



Memorandum on the situation of human rights in Lebanon

European Union delagation in Lebanon

first, we thank you for inviting us to participate in the dialogue on the situation of human rights in Lebanon before the meeting in Brussels on May 31, 2016 in partnership between EU & Lebanon and the European Union and we emphasize the following:

our statement will address the human rights situation in Lebanon, in isolation from the political crisis since the assassination of Prime Minister Rafic Hariri in 2005, and deepened the crisis after the war in Syria and the Syrian displacement.

The political crisis can be summarized complete paralysis of governmental institutions, no president, the parliament extended to him and disabled at the same time, the government unable to handle accumulated crises and most recently, and not least the issue of waste.

The causes of the crisis, are, external fact, the war on terrorism and the issue of Syrians displaced and internal conflict among the parties of the ruling political class on the influence of sectarian interests and factors, the crisis has been reflected on the human rights situation and reflected as follows:

A) The Lebanese government has not beneficially implemented the recommendations of the first Universal Periodic Review in 2010, which was emphasized mostly in the review of March 2016, where member in the Human Rights Council give 219 recommendations to the Lebanese government.

B) Many of the projects on the situation of human rights, such as the National Plan for Human Rights, project on torture, missing persons and other law still in the parliament which is inactive and inoperative.

C) The violation of the right to peaceful assembly, which appeared in the months of June and August 2015 when security forces faced a civil movement protesting against the waste crisis by firing bullets at the demonstrators and arrest dozens and the practice of torture on several detainees.

D) The violation of economic and social rights of citizens, in the non-achievement of ranks and salaries for governmental employees and processing on the situation of social groups like day laborers and contractors, not to mention widespread corruption and deteriorating public services.

The crisis of human rights in Lebanon is part of the political crisis, and therefore, the development of partnership between Lebanon and the European Union must take into consideration these facts, hoping that the European Union attract the Lebanese government in the forthcoming dialogue in Brussels to the serious deterioration of the human rights situation and the failure of the Lebanese government's international commitments.

Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture appreciate the partnership between Lebanon and the European Union and the relationship with civil society bodies and consulted on issues of human rights in Lebanon, the center emphasize on the following things:

1. Reactivate the legislative and executive organization and speed up the election of the President and the drafting of a democratic election law depends relative in preparation for the parliamentary elections.
2. Without democratic reform of election laws and a comprehensive review of the judicial system, the political and economic crisis likely to worsen and worsen.
3. Implementation of the UPR recommendations, which include most of the demands of the Lebanese and Palestinian civil society bodies (person with special needs, criminalization of



torture, missing persons, prisons, women, child, trafficking in human beings, the right to citizenship etc).

4. .Procession on the economic and social crisis of unemployment, wages and immigration because the aggravation poses a threat on the political stability and civil peace. The realization of the demands of different social groups strengthens the case of human rights and civil peace and increase sectarian divisions.

5. .Lebanese government presented on 9 March the national report on torture to the Committee Against Torture after a delay of 15 years. Providing the report is an important step, but unfortunately it was a fictional report away from the miserable reality of Lebanese prisons and torture continues to show him what was clearly evident in the video ofr torture in Roumieh prison in 2015.

The war on terror and Syrian displacement double the number of detainees in prisons and aggravation on health and social conditions, but the Lebanese government did not take any urgent and exceptional programs to address prison conditions, especially accelerating trials. Many organization are working in prisons including Khiam Center but the situation are worsed and lacks systematic and comprehensive rehabilitation process. The task of rehabilitation must be the task of the Lebanese government which is in Article 14 of the Convention against Torture, the Lebanese prisons are timed bombs, which requires urgent treatment and this requires:

- Implementation of the 36 recommendations of the Committee against Torture, during a visit to Lebanon 2013 and 2014, in addition to periodic review recommendations on torture in 2016.
- The establishment of the national preventive mechanism to prevent torture
- A clear commitment of Article 14 of the Adopted Convention against Torture and amended definition of torture according to Article 1 of the Convention because the draft of torture project submitted to the parliament not paralleled with the content of the Convention against Torture.
- Consider the issue of Syrians displaced an issue related to international community, and is not only the responsibility of the Lebanese government, so we see that humanitarian aid alone is not enough and need to focus on political solutions to stop the senseless war and no-load Lebanon what European and Arab countries is not able to afford.

WE believe the most prior issues the lebanese government should consider properly are the folloeing: political reforms of the elections laws, including the sectarian system, which has become an impediment both political and economic and social progress and the rule of law to promote patriotism on sectarian affiliations the situation in Lebanon, and the implementation of UPR recommendations, the situation is moving toward further deterioration and further violations of rights Human.

05.24.2016

Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture
The secretary-general
Mohammed Safa