

Joint Statement

No Less Than 5 Chemical Weapons Attacks Since Khan Sheikhoun

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Tuesday, August 15, 2017

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



[15 August 2017] [The Syrian Network for Human Rights](#) (SNHR) has released a new [report](#) confirming that the Syrian government has used chemical weapons no less than five times since the notorious Khan Sheikhoun sarin attack in April, despite warnings from multiple world leaders that continued chemical weapons use by the Syrian government would constitute a red line.

The attacks were carried out in the Damascus suburbs and Eastern Ghouta. Chemical weapons attacks in Syria have resulted in the deaths of 1356 civilians, including 186 children and 224 women.



“After the Khan Sheikhoun attack, the US responded by targeting the regime’s Shayrat Air-base, and French President Macron caterotetrocally said that any further use of chemical weapons would be a red line. The Syrian regime has consistently and systematically used chemical weapons against civilians, but when the Khan Sheikhoun attack finally drew international outrage, many Syrians began to feel hopeful that Assad’s impunity was coming to an end”, says Fadel Abdul Ghany, Chairman of SNHR.

SNHR has shown that the Syrian government has carried out no less than 207 chemical weapons attacks on civilian populations since the start of the war.

“Yet our report proves that these threats did nothing to stop Assad – he has continued to use illegal chemical weapons frequently and with utter impunity. The Syrian people want to know: how many times can a red line be crossed before someone takes action? President Macron, the Syrian people need you to uphold your commitments to the Syrian people. Failing again to create a serious, decisive deterrent will only guarantee the attacks will continue, leading to further loss of life, increased refugee flows and an exacerbated terror threat”, Mr Abdul Ghany continues.



The use of chemical weapons is a war crime. In light of their findings, SNHR is calling on the international community, and in particular on Presidents Macron and Trump to:

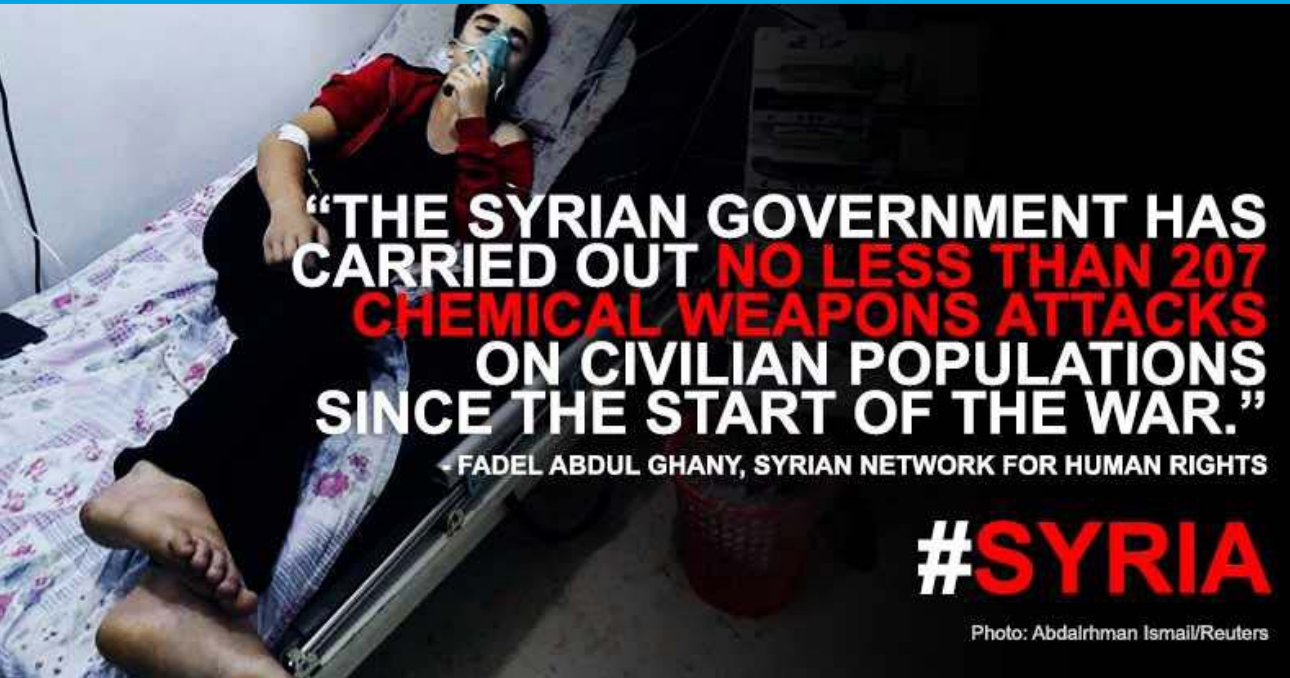
- Protect civilians from further unlawful chemical attacks, and all other indiscriminate attacks against civilians.
- Accountability for war crimes committed against the Syrian people, including increased support to mechanisms currently working to prosecute perpetrators.
- Ensure clear attribution of perpetrators of chemical weapons attacks, so that those responsible can be identified and held accountable to ensure a credible future transitional process.



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- FADEL ABDUL GHANY
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#SYRIA



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- FADEL ABDUL GHANY, SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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