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الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان
SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Monthly Report on Arrests/Detentions in Syria

At least 216 Arbitrary Detentions
Recorded in Syria in February
2025

Monday 03 March 2025

216





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 analyses in Syria.

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I. SNHR'S MONTHLY REPORT ON ARBITRARY DETENTIONS AND ARRESTS IN SYRIA

On December 8, 2024, Syria witnessed arguably the most seismic political and military event in over 50 years with the fall of the dictatorial Assad regime, which was succeeded by a transitional government. This came after 14 years of a popular uprising that began in March 2011. In those 14 years, the numbers of arbitrary detentions and enforced disappearances reached unprecedented levels, with these being among the most widely practiced systematic violations committed by the former regime against civilians.

Since 2011, the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) has constantly documented arbitrary detentions and released monthly reports summarizing the detentions in the previous month. As shown on SNHR's database, the fates of at least **112,000 of the people** forcibly disappeared by the former Assad regime remain unknown to this day. Indeed, the ramifications of these violations still persist not only in the legal and social sense, but in their families' and all Syrians' collective memory of the victims, illustrating the staggering volume of the human rights atrocities for which the former regime was responsible.

With the transition of power, it's become apparent that there's an urgent need to establish legal regulations that will put a conclusive end to the harrowing era of arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances along with the end of the regime and ensure respect for the basic human rights of individuals. In order to achieve this, it's essential to establish a legal framework that promotes human rights and consolidates protective laws, while also creating effective control mechanisms to avoid any recurrence of these violations in accordance with international standards.

In this context, we at SNHR continue to release our monthly reports on arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances in order to document these practices and monitor any violations that may take place during the transitional phase. Documenting these practices is a crucial part of ensuring the non-recurrence of past violations and of supporting all efforts aimed at building a state founded on the rule of law and respect for human rights, enacting reformist policies, and ensuring that Syria's security and legal institutions adhere to the norms of accountability and transparency. In addition, documenting such violations provides a record that enables the transitional government and the relevant domestic and international bodies to identify and address any potential infringements, thus further strengthening the transitional justice process and promoting victims' rights to reparation and accountability. Finally, it should be noted that SNHR will continue to regularly issue these reports in order to keep pace with the latest political and legal developments and events on the ground in Syria so as to continue providing an accurate and up-to-date picture of the situation regarding detentions and enforced disappearances in the country.

II. REPORT METHODOLOGY

While Syria continues going through the current transitional phase in the wake of the historic ousting of the Assad regime and its downfall on December 8, 2024, SNHR will continue to release our statistical/analytical monthly reports monitoring and documenting arbitrary detentions, enforced disappearances, and releases from detention centers. Accordingly, this report summarizes the arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, and releases documented by SNHR in the month of February 2025. We added a new classification to distinguish between arbitrary arrests and detentions carried out in the context of the efforts by the transitional government to capture those involved in violations under the former Assad regime.

SNHR's standards for documenting detentions

The methodology adopted by SNHR in our reports follows the internationally recognized standards for documenting human rights violations, including the guidelines established by the UN and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. More particularly, we use the five criteria adopted by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention to document such cases. Meanwhile, in cases of enforced disappearance, we use the definition established by the Declaration on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which was adopted in accordance the UN General Assembly resolution 47/133 on December 18, 1992, as "a body of principles for all states". Besides those standards for documenting arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearance, we are recording detentions by the transitional government that target those who committed violations under the Assad regime rule. We are working on monitoring these cases in accordance with certain procedures.

Data sources and verification mechanism

In documenting arbitrary arrests, SNHR draws upon several sources, with every item of information provided to us being subjected to rigorous and precise verification mechanisms. These sources include:

- SNHR's own field researchers who are scattered across Syria.
- Direct interviews with victims and their families.
- Eyewitnesses' and local activists' accounts.
- Official information provided by state officials.

SNHR follows strict documentation procedures, as well as ensuring that data is updated whenever new information emerges in order to maintain accuracy. All data is stored on a specially designated database which incorporates professional archiving practices that conveniently allow for monitoring and updating of individual cases. Every report also goes through multiple revision phases before it is issued.

Classifying cases according to the party responsible

In this report, detentions are classified according to the parties responsible for carrying out the arrests. These parties are:

- **The transitional government** which has governed Syria since December 8, 2024.
- **Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)** which currently controls the northeastern region of the country.
- **Armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA)** who are currently in the process of being incorporated into the new Syrian army.

Cases are additionally classified according to the location where each detention took place, rather than by the detainee's governorate of origin. The report also contains a demographic analysis of detainees by sex and age (males, females, children), in addition to classifying releases based on their contexts.

Analyzing violations' patterns

This report provides an analysis of the patterns of behavior displayed by the parties that perpetrated arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance practices in February 2025, with focus on the shift in practices in the aftermath of the downfall of the Assad regime. This analysis draws upon SNHR's 13-plus years of expertise in this field. The report also gives a brief summary of the laws and decrees issued by these parties regarding this issue with an assessment of their effects.

Challenges

In addition to the usual challenges in documenting arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances, our team has encountered additional challenges in the period following the fall of the Assad regime, given the rapid and sweeping changes this has brought about on the ground. This has necessitated a redoubling of our efforts to ensure the accuracy of our data and the continuation of our monitoring processes. We will ensure that all information on both legal developments and changes on the ground is regularly updated to reflect how these affect the process of documentation.

In light of the staggering volume of violations and the exceptional difficulties in the documentation process, this report only represents the **bare minimum** of the actual figures, which may be far higher.



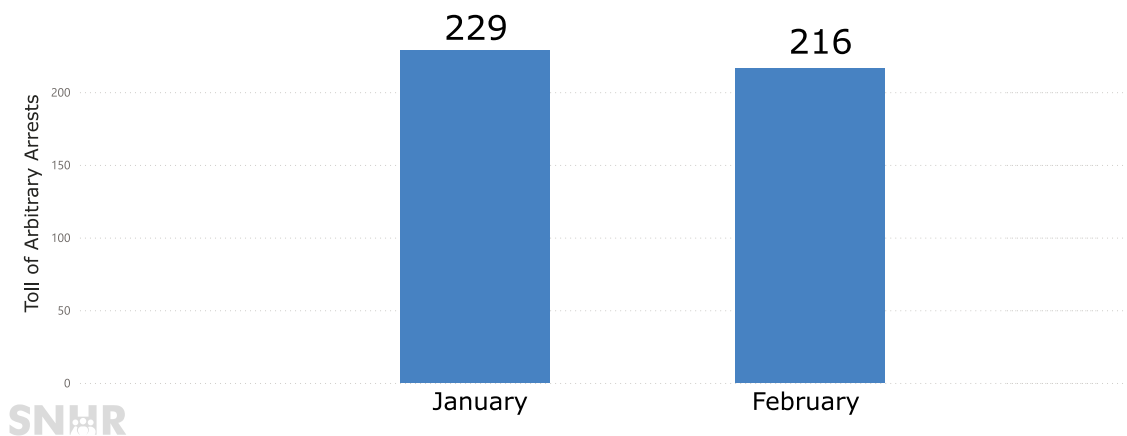
III. ARBITRARY ARRESTS, DETENTIONS, AND RELEASES IN SYRIA IN FEBRUARY 2025

A. Arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances since the start of 2025

SNHR has documented no fewer than 445 cases of arbitrary arrest since the beginning of 2025 up until the end of February, with those arrested including nine children and 10 women (adult female).

Arbitrary arrests/detentions carried out by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria in 2025 are distributed as follows:

No fewer than 445 arbitrary arrests, and detentions in the context of capturing those involved in violations under the Assad regime rule, documented in Syria in 2025

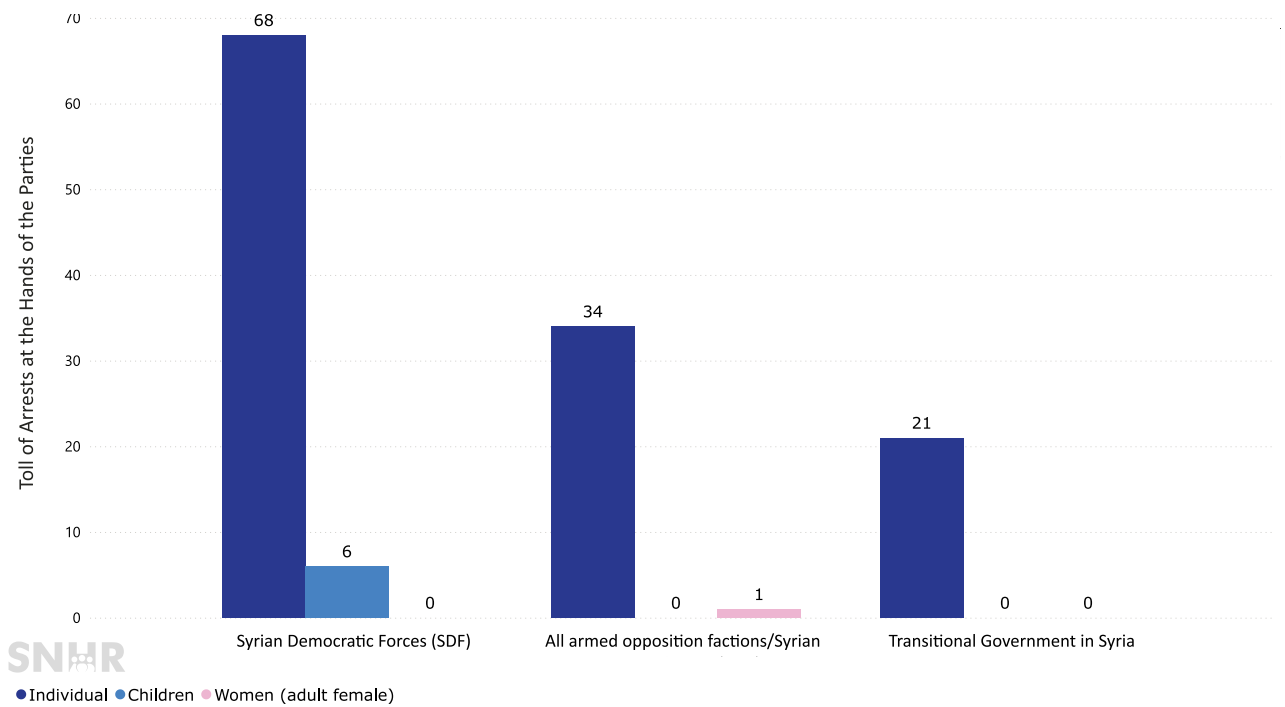


As the graph shows, January saw more arbitrary arrests, which is explained by the transitional government's General Security forces carrying out raid and arrest campaigns in areas under their control, particularly in the governorates of Latakia, Homs, Hama, and Damascus, as part of their efforts to apprehend those involved in violations under the rule of the former Assad regime. Meanwhile, Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) have arrested civilians over their voicing criticism of the SDF's practices in the territories it controls.

B. Arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance in February 2025

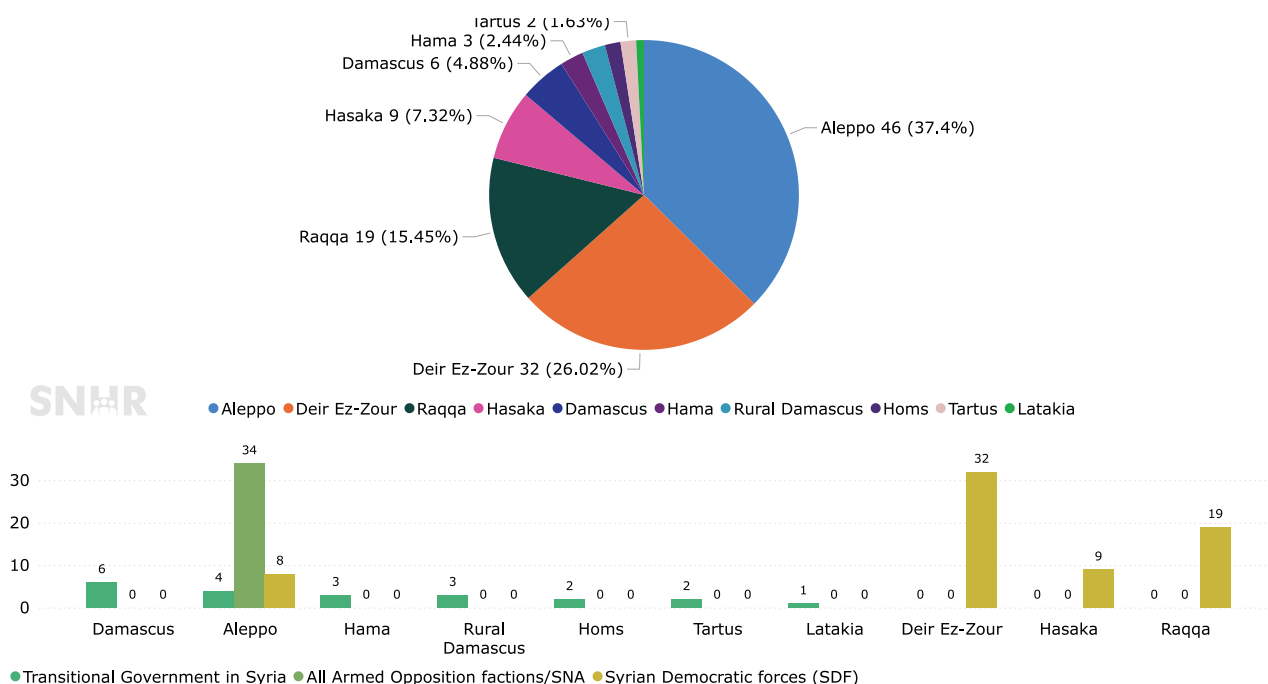
In February 2025, SNHR documented no fewer than 123 cases of arbitrary arrest/detention, with those detained including six children and one woman (adult females).

Arbitrary arrests/detentions documented in February 2025 are distributed according to the parties to the conflict and controlling forces as follows:



- **A. Transitional government:** 21 arrests. Of the 21 arrested, 19 have been released.
- **B. All armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA):** 34 arrests, including of one woman. Of the 34 people arrested, 19 have been released.
- **C. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF):** 68 arrests, including of six children. Of the 68 people arrested, nine have been released.

Arbitrary arrests/detentions documented as having been carried out in February 2025 by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



As the chart above shows, Aleppo governorate saw the highest number of arbitrary arrests/detentions in February, followed by Deir Ez-Zour, then Raqqa, then Hasaka, then Damascus, and then the two governorates of Rural Damascus and Hama.

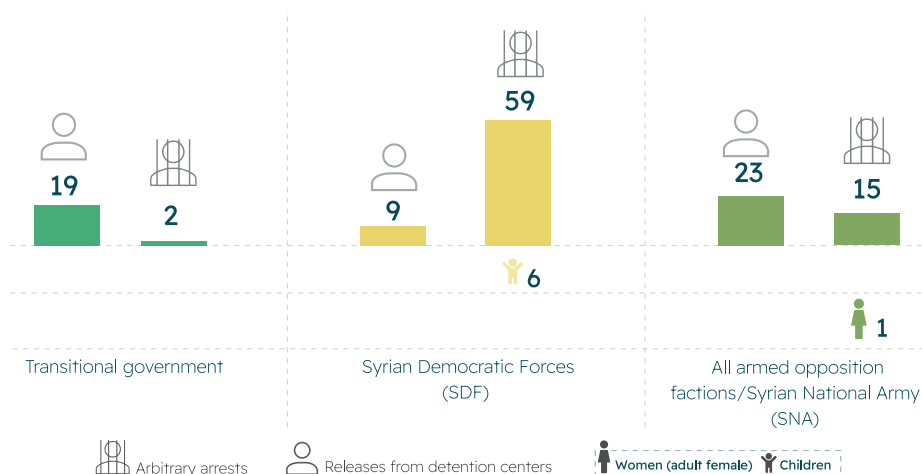
B. Releases from detention centers in February 2025

In February 2025, SNHR documented the release of no fewer than 51 people from the various parties' detention centers in Syria.

The releases by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria documented in February 2025 are distributed as follows:

- A. Transitional government:** 19 releases.
- B. All Armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA):** 23 releases.
- C. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF):** Nine releases.

Comparison between arbitrary arrests and releases from detention centers documented in February 2025 for each of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria:



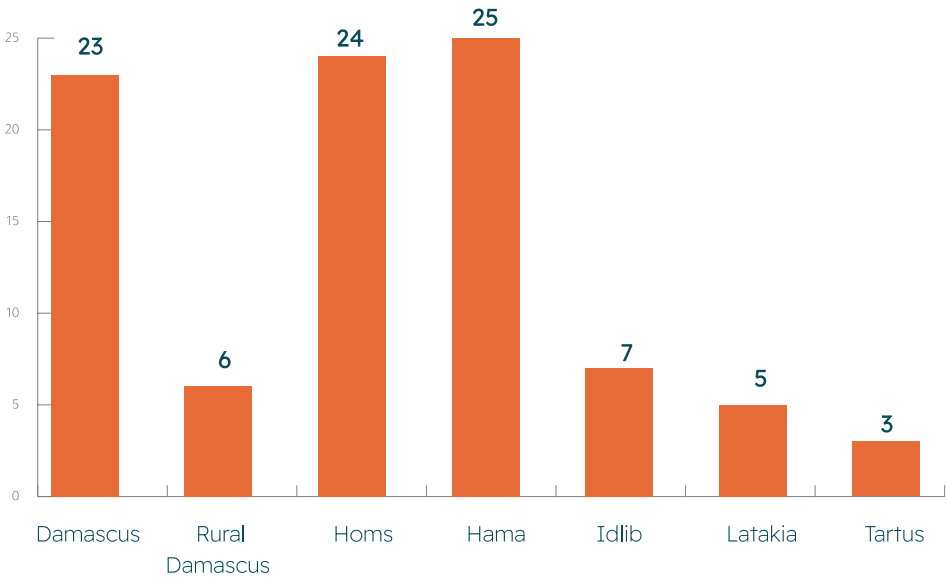
As the chart shows, the number of arrests carried out by SDF exceeds the number of releases, which is explained by the arrests carried out by SDF that targeted individuals who voiced criticism of the group's practices in its areas of control.

D. Detentions of those accused of being involved in violations under the former Assad regime rule in February 2025

With Syria transitioning into a new phase following the downfall of the former Assad regime, the transitional government detained **93 individuals, including one woman**, over accusations of being involved in human rights violations under the Assad regime's rule. According to the transitional government, these cases are subject to certain legal procedures.

On the other hand, **SNHR** is tracking the existing legal frameworks that govern these operations. We must also stress that detainees' names must be disclosed, and arrests must be in line with arrest warrants issued by the Public Prosecutor.

Detentions targeting those accused of being involved in violations under the former Assad regime that were carried out in February by the transitional government are distributed across governorates as follows:



As shown on the map, Hama saw the highest number of detentions that were carried out in the context of accountability by the transitional government in February 2025, followed by Homs governorate, and then Damascus governorate.

IV. MOST NOTABLE PATTERNS OF ARBITRARY ARRESTS, AND RELEASES BY THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT AND CONTROLLING FORCES IN SYRIA IN FEBRUARY 2025

The detentions carried out by the parties to the conflict in the areas under their control in February 2025 were carried out for various reasons and in different contexts. Below are a number of salient observations concerning the detentions carried out by the parties to the conflict in February 2025.

A. Transitional government

1. Arbitrary detentions

In February, the Internal Security forces, affiliated with the transitional government's Ministry of Interior, carried out arbitrary arrests/detentions targeting government employees, including university professors, over charges of administrative corruption. They were released hours after their detention, with these arrests concentrated in Rural Damascus governorate. We also documented arrest/detention operations targeting individuals accused of blasphemy (insulting the divine), which were concentrated in Hama city. Additionally, we recorded arrests/detentions targeting numerous civilians for undisclosed reasons,, primarily in the governorates of Aleppo and Homs. Most of those detained were released following mediation by local dignitaries.

2. Releases

In February 2025, we documented the transitional government's release of about 19 individuals who had been detained for periods ranging from a few hours to a few days. Most of those detained and released are originally from the governorates of Rural Damascus, Homs and Aleppo.

B. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)

1. Arbitrary detentions

In February 2025, the SDF continued its policies of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance. In pursuit of these policies, SDF personnel carried out mass raid and arrest campaigns targeting civilians on the pretext combating ISIS cells. We also documented SDF arrests/detentions targeting civilians over their alleged cooperation with Arab tribal forces and the SNA, and over accusations of taking part in Operation Deter Aggression, which was launched on November 27, 2024. The SDF also arrested and detained civilians over their [removing SDF banners and flags from some public sites](#) and replacing these with the current Syrian flag (the Syrian uprising flag) during the popular celebrations following the fall of the Assad regime. These arrests were concentrated in the SDF-controlled governorates of Hasaka and Raqqqa. We also documented arrests/detentions of civilians over their voicing criticism of the SDF's practices in the territories it controls.

Meanwhile, SDF also continued abducting children with the objective of conscripting them, with these children being sent to military training camps. The parents and families of these conscripted children are not allowed to contact them, with the SDF also refusing to disclose their fate.

2. Releases

In February 2025, we documented the SDF's release of nine detainees from its detention centers, who had been detained for periods ranging from a few days to a month. Most of those released were originally from the governorates of Deir Ez-Zour, Aleppo, and Raqqa.

C. All armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA)

1. Arbitrary detentions

In February 2025, armed opposition factions/SNA carried out arbitrary arrests/detentions, mostly of groups of people, targeting individuals coming from SDF-controlled areas, including women. We also documented arrests/detentions that exhibited an ethnic character, which were concentrated in areas under the SNA's control in Aleppo governorate. These arrests/detentions were carried out without any judicial authorization or any involvement of the police, which is the only body officially vested with judicial authorization to carry out arrests and detentions. These arrests were also carried out without any clear charges being leveled against the detainees.

Moreover, we documented arrests/detentions by the SNA of civilians over their alleged cooperation with the SDF, with these arrests being concentrated in a number of villages that are administratively a part of Afrin city in Aleppo governorate. Other arrests/detentions by the SNA involved a number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) returning to their homes in SNA-controlled areas, with these arrests also being concentrated in Afrin city.

In addition, we recorded arrests/detentions by the SNA's al-Sultan Suleiman Shah Division targeting a number of shop owners in Me'batli town (administratively a part of Afrin city) in northwestern Aleppo governorate over their friendly reception of personnel from the Internal Security force, which is affiliated with the transitional government's Ministry of Interior, as they entered the Afrin area. Those arrested were released a few hours later.

2. Releases

In February 2025, we recorded the release of about 23 individuals from armed opposition/SNA detention centers. Those released had been detained for periods ranging from a few hours to a month, and were mostly from Aleppo governorate.

V. SUMMARY OF THE DETENTIONS AND RELEASES CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS ACCUSED OF BEING INVOLVED IN VIOLATIONS UNDER THE FORMER ASSAD REGIME

A. Detentions

In February 2025, Internal Security forces, which are affiliated with the transitional government's Ministry of Interior, continued to carry out raids and detention campaigns targeting individuals accused of being involved in violations during the rule of the Assad regime, particularly in the governorates of Latakia, Homs, Hama, and Damascus. These operations included former military personnel, government employees, and media professionals who had previously worked for state-run stations affiliated with Bashar Assad's regime. These operations involved the seizure of large quantities of weapons and ammunition. The detainees were transferred to Homs and Hama central prisons and Adra prison in Rural Damascus governorate.

Although these operations were conducted as part of security campaigns, we have still yet to verify whether they were carried out based on lawful judicial warrants.

In this context, SNHR has prepared a [form](#) to enable members of the public to report human rights violations that take place in the transitional phase and post-transitional phase in Syria. Detainees' family members can fill these out and submit them to SNHR's team, who will follow up on these cases, record the results, and contact the families to complete the documentation process.

B. Releases

In February 2025, SNHR recorded 53 releases from the various detention centers. Those 53 individuals, which had been previously detained in connection with accountability efforts, were released following investigations that determined that they were not involved in crimes.

VI. SNHR'S VISION OF AND APPROACH TO THE ISSUE OF ARBITRARILY ARRESTED DETAINEES AND FORCIBLY DISAPPEARED PERSONS AT THE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

Since the beginning of the Syrian popular uprising for democracy in March 2011, SNHR has placed great emphasis on resolving the issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons in Syria, bearing in mind the humanitarian and human rights-related factors surrounding this matter. To ensure that this immensely sensitive issue is given the appropriate high priority, SNHR has assembled a working team consisting of highly trained and qualified members with legal and technical expertise. This team has been working tirelessly to document and record violations, beginning by establishing a database to catalogue the details of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons. These documentation efforts are then used as the foundation for periodically released detailed reports, which aim to help in protecting the rights of victims and their families and to expose the perpetrators of violations.

Since the issue of missing and forcibly disappeared persons is one of the most persistent, complex and dangerous issues that continues to plague Syrian society, SNHR has strived to work in coordination with the various international and UN entities to document and combat this harrowing phenomenon. These partners include the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (COI), the International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM), the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), and the UN Independent Institution on Missing Persons in Syria. SNHR's work in this field involves collecting and analyzing evidence and information on enforced disappearance cases and related violations, and providing the international community with accurate reports and information based on these investigations. As such, SNHR's reports have become a vital instrumental and reputable source of information on these issues internationally.

Successes and accomplishments

As mentioned above, thanks to our invaluable expertise and strict compliance with international standards, SNHR's data has come to be regarded as a reputable principal source of information for many UN bodies, being used and cited in numerous UN statements and resolutions, including a draft resolution on the situation of human rights in Syria ([A/C.3/78/L.43](#)), passed by a majority vote on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, which condemned the Assad regime's continued serious violations of international law. This resolution also acknowledged that the documented number of detainees in Syria exceeds 135,000. Relatedly, the resolution holds the Assad regime responsible for the systematic use of enforced disappearance, which, it notes, constitutes a crime against humanity.

Meanwhile, [the case brought against the Assad regime at the Hague-based International Court of Justice \(ICJ\)](#) on the Application of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Canada and the Netherlands v. Syrian Arab Republic) draws upon the data and evidence supplied by SNHR. Elsewhere, SNHR, through its many partnerships, has contributed to numerous legal cases brought against individuals responsible for human rights violations in Assad regime detention centers under the principle of universal jurisdiction in Europe and of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act in the US, as well as contributing to various other cases, all of them steps on the path to justice and accountability.

Documenting victims

In the years since its foundation, SNHR has established multiple rigorous procedures to document and provide details on victims in detention centers, building on our ever-expanding wealth of experience gained through close monitoring of enforced disappearance cases. SNHR has also maintained a longstanding and close working relationship with the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, which has required maintaining constant communication with the families of 'missing' and 'disappeared' persons to build comprehensive files for every case. Up until the Assad regime's downfall on December 8, 2025, this data was then sent to the UN special rapporteur who could then contact the relevant regime officials to enquire about some of the cases submitted. Furthermore, SNHR continues to correspond with the two UN special rapporteurs on torture, counterterrorism, and mental health to follow up on such cases.

Facilitating communication with victims

In addition to the above, we created [a special online form](#) on our website which detainees' families can use to report their loved ones' cases; once the family members complete this form, it's then sent automatically to our team working on the issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons. SNHR has also always endeavored to ensure that we're easily accessible for victims' families, through facilitating various means of communication, including phone numbers, our official channels online, or through our team members who are scattered across Syria, who work to collect information and provide support for the families.

VI. Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions

- **Failure to comply with fair trial procedures:** The data documented shows that many detentions have been carried out without judicial warrants or legal guarantees, which is an explicit violation of Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) that prohibits arbitrary arrests and affirms detainees' right to know the cause of their detention and to appear before a court as soon as possible.
- **Violating the dignity of detainees and the prohibition of torture:** The report documents physical and psychological abuses against detainees, including torture and degrading treatment, that explicitly contravene the 1984 Convention Against Torture, which compels all parties to take effective measures to prevent torture and to hold those who carry out torture accountable.
- **More must be done to ensure the legal and organized release of detainees:** While we have documented the release of some detainees, these processes currently lack any clear judicial procedures or transparent investigative processes, which raises concerns about arrests continuing outside the relevant legal frameworks, in violation of the principle of the arbitrary deprivation of liberty, as established in Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- **More must be done to protect victims' rights and their families:** The fact that enforced disappearance persists without the fate of forcibly disappeared persons being revealed or any official information about them being provided to their families is a violation of the 2006 International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which compels states and organizations to reveal detainees' place of detention and to enable families to know their loved ones' fate.
- **Absence of accountability mechanisms and transitional justice:** Despite the political change, insufficient measures have been taken to date to ensure accountability for past violations or to achieve justice for the victims, reflecting an inadequate level of commitment to the requirements of transitional justice which necessitates establishing investigation and accountability mechanisms, in addition to ensuring that these violations do not recur in the future.
- Armed opposition factions/SNA have carried out arrest and torture practices against some residents in areas under their control.
- The SDF has committed violations of basic human rights, including torture and enforced disappearance even though it possesses a political structure, which means that it is also obligated to abide by international human rights law.

Recommendations

UN Security Council and international community

1. Refer crimes to the International Criminal Court (ICC)

- pressure on government and international stakeholders, including the Russian government, to ensure the extradition of those responsible for crimes, such as Bashar Assad and his close aides, to the competent international courts for trial.

2. Freeze and seize the funds of the former regime

- Take legal action to freeze and confiscate the funds and assets of the former regime's officials who were involved in violations, and use those resources to support transitional justice programs and compensate victims.

3. Support international efforts to reveal the fate of missing persons and achieve national reconciliation

- Secure the necessary resources to support the efforts of the Independent Institution on Missing Persons in the Syrian Arab Republic (IIMP) and the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP), including training local teams on advanced search techniques to identify the missing.
- Fund programs to support national reconciliation, and provide psychological and social support for the families of forcibly disappeared persons.

UN Human Rights Council

- Continue to focus on the issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons in Syria and regularly highlight this issue in all annual meetings.
- Promote cooperation and coordination with active local human rights groups in Syria to support the efforts of documentation and accountability.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (COI)

- Launch in-depth investigations into all the arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance cases included in this report and previous reports.
- Focus on the issue of forcibly disappeared persons and ensure the monitoring of the status of forcibly disappeared persons following the Assad regime's downfall.
- Cooperate with human rights groups, including SNHR, to secure the necessary evidence.

International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)

- Collect and analyze evidence on the crimes of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, and torture included in this report.
- Support the exchange of information and expertise with Syrian organizations working in the field of documenting violations.

UN and international community

- Apply pressure on all parties to compel them to publish lists of detainees' names and reveal the location of these prisoners' detention according to a fixed timetable.
- Allow UN and international organizations, particularly the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), to access detention centers to assess the humanitarian conditions there.
- Support organizations working on documenting violations and torture, and provide sustainable support for victim rehabilitation programs.

UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

- Increase the capacity of the team working on the issue of forcibly disappeared persons in Syria, especially in light of the high numbers and extensive scope of enforced disappearance cases in the country.
- Prepare periodic and more detailed reports on developments to maintain pressure on involved parties.

UN Independent Institution on Missing Persons in Syria (IIMP)

- Look into all the cases included in this report and cooperate with SNHR to obtain the necessary data.
- Ask the transitional government to start operating in Syria and to cooperate with the IIMP to document the cases of the missing and take effective steps to ensure transparency and accountability.

Russian government

- Cooperate with the international community to extradite Bashar Assad and fugitives implicated in war crimes to the custody of the transitional government or the competent international courts.
- Support the efforts aimed at promoting transitional justice in Syria to ensure fair reparation for the victims.

All parties to the conflict and the controlling forces

- Arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances must be ended immediately; the fate of all detainees and forcibly disappeared persons must be revealed.
- Families must be allowed to visit detainees immediately, and the bodies of detainees who have died as a result of torture must be returned to their families.
- Ensure the unconditional release of all arbitrarily arrested detainees, especially those who have been imprisoned merely for exercising their political and civil rights.
- Allow international monitors, such as those with the COI and the ICRC, to access all detention centers with no restrictions.
- A UN committee must be formed to monitor and periodically assess the release of detainees
- End the policy of carrying out arrests without presenting legal warrants, and ensure that detainees appear before courts within a reasonably short period of time following their arrest.

Syrian transitional government

1. Cooperate with international organizations

- Issue official invitations to independent UN and international agencies, including:
 - International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)
 - Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
 - International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP).
 - International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- Enable these organizations to have unrestricted access to detention centers and crime scenes.

2. Protect evidence and crime locations

- Document burial sites and prisons, and prevent any interference or evidence tampering.
- Adopt clear measures to preserve all articles of evidence and ensure their use in fair trials.

3. Promote transitional justice and accountability

- Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and grant the ICC retroactive jurisdiction.
- Devise a comprehensive plan to hold those responsible for crimes accountable, compensate victims, and enhance transparency in investigations.

4. Reform the judicial and security system to prevent future violations

- Enact new legislation that ensures the autonomy of the judiciary and prohibits all forms of arbitrary arrest.
- Restructure the security apparatus in line with international human rights standards.

5. Ensure the highest standards for detentions carried out within the context of accountability

- Activate judicial oversight over detentions carried out in the context of accountability to ensure compliance with the law and international standards.
- Publish periodic lists of detainees held in the context of accountability along with the reasons for their detention to ensure transparency.
- Develop an independent judicial review mechanism for detentions carried out within the context of accountability to prevent any violations.
- Ensure the right of detainees who were arrested in the context of accountability to access independent legal representation and fair trials.
- Emphasize that all accountability processes follow clear legal procedures while preventing any violations that may constitute human rights violations.
- Establish a human rights monitoring mechanism to ensure that accountability does not become a tool for arbitrary detention.

6. Provide psychological and social support for those affected

- Establish specialist programs to rehabilitate torture and detention survivors, and provide support for victims' families.

7. Enhance monitoring and accountability for the state security services

- Establish independent monitoring committees to ensure the non-recurrence of violations during security services' operations.
- Hold those responsible for human rights violations accountable to ensure non-recurrence.

8. Improve communication with families and enhance transparency

- Hold regular meetings with local community representatives to clarify security policies and ensure that no groups are specifically targeted.
- Publish periodic reports on arrests and releases to ensure transparency.

9. Address misinformation campaigns

- Establish official platforms on social media to publish accurate news.
- Cooperate with independent media to ensure professional coverage of events.

10. Respect human rights during security operations

- Train security forces in how to treat detainees in a humane way.
- Commit to releasing any suspect who was part of the Assad regime if it's been established that they were uninvolved in perpetrating any violations.

11. Expedite settlement procedures for wanted individuals

- Implement a fair process to resolve the situation of wanted individuals, and encourage them to reintegrate in society.

12. Involve civil society in decision-making

- Enhance the role of the local community in decision-making mechanisms to ensure fair representation for all groups.
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Acknowledgment and Solidarity

We wish to extend our most sincere thanks to survivors and to victims' family members and friends, as well as to eyewitnesses and local activists, for their significant and invaluable contribution to this report. We stand in full solidarity with all detainees and forcibly disappeared persons and their families.



SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



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No justice without accountability

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