

Statement

A/HRC/51/L.18 - Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

YES	ARGENTINA	YES	HONDURAS	YES	NETHERLANDS
NO	ARMENIA	ABST	INDIA	ABST	PAKISTAN
YES	BENIN	ABST	INDONESIA	YES	PARAGUAY
NO	BOLIVIA (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF)	YES	JAPAN	YES	POLAND
ABST	BRAZIL	ABST	KAZAKHSTAN	YES	QATAR
ABST	CAMEROON	ABST	LIBYA	YES	REPUBLIC OF KOREA
NO	CHINA	YES	LITHUANIA	ABST	SENEGAL
YES	COTE D'IVOIRE	YES	LUXEMBOURG	ABST	SOMALIA
NO	CUBA	YES	MALAWI	ABST	SUDAN
YES	CZECHIA	ABST	MALAYSIA	YES	UKRAINE
NO	ERITREA	YES	MARSHALL ISLANDS	ABST	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
YES	FINLAND	ABST	MAURITANIA	YES	UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
YES	FRANCE	YES	MEXICO	YES	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
YES	GABON	YES	MONTENEGRO	ABST	UZBEKISTAN
YES	GAMBIA	ABST	NAMIBIA	NO	VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)
YES	GERMANY	ABST	NEPAL		
	YES	25	ABST	16	NO
					6

SNHR welcomes Recent Human Rights Council Resolution Affirming That Syria is an Insecure Country

Only Six Countries, All Hostile to Human Rights and Democracy, Voted for the Syrian Regime

On Friday, 7 October 2022 the UN Human Rights Council, during its 51st session, adopted its [resolution included in document A/HRC/51/L.18](#), which condemned the grave human rights situation throughout Syria; this resolution also demanded that the Syrian regime fulfill its responsibility to protect Syrians and to respect and protect the human rights guaranteed to all persons under its jurisdiction, including detainees and their families. In addition, the document also said that the Syrian regime bears primary responsibility for the detention and disappearance of tens of thousands of forcibly disappeared, missing and detained persons in Syria.

The resolution affirmed the continuation of the deadly acts of violence to which the Syrian people are subjected, and stated that war crimes and crimes against humanity have been committed in Syria. It touched upon the continuing suffering of civilians from the repercussions of the conflict, as well as from being targeting them and the civilian objects, which are vital for their survival, by deliberate and indiscriminate attacks by all parties to the conflict, especially by the Syrian regime and its states and non-states allies.

The resolution called for the delivery of necessary humanitarian aid without any hindrance, as there are about 14.6 million Syrians in need of humanitarian aid, pointing out that the humanitarian crisis has worsened due to the escalation of hostilities in the recent period; in this regard, the resolution said that the period of six months guaranteed by [Security Council resolution 2642 of July 2022](#). The UN cross-border humanitarian assistance is short and insufficient given the growing humanitarian needs and vital importance of cross-border assistance for the survival of more than 4.5 million Syrians. The resolution stated that UN cross-border humanitarian assistance has no alternative that can match its scope and size.

The resolution called on the Syrian regime to protect the human rights guaranteed to the returning refugees and internally displaced persons, especially in light of the conclusion of the Commission of Inquiry, in its latest report, that the Syrian regime has not yet provided a safe and stable environment that guarantees the sustainable and dignified return of refugees or displaced people outside Syria, who are estimated to be more than seven million and who have been forced to flee Syria, and more than seven million people who have been internally displaced since the beginning of the conflict. It also called on the parties to the conflict to cease any violations that could cause further displacement.

Through this resolution, the Human Rights Council again called on the Syrian regime to immediately release the detainees and forcibly disappeared in Syria, and to provide their families with accurate and correct information about their fate and whereabouts. It called for more support for the families of the missing in Syria, including the forcibly disappeared, who face real threats to their safety during their search for their missing loved ones. It also demanded that those responsible for the use of chemical weapons in Syria be held accountable.

[This resolution was supported by 25 States](#), while 16 abstained, with 6 States voting against it: China, Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia, Armenia and Eritrea.

Meeting Title: HRC 51th session

Date: 2022-10-07 Time: 14:15						
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We have continuously monitored all the resolutions issued by the Council and recorded the countries that voted in favor of the resolutions of the HRC on Syria, the countries that abstained/missed the vote, and the countries that voted against the resolutions of the HRC, in the sense that they deny the violations carried out by the Syrian regime, so they practically encourage the Syrian regime to commit more violations, and promise to provide support it in the HRC. We, in our turn, have issued several reports and [statements in this regard](#).

Based on our continuous follow-up to the resolutions adopted by the Council and our monitoring of the voting record, we can say that the countries that voted continuously against the resolutions of the Human Rights Council - 12 countries, six of which voted against the last resolution on 7 October 2022 - are totalitarian countries far from democracy and respect for international human rights law and advocate for each other against human rights. The following is the summary of the times each of these six countries voted in favor of the Syrian regime at the Human Rights Council:



**China: Voted 33 times
against resolutions**

in all sessions in which it
was represented in the
Human Rights Council.



**Bolivia: Voted 16 times
against resolutions**

in all sessions in which it
was represented in the
Human Rights Council.



**Cuba: Voted 33 times
against resolutions**

in all sessions in which it
was represented in the
Human Rights Council.



**Eritrea: Voted 9 times
against resolutions**

in all sessions in which it
was represented in the
Human Rights Council.



**Venezuela: Voted 30 times
against resolutions**

in all sessions in which it
was represented in the
Human Rights Council.



**Armenia: voted 6 times
against resolutions**

in all sessions in which it
was represented in the
Human Rights Council.



We, in SNRH, welcome the resolution of the Human Rights Council included in document A/HRC/51/L.18, which is based mainly on the work of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Syria and its recommendations, which stressed the continuation of the grave violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in Syria. It also stressed that Syria is an insecure country for the return of refugees and displaced persons. We note that the resolution specifically named the Syrian regime and held it responsible for most of the violations. We thank all the countries that voted in favor of the rights of the Syrian people. We also condemn the fact that China, Cuba, Bolivia, Venezuela, Armenia and Eritrea stand by the violations of the Syrian regime and for voting against a resolution whose outputs are in the interest of the Syrian people and the state, against the perpetrators of violations. Despite this, these repressive states, which have interests with Russia, have voted for the Syrian regime which is involved in crimes against humanity.

