

### **Statement**

# SNHR Attends Bilateral Meetings With the White House and the US Department of State



#### **Tuesday 22 October 2024**

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.

#### The Hague - The Syrian Network for Human Rights:

On September 24-27, 2024, the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) held bilateral meetings with a number of senior officials from the White House and the United States Department of State in New York, USA. In these meetings, the participants discussed a number of issues pertaining to human rights violations in Syria, which have been SNHR's main focus since 2011.

#### The prominent meetings were:

#### 1. Meeting with Natasha Franceschi

On September 24, 2024, Fadel Abdulghany, SNHR Executive Director, met with Natasha Franceschi, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Levant and Syria engagement in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs of the US Department of State.

During the meeting, Ms. Franceschi affirmed the US' position of non-normalization with the Syrian regime, as well as underlining its commitment to no lifting of the sanctions imposed on the regime. Stability in Syria, Ms. Franceschi further stressed, cannot be brought about without a comprehensive political process which is inclusive of all Syrians and is founded on justice and accountability in order to ensure a sustained peace.

#### 2. Meeting with Dr. Dafna H. Rand

The next day, September 25, Mr. Abdulghany met with Dr. Dafna H. Rand, Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) at the US Department of State.





#### 3. Meeting with Kelly Razzouk

On the same day, September 25, Mr. Abdulghany also met with Kelli Razzouk, Special Assistant to the US President and Senior Director for Democracy and Human Rights at the US National Security Council (NSC).

These meetings tackled a number of topics related to human rights conditions in Syria, primarily focusing on those issues which SNHR is engaged in monitoring, including, inter alia, violations by Russian forces; refoulment of Syrian refugees; deaths due to torture in regime detention centers which are being registered in the official civil registry records without notifying the victims' families; seizure of lands and properties; humanitarian aid; child conscription; exploitation of official documents, and cases against the perpetrators of violations which are being tried in various courts.

On October 9, 2024, the US Department of State posted a tweet commending Fadel Abdulghany, SNHR Executive Director, and lauding SNHR's prominent role in documenting human rights violations by the Syrian regime and other parties toe the conflict, and its advocacy for justice and accountability.





SNHR has been a key source in all the human rights reports and statements released by the DRL on Syria since 2012. These meetings are the latest in a series of regular meetings between the group and the US Department of State to foster and promote continuing cooperation and partnership on human rights.



## SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



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No justice without accountability

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