

## Press release

### **SNHR Provides Training to Yemeni Human Rights Activists on the Principle of the Responsibility to Protect and the Syrian Conflict**

On Sunday, November 28, 2021, the Director of the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), Mr. Fadel Abdul Ghany, provided a training session for human rights activists in Yemen on “The Efforts of Civil Society Organizations in the Middle East on Accountability and the Prevention of Atrocious Crimes”. The training session was organized by the [Three Tracks organization](#), with the support of the [Justice Call organization](#). This training is aimed at enhancing activists’ knowledge of legal frameworks on accountability and the prevention of atrocious crimes in the Middle East and North Africa region, with the training targeting young people in particular.

The training session focused on several points, placing the most prominent emphasis on the facts that the Syrian regime has committed a vast range of violations, some of which amount to crimes against humanity, thereby not only failing to protect its own people, but being the main perpetrator of violations against the Syrian people, and that whilst there was supposed to be international intervention to protect civilians, this has never materialized. The training also referred to Russia’s role in protecting the Syrian regime from accountability, particularly given its status as a major power and permanent member of the UN Security Council, [which used its veto 16 times in favor of the Syrian regime](#), enabling the regime to continue committing war crimes and crimes against humanity with complete impunity, paralyzing the Security Council absolutely, and preventing the situation in Syria from being referred to the International Criminal Court.

Abdul Ghany stressed the vital role of civil society organizations in documenting violations and issuing reports that identify and condemn perpetrators, especially in light of the normalization of crimes against humanity and the absence of condemnations and appropriate reactions. He spoke about the Syrian Network for Human Rights’ experience in cooperation with various United Nations bodies, with international, regional and local human rights organizations, and with many countries worldwide, and trying to include the statistics of documented violations in the reports and statements issued by all these bodies, which contributes to delivering this data to the largest possible public audience and the greatest number of decision-makers. He also stressed the importance of this cooperation and the necessity of its continuity, as well as the need to involve the media in advocating for human rights issues, and noted that effective civil society organizations have no choice but to continue their struggle against dictatorships and to expose the brutal practices they are inflicting.

Through the provision of training, the Syrian Network for Human Rights seeks to create an additional space for cooperation and coordination between human rights defenders, focusing on its work on the Syrian issue and its complexities, and affirming its constant willingness to hold more training courses and strengthen partnerships with the aim of promoting a culture of human rights in Syria and the region.

