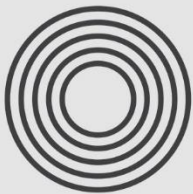


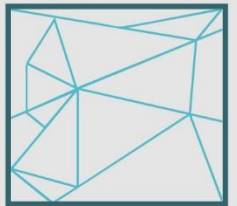
Escalation of Threats and Violence Against Syrian Refugees in Turkey: An Urgent Call to Protect Human Rights



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syrian civil society advocacy alliance

سوريون
من أجل
الحقيقة
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Syrians
For Truth
& Justice



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In recent days, Türkiye has witnessed campaigns of incitement and violence against Syrian refugees, affecting all Syrians and their properties. These incidents began in the city of Kayseri and have spread to other Turkish cities. This followed an escalation in political incitement against Syrians and a tightening of arbitrary forced deportation measures. Syrians in Türkiye have been suffering for some time from various challenges related to their legal status, access to official documents, difficult living conditions, the aftermath of the devastating earthquake, and ongoing arbitrary forced deportation campaigns, falsely termed as voluntary return. Additionally, there is a lack of clarity in some official Turkish procedures in dealing with these issues, coupled with the exploitation of the Syrian refugee crisis in Turkish elections through racist rhetoric adopted by many Turkish political parties.

This situation has led to acts of violence and riots against Syrians in Türkiye, affecting their lives and properties, resulting in casualties in many Turkish provinces, and has significantly escalated in recent days. This is due to the lack of decisive measures against racist rhetoric targeting Syrian refugees by the Turkish government, in addition to making the Turkish Immigration Directorate the sole authority responsible for resolving any legal issues faced by Syrians as individuals and as a community, depriving the Syrian refugee community of the ability to demand their rights through Turkish judicial bodies. The deportation operations and Turkish political rhetoric have also led to protests and violence, resulting in numerous casualties in northern Syria.

As Syrian civil society organizations, we call on the Turkish government to fulfill its national and international commitments related to protecting human rights, especially the rights of refugees and displaced persons on its territory. We also urge the Turkish government to adhere to the principle of non-refoulement, especially since Syria, in the current situation, is not safe for the return of millions of Syrian refugees, as confirmed by reports from the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (COI-Syria) regarding the ongoing gross human rights violations in Syria. This highlights the urgent need to protect Syrian refugees and displaced persons from being subjected to these harsh and dangerous conditions.

Furthermore, we call on the Turkish government to take immediate measures to protect Syrians in Türkiye and ensure their basic rights and dignity. We also urge the Turkish government and the international community to work together to provide necessary support to refugees and displaced persons, ensure a safe and dignified life for them within the country, and find practical, comprehensive solutions to alleviate the suffering of Syrians and address the impacts of the Syrian refugee crisis in Türkiye. This includes working on a broad plan for the integration of Syrian refugees and combating hate speech and racist rhetoric against them, acknowledging that Turkey has borne the burden of hosting Syrian refugees over the past years.

We also call on donor communities funding the response to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries to ensure that the funding allocated for refugee support is not used in the coercive measures exercised by the Turkish Immigration Directorate against Syrian refugees.

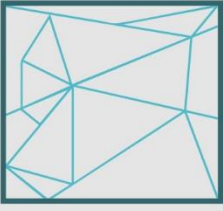
The vast majority of Syrians look forward to the day when Syria becomes a safe country for their return, freeing them from the reasons for their displacement abroad, and rebuilding their country in a way that guarantees the dignity, security, and freedom of its people, and respects the rights, interests, and sovereignty of neighboring countries reciprocally. Until that day comes, we call for addressing the current escalation and violence against Syrians, protecting them, and addressing the challenges of Syrian asylum in Turkey in accordance with the provisions of law and international agreements.

Organizations:

1. Aata for Development
2. Access Center for Human Rights (ACHR)
3. Albaghooz Hope for Development
4. Almasa Center for Studies, Research
5. Americans for Free Syria
6. Analysis and Strategic Studies Organization
7. ASO Center for Consultancy and Strategic Studies
8. Association of Victims of Chemical Weapons
9. Awda For Development
10. Badael
11. Bader For Community Development
12. Baytna pour le soutien de la société civile
13. Bercav Origination
14. Caesar Families Association
15. Cevher organization
16. ChangeMakers
17. Child Guardians
18. Damma.hug
19. Democratic women
20. Derina Organization
21. Dozana
22. Duderi
23. Engineering for Services

24. Ensaf for Development
25. Families for freedom movement
26. Fanarat organization
27. Feminist
28. Finjan
29. For us
30. Gathering of Kurdish civil forces in Syria
31. House of citizenship
32. HRAK
33. Humanitarian Care Charity
34. Huquqyat
35. Ishtar Development Organization
36. ISO
37. Jsor Alamal
38. Judy Organization for Relief and Development (JORD)
39. Kurdish feminist voices
40. LACU
41. Lawyers and Doctors for Human Rights LDHR
42. Lelun Association for Victims
43. Local Community Empowerment
44. Lyktan Sverige
45. Mahabad Organization for Human Rights MOHR
46. MultiFaith Alliance
47. Musawa
48. National Dialogue Forum
49. Orchid
50. Pro-justice
51. Release Me
52. Sadad Humanitarian Organization

53. Sanabel al Furat
54. SOBH CULTURAL TEAM
55. SYCAC
56. Synergy Association for Victims
57. Syria Research Group
58. Syrian British Consortium (SBC)
59. Syrian Center for Community Development
60. Syrian Center for Legal Studies and Research (SCHSR)
61. Syrian Center For Media And Freedom Of Expression (SCM)
62. Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR)
63. Syrian Swedish Association
64. Syrian Women Network
65. Syrians for Truth and Justice (STJ)
66. Syrians Gathered
67. Tayif Humanitarian Organization
68. The Day After
69. The EMPOWER PEACE INITIATIVES AND STRATEGIC OF ACTION Organization.
70. The Syrian Legal Development Programme
71. TRAHOM
72. Union of Revolutionary Bureaus
73. Université Libre de Bruxelles



ABOUT STJ

Syrians for Truth and Justice (STJ) started as an idea in a co-founder's mind while attending the U.S. Middle-East Partnership Initiative's (MEPI) Leaders for Democracy Fellowship program (LDF) in 2015. The idea became a reality and flourished into an independent, non-profit, impartial, non-governmental human rights organization.

STJ's beginnings were more than humble; initially, it only reported stories of Syrians who experienced arbitrary arrest, enforced disappearance, or torture. Planted in fertile soil, the seed of this project grew into an established human rights organization licensed in the Middle East and the European Union. STJ today undertakes to detect and uncover violations of all types committed in all Syrian parts by the various parties to the conflict.

Convinced that Syria's diversity is a wealth, our researchers and volunteers serve with unfailing dedication to monitor, expose, and document human rights violations that continue unabated in Syria since 2011, regardless of the affiliation of the victims or perpetrators.