

Press release

SNHR is the Second Most Cited Source in the US State Department's Report on the Human Rights Situation in Syria in 2018

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Friday, March 15, 2019

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



On Wednesday, March 13, 2019, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor Affairs issued its annual report for 2018 on the human rights situation in different states worldwide.

The report on Syria is 71 pages long, focusing on several types of violations, most prominently the extrajudicial killings by the current Syrian government, as well as the repeated use of chemical weapons, enforced disappearance, torture, including sexual violence, arbitrary arrest; harsh, life-threatening conditions in detention centers, including lack of medical care; persecution of prisoners of conscience, and the imposition of harsh restrictions on freedom of opinion, expression and the press, in addition to including other violations of civil and political rights.

The report confirmed that the Syrian government has not undertaken any investigation, nor has it held any officer or anyone involved in violations and crimes accountable. In addition, groups and militias linked to the Syrian government, including the Iranian-backed Lebanese Hezbollah group, have committed widespread and repeated violations.

The report also covers violations by other parties in addition to the Syrian regime, including violations committed by opposition forces in the Eastern Ghouta in Damascus Suburbs and in Afrin city in the western suburbs of Aleppo, as well as cataloguing the arrests and restrictions committed by the Kurdish forces, including the violations of the Syrian Democratic Forces, mainly the conscription of children. The report stressed that extremist terrorist organizations such as Hay'at Tahrir al Sham has committed widespread violations, such as massacres, kidnapping and murder in the same manner as the ISIS terrorist organization. Finally, the report focused on the air attacks carried out by the Russian forces, which caused the deaths of many civilians in a systematic and random manner, especially those in support of Syrian government forces during the attack on the Eastern Ghouta



The report relied for its information on the Independent International Commission of Inquiry as the first source of data, and on the Syrian Network for Human Rights as a second source according to the number and order of source references cited, with the SNHR's data, reports and statistics cited 32 times in this report. The report also cites other sources such as Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, as well as relying on the great expertise and investigative skills of the staff of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor Affairs.

We note that this is the seventh consecutive year in which the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor Affairs has relied primarily on information from the Syrian Network for Human Rights in its reports and statements related to Syria. During the recent visit by the Syrian Network for Human Rights to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor in early March, the Syrian Network for Human Rights stressed the vital strategic importance of this coordination and cooperation, now and in the future.

The Syrian Network for Human Rights will continue, as always, to strive to maintain the objectivity and credibility of its data in order to continue to serve as an unimpeachable and wholly credible reference authority on the human rights situation in Syria, and will always be guided by its motto: "No Justice Without Accountability".

To view the full report please visit [this link](#)





@snhr



Info@sn4hr.org

www.sn4hr.org

