the increasing violations against media professionals during the period 2019-2020, the absence of investigation and accountability (with most incidents being reported "against unknown") raise doubts about systematic targeting of media by the controlling powers to cover up the killings, kidnappings, forced displacement of people and seizure of their property so that insecurity provides a cover or pretext for violations.

Section 4: Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS)

In mid-2013, there were changes in the media landscape all over Syria. There was an increase in the number of journalists killed in direct targeting, disappeared and detained. The increase in the kidnapping for ransom cases almost emptied the country of foreign correspondents. Media professionals started to be targeted outside the government-controlled areas, which were relatively safe at least from detention and enforced disappearance and used to be a resort for the media professionals and dissidents who escaped from the government oppression in 2012. The most critical change happened when ISIS expanded and drove the opposition forces out of their areas. The violations ISIS committed against the media put it second after the government in the number of violations observed in the report.

The international jihadist movement reached a colonialist level with the rise of ISIS who managed to attract migrants and settlers from around the world to their alleged state. ISIS shocked the world with the scenes of slaughtering, killing and torture. Its strategy was to eradicate others symbolically and practically, enslave women, link education with doctrinal and ideological instructions and invade wide geographical areas. ISIS was considered a direct result of the failure of the national state, the erosion of its legitimacy and inability to achieve minimum development, reform and social welfare.

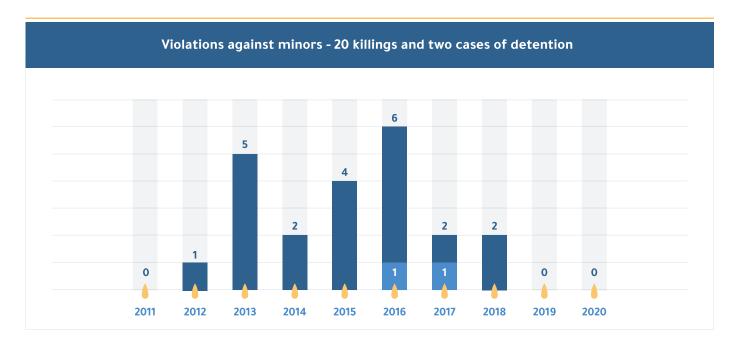
Targeting media activity or any independent source of information was a key pillar of ISIS policy. It published videos of its crimes on its channels to spread horror and promote the presumed state image, benefiting from the sophisticated technological capabilities and accumulated media experience of Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan and Iraq. ISIS surpassed traditional media as a medium to convey incidents and used social media platforms to broadcast them live through a non-central network of promoters worldwide. It used popular tags on Twitter to broadcast its carefully produced videos to the largest possible audience and managed to divert the global attention from the scenes of defenseless civilians who face the government violence to the scenes of masked people, their crimes and cruel violations of human dignity.

ISIS is the terrorist group which gave highest attention to social media. The concept of "media jihad" was integrated into ISIS literature since its establishment in Iraq. With the announcement of the caliphate, it had dozens of media institutions and entities including Dabiq, Khilafa, Ajnad for Media Production, local radios such as Al-Bayan in Mosul (Iraq) and a radio station in Raqqa (Syria). The content ISIS produced using technologies that surpasses those of western media institutions confirm the scale of funding and experience allocated to draw the image of the alleged state.

ISIS crimes against media professionals and its full control of all life aspects led to remarkable decline of media work in its territories. Many media professionals were displaced and others quit the occupation altogether. Women were completely absent due to violence and brutality which governed the entire society and the crimes against civilians and media professionals whose full scale will not be known until the facts and fate of victims are disclosed and ways of accountability are established. This was not a priority for the International Coalition which defeated ISIS militarily. There were no investigation and inquiry committees which were supposed to accompany the operations to document violations on the spot before the evidence is gone. The international will to turn the ISIS page and not to inquire beyond the already shot and published ISIS crimes reflects willingness to conceal the International Coalition crimes in targeting tens of thousands of civilians who were targets for ISIS and the International Coalition at the same time. This time the international community enjoyed impunity. The fate of journalists and media activists who were abducted by ISIS is yet to be known.

Section 5: Child Recruitment and Child Labor in the Media

Among the violations documented against the media and journalists was the killing of children recruited by opposition forces to film their military operations or employed by local and international agencies especially in the years 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2018. This work is extremely dangerous and requires experience and special equipment. Only adult people can choose to do it and accept its risks with free will. This violation is very complicated as it includes the actual perpetrators and the secondary ones including some international and local media outlets which were partners in these violations and instigated their continuity. The report features children contracted by international media institutions to provide them with photos and videos from inside the battles including a 14-year old child who died while covering the battles.



Over the conflict years, the number of minors forced to do different kinds of works related to the armed conflict has doubled. These included smuggling across the borders or between the fighting areas, collecting oil waste, burying people and collecting water and food from garbage dumps. In addition, many laws prohibit children under the age of 15 to work under any circumstances and children under 18 to work in occupations which pose danger to their safety or health including recruiting them in armed conflicts which is considered the worst form of child labor according to Article 3 of ILO Convention No. 182. It is one of the UNSC Six Grave Violations Against Children during Armed Conflict. According to the Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict in 2016, there was a tendency to recruit more girls and children under the age of 15. They accounted for about 56% of all the verified cases in Syria. The UN Secretary General's annual report on Children and Armed Conflict issued in June 2020 shows that Syria is the world's second worst country after Somalia in child recruitment. It was mostly used by the SDF, then by Hay'at Tahrir Al-Sham followed by the armed opposition. The HRW report entitled: "Maybe We Live and Maybe We Die': Recruitment and Use of Children by Armed Groups in Syria" documented the recruitment of children aged 14 years to fight in the battles.

Child recruitment is prohibited under many international conventions including the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), the Cape Town Principles (1997), Article 77 of the Additional Protocol I to Geneva Conventions on Prohibition of Recruitment of Children under 15, the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child adopted by the UNGA Resolution No. 263 of 2000 which prohibits the recruitment of children under 18 in the armed forces or armed groups. The UNSC issued resolutions No. 1261 of 1999, No. 1379 of 2001 and No. 1882 of 2009 on child protection during armed conflicts and prohibition of child recruitment. The UNGA issued the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict in 1974. In addition, recruitment of children under the age of 15 is a war crime under the ICC Rome Statute whether committed by national armed forces or non-state armed groups provided it is committed as part of a plan or public policy or on a wide scale in international or internal conflicts.

22 violations against minors between 2012 and 2017 (20 killings and 2 detentions)

| | Full name | Media work | Age at violation date | Date | Violation |
|----|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 1 | Suhaib Deeb | Media activist | 17 | 7/4/2012 | Killing |
| 2 | Mulham Barakat | Press photographer | 17 | 20/12/2013 | Killing |
| 3 | Ahmad Saleh Mohamed | Reporter in an armed group | 18 | 11/10/2013 | Killing |
| 4 | Majd Altaweel | Media activist | 19 | 27/7/2013 | Killing |
| 5 | Omar Haytham Qteifan | Media activist | 14 | 21/5/2013 | Killing |
| 6 | Abdulhadi Alfawal | Reporter in an armed group | 16 | 25/9/2013 | Killing |
| 7 | Muhammad Moaz Abdulrahman Al-Omar | Media activist | 17 | 25/4/2014 | Killing |
| 8 | Ahmad Hussein Al-Sheikh Ahmad | Media activist with an armed group | 18 | 9/11/2015 | Killing |
| 9 | Wael Al-Zeibaq | Media activist | 17 | 14/11/2015 | Killing |
| 10 | Abdulghani Al-Hajji | Media activist | 18 | 6/20/2015 | Killing |
| 11 | Ubay Mohamed Abdulghani | Media activist / e-media | 18 | 1/3/2016 | Killing |
| 12 | Ali Abu Zein | Photographer | 17 | 1/3/2016 | Killing |
| 13 | Ibrahim Khalil Al-Ghawi | Media activist / e-media | 17 | 8/2/2016 | Killing |
| 14 | Ahmed Samer Mandil | Media activist with an armed group | 18 | 12/1/2016 | Killing |
| 15 | Mohamed Nour Hashem | Reporter with an armed group | 17 | 5/11/2016 | Killing |
| 16 | Hmeidi Khaled Al-Jayoush | Reporter with an armed group | 17 | 29/7/2016 | Killing |
| 17 | Mohamed Adnan Habib | Reporter | 16 | 5/7/2017 | Killing |
| 18 | Ali Youssef Al-Radhi | Media activist | 17 | 21/8/2017 | Killing |
| 19 | Munib Nassar | Media activist | 16 | 22/8/2017 | Detention |
| 20 | Ammar Aref Al-Abdo | Independent media activist | 17 | 6/1/2016 | Detention |
| 21 | Mohamed Fayez Al-Torh | Independent media activist | We could not verify but his | 4/6/2014 | Killing |
| 22 | Mohamed Khattab | Media activist with an armed group | photos show he was under 18 | 2/8/2015 | Killing |

Recommendations

Parties to the conflict

- Agree on an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire throughout Syria, and take urgent measures to stop targeting media professionals, including by killings, kidnappings, hostage-taking, harassment, arrest, unlawful detentions, acts of violence and other forms of punishment or threats.
- All parties, and the Syrian government in particular, to release detainees and forcibly disappeared persons from official and secret detention centers; end torture and inhuman and degrading treatment; oblige all military, security and partisan forces to respect the law; ensure that the powers to arrest, detain and investigate are limited to the judiciary; and implement the requirements of a fair trial.
- All parties to the conflict, especially the Syrian government, to immediately and unconditionally disclose the
 fate of the forcedly disappeared media professionals, and implement the UNSC Resolution No. 1738 of 2006
 regarding the protection of journalists handling dangerous missions in areas of armed conflict, and Resolution
 No. 2222 of 2015 regarding the appropriate action to ensure accountability for crimes against media workers.
- Allow access to all detention facilities for international human rights monitors, including the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial executions, OHCHR, the HRC Commission of Inquiry on Syria and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Syria.
- Immediately stop the implementation of any death sentences, and ensure that the most stringent international standards for fair trial are respected when prosecuting crimes that are likely to receive death sentences.
- Provide the competent international authorities with official lists of the names of all detainees in all detention centers in Syria. The information should include the full name, mother's name, place and date of arrest, the party responsible for the arrest, and the charges against the detainee if referred to a court, as well as death cases and causes, especially in the Syrian government lists.
- Protect journalists and media workers within their areas, secure media coverage sites that are not affected by hostilities, punish anyone found guilty of assaulting media workers, and stop all forms of sanction, harassment and obstruction of the right to access and sharing of information.

Syrian government

- Facilitate the work of journalists and guarantee their safety, and issue a professional ID cards for those intending to cover events in Syria, in line with Article 79 of Additional Protocol (I) to the Geneva Conventions, which entitles journalists to obtain an ID card issued by the government of the country in which the journalist is a citizen or resident, or which hosts their media outlet that certifies their status as journalist.
- Abolish the Ministry of Information and any form of censorship; establish an independent body that completely ends the executive power control of the media; abolish the media law as well as the bylaws regulating the electronic media; and draft a modern legislation that establishes new principles of media work in order to support professional standards and principles of freedom of journalism, the right to collect and distribute information, and media accountability.

- Repeal all legislation and decrees suppressing freedom of expression and media freedoms and amend the General Penal Code and the Military Penal Code to cancel all the crimes related to publishing and to include provisions that consider criminal acts against media professionals an aggravating circumstance that prevents the statute of limitations according to UNESCO Recommendation no. 29 of 1997.
- Abolish laws and legislations that include special immunities for security and military personnel, because such
 immunities contradict the principles of justice and equal citizenship, and legitimize impunity; and establish a
 judicial committee or a court to consider claims for redress by the victims of the violations committed by the
 security and military institutions in the past decades.
- Immediately abolish the exceptional courts (Military Field Court and Counterterrorism Court in particular) and consider their rulings null and void and preserve the right of the victims to claim compensation; limit the jurisdiction of military courts to the military and prevent them from prosecuting civilians; and stop the interference of the executive authority in the judiciary and repeal the legislations that limit its independence.

Syrian opposition

- Stop using the detainees' issue in political negotiations, and ensure that any subsequent pardon does not
 include the perpetrators of the crimes of enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture, because
 no authority is entitled to pardon these violations and given the negative impact of such pardons on national
 reconciliation and sustainable peace, given that accountability is a key guarantor to sustaining peace and preventing recurrence of violations.
- Acknowledge the violations of armed factions in their areas of control, condemn these practices, and initiate
 public and transparent investigations to identify the perpetrators and hold them accountable in accordance
 with the IHRL.
- Close all secret or private detention facilities at military headquarters and allow the military police to monitor the closure in the presence of a civilian human rights monitor, use only central detention facilities that are supervised by the judiciary and civil society, and prohibit practices that undermine human dignity, acts of distress, torture and other forms of inhuman treatment.

Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria

- Establish the principle of a fair trial in judicial institutions; fully prohibit secret trials and trials of civilians by military courts, pursuant to Article 22 of the Charter of the Social Contract, which considered both ICCPR and ICSER an integral part of the Charter.
- Support the committee preparing a unified media law and stop all forms of interference in its work to ensure the development of a media law based on freedom of expression, respect for difference, pluralism, and various national identities as well as on the values of democracy, human rights, equality, justice and equal opportunities, so that it organizes the media work in the Autonomous Administration areas and put the foundation for a national media legislation.

United Nations

- Endorse the proposal of the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial killings, which calls for strengthening the United Nations capacity to investigate violence against journalists targeted because of their work by developing a permanent mechanism for this purpose, allocating the necessary funding as soon as possible and implement the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity.
- Strengthen legal frameworks and law enforcement mechanisms to guarantee the safety of journalists in areas of conflict and everywhere, in order to reduce impunity with regard to the crimes committed against them. Protection should cover not only the licensed journalists but also all those involved in publishing and circulating information including bloggers, citizen journalists and users of new media channels.
- The UNGA and the International Committee of the Red Cross to conduct a comprehensive review of the IHL provisions to add special protections for journalists and press offices in addition to those established for civilians, because journalists are exposed to violations in conflict zones and they play a critical role in restricting the ability of warring parties to use internationally prohibited methods of warfare.
- Expand the mandate, powers, resources and funding for the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Special Rapporteurs on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Special Rapporteurs on violence against women; the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, and raise awareness of the individual reporting mechanisms, if any.
- The UN Security Council to underline Article 11 of Resolution 2139 of 2014, which condemned the widespread violations against journalists by the parties to the conflict, especially the Syrian government, and called for an immediate end to the acts of arbitrary arrest, detention and torture and the release of all arbitrarily detained persons, and for taking strict action against the non-compliant parties.
- Adopt multilateral strategies to enhance media freedom and legal protection for media workers; fund training
 workshops on occupational safety for media workers in conflict and risky areas with focus on the specific risks
 faced by female journalists.
- Investigate all murders of journalists and media professionals while ensuring adequate, effective and timely resources for the investigations; re-investigate if necessary through a plan with specific time-frame to increase the percentage of perpetrators prosecuted; and reduce impunity for crimes against the media and media workers.

International community

- Pressure the Syrian government by all means to declare its full commitment to the Convention against Torture, to withdraw the reservation on Article 20 thereof, to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and to put an end to impunity and the immunity of the security and military services.
- Activate the contractual obligations of human rights conventions ratified by Syria, as well as accountability and monitoring compliance by any state party within the legal frameworks available to hold the Syrian government accountable for gross human rights violations and breaches of its contractual obligations.

- Pressure to oblige the parties to the Syrian conflict to fully comply with the provisions of Article 82 of Additional Protocol (I) to the Geneva Conventions which requires to have legal advisers appointed in the armed forces to oversee the practices of such forces, and thus minimize possible violations during military operations.
- Support the legal and customary framework to prohibit child recruitment in armed forces by ratifying both of
 them, implementing the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of
 children in armed conflict, and ratifying the Paris Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed
 Forces or Armed Groups and the Paris Commitments to protect children from unlawful recruitment or use by
 armed forces or armed groups.
- Stop impunity in Syria both nationally and at provincial level to ensure the prosecution of all human rights violators in Syria through:
- Pressuring to refer the Syrian file to the ICC based on UNGA Resolution No. 377 of 1950 (also called the Uniting for Peace resolution).
- Prosecuting military and civilian officials where convincing evidence of their involvement in gross and systematic violations of human rights in Syria are available, and applying financial sanctions including freezing their bank accounts in accordance with universal jurisdiction or national legislation.

Syrian Constitutional Committee

- The intended constitution should include clear principles that guarantee the independence of the judiciary, as
 a protection umbrella for rights and freedoms, in overseeing laws and their compliance with the International
 Bill of Human Rights as a mandatory path for the legislative reforms and for the abolition of laws protecting
 perpetrators and exceptional courts whose existence contradicts the constitutionally protected rights and
 freedoms.
- The intended constitution should clearly and irrevocably include the IHL guaranteed media rights and freedoms, to ensure the independence of the press, prohibit censorship or confiscation, and the right of journalists to gather information.
- Provide constitutional protection for freedom of expression by enshrining a supremacy clause that international treaties ratified by the Syrian government take precedence over national legislation, which means explicit inclusion of articles of international human rights covenants, as is the case with the Social Contract Charter of the Democratic Autonomous Administration.

Syrian civil society

- Form legal and social committees to start drafting training curricula for judicial police based on international human rights standards and on technologies; start practicing enforcement powers without interfering with media professionals or hindering their work, by adopting a code of conduct for law enforcement officials and the document issued by Amnesty International "10 basic human rights standards for law enforcement officials".
- Advocate for providing immediate, proportionate and effective compensation for economic, social and cultural rights violations resulting from enforced disappearance, while underlining that compensation should not be confused with social protection that any existing authority must provide to families who have lost their breadwinners, and with the rights of the victims and their families to seek justice and compensation through the judiciary for subsequent psychological and physical damage.
- Cooperate with the International Red Cross and related bodies and organizations to draft a code of ethics obliging the media to provide contracted and independent journalists alike with all necessary protective equipment to face the dangers of armed conflicts and other situations of violence, through training and other forms of guidance; and oblige them to pay compensation for injury and death, regardless of the contract type.
- Emphasize the critical role of the media and the importance of freedom of expression in localizing the values of democracy, human rights, equality, justice and equal opportunities; and engage the media as a partner in transitional justice efforts, benefiting from the South African experience where the media played a key role in promoting the victims' rights and advocating accountability.
- Include names and photos of victims from media workers in national memorialization initiatives (memorials,
 museums and monuments), to build a collective national memory of what happened in Syria, which in parallel
 with accountability and justice for the victims, requires that everyone discloses the grave violations of human
 rights and the necessity to recognize and deal with them.
- Launch media initiatives and awareness campaigns on transitional justice and reconciliation as a long-term community project based on truth, accountability and justice for the victims, as an inevitable transition to a new social contract and a national charter that redefines the Syrian state and identity as an inclusive pluralistic identity that may not be monopolized or reduced to one component, at the expense of others.

Part III: Violations according to years appendix (Arabic)

| 2011 | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation | |
| Yshar Kamal Al-Ahmad | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Khalil Hamlu 1 | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Khalil Hamlu 2 | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Rami Isma'il Iqbal 1 | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Rami Isma'il Iqbal 2 | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Kamal Sheikho | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Alwan Z'aiter | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Mazen Darwish | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Louay Hussein | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Maan Aqel | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Akram Abu Safi | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Subhi Na'im Al-asal | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Zaher Omarain | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Firas al-Najjar | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Douha Hasan | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Khaled Ya'qoub O'weys | Withdrawing the accreditation and expelling him from Syria | Government forces | |
| Izzat Beltagy | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Sulaiman Al-Khalidi | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Amer Matar | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Samira al-Masalmeh | Forced to resign | Government forces | |
| Shamiram Mandil 1 | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Shamiram Mandil 2 | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Amer Matar | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Khaled Sayed Muhannad | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Fayez Sarah | Arrest | Government forces | |

| Diler Youssef | Arrest | Government forces |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Razan Ghazzawi | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ahmad Sulaiman Al-Dahik | Killing | Government forces |
| lyad Khalil | Beating | Government forces |
| Jihad Jamal Milan 1 | Arrest | Government forces |
| Jihad Jamal Milan 2 | Arrest | Government forces |
| Jihad Jamal Milan 3 | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ghasan Saud | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ghadi Francis | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ammar Diop | Arrest | Government forces |
| Omar Brik | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Najati Tayara | Arrest | Government forces |
| Musa Al-Khatib | Arrest | Government forces |
| Raafat Al-Rifai | Arrest | Government forces |
| Abdel Majeed Tamer | Arrest | Government forces |
| Jihad Nasra | Arrest | Government forces |
| Omar Al-Asaad | Arrest | Government forces |
| Guevara Nimr | Arrest | Government forces |
| Nidal Hasan | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Jamal Al-Tahan | Arrest | Government forces |
| Hussein Eiso | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ibaa Munther | Arrest | Government forces |
| Adel Walid Kharsa | Arrest | Government forces |
| Tariq Saeed Balsha | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Sami al-Kayyal | Arrest | Government forces |
| Fouad Abdel Aziz | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Awaid | Arrest | Government forces |

| Bilal Ahmad Bilal | Arrest | Government forces |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Nizar Adla | Arrest | Government forces |
| Mus'ab Masoud | Arrest | Government forces |
| Sean McCallister | Arrest | Government forces |
| Lina Ibrahim | Arrest | Government forces |
| Farzat Jarban | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Dahnoun | Arrest | Government forces |
| Nizar Adnan Hamseh | Arrest | Government forces |
| Firas Barshan Burghul | Killing | Government forces |
| Hamza Khaled Al-Amer | Killing | Government forces |
| Bilal Jebes | Killing | Government forces |
| Ramy Isma'il Iqbal | Killing | Government forces |
| Bassel Al-Sayed | Killing | Government forces |
| Mo'atasem Al-Saleh | Killing | Government forces |
| Mu'awiya Ibrahim Ayoub | Killing | Government forces |
| Ayat Basma | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ammar Musare'a | Arrest | Government forces |
| Mohib Al-Nawati | Arrest | Government forces |
| Wael Youssef Abazza | Arrest | Government forces |
| Mahmoud Assem Al-Muhammad | Arrest | Government forces |
| Martin Zegers | Arrest | Government forces |
| Dorothy Parvaz | Arrest | Government forces |
| Abdel Hamid Tawfiq | Forced to resign | Syrian government |
| Ala'a Al-Khedr | Arrest | Government forces |
| Khaled Hariri | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ahmad Ibrahim Nakresh | Arrest | Government forces |

| 2012 | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Direct Perpetrator | |
| Muhammad Omar Al-Khatib | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Shaker Rateb Abu Burghul | Killing | Unknown | |
| Osama Idris Burhan | Killing | Government forces | |
| Salah Sami Morjan | Killing | Government forces | |
| Ramy Al-Sayed | Killing | Government forces | |
| Anas Al-Tarsha | Killing | Government forces | |
| Abdallah Khaled Al-Awad | Killing | Government forces | |
| Omar Ka'aka | Killing | Government forces | |
| Juan Muhammad Qatana | Killing | Unknown | |
| Ahmad Muhammad Jibril Al-Rahmoun | Killing | Government forces | |
| Anas Al-Halawani | Killing | Government forces | |
| Samir Shalab Al-Sham | Killing | Government forces | |
| Ala'a Hasan al-Douri | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Khaled Qbeisho | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Abdel Ghani Kakieh | Killing | Government forces | |
| Hasan Ahmad Azhari | Arrest | Government forces | |
| Lawrence Al Nu'aimi | Killing | Government forces | |
| Ahmad Adnan Al-Ashlaq | Killing | Government forces | |
| Ammar Mohammad Sohail Zadeh | Killing | Government forces | |
| Bassel Shhadeh | Killing | Government forces | |
| Ahmad Al-Asam | Killing | Government forces | |
| Abdel Hamid Idris Matar | Killing | Government forces | |
| Khaled al-Bakr | Killing | Government forces | |
| Bassim Barakat Darwish | Killing | Government forces | |
| Ahmad Hamada | Killing | Government forces | |
| Hamza Mahmoud Othman | Killing | Government forces | |

| Ghiath Khaled Al-Hamouriyeh | Killing | Government forces |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Wael Omar Barad | Killing | Unknown |
| Mahmoud Hamdo Hallaq | Killing | Government forces |
| Ihsan Al-Bunni | Killing | Unknown |
| Sami Qabbani | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ali Jabbour Al-Ka'abi | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Falah Taha | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Al-Hosni | Killing | Government forces |
| Mahmoud Sidqi Skheta | Killing | Government forces |
| Omar Khashram | Injury | Government forces |
| Sinan Gul | Injury | Government forces |
| Zuhair Muhammad Shaher | Killing | Government forces |
| Haitham Hamsho | Killing | Government forces |
| Baraa Youssef Al-Boushi | Killing | Government forces |
| Ghiath Abdallah | Killing | Government forces |
| Mika Yamamoto | Killing | Government forces |
| Mus'ab Muhammad Al-Awda Allah | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Badi'e Al-Qasim | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Al-Abdallah | Killing | Government forces |
| Tahseen Al-Tom | Killing | Government forces |
| Nawaf Al-Hindi | Killing | Government forces |
| Tamer Al-Awam | Killing | Government forces |
| Youssef Ahmad Deeb | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Rahman Mor'ei Al-Mashhour | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Karim Al-Oqda | Killing | Government forces |
| Mamoun Ahmad Al-Ghandour | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Aziz Ragheb Al-Sheikh | Killing | Government forces |
| | | |

| Maya Nasser | Killing | Government forces |
|---|------------------------|--|
| Youssef Al-Aqra'a | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Fayyad Al-Askar | Killing | Government forces |
| Alaa Maktabi | Arrest | Government forces |
| Mona Bakour | Killing | Explosion |
| Muhammad Al-Ashram | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Hisham Mousalli | Arrested | Government forces |
| Omar Abdel-Razzaq Al-Latuf | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Jum'a Abdel Karim Al- Latuf | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Al-Ahmad | Killing | Government forces |
| Bassel Azzam | Arrest | Government forces |
| Shaza Al-Medad | Arrest | Government forces |
| Hassan Haider Sheikh Hammoud | Killing | Government forces |
| Jamal Abdel Nasser Malas | Killing | Government forces |
| Baraa Mays | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Dughmush | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Khaled | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Al-Zaher | Killing | Government forces |
| Abed Khalil | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Hawzan Abdel Halim Mahmoud | Killing | YPG |
| Bassel Tawfiq Youssef | Killing | Unknown |
| Muhammad Koraytem | Killing | Government forces |
| Naji Asaad | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Khair Sheikh Qweider | Killing | Fighting between government forces and opponents |
| Abdel-Karim Al-Ezzo | Killing | Government forces |
| junet uwnal | Enforced disappearance | Government forces |

| Bashar Fahmy Qaddumi | Enforced disappearance | Government forces |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Nabil Sharbaji | Arrest | Government forces |
| Austin Tice | Enforced disappearance | Unknown |
| Mazen Darwish | Arrest | Government forces |
| Hussein Grair | Arrest | Government forces |
| Bassam Al-Ahmad | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ayham Ghazoul | Arrest | Government forces |
| Mansour Al-Omari | Arrest | Government forces |
| Hani Al-Zaitani | Arrest | Government forces |
| Abdel Rahman Hamadeh | Arrest | Government forces |
| Joan Verso | Arrest | Government forces |
| Razan Ghazzawi | Arrest | Government forces |
| Sanaa Mohsen | Arrest | Government forces |
| Yara Badr | Arrest | Government forces |
| John Cantlie | Abduction | ISIS |
| John Cantlie | Abduction | ISIS |
| James Foley | Abduction | ISIS |
| Hatem Abu Yahya | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Yara Al-Saleh | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Abdallah Tayara | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Al-Saeed | Killing | Al-Nusra Front |
| Muhammad Al-Khal | Killing | Government forces |
| Fidaa Itani | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Sattouf | Abduction | Unknown |
| Ali Abbas | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdallah Hasan Kaakeh | Killing under torture | Government forces |
| | | |

| Marie Colvin | Killing | Government forces |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Remy Ochlik | Killing | Government forces |
| Paul Conroy | Injury | Government forces |
| Edith Bouvier | Injury | Government forces |
| Mozhar Tayara | Killing | Government forces |
| Mary Scandar Issa | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ali Sha'aban | Killing | Government forces |
| Ali Mahmoud Othman | Arrest | Government forces |
| William Daniels | Targeted bombing | Government forces |
| javier espinosa | Targeted bombing | Government forces |
| Adam Ozkos | Abduction | Government forces |
| Hamet Coskun | Abduction | Government forces |
| Walid Blaidi | Killing | Government forces |
| Nassim Teriri | Killing | Government forces |
| Haider Al-Smoudi | Killing | Government forces |
| Gilles Jacquier | Killing | Government forces |
| Jihad Jamal | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Abdel Mawla Al-Hariri | Killing under field military court verdict | Government forces |
| Yaman Irsheidat Abazaid | Arrest | Government forces |
| Fatima Khaled Sa'ad | Arrest | Government forces |
| Akram Raslan | Arrest | Government forces |
| billy six | Arrest | Government forces |
| Kevin Dawes | Arrest | Government forces |
| Richard Angel | Arrest | Government forces |
| Hasan Ahmad Azhari | Killing | Government forces |
| Hisham Mousalli | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Abdallah Al-Abdallah | Killing | Government forces |

| Khaled Qbeisho | Killing | Government forces |
|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Alaa Hasan al-Douri | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Hadi Al-Qomli | Killing | Government forces |
| Mahmoud Al-Shablah | Killing | Government forces |
| Obada Al-Saho | Killing | Government forces |
| Amir Mustafa Habubati | Killing | Government forces |
| Ayham Yusef Al-Hariri | Killing | Government forces |
| Sami Abu Amin | Killing | Armed group |
| Zaid Al-Kahil | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Shamma | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Salam | Killing | Government forces |
| Suhaib Deeb | Killing | Government forces |
| Mayada Khalil | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ahmad Na'awa | Arrest | Government forces |
| Mouaz Mohyeddin Al-Khaled | Arrest | Government forces |
| Kinan Zakwan Al-Atassi | Arrest | Government forces |
| Anas Al-Taleb | Arrest | Government forces |
| Abdel-Halim Abdel-Razzaq Al-Barbour | Arrest | Government forces |
| Qutaiba Beko Sheikhani | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ahmad Al-Falah | Arrest | Government forces |
| Hamed Issa Al-Masalmeh | Arrest | Government forces |
| Karim Al-Shaibani | Injury | Unknown |
| Ammar Al-Zayed | Arrest | Government forces |
| | | |

| 2013 | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation |
| Yasser Mowafaq Nadam | Killing | YPG |
| Khaled Muhammad Al-Khatib | Arrest | Government forces |
| Moʻataz Khalil Mansour | Killing | Government forces |
| Suhail Mahmoud Al-Ali | Killing | Armed group |
| Ahmad Koussa | Killing | Government forces |
| Bassem Fawaz Al-Zo'ubi | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Asa'ad Al-Shehab | Killing | Government forces |
| Yves Debay | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Masalma | Killing | Government forces |
| Amjad Al-Sioufi | Killing | Government forces |
| Munir Al-Nammous | Killing | Government forces |
| Faisal Ibrahim Pasha Al-Milli | Killing | Government forces |
| Qasim Khalil Al-Ma'ishi | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Abdel Rahman | Killing | Unknown |
| Abdel Karim Nazir Isma'il | Killing | Government forces |
| Essam Obeid | Killing | Government forces |
| Nabil Abdel Hadi Al-Nabulsi | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Latif Khalil Khedr | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Kurdi | Killing | Government forces |
| Zaid Abu Obeida | Killing | Government forces |
| Youssef Adel Bakri | Killing | Government forces |
| Ayham Ghazoul | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Saeed Al-Hamwi | Killing | Government forces |
| Adnan Abu Abdo | Killing | Government forces |
| Olivier Voisin | Killing | Government forces |

| Wael Abdel Aziz Hammoud | Killing | Government forces |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Walid Jamil Amira | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Bashir Shakhshiro | Killing | Government forces |
| Saqr Abu Nabut | Killing | Government forces |
| Ghiyath Abdel-jawad | Killing | Government forces |
| Amer Badr El-Din Junaid | Killing | Government forces |
| Osama Abdel Basset Al-Taleb | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Khaled Shehadeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Al-Batsh | Killing | Government forces |
| Sardar Ahmed | Arrest | YPG |
| Laith Muhammad al-Homsi | Killing | Government forces |
| Hamed Abu Yasser | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ibrahim Al-Aassmi | Killing | Government forces |
| Amer Diab | Killing | Government forces |
| Jorg Armbruster | Injury | Armed group |
| Walid Al-Jalkh | Indirect Targeted | Government forces |
| Mahmoud Murad Al-Ezzo | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Rahman Al-Khadra | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Rahim Kor Hassa | Killing | Government forces |
| Khalil Ibrahim Al-Haj Ali Al-Abed | Killing | Government forces |
| Shady Helwa | Injury | Government forces |
| Yahya Mouselli | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Sulaiman | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Fares Shhadeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Youssef Younes | Killing | Government forces |
| Shyar Khalil | Arrest | Government forces |
| | execution | Government forces |
| Ahmad Taha Al-Sayed Taha | execution | Government forces |
| Muhammad Abdel Ghani Al-Khalaf | Killing | Government forces |

| Ahmad Abdel-Ghani Al-Khalaf | Injury | Government forces |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ahmad Mahmoud Al-Khef | Injury | Government forces |
| Tareq Suwaid | Killing | Government forces |
| Armin Wertz | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Mamoun Sweidan | Killing | Government forces |
| Ma'an Muhammad | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Milad Al Shehabi | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Osama Khasawneh | Killing | Government forces |
| Omar Haitham Qutaifan | Killing | Government forces |
| Sha`aban Al-Hasan | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Yara Abbas | Killing | Armed group |
| Muhammad Zain El-Din | Killing | Government forces |
| Bilal Ahmad | execution | Government forces |
| Musa`ab Al-Hamedi | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Yilmaz Pasha | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Amer Huwaidi | Enforced disappearance | Unknown |
| Oday Muhammad al-Bardan | Injury | Government forces |
| Mustafa Al-Ahmadi | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Faisal Al-Qassem | An Arrest warrant in absentia | Government forces |
| Ra'ad Rustom | Killing | Government forces |
| Najib Darwish | Killing | Government forces |
| Ammar Al-Hajj | Injury | Government forces |
| Abboud Haddad | Arrest | ISIS |
| Farhad Ahmeh | Beating | YPG |
| Alaa Arnous | Abduction | Armed group |
| Kinan Ziyad Al-Mahamid | Killing | Government forces |
| Saif Al-Ansari | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel-Rahim Said Tkhoubi | Arrest | YPG |

| Ahmad Omar | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Ammar Al-Sayed Hasan | Killing | Government forces |
| Younes Ali Al-Mutair | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Mo'uaz | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Tareq Jadou'a | Killing | Government forces |
| Obeida Batal | Enforced disappearance | ISIS |
| Hussam Nazem El-Din | Enforced disappearance | ISIS |
| Abboud Al-Ateeq | Enforced disappearance | ISIS |
| Majd Al-Taweel | Killing | Government forces |
| Ali Abu Al-Majd | Arrest and abuse | Unknown |
| Martin Soder | Abduction | Unknown |
| Manhal Barish | Beating | Unknown |
| Wael Marawan Karnabeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Nazir Hassan Al-Trabelsi | Killing | Government forces |
| Pechenik Alou | Injury | Government forces |
| Hadi Al-Munajjed | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdallah Hakawati | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Jihad Asa'ad Muhammad | Enforced disappearance | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Omar | Missing | ISIS |
| Samar Al-Saleh | Missing | ISIS |
| Ali Isma'il Al-Sayasneh | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Hasan Safi Al-Masalmeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Hassan Muhanna | Killing | Armed group |
| Ziyad Arafa | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Wais Muslem | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Abdallah Dawara | Killing | Government forces |
| Shaher Moʻadamani | Killing | Government forces |
| Diaa El-Din Khallouf | Killing | Government forces |
| | | |

| Ahmad Nadim Al-Hajj | Killing | Government forces |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Omar Al-Khani | Arrest | ISIS |
| Muhammad Nour al-Matar | Missing | ISIS |
| Raed Abbas | Arrest | ISIS |
| Muhammad Al-Shu'aib | Arrest | ISIS |
| Omar Abdel Aziz Al-Huwaidi | Arrest | ISIS |
| Munadi Muslat al-Huwaidi | Arrest | ISIS |
| Sami Jamal | Arrest | ISIS |
| Zakaria Hajj Hamo | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Mohaymen Al-Halabi | Arrest | Armed group |
| Hadi Bagbani | Killing | Armed group |
| Jassem Al-Awad | Arrest | ISIS |
| Jamil Silo | Arrest | ISIS |
| Moʻataz Al-Essa | Arrest | ISIS |
| Muhammad Sobhi | Arrest | ISIS |
| Abdel Aziz Mahmoud Hassoun | Killing | Government forces |
| Abu Bakr Al-Haj Ali | Injury | Government forces |
| Kinan Hassan Al-Balkhi | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammed Khair Darwish | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Karim Bakr | Killing | Government forces |
| Marc Marginedas | Abduction | Unknown |
| Fadi Abu Ajaj | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Bitar | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Majed Bitar | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Hamed Al-Mansour | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Khatib | Killing | Government forces |
| Yaman Muqbel Khattab | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ahmad Al-Hulu Khacharfa | Killing | Government forces |

| Muhammad Abdel Rahman al-Nashef | Killing | Government forces |
|--|-----------|-------------------|
| Hazem Dakel | Arrest | Armed group |
| Omar Diab Hajuli | Killing | Armed group |
| Nasr Muhammad Abu Al-Oyoun | Killing | Government forces |
| Murhaf Al-Mudahi | Killing | Government forces |
| Nour al-Din al-Hafiri | Killing | Government forces |
| Moamen Hasan Al-Dalati | Killing | Government forces |
| Rami Al-Razouk | Abduction | ISIS |
| Oday Muhammad Al-Bardan | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Nasser Jamal Mahmoud Al- Shanbour | Killing | Government forces |
| Swar Marwan Al-Issa | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Diri | Killing | Government forces |
| Mo'uaz Al-Shami | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel-Hadi Qasheet | Killing | Government forces |
| Nidal Al-Harbi | Injury | Government forces |
| Ayham Al-Dimashqi | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Saleh Al-Muhammad | Killing | Government forces |
| Osama Muwafaq Al-Suwaidani | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhannad Haj Obeid | Execution | Unknown |
| Ziyad Homsi | Arrest | ISIS |
| Konstantin Zhuravlev | Arrest | Unknown |
| Hazem Al-Hussein | Abduction | Unknown |
| Ishaq Mukhtar | Abduction | Unknown |
| Samir Kassab | Abduction | Unknown |
| Rami Abdel Aziz | Injury | Government forces |
| Youssef Hussein Ali Al-Sayer | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Saeed | Killing | Unknown |
| Abdallah Barghout | Killing | Government forces |

| Hasan Abdallah Othman | Killing | Government forces |
|------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Hasan Ali Qassem | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Edlbi | Abduction | Unknown |
| Hadi Al-Abdallah | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Zuhuri | Injury | Government forces |
| Diab Hussein Al-Batran | Killing | Government forces |
| Qasem Mosbah Al-Hazouri | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdallah Al-Rayes Al-Ghazawi | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdallah Amin Hallaq | house raid | Government forces |
| Hasan Haj Omar | Killing | Government forces |
| Tareq Sheikho | Arrest | ISIS |
| Mudar Abdallah Hindawi Al-Masalmeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ahmad Tayseer Bello | Killing | Government forces |
| Fadi Al-Halabi | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Tayeb | Injury | Government forces |
| Hasan Qattan | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdallah Al-Akhras | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Rahman Shulah | Killing | Government forces |
| Ammar Nassar | Injury | Government forces |
| Ammar Tabajo | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Shaher Al-Najjar | Killing | Government forces |
| Akram Al-Slaik | Killing | Government forces |
| Yassin Haroun | Killing | Government forces |
| Hasan Haroun | Killing | Government forces |
| Yamen Naddaf | Killing | Government forces |
| Magnus Falkehed | Abduction | Unknown |
| Niclas Hammarstrom | Abduction | Unknown |
| Moayad Al-Salloum | Abduction | ISIS |

| Abdel-Wahhab Al-Mulla | Enforced disappearance | ISIS |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Ahmad Primo | Abduction | Unknown |
| Ahmad Salah Al-Shayeb | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Tawfiq Al-Saghir | Abduction | YPG |
| Jamil Al-Tous | Abduction | YPG |
| Loay Abu Al-Joud | Abduction | ISIS |
| Nael Al-Hariri | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ahmad Al-Khidr | Arrest | ISIS |
| Muhammad Khalil Al-Barnawi | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Tarboush | Arrest | ISIS |
| Ammar Dandash | Injury | Unknown |
| Yasser Faisal Al-Jumaili | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhannad Al-Fayyad | Abduction | Armed group |
| Mahmoud Hebbo | Injury | Government forces |
| Mazen Jarkas | Killing | Government forces |
| Javier Espinosa | Abduction | ISIS |
| Ricardo Garcia Vilanova | Abduction | ISIS |
| Benjamin Egon | Abduction | Unknown |
| Khalaf Al-Jarbou | Abduction | Unknown |
| Hassan Hassan | Killing | Government forces |
| Molham Barakat | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Al-Hajji | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Abdel Hay | Killing | Government forces |
| Maher Hasroumi | Abduction | ISIS |
| Amin Abu Muhammad | Abduction | ISIS |
| Taym Al-Shami | Abduction | ISIS |
| Sultan Al-Shami | Abduction | ISIS |
| Milad Al-Shehabi | Abduction | ISIS |

| Ahmad Ali Toʻame | Killing | Government forces |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| Muhammad Al-Ashmar | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Salloum | Arrest | ISIS |
| Salah Abdel-Qader Ja'ar | Arrest | ISIS |
| Ahmad Hamdo Al-Bayoush | Arrest | ISIS |
| Hammoud Junaid | Arrest | ISIS |
| Abdallah Al-Salloum | Arrest | ISIS |
| Ahmad Muhammad Al-Janak | Arrest | ISIS |
| Abdallah Muwafaq Al-Hammadi | Arrest | ISIS |
| Sa'ad Al-Abi | Arrest | ISIS |
| Muhaymen Al-Halabi | Killing | Unknown |
| Khalil Al-Hamoud | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Nadeem Al-Haj | Arrest | Government forces |
| Marwan Isma'il Arsan | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ahmad Abdel Qader Hosrom | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ibrahim Abd Al-Razzaq Al-Mutlaq Al- Hamdan | Arrest | Government forces |
| Abdallah Al-Mqdad | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Mazen Muhammad Badr Al-Din Al-Dirani | Arrest | Government forces |
| Juma`a Mussa | Abduction | Unknown |

| 2014 | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation |
| Amer Haseeb Al-Shon | Killing | ISIS |
| Qutayba Abu Yunes | Killing | ISIS |
| Amin Abu Muhammad | Killing | ISIS |
| Sultan Al-Shami | Killing | ISIS |
| Bilal Shahoud | Killing | ISIS |
| Ali Al-Jassem | Killing | ISIS |
| Ahmad Primo | Abduction | ISIS |
| Muhammad Ibrahim | Killing | Government forces |
| Loay Barakat | Abduction | ISIS |
| Hussam Al-Halabi | Abduction | Unknown |
| Amir Hamed | Abduction | Unknown |
| Bishoy Pahlavi | Abduction | Government forces |
| Ahmad Na'oura | Killing | Government forces |
| Hazem Waked | Arrest | Government forces |
| Marwan Mansour | Killing | ISIS |
| Hossam Sa'idi | Killing | ISIS |
| Fares Najeeb Agha | Arrest | Government forces |
| Bashir Ayyash | Abduction | Unknown |
| Muhammad Rasool | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Bayan Hamed | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhannad Zakaria Moheb El-Din | Killing | Government forces |
| Raed Muhammad Al-Faris | Injury | Unknown |
| Hammoud Al-Junaid | Injury | Unknown |
| Wael Adel | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Sofi | Arrest | YPG |
| Ismail Ali | Arrest | YPG |

| Ahmad Qutaifan | Injury | Government forces |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Farouj Tkhoubi | Arrest | YPG |
| Farhad Hamo | Arrest | YPG |
| Ibrahim Muhammad Al-Abdallah | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Louay | Injury | Government forces |
| George Orfelian | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Benjamin Darwish | Injury | Armed opposition |
| George Dilabo | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Shadi Helwa | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Sulaiman | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Abdel Rahman Batra | Enforced disappearance and execution | ISIS |
| Abu Ali Al-Shu'aiti | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Hani Radwan Al-Jabbawi | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Samad Oso | Killing | Unknown |
| Trad Muhammad Al-Zuhuri | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Fawaz Hayel al-Akhras | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Al-Warda | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Abdel Mon'eim Othman | Killing | Government forces |
| Akram Al-Bunni | Arrest | Government forces |
| Nasser Bunduq | Arrest | Government forces |
| Abdallah Al-Marandi | Injury | Government forces |
| Mouaz Mohieddin Al-Khaled | Killing | Government forces |
| Omar Fareed Al-Shahmeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Malass | Arrest | Government forces |
| Mustafa Abdi | Abduction | YPG |
| Mustafa Al-Hammadi | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Mahmoud Al-Ali | Killing | Unknown |
| Ali Mustafa | Killing | Government forces |

| Omar Abdel Qader | Killing | Armed opposition |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| Kinan Zakwan Al-Atassi | Killing | Government forces |
| Manna'a Ahmad | Arrest | Government forces |
| Wahid Mustafa | Abduction | YPG |
| Marwan Isma'il Arsan | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ghaleb Al-Shehri | Killing | Government forces |
| Raman Hesso | Abduction | YPG |
| Khaled Al-Hosni | Killing | Government forces |
| Hassan Al-Abdo | Abduction | ISIS |
| Youssef Ahmad Al-Khef | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Mohaymen Al-Jaber | Killing | ISIS |
| Sa'ad Jajan | Killing | ISIS |
| Sakfan Ali | Arrest | YPG |
| Salim Aktasheh | Killing | Government forces |
| Aladdin Al-Youssef | Abduction | Unknown |
| Ahmad Muhammad Yahya | Killing | Government forces |
| Rodi Ibrahim | Abduction | YPG |
| Bishoy Pahlavi | Abduction | YPG |
| Haider Razzouk | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Mouaz Abdel-Rahman Al- Omar | Killing | Government forces |
| Bilal Ahmad Bilal | Killing | Government forces |
| Al-Mo'ataz Billah Ibrahim | Killing | ISIS |
| Ryan Ryan | Abduction | Al-Nusra Front |
| Jamal Youssef Makkeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Nader Anabtawi | Killing | Government forces |
| Dildar Hamo | Abduction | YPG |
| Anthony Loyd | Abduction | Unknown |
| Jack Hill | Abduction | Unknown |

| Abdel Majeed Al-Kardoush | Injury | ISIS |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hasan Abu Al-Yazan Al-Homsi | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Al-Shibli | Abduction | ISIS |
| Salah Alout | Abduction | YPG |
| Ayman Zahr Tabsh | Killing | Government forces |
| Adnan Dohmosh Al-Salameh | Killing | ISIS |
| Badr Al-Lafi | Killing | Unknown |
| Samer Abdo Omran | Killing | Government forces |
| Jamal Mutashar Al-Ali | Killing | Government forces |
| Mustafa Jum'a | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdallah Ghanam | Injury | Government forces |
| Ali Hafez | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Ghani Jarukh | Injury | Other |
| Ahmad Hasan Ahmad Abd al-Latif | Killing | Unknown |
| Nabil Shoufan | Arrest | Jordanian security authorities |
| Tareq Mussa | Arrest | Jordanian security authorities |
| Hussein Al-Bish | Arrest | Jordanian security authorities |
| Awad Al-Ali | Arrest | Jordanian security authorities |
| Ibrahim Issa | Abused by Beating | YPG |
| Muhammad Fayez al-Tarh | Killing | Government forces |
| Moayad Al-Salloum | Killing | ISIS |
| Qutaiba Mahmoud Daher Darwish | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Shayah | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Ta'ani | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Omar Al-Khatib | Killing | Government forces |
| Bassam Al-Rayyes | Killing | ISIS |

| Sadr al-Din Knno | Detained | Asayish |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Anwar Muhammad Ali | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Abdel Qader Hosrom | Killing | Government forces |
| Omar Muhammad Basleh | Killing | Unknown |
| Omar Al-Abdallah | Abduction | Government forces |
| Skvan Amin | Arrest | Asayish |
| Ahmad Muhammad Ali | Targeted bombing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Bahaa alddin Lababidi | Killing | Government forces |
| Alaa Khaled Youssef Al-Hajji | Killing | Government forces |
| Malva Ali | Arrest | Asayish |
| Saadoun Al-Sino | Arrest | Asayish |
| Anas Al-Talib | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Rifai | Killing | Government forces |
| Omar Khaled Al-Hatawi | Killing | Government forces |
| Nayef Bashir | Arrest and abuse | Asayish |
| Sa'adoun Al-Sino | Abduction | Asayish |
| Osama Adnan Al-Abbas | Killing | Government forces |
| Mohammad Elalwa | Injury | Government forces |
| Ibrahim Fahili | Injury | Government forces |
| Eyad Seryoul | Injury | Government forces |
| James Foley | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Bassel Al-Arran | Killing | ISIS |
| Khaled Al-Niklawy | Abduction | ISIS |
| Bisher Ahmad | Injury | Government forces |
| Swar Hatto | House raid | YPG |
| Haruna Yakawa | Arrest and Killing | ISIS |
| Steven Sotloff | Killing | ISIS |
| Karam Al-Masry | Injury | Government forces |
| | | |

| Muhammad Abdel Jalil Al-Qasem | Killing | Unknown |
|--|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Wassim Al-Shibli | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Dib Ash'ush | Killing | Government forces |
| Ibrahim Abd Al-Razzaq Mutlaq Al- Hamdan | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdallah Hammad | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Al-Qaseer | Arrest | Lebanese security authorities |
| John Cantlie | Arrest | ISIS |
| Mudar Hassan Khaddour | Arrest | Government forces |
| Taj Al-Din Al-Sagheer | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Al-Asma'i | Killing | ISIS |
| Marwan Muhammad Al-Shahadat | Killing | Government forces |
| Majed Abdel Nour | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Faluji | Injury | Government forces |
| Khaled Al-Khalaf | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Atallah Bajbouj | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Halim Abdel Razzaq Al-Barbour | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Naqawa | Injury | Government forces |
| lmad Abu Aqil | Injury | Government forces |
| Omar al-Dimashqi | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Jawdat Malas | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Muhammad Nour Idris | Killing | Government forces |
| Walat Bakr | Abused | Unknown |
| Adnan Ali | Injury | Unknown |
| Amin Kamel Sryoul | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Imad Youssef Al-Aqayla | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Hamed | Arrest | ISIS |
| Muhammad Yusef Msllam | Killing | mine Explosion |
| Mustafa Awwad Al-Shahadat | Killing | Government forces |

| Killing | Government forces |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Killing | Government forces |
| Killing | Government forces |
| shot | Government forces |
| Abduction | Asayish |
| Abduction | Asayish |
| Abduction | Armed opposition |
| Abduction | YPG |
| Killing | Government forces |
| Injury | Government forces |
| Arrest | Government forces |
| Abduction and Enforced disappearance | ISIS |
| Abduction | ISIS |
| Killing | Government forces |
| Injury | Government forces |
| Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Killing | Unknown |
| Killing | Unknown |
| Killing | Unknown |
| Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Arrest | ISIS |
| | Killing Killing shot Abduction Abduction Abduction Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Arrest Abduction Abduction Arrest Abduction Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Arrest Abduction Killing Killing Arrest Abduction Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Arrest Arrest Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing Killing |

| 2015 | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation |
| Dirar Mussa Al-Jahed | Killing | Unknown |
| Fayez Ibrahim Abu Halawa | Killing | Unknown |
| Muhammad Al-Najjar | Killing | Government forces |
| Ma'ed Barish | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Wathab Al-Ezzo" | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Amir Al-Shami | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Taher Flitani | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Taher Flitani | Killing | Unknown |
| Azad Jamkari | Arrest | YPG |
| Hadi Al-Abdallah | Abused by Beating | Al-Nusra Front |
| Jum'a Mussa | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ibrahim Khalil Al-Farhan | Arrest | Government forces |
| Walid Al-Qasem | Killing | Al-Nusra Front |
| Kenji Goto Gao | Killing | ISIS |
| Abu Bakr Al-Haj Ali | Injury | Government forces |
| Zakwan Kahaleh | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Abdel Sattar Sharaf | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Samer Al-Sheikh Hasan | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Nizar Haj Ali | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| John Cantlie | Forcing Cantlie to appear in a video report from Aleppo | ISIS |
| Ahmad Bilal Al-Absi | Killing | Government forces |
| Joakim Medin | Arrest | Government forces |
| Rabe'e Dibeh | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Jamal | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Mustafa Kuntar | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Hasan Abdallah | Killing | Armed opposition |

| Omar Yassin Al-Atrat | Killing | Government forces |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Ahmad Muhammad | Killing | ISIS |
| Hajar Al-Sayed | Arrest | YPG |
| Noureddine Hashem | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Qader Zakaria Al-Biqa'i | Killing | Government forces |
| Yaman Ersheidat Abazaid | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Nour al-Nahlawi | Killing | Unknown |
| Milad Muhammad Fayez Shbat | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Nayef Abazaid | Injury | Government forces |
| Baraa Omar | Injury | Government forces |
| Adham Abu Al-Hussam | Injury | Government forces |
| Alaa Muhammad Al-Huwaidi | Killing | Government forces |
| Jamal Khalifa | Killing | ISIS |
| Qutayba Beko Sheikhani | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Ibrahim Noqrosh | Killing | Government forces |
| Homam Najjar | Killing | ISIS |
| Ammar Dandash | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdallah Al-Meqdad | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Karim Al-Shaibani | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Haj Bakri | Injury | Government forces |
| Azad Jamkari | Arrest | YPG |
| Tareq Shukri | Arrest | YPG |
| Hussein Jamal Setr | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdo Zammam | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Ja'afar Younes | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Radwan Mohayyar | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Al-Abdo | Abduction | Al-Nusra Front |
| Husam Hasan Sulaiman Al-Awni | Killing | ISIS |

| Muhammad Ali Bakkar | Killing | ISIS |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Khaled Abu Al-Majd | Injury | Government forces |
| Taym Al-Syoufi | Injury | Government forces |
| Hussam Qattan | Injury | Government forces |
| Taym Qabbani | Killing | Government forces |
| Mulham Al-Qasem | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ahmad Al-Falah | Killing | Government forces |
| Fadi Al-Halabi | Abused | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Qaisoun | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Nour Al-Halabi | Killing | ISIS |
| Ali Al-Fredi | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Hourani | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdallah Khaled Al-Qassem | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Al-Salman | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Durgham Al-Debaisi | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Rabei'e Kallah Wendy | Abused | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Sheikh | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Al-Mussa | Killing | ISIS |
| Qusay Salloum | Enforced disappearance | Unknown |
| Omar Jihad Masalmeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Asfar | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Al-Khouli | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Aram Al-Dumani | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Abdel Hamid Al-Sayed | Killing | Government forces |
| Bisher Abdel-Azim Al-Salem | Killing | ISIS |
| Faisal Hussein Al-Habib | Killing | ISIS |
| Abdel Karim Laila | Injury | Government forces |
| Saleh Laila | Injury | Government forces |

| Antonio Pampliega | Abduction | Unknown |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| Angel Sastre | Abduction | Unknown |
| Jose Manuel Lopez | Abduction | Unknown |
| Karam Al-Masry | Injury | Unknown |
| Faisal Al-Qasem | Sentenced to death | Syrian government |
| Anas Khattab | Abduction | Unknown |
| Jandar Sharnkhi | Arrest | YPG |
| Thaer Al-Ajlani | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Shadi Helwa | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Fadi Kharouf | Injury | Armed opposition |
| George Orfelian | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Mazen Muhammad Badr Al-Din Al- Dirani | Killing | Government forces |
| Alaa El-Din Hamdoun | Injury | Government forces |
| Jumpei Yasuda | Abduction | Al-Nusra Front |
| Muhammad Abdel Latif Hamada | Killing | Government forces |
| Tareq Ziyad | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Qaisoun | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Adnan Mayassa | Killing | Government forces |
| Hussein Mortada | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Hassan Hossayni | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Rakan Helow Al-Awwad | Killing | ISIS |
| Ata Allah Al-Khalaf Al-Hamid Al-Aidan | Killing | ISIS |
| Abdo Ali Jawad | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Turki Hameed Al-Hussain | Killing | ISIS |
| Zein Al-Rifai | Injury | Government forces |
| Hamed Issa Al-Masalmeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Khattab | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Rahman Al-Satla | Killing | Government forces |

| Anas Ghanima | Killing | Government forces |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|
| Muhammad Abd Al-Karim Dagestani | Killing | Government forces |
| Muntasser Abu Nabbout | Injury | Unknown |
| Zuhair Hassan Al-Salahi | Killing | Government forces |
| Amer Al-Mohbani | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Abdel Salam | Injury | mine Explosion |
| Zakaria Abdel Kafi | Injury | Government forces |
| Ziyad Adam | Killing | ISIS |
| Dalal Saleh | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Othman Darwish | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Masalmeh | Killing | Unknown |
| Lana Lavi | Killing | Government forces |
| Akram Raslan | Killing | Government forces |
| Obada Ghazal | Killing | Government forces |
| Rami Al-Saleh | Killing | Government forces |
| Yaman Al-Sayed | Injury | Government forces |
| Niraz Sa'id | Arrest | Government forces |
| Samara Al-Quwatli | Chase | Armed opposition |
| Abu Omar Ayef Al-Tanake | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Saleh Laila | Killing | Unknown |
| Rida Taibeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Ali al-Hayani | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Omran Ahmad Fadel Al- Zubari | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Taher Hussein Flitani | Killing | Government forces |
| Khaled Al Lawz | Killing | Government forces |
| Tamer Aker | Enforced disappearance | Unknown |
| Wassim al-Edel | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Jumaa Al-Ahmad | Killing | Russian war-planes |

| Anas Al-Sayadi | Killing | Government forces |
|--|--|----------------------|
| Ammar Sa'ab | Injury | Government forces |
| Ibrahim Abdel Qader | Killing | ISIS |
| Fares Hamadi | Killing | ISIS |
| Akram Saleh | Injury | ISIS |
| Nizar Al-Abbar | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Khaled Yasouf | Killing | Government forces |
| Mahmoud Liani | Abused by Beating | YPG |
| Azad Jamkari | Arrest | YPG |
| Ahmad Hussein Sheikh Ahmad | Killing | Government forces |
| Hani Al-Sheikh | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Wael Al-Zaybak | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ali Abd Al-Rida Nour Al- Din | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Sarjun Hedaya | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Roman Kosarev | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Anas Abu Adnan | Injury | Unknown |
| Mustafa Hassa | Killing | ISIS |
| Zakaria Ibrahim | Killing | Government forces |
| Diaa Dughmush | Abused by Beating | Turkish forces |
| Jihan Mesto | Arrest | YPG |
| Radwan Muhammad Al-Sin | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Elias Mahmoud Al- Taweel | Killing | Government forces |
| Malek Riyad Ghanoum | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Muhammad Al-Mussa | Killing | Unknown |
| Suhaib Mustafa al-Khalaf | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Elaf Kaddah | Arrest and Threatened with deportation | Jordanian government |
| Amer Murad | Arrest | YPG |
| | | |

| Freidoun Kajo | Arrest | YPG |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Naji Al Jerf | Killing | ISIS |
| Ammar Al-Shami | Killing | Government forces |
| Kenji Goto | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Al-Ahmad | Injury | Government forces |
| Samer Muhammad Abboud | Killing | ISIS |
| Sami Jawdat Rabah | Killing | ISIS |
| Mahmoud Shaaban Al-Haj Kheder | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Marwan Al-Essa | Killing | ISIS |
| Mahmoud Abdel-Fattah Al Lawz | Killing | Government forces |
| | | |

| 2016 | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation |
| Ruqayyah Hasan Muhammad | Killing | ISIS |
| Faisal Sheikh Ahmad Hammoud Al- Jaafar | Killing | ISIS |
| Ubai Muhammad Al-Ghani | Killing | ISIS |
| Jenkin Alliko | Abduction and Beating | Autonomous Administration |
| Ammar Aref Al-Abdo | Enforced disappearance | Al-Nusra Front |
| Jamil Lababidi | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Muhammad Jamal Dahkul | Killing | ISIS |
| Hadi Al-Abdallah | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Raed Fares | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Mahmoud Hasan | Abduction | Unknown |
| Lewaa Abdel Nasser Al-Mandil | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Samer Al-Mandil | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Moʻataz Abu Riyad | Injury | ISIS |
| Waheed Sa'eed Yazbek | Injury | ISIS |
| Ammar Al-Khasawneh | Threats | Unknown |
| Abdel Mo'een Anwar Homs | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Yasser Fouad Al-Msouti | Killing | Government forces |
| Yahya Al-Rajjo | Injury | Government forces |
| Ali Yusef Dasho | Killing | Opposition factions |
| Ibrahim Muhammad Nassif | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Zakaria Orfali | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| НМ | Killing | Government forces |
| Haitham Al-Bakkar | Injury | Government forces |
| TA | Killing | Government forces |
| Majd Shafiq Muʻaddmani | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Ahmad Khatib | Killing | Autonomous Administration |

| Muhammad Ghorab | Injury | Government forces |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Khaled Abu Ishaq | Injury | Government forces |
| Rami Al-Jarrah | Arrest | Turkish authorities |
| Mahmoud Abdel Rahman | Detain | Turkish authorities |
| Saif Al-Din Shehadeh | Killing | Government forces |
| Hussam | Killing | Government forces |
| Mouaz Fahd Al Nuaimi | Injury | Unknown |
| Fraih Hazzaa Al-Khalidi | Abduction | Unknown |
| Hussam Jamal Al-Din Hazbar | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Muhammad Korkoss | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Moʻuaz Al-Shami | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Yassin Bassam Al-Boushi | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Muhammad | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Shbib | Injury | Autonomous Administration |
| Kholoud Walid | Arrest and baned from entering Turkey | Turkish authorities |
| Masaoud Issa | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Jumpei Yasuda | shown in a video | Al-Nusra Front |
| Abdel Salam Haj Bakri | Arrest | Turkish authorities |
| Mazen Darwish | Abused | Turkish authorities |
| Fayez Mustafa Al-Daghim | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Raslan | Arrest | Unknown |
| Manal Abdel-Baqi Al-Bunnya | Killing | Government forces |
| NM | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Abdallah | Injury | ISIS |
| Saif Allah Al-Ahmad | Abduction | Unknown |
| Oqba Hattab | Killing | Detonation |
| Roni Muhammad Bakji | Arrest and abuse by Beating | Autonomous Administration |
| T R | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |

| Muhammad Zahed Abd Al-Jawad Sharqat | Killing | ISIS |
|--|---------|---------------------------|
| Ahmad Shweish | Arrest | Government forces |
| Ibrahim Al-Khatib | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Muhammad Abdel Rahman Isma'il | Killing | Autonomous Administration |
| Abdallah Al-Saleh | Killing | ISIS |
| Karam Jabali | Injury | Government forces |
| Humbervan Muhammad Salim Kusa | Injury | Government forces |
| Mahmoud Da'aboul | Injury | Unknown |
| Ahmad Mahmoud o'layan | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdallah Muhammad Zakour | Injury | Government forces |
| Mustafa Muhammad Jum'a | Injury | Government forces |
| Loay Bashir Hawa | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Ayman Qabawa | Injury | Government forces |
| Akram Rajab | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Abdel-Rahim Zamel | Injury | ISIS |
| Abdo Omar Amin | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhannad Zureiq | Killing | Government forces |
| Farouk Abdel Razzaq Morjana | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Anas Al-Khouli | chases | Armed opposition |
| Hmaidi Khaled Al-Jayoush | Killing | ISIS |
| Shadi Helwa | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Sharif Abs | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Moayad Omar Al-Jark | Killing | Unknown |
| Ayman Waleed Al-Oqda | Killing | ISIS |
| Jalal Abdel Baset Sulaiman | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Abdel Majid Al-Rifai | Injury | Government forces |
| Alaa Al-Ahmad | chases | Armed opposition |
| | | |

| Anwar Naso | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Muhammad Dib Bakkar | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Al-Khati | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Othman Al-Wahsh | Killing | ISIS |
| Wassim Al-Khatib | Abduction | Unknown |
| Sami Mustafa Al Rej | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Hazza'a Adnan Al-Hazza'a | Arrest | Al-Nusra Front |
| Bassam Ahmad Al-Mustafa | Injury | Detonation |
| Muhammad Al-Atassi | Injury | Government forces |
| Ali Al-Da'eif | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Rida Haj Bakri | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Muhammad Sobhi Rashid | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Baraa al-Halabi | Injury | Government forces |
| Osama Muhammad Fouad Jum'a | Killing | Government forces |
| Hassan Al-Masry | Killing | Government forces |
| Delkesh Mor'ei | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Abdel Monaeim Faleh Al Khalil | Abused | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Adnan Amer | Injury | Government forces |
| Khaled Zuhair Al-Issa | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Isma'il | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Adnan Amer | Injury | Unknown |
| Saif Ellah Al-Ahmad | Abduction | Unknown |
| Abu Al-Huda Al-Halabi | Injury | Government forces |
| Omar Suwaid | Injury | Government forces |
| Abu Taym | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Abdel Qader | Injury | Unknown |
| Bilal Al-Hussein | Killing | Government forces |
| Maen Hasan Al-Shannan | Killing | Government forces |

| Mahmoud Muhammad Jawad | Injury | Russian war-planes |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Abdel Wahed Muhammad Ramadan Abdel Ghani | Killing | Government forces |
| Omar Youssef Jijo | Injury | Detonation |
| Khaled Zuhair Al-Issa | Killing | Detonation |
| Khalil Rashid | Injury | Unknown |
| Sami Muhammad Al-Aboud | Killing | ISIS |
| Sami Jawdat Al-Rabah | Killing | ISIS |
| Mahmoud Sha'aban Al-Haj Kheder | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Marwan Al-Essa | Killing | ISIS |
| Yasser Abdel Latif | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Khaleq Hajjo | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Aqeel Raslan Abdel Aziz | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Firas Mashhadi | Injury | Government forces |
| Bilal Abdel Kareem | Targeted by a drone | Unknown |
| Ahmad Abdo Abdel Wahhab | Injury | Unknown |
| Abdallah Ammar Muhammad | Injury | Government forces |
| Amjad Al-Danaf | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Nour Al-Sheikh | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Razzaq Al-Kurdi | Injury | Government forces |
| Wasim Fawaz Ghazal | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Hasan Al-Ahmad | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Muhammad Yehya Al-Rashdan | Killing | ISIS |
| Ibrahim Muhammad Omar | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Yehya Zuhair al-Rajo | Injury | Government forces |
| Loay Muhammad Barakat | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Walid Salah | Killing | Government forces |
| Rami Mustafa | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdallah Muhammad Ghannam | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| | | |

| Muhammad Mustafa | Killing | Detonation |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Firas Fawzi Hretani | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Abdel Karim Othman | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Akram Najeeb | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Muhammad Haj Rabee | disappearance | Unknown |
| Abu Meizer | Abused | Unknown |
| Kendall Judy | Injury | ISIS |
| Muhammad Amer Barakat Al-Zo'ubi | Enforced disappearance + kill | Government forces |
| Abu Samer Al-Keswani | Killing | Government forces |
| Abu Saddam Al-Keswani | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Subhi Al-Khouli | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Sayed Hasan | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Thaer Al-Dimashqi | Injury | Government forces |
| Anas Abdel Hakim Dalleh | Injury | Government forces |
| Khaled Ahmad Al-Bakour | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Ghani Ramzi Al-Arian | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Nour Hashem | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Khair Hek | Injury | Government forces |
| Aghyad Eyad Badawi | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Khaled Hallaq | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Hasan Talha | Killing | Government forces |
| Mustafa Muhammad Abd Al-Razzaq | Killing | Government forces |
| Ibrahim Khalil Al-Ghawi | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Sayed Hasan | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Abdallah Abu Taha | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Abdel-Razzaq Razzouk | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Abdallah Barbour | Injury | Government forces |
| Milad Fadl | Injury | Government forces |

| Muhammad Khair Najeeb Hek | Injury | Government forces |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aref Muhammad | Injury | Government forces |
| Mustafa Muhammad Jum'a | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Aziz Ahmad Qaitaz | Injury | Government forces |
| Mouaz Al-Shami | Injury | Government forces |
| Hussein Isma'il Al-Daghim | Injury | Government forces |
| Abu Al-Baraa Al-Idlebi | Injury | Government forces |
| Munzer Al-Mobayed | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Bilal | Injury | Government forces |
| Yassin Abu Ahmad | Injury | Government forces |
| Fateh Raslan | Injury | Government forces |
| Fawaz Jawayed | Injury | Government forces |
| Obadah Al-Ansari | Enforced disappearance | Armed opposition |
| Oday Salah al-Dandush | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdel Qader Muhammad Laheeb | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Muhammad Sukkar | Enforced disappearance+kill | Government forces |
| Taher Ezz El-Din El-Omar | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Sami Mustafa Al Rej | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Baraa Al-Asali | Arrest | ISIS |
| Muhammad Alash | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Jihad Muhammad Teet | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Qusay | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Hamed Al-Youssef | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel-llah Ahmad Al-Nahar | Injury | ISIS |
| Barzan Sheikhmous | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Ahmad Muhammad Al-Mahmoud | Injury | Government forces |
| Alaa El-Din Mahmoud Sharif | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Islam | Injury | Russian war-planes |

| Abdel Hamid Youssef Abu Mreish | Injury | Russian war-planes |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Muhammad Hisham Boudkeh | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Jum'a Khaled Mussa | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Bilal Abu Moamen | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Fawaz Muhammad Nader Jawayed | Injury | Government forces |
| Marwan Salim al-Daher | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Mahmoud Aziza | Injury | Government forces |
| Taha Shawkat Al-Helou | Killing | Government forces |
| Hussein Muhyiddin Al-Ali | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Adnan Al-Salik | Injury | Government forces |
| Yamen Al-Halawani | Enforced disappearance | Unknown |
| Ahmad Muhammad Al-Mahmoud | Killing | Government forces |
| Ali Abu Al-Zein | Killing | Government forces |
| Sa'oud Abdel-Jawad Sayyah | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Kinan Rizki Al-Sandouq | Killing | ISIS |
| Ahmad Haj Omar | Injury | Government forces |
| Ammar Al-Jaber | Injury | Government forces |
| Taj Al-Din Jamal Al-Soma'a | Killing | ISIS |
| Ayman Raja Bajbouj | Killing | Unknown |
| Muhammad Adel Khdair | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Rudy Jolly | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Nayef Bashir | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Aqeid Juli | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Abdel Basett Abdel Karim | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ali Al-Hariri | Killing | Government forces |
| Ihab Sulaiman Mahameed | Injury | Government forces |
| Sharif Muhammad Damlakhi | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Qader Abdel Razzaq Junaid | Killing | Government forces |

| Abu Bassel Al-Dimashqi | Injury | Unknown |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------------------------|
| Sobhi Muhammad Noman | Killing | ISIS |
| Ayman Suwaid | Injury | ISIS |
| Muhammad Al-Ashqar | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Mahmoud Al-Nuseirat | Injury | Government forces |
| Bakr Al-Qasem | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Issa Muhammad Nuri Al-Hamdo | Killing | ISIS |
| Muhammad Sharafou Hamada | Injury | ISIS |
| Abdallah Melhem | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Nawras Mahmoud Qaitaz | Killing | Government forces |
| Haitham Hamo Al-Alo | Injury | Autonomous Administration |
| Muzhar Al-Boushi | Injury | Government forces |
| Wasim Al-Khatib | Injury | Unknown |
| Muhammad Al-Hajji | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Mustafa Nasri | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Hasan Al-Hussein | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Salam Nayef Kana'an | Killing | Government forces |
| Nabil Sharbaji | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Joulaq | Injury | Opposition factions |
| Ammar Bakkour | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Abdallah Barbour | Injury | Government forces |
| Hasan Abu Al-Zein | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Jum'a Abdel Aziz | Injury | Government forces |
| Ayham Mahmoud Barazi | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhssen Khazaei | Killing | Opposition factions |
| Bassel Muhammad Ibrahim | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Mahmoud Barazi | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Peshnek Khani | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |

| Siban Haj Qassem | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Nursheen Ahmad | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Ava Khano | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Ahmad Mahmoud Mustafa | Injury | Government forces |
| Osama Abdel Hamid Al-Mallah | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Qader Abdel Karim Abu Saleh | Injury | Government forces |
| Ahmad Al-Muhammad | Injury | Government forces |
| Anas Muhammad Al-Kharbutli | Injury | Government forces |
| Mohab Abdel Salam | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Sardar Dari | Abduction and Beating | Unknown |
| Ahmed Ibrahim Sheikho | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Aref Al-Aref | Injury | Government forces |
| Mujahed | Injury | Government forces |
| Omar Hasan al-Nammous | Injury | Government forces |
| Awad Al-Seh Al-Sheikh | Abduction | Unknown |
| Siraj Al-Sham | Injury | Government forces |
| Rida Al-Dimashqi | Injury | Government forces |
| Hasan Al-Mehshi | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhab Abdel Salam | Injury | Government forces |
| Suhail Hasan Al-Ali | Injury | Government forces |
| Cecilia Uddén | Expulsion | Government forces |
| Bassel Abu Hamza | Abused | Government forces |
| Ahmad Al-Muhammad | Abused | Government forces |
| Osama Al-Halabi | Abused | Government forces |
| Nabil Walid Sherbaji | Killing | Government forces |
| Alan Salim | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |

| 2017 | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation |
| Mussa Al-Abdallah | Arrest | Fateh Al-Sham Front |
| Muhammad Haitham Al-Ghazawi | Injury | Government forces |
| Obadah Abdel-Hakim Al-Khatib | Injury | Government forces |
| Ammar Bashir Al Kamel | Killing | Government forces |
| Ahmad Muhammad Olabi | Injury | ISIS |
| Shiraz Muhammad | Abduction | Unknown |
| Obayda Ahmad Hussein Al-Ghabagbi | Killing | ISIS |
| Amer Al-Hasan | Enforced disappearance | Armed opposition |
| Obadah Ahmad Al-Mansour | Arrest | Fateh Al-Sham Front |
| Abdel Qader Hammoud | Injury | Government forces |
| Sha'aban Al-Taweel | Killing | Unknown |
| Alaa Eddin Isma'il | Shot | Unknown |
| Kamal Jamal Al-Din | Injury | Government forces |
| Baraa Al-Jabali | Abduction attempt | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Muhammad Al-Dek | Killing | ISIS |
| Mussa Al-Abdallah | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Majed Al-Turk | Killing | Government forces |
| Jelnak Abdallah Kan'o | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Ahmad Al-Hamdoush | Injury | ISIS |
| Ghassan Yassin | Arrest | Turkish authorities |
| Fadi Mer'ei | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Tahrir Al-Qaddah | Injury | Government forces |
| Adnan Sultan Hakmo | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Bassel Al-Droubi | Killing | Government forces |
| Omar Abu Nabbout | Killing | Government forces |
| Abdallah Muhammad Noureddine Al- Oʻlayan Al-Hariri | Killing | Government forces |

| Firas Al-Ahmad | Injury | Government forces |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Hassan Al-Sharif | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Abdel Hamid Al- Saraheen | Injury | Government forces |
| Jum'a Mussa | Shot | Unknown |
| Essam Issa | Abduction | Unknown |
| Muhammad Baraa Riyad Al-Hallaq | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Howish | Injury | Government forces |
| Saif Al-Abdallah | Injury | Government forces |
| Taym Al-Youssef | Injury | Government forces |
| Eyad Abu Al-Joud" | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Ali | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Ali Haj Ahmad | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Sobeih Abd al-Qader Sobeih | Abduction | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Fadi Serafi | Injury | Government forces |
| Bassam Muhammad Al-Khannous | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Ahmad | Injury | Government forces |
| Jwan Abdel Aziz Shehab | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Jamil Al-Hasan | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Alaa Suwaid | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Nazih Al-Bayoush | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Mahmoud Yousef Al-Suwaid | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Pawar Ma'arouf Mulla Ahmad | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Muhammad Junaid | Abused by beating | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Qassim Abazaid | Killing | Government forces |
| Rida Al-Basha | Permanently Banned from working | Government forces |
| Ali Sulaiman | Killing | ISIS |
| Hadi Al-Munajjed | Death threat | Armed opposition |

| Yasser Al-Fawal | Abused by beating | Unknown |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Mahmoud Awaida Al-Jabbawi | Killing | ISIS |
| Maher Shams El-Din | Injury | During confronts |
| Mahmoud Al-Naqouh | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Muhammad Ali Bakour | Abduction and killing | Unknown |
| Abdel Bari Al-Sayadi | Killing | During confronts |
| Hadi Imad al-Din al-Kharrat | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Qader Al-Bakri | Injury | Government forces |
| Hussein Kayali | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Hasan Al-Sayed Al- Daghim | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdo Kuntar | Injury | Government forces |
| Anas Dyab | Injury | Government forces |
| Haitham Kazzou | Abused by beating | Government forces |
| Osama Abdel Moneim Al-Khalil | Injury | Government forces |
| Fadi Qarqouz | Arbitrary arrest | Lebanese Government |
| Ahmad Ibrahim Al-Masalma | Injury | Government forces |
| Uday Odeh | Injury | Government forces |
| Raafat Abazaid | Injury | Government forces |
| Samer Al-Saour | Killing | During confronts |
| Majed Al-Omari | Injury | Detonation |
| Ahmad Salim Al-Khannous | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Gharib Reshow | Killing | Detonation |
| Nuhad Al-Ghadry | Enforced disappearance | Unknown |
| Ahmad Hasan Hemmo | Killing | Turkish forces |
| Rima Newrouz Khashman | Killing | Turkish forces |
| Haqqi Jalal Hussein | Killing | Turkish forces |
| Maher Jum'a Al-Salmawi | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Musa'ab Ahmad Orabi | Killing | Russian war-planes |

| Ahmad Nayef Al-Hussein | Killing | Russian war-planes |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Abdel Rahman Taffour | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Firas Ma`amoun Munawar | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Zaki Muhammad | Prohibition of coverage | Autonomous Administration |
| Ala'a Karim | Killing | Government forces |
| Muhammad Dalloul | Injury | ISIS |
| Ghiath Al-Rajab | Arbitrary arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Husam Nasim Abu Arra | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Adnan Habib | Killing | Government forces |
| Baraa Al-Jisri | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Sa'ad Allah Khalil | Injury | ISIS |
| Soumar Al-Salameh | Injury | ISIS |
| Murhaf Mansour | Injury | ISIS |
| Muhammad Sayed Issa | Injury | Government forces |
| Sardar Mulla Darwish | Deportion | Turkish government |
| Muhammad Zaki Muhammad | Enforced disappearance | Autonomous Administration |
| Muhammad Mouaz | Detention - equipment confiscation - death threat | Government forces |
| Abdallah Muhammad | Detention - equipment confiscation - beating-death threat | Government forces |
| Muhammad Amer Al-Aql | Prevent filming | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Zakaria Mahmoud Attia | Arbitrary arrest | Armed opposition |
| Osama Al-Habali | Killing | Government forces |
| Radwan Bizar | Injury | ISIS |
| Jihad Muhammad | Injury | ISIS |
| Alaa Sa'adoun | Injury | ISIS |
| Rustom Abdel Qader | Injury | ISIS |
| Atef Shibli Al-Muhammad | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhran Al-Karjousli | Killing | Government forces |

| Maher Abu Hamzeh | Killing | Unknown |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Fateh Ruslan | Injury | Unknown |
| Musa'ab Al-Ezzo | Killing | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Khaled Al-Khatib | Killing | ISIS |
| Abdel Rahim Ibrahim | Injury | Government forces |
| Moataz Ya`aqoub | Injury | Government forces |
| Zaher Al Musawer | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Abdel Ghani Al-Arian | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Khalaf Jum`a | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Hajji Al-Meswatt | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Muhammad Jaqir | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ammar Al-Abdo | Chases | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Kinana Alloush | beating and Banned from working | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Awad | beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Bassel Khartabil Al-Safadi | Killing | Government forces |
| Hayyan Fadi Al-Ammari | Killing | Unknown |
| Osama Nasser Al-Zu'obi | Killing | Government forces |
| Ali Youssef Al-Radhi | Killing | ISIS |
| Abdel Ghaffar Qassem Badawi | Killing | ISIS |
| Mounib Nassar | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Abdeen | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ahmad Basim Al-Hanini | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ali Mer'ei | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Hamad Al-Ahmad | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Yehya Sobeih | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Bahaa Al-Suwaid | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Abdel Hamid Mustafa | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Laila Al-Safadi | Sentenced in absentia | Armed opposition |

| Osama Nassar | Unfair trial | Armed opposition |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shawkat Gharz Al-Din | Sentenced in absentia | Armed opposition |
| Younes Al-Salameh | Injury | Government forces |
| Alaa Abdel Salam Mulla Sa'adoun | Injury | ISIS |
| Radwan Rashid Othman | Injury | ISIS |
| Samer Al-Hourani | Arrest | Unknown |
| Abdel Rahman Abu Abdella | beating | Armed opposition |
| Jindar Abdel Qader | beating | Autonomous Administration |
| Sayfullah Al-Ahmad Taha | Termination | Contracting party |
| Muhammad Hasan | Prohibition of coverage | Lebanese Authorities |
| Adnan Al-Akrad | Killing | Government forces |
| Anas Al-Najjar | Killing | Government forces |
| Mu'awiya Al-Shieb | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Ali Al-Mer'ei | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Abdel Karim Al-Halabi | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Khaled Al-Shami" | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Munib Nassar | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ezz Al-Din Saleh | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Barzan Sheikhmous | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Ibrahim Al-Sulaiman | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Ahmad Soufi | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Abdel-Khalef Al-Ghannam | Abduction | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Nada Mashreqi | Arrest | Government forces |
| Khaled Al-Halbouni | Abuse | Armed opposition |
| Issam Abdel Haye | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Atef Muhammad | Injury | ISIS |
| Dilishan Ibish | Killing | ISIS |
| Rizcar Denz | Injury | ISIS |

| Hooker Muhammad | Killing | ISIS |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Qais al-Qadi | Killing | Government forces |
| Qahtan Mustafa | Injury | Autonomous Administration |
| Abdallah Al- Hajj Othman" | Injury | Autonomous Administration |
| Omar al-Demashqi | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Nour Qasim | Injury | Unknown |
| Bilal Bayoush | Banned from working and equipment confiscation | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ahmad Khoja | Banned from working and equipment confiscation | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Abd Kuntar | Banned from working and equipment confiscation | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Abdel Razzaq Al-Madhi | Banned from working | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Muhammad Al-Abdallah | Banned from working and equipment confiscation | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Aref Watad | Equipment confiscation | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Omar Haj Kaddour | Banned from working and equipment confiscation | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Marwan Aslan | Shot | Unknown |
| Muhammad Milad | Killing | Unknown |
| Omar Arnaout | Prevent filming and beating | abuse by civilians |
| Ahmad Barazi | Prohibition of coverage and beating | abuse by civilians |
| Ayham Barazi | Abuse and breaking equipment and prevent filming | abuse by civilians |
| Maysa Ghashim | Prohibition of coverage and defamation | abuse by civilians |
| Abdel Razzaq Al-Faj | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Abdel Majeed Al-Halabi | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Muhammad Al-Shoun | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Abdel Mon'eim Issa | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Khuraishi | Injury | Government forces |

| Muhammad Al-Salik | Injury | Government forces |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hussein Al-Zira'ei | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Al-Kanj | Killing | Government forces |
| Nerkaz Habash | Banned from working | Autonomous Administration |
| Bushra Hamed | Banned from working | Autonomous Administration |
| Aras Hamo | Banned from working | Autonomous Administration |
| Aria Haji | Banned from working | Autonomous Administration |
| Hamidah Anz | Banned from working | Autonomous Administration |
| Fansa Tammo | Banned from working | Autonomous Administration |
| Omar Al-Shami | Banned from working | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Al-Shami | Banned from working | Armed opposition |
| Bassam Ezz El-Din | death threat | Armed opposition |
| Alaa Al-Adhem | killing attempt | Unknown |
| Ahmad Muhammad | killing attempt | Unknown |
| Hussam Al-Mahmoud | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Rizkar Adanmish | Killing | ISIS |
| Aboud Hamam | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Amjad Al-Maleh | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ali Al-Dalati | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Muhammad Al-Ghazzawi | Arrest and Threat | Armed opposition |
| Taher Al-Omar | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Mahmoud Al-Mahmoud | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Karam Qbeisho | Killing | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Abdel Ghani Jarukh | Injury | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Kinana Alloush | Injury | Armed opposition |

| 2018 | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation |
| Ayman Al-Khraishi | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Rabie | Injury | Government forces |
| Hussein Al-Taweel | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Qader Al-Bakri | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Qader Al-Abdo | Injury | Government forces |
| Aslan Bassam Al-Najm | "inhaling chlorine gas" Injury | Government forces |
| Bilal Al-Ghawi | Injury | Government forces |
| Yasser Al-Ajwa | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ali Hatem Al-Sheikh | Injury | Government forces |
| Walid Khalil | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Zakaria Sheikho | Injury | Turkish army +Armed opposition |
| Khaled Amin Al-Nahar | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Berivan Mustafa | Killing | Turkish army +Armed opposition |
| Aras Ma'soum | Injury | Turkish army +Armed opposition |
| Radwan Mohayar | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Bassel Adnan Al-Ghazzawi | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Shaher Yahya Summaq | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Qusai Khatib | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Fouad Al-Hussein | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Nour Al-Za'eim | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Taher Al-Omar | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Walid Al-Rashed | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Maher Abdel Aziz | Injury | Government forces |
| Khaled Hamo | Injury | Government forces |
| Abdel Rahman Yassin | Killing | Russian war-planes |

| Muhammad Abdel Rahman | Injury | Russian war-planes |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ali Jaber | Injury | Autonomous Administration |
| Mustafa Khattab | Killing | Autonomous Administration |
| Rida al-Dimashqi | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Baraa Abu Yehya | Injury | Government forces |
| Muhammad Sobeih | Beating and equipment confiscation | Armed opposition |
| Taher Al-Omar | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Wahid Yazbek | Arrest | Government forces |
| Hasan Badran | Killing | Armed opposition |
| Moʻaz Al-Zoʻubi | Equipment stealing | Unknown |
| Waheed Qronfol | Injury | Autonomous Administration |
| Bashar Al-Attar | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Hamdan | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Yazan Kahil | Killing | Unknown |
| Khaled Al-Sa'eedi | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Omar Abu Obayda | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Ahmad Khoja | Arrest and equipment confiscation | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Muhammad Zarzour | Arrest and equipment confiscation | Armed opposition |
| Mohammed Al-Abdallah | Arrest and equipment confiscation | Armed opposition |
| Mustafa Muhammad Ali | Arrest and equipment confiscation | Armed opposition |
| Muhammad Kafr Sossani | Dismissal | Syrian government |
| Abdallah Al-Hallaq | Dismissal | Syrian government |
| Qusay Al-Khatib | Injury | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Muhammad Obaid | Beating | Armed opposition |
| Raeda Waqqaf | Dismissal | Syrian government |
| Diab Mussa Al-Hamdo | Dismissal | Contracting party |

| Omar Youssef Jiju | Arrest and torture | Armed opposition |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Taleb Al-Driess | Killing | Turkish forces |
| Khaled Rajab | Arbitrary Dismissal | Contracting party |
| Mustafa Haj Ali | Injury | Unknown |
| Jamil Qazlo | Injury | ISIS |
| Ahmad Al-Akhras | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Rami Al-Raslan | Arrest | ISIS |
| Ahmad Shafie Bilal | Arrest | Turkish army +Armed opposition |
| Abdel Majeed Izzat Sheikho | Forced arrest | Armed opposition |
| Delshan Subhi Karajul | Forced arrest | Armed opposition |
| Jum'a Muhammad Marzouk | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Wasim Issa | Injury | ISIS |
| Akram Al-Masry | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Bilal Bayoush | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Wael Adel | Forced arrest | Armed opposition |
| Badr Al-Taleb | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Omar Hafez | Forced arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ibrahim Al-Monjer | Killing | Unknown |
| Ibrahim Yasouf | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Abdel Hafeez Al-Houlani | Arbitrary arrest | Lebanese security authorities |
| Bilal Al-Kharboutli | Abuse and arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ahmad Badawi | Abduction | Unknown |
| Abdel Hafeez Al-Houlani | Arrest | Lebanese security authorities |
| Anas Walid Idris | Abuse | Unknown |
| Sa'ad Muhammad Al-Balawat | Death under torture | Government forces |
| Sa'eed Khaled Al-Abrash | Death under torture | Government forces |
| Hibar Othman | Abduction attempt | Armed opposition |
| | | |

| Kaniwar Khleef | Abduction | Armed opposition |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Amer Al-Hamwi | disappearance | Unknown |
| Muhammad Al-Janudi | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Essam Abbas | Abduction | Armed opposition |
| LSSdIII ADDaS | | Armed opposition |
| Hani Al-Alayan | arbitrary measures + equipment confiscation | Government forces |
| Amer Daraw | Arbitrary arrest | Government forces |
| Muhannad Anwar Al-Moqdad | arbitrary measures + equipment confiscation | Government forces |
| Muhammad Nour Muhammad Al- Shamali | Killing | Government forces |
| Hasan Arber | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Sarah Forss | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Muhammad Farouk | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Omar galo | Arrest | Government forces |
| Anas Diab | Injury | Government forces |
| Majed Al-Omari | Banned from working | Armed opposition |
| Khosro Aziz | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Sulaiman Youssef | Arbitrary arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Marwan Al-Hamid | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ahmad Hasan | Arrest | Autonomous Administration |
| Jum'a Hamada | Enforced disappearance | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Zakaria Haj Mustafa | Injury | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ihab Awad | Arrest | Security services |
| Rula Al-Sa'adi | Arrest | Security services |
| Ibrahim Ahmad Marto | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Gulistan Muhammad Ali | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Muhammad Khdair | Assassination attempt | Unknown |
| Bilal Seryoul | Arbitrary arrest | Armed opposition |
| Rida Al-Basha | Arrest attempt and house raid | Government forces |

| Abdel Hafeez Al-Houlani | Arbitrary arrest | Government forces |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Hammoud Junaid | Killing | Unknown |
| Raed Al-Fares | Killing | Unknown |
| Durgham Hammadi | Arbitrary arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Suhail Zubyan | Forced arrest | Government forces |
| Wissam Isma'il "Al-Tayer" | Forced arrest | Government forces |
| Sunil Ali | Forced arrest | Government forces |
| Shadi Helwa | Arbitrary practices and narrowing | Syrian government |
| bdullah Khaled Al-Hasan | Forced arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Taher Al-Omar | Abuse and threat | Armed opposition |
| Amjad Katalani | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Mustafa Salameh | Death in the line of duty | ISIS |
| Niraz Sa'eed | Death under torture | Government forces |
| Muhran Taha | Arrest | Government forces |
| Muhammad Darwish | Arrest | Government forces |

| | 2019 | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation |
| Hazem Al-Faraj | Enforced disappearance | Democratic autonomy |
| Ahmad Al-Khatib | Injury | Government forces |
| Gabriele Micalizzi | Injury | ISIS |
| Muhammad Ayman | Injury | Unknown |
| Ammar Al-Hamdo | Injury | Unknown |
| Eyad Al-Asmar | Injury | Unknown |
| Jawad Lababidi | Injury | Unknown |
| Taha Sino | Arrest | Syrian government |
| Omayr Mus'ab al-Gharaybeh | Arrest | Syrian government |
| Bassel Ezzedin | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Mahmoud Abd Al-Aal | Killing | Russian war-planes |
| Eyad Abdel-Jawad | Injury | Syrian government |
| Baran Mesko | Injury | ISIS |
| Malek Abu Obaydah | Detaining or Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Badr Taleb | Detaining or Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Omar Haj Kaddour | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Saif Al-Ra'ed | Banned from working | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Ghaith Al-Sayed | Banned from working | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Mustafa Haj Sulaiman | Banned from working | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Youssef Ahmad Gharibi | Banned from working | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Ahmed Ibrahim Al-Atrash | Banned from working | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Ibrahim Muhammad Darwish | Banned from working | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Raafat Al-Nabhan | Enforced disappearance | Syrian government |

| Abdel Hadi Hassan Tateen | Detaining or Arrest | Turkish forces |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Khaled Al-Hubal | Detaining or Arrest | Turkish forces |
| Muhammad Harsho | Arrest | Syrian government |
| Muhammad Nour Maroush | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Ahmad Al-Hamoud | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Suhaib Al-Masry | Injury | Armed opposition |
| Ayham Muhammad Al-Bayoush | Injury | Syrian government |
| Bilal Abdel Karim | Injury | Syrian government |
| Mustafa al-Khalaf | Injury | Syrian government |
| Mustafa Ahmad Dahnoun | Injury | Syrian government |
| Mahmoud Smmaq | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Omar Al-Demashqi | Killing | Unknown |
| Amjad Hasan Bakir | Killing | Syrian government |
| Tareq Abdel Razeq Ibrahim | Injury | Syrian government |
| Abdelaziz Burhan Najm | Injury | Syrian government |
| Muhammad Tawfiq Al-Saghir | Arrest | Democratic autonomy |
| Anas Abdel Majeed Diab | Killing | Syrian government |
| Rabi'e Kleh Wendy | Arrest | Syrian government |
| George Orfelian | Arrest | Syrian government |
| Jum'a Ali Haj Hamdo | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Mahmoud Al-Hamwi | Injury | Syrian government |
| Muhammad Jamal Da'aboul | Arrest | Salvation Government |
| Fateh Ahmad Raslan | Arrest | Salvation Government |
| Diaa El-Din Jamal Al-Sa'eed | Detaining or Arrest | Unknown |
| Eyad Muhammad Abu Al-Joud | Injury | Syrian government |
| Ahmad Rahhal | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |

| Muhammad Khaled Jada'an | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sa'ad Muhammad Sa'eed Sheikh Muss Al-Hamad | Killing | Turkish forces |
| Muhammad Hussein Reshow | Killing | Turkish forces |
| Delsuz Dildar | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Shyar Fayyad Ibrahim | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Amal Hamzeh Younes | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Rujby Aki | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Berrijan Dallel | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Abdel Rashid Muhammad Muhammad | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Arsi Jaxo | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Shyar Ibrahim | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Henry Ahmad | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Muhammad Faisal Al-Akla | Injury | Russian war-planes |
| Suhail Abdel Hamid Abdel Sselem | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Aref Watad | Detaining or Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Bilal Bayoush" | Detaining or Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Adnan Faysal Al-Imam | Detaining or Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Ghaith Al-Sayed | Detaining or Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Yasser Abdel Hadi Al-Tarraf | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Abdel Hamid Kheder Al-Youssef | Killing | Syrian government |
| Ahmad Mustafa Al-Khatib | Injury | Syrian government |
| Butan Sheikh Sulaiman | Arrest | Democratic autonomy |
| Kinana Hindawi | Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Alaa Sa'adoun | Detaining or Arrest | Democratic autonomy |
| Haitham Muslem | Detaining or Arrest | Democratic autonomy |

| Haitham Muslem | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bilal Abdel Kafi Al-Muhammad | Arrest | Syrian government |
| Ali Muhammad Othman | Arrest | Syrian government |
| Shiraz Muhammad | Abduction | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Cecilia Al-Taweel | Arrest | Turkish forces |
| Rawad Ibrahim | Arrest | Turkish forces |
| Rania Al-Halabi | Arrest | Armed opposition |
| Anas Treecy | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Hafez Terman | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Mustafa Dahnoun | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Muhammad Sa`id Tako | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Mustafa Al-Suwaid | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Adnan Faisal Al-Imam | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Aref Watad | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Ibrahim Treecy | Detaining or Arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
| Roj Mussa | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Walat Sheikho | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Zouzan Ramadan Barkal | Injury | Turkish forces |
| ldris Abdallah | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Eyad Abdel Jawad | Injury | Syrian government |
| Dylan Abdallah | Killing | Turkish forces |
| Jamal Al-Omar | Raid and steal equipment | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |

| Maen Bakour | Enforced disappearance | Tahrir Al-Sham "Al-Nusra Front" |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Raif Salameh | Arbitrary arrest | Syrian government |
| Raif Salameh | Arbitrary arrest | Syrian government |
| Yasser Al-Omar | Retirement of media work | Syrian government |
| Raif Salameh | Retirement of media work | Syrian government |
| Ali Hassoun | Retirement of media work | Syrian government |
| Rogen Akin | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Muhammad Akneji | Injury | Turkish forces |
| Bilal Salatin | Summoned by Security | Syrian government |
| The name is reserved | Arbitrary arrest | Syrian government |
| The name is reserved | Arbitrary arrest | Syrian government |
| Ghaith Al-Sayed | Temporary detention | Provisional government |
| Widad Erdamji | Injury led to death | Turkish forces |
| Alaa Al-Khalidi | Death under torture | Syrian government |

| 2020 | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Full Name | Type of Violation | Perpetrator of Violation |
| Muhammad Hasan Al-Husein | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Majd Hamo | Abduction | Unknown |
| Murad Jan | Abduction | Unknown |
| Hasan Al-Mukhtar | Detaining | Armed opposition |
| Ibrahim Al-Darwish | Detaining | Armed opposition |
| Waddah Mohyeddin | Arbitrary arrest | Syrian government |
| Daril Filips | Arbitrary arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Fahd Sabri | Detaining | Democratic autonomy |
| Rankin Shrrow | Detaining | Autonomous Administration |
| Anas Abu Zaid | Detaining | Autonomous Administration |
| Rida Al-Basha | Detaining | Syrian government |
| Kinan Waqaf | Detaining | Syrian government |
| Muhammad Na'asan Dbel | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Anas Treecy | Detaining | Salvation Government |
| Muhammad Saleh Al-Haj | Detaining | Salvation Government |
| Abdel-ghani Jaroukh | Indirect Targeted | Armed group |
| Amjad Anas Aktalati | Indirect Targeted | Russian war-planes |
| Rashid Al-Bakr | Indirect Targeted | Russian war-planes |
| Abdel Nasser Haj Hamdan | Indirect Targeted | Russian war-planes |
| Wafaa Shabrouni | Indirect Targeted | Armed opposition |
| Diaa Kaddour | Indirect Targeted | Armed opposition |
| Ibrahim Kahil | Indirect Targeted | Armed opposition |
| Suhaib Al-Masry | Indirect Targeted | Armed opposition |
| Kinana Alloush | Indirect Targeted | Armed opposition |
| Shadi Helwa | Indirect Targeted | Armed opposition |
| Georges Orfelian | Indirect Targeted | Armed opposition |

| Sharif Abs | Indirect Targeted | Armed opposition |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ahmad Rahhal | Indirect Targeted | Syrian government |
| Ibrahim Al-Darwish | Indirect Targeted | Syrian government |
| Mustafa Ziad Al-Khalaf | Indirect Targeted | Russian war-planes |
| Muhammad Fawaz Hammoud | Indirect Targeted | Russian war-planes |
| Abdel Wajed Haj Astifi | Indirect Targeted | Syrian government |
| Bahaa Sulaiman Al-Hussein | Beating | Democratic autonomy |
| Hala Abdel Haye Ibrahim | Banned from working | Armed opposition |
| Baderkhan Ahmad | Banned from working | Democratic autonomy |
| Naz El-Sayed | Banned from working | Democratic autonomy |
| Mustafa Haj Sulaiman | Banned from working and coverage | Armed opposition |
| Youssef Ahmad Gharibi | Banned from working and coverage | Armed opposition |
| Yivvan Fattah | Banned from working | Democratic autonomy |
| Omar Haj Kaddour | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Mouaz Al-Abbas | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Safi Jum'a Al-Hamam | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ghaith Hasan Al-Sayed | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ali Haj Sulaiman | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ezzedine Hussein Al-Qasim | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Kinana Abdel Wahab Hindawi | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Muawiya al-Atrash | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ahmad Falaha | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Abdel Wahed Haj Astifi | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Abdel Razzaq Muhammad Deeb Al- Sobaih | Beating | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Shafiq Al-Hariri | Arbitrary arrest | Syrian government |
| Hussein Al-Khattab | Targeted | Unknown |
| Abdel Fattah Hussein Al-Hussein | Arbitrary arrest | Tahrir Al-Sham |

| Ahmad Muhammad Khoja | Banned from coverage | Civil society organization |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Mazen Al-Hindi | Detaining | Syrian government |
| Bashar Radwan | Banned from working | Syrian government |
| Jihad Jamal | Death under torture | Syrian government |
| Wafa Amiri | Arbitrary arrest | Syrian government |
| Waddah Mohyeddin | Arbitrary arrest | Syrian government |
| Anas Treecy | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Hafez Terman | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Muhammad Sa'eed | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Aref Watad | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Muhammad Sa'eed Tako | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ahmad Al-Hishawy | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |
| Ahmad Isma'il | Detaining | Tahrir Al-Sham |

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