

Statement

Washington: SNHR Holds Multiple Meetings at the White House, U.S. Department of State, Department of Defense, Department of Treasury



Monday 27 February 2023

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 analyzes in Syria. **Washington:** On February 6-8, Fadel Abdul Ghany, the Executive Director of the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), held multiple meetings with high-ranking officials from different U.S. government departments, including the:

- White House
- Department of State
- Department of Defense
- Department of Treasury

This visit is the latest of a series of annual visits and meetings with U.S. government officials which Mr. Abdul Ghany has been conducting since 2014, whose aim is to underscore the crucial importance of human rights issues, which we believe deserve far greater attention from the relevant U.S. government agencies, based on SNHR's documentation work since 2011. During the meetings, Mr. Abdul Ghany and the officials discussed the reports published recently by SNHR, as well as a host of other issues.

Even though these meetings had been scheduled for some weeks beforehand, the earthquake meant that humanitarian assistance became a priority focus in many of the meetings.

Some of the meetings held include:

• On February 6, 2023, Mr. Abdul Ghany met with Erin M. Barclay, Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL).



• On February 7, 2023, Mr. Abdul Ghany met with Steve Butler, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (NEA).



- On February 7, Mr. Abdul Ghany met with Beth Van Schaack, Asmbassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice (GCJ).
- On February 6, Mr. Abdul Ghany met with Kat Fotovat, Senior Official for Global Women's Issues (S/GWI).





• On February 8, Mr. Abdul Ghany met with multiple U.S. Department of Treasury officials.



SNHR underlines that its relations with the U.S. government are built on mutual respect, coordination and collaboration. We hope that our partnership will help to improve human rights conditions across Syria, especially in northeastern Syria. It should be noted that, for the past eight years, SNHR has been a principal source for the U.S. Department of State in all of tis human rights reports and in the statements issued by the DRL on Syria, as well as for other U.S. offices and agencies. We always strive to improve and build on this partnership.



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