European External Action Service (EEAS)

HRC 50 - EU Intervention: Interactive Dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

2022-06-29 · Geneva · Press and information team of the Delegation to the UN in Geneva

Mr President,

The European Union thanks the Commission of Inquiry for its oral update and reiterate its full continued support to the Commission.

The European Union firmly condemns the persistent, widespread, systematic and serious violations and abuses of human rights and all violations of international humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict, especially by the Syrian regime and its allies.

We thank the Commission of Inquiry also for its continued attention to the plight of Syria’s missing and disappeared persons and we look forward to the Un Secretary General report on a possible mechanism on this issue.

We are gravely concerned about the ongoing high-level of sexual and gender-based violence and the persistent violations against children and persons with disabilities by the Syrian regime. We reiterate our strong concern about reports of social and demographic engineering in all areas throughout Syria. Conditions for a safe, voluntary and dignified return of refugees and displaced persons, including IDPs, are still not met.

We reiterate our call to have the situation in Syria referred to the International Criminal Court.

The European Union reiterates that safe, full, unhindered and sustained access for humanitarian organisations to alleviate the suffering of the Syrian people is imperative, including to places of confinement or detention, and, given the huge and still growing humanitarian needs, calls for a renewal for one year at least of cross-border aid, in line with humanitarian principles.

Since 2011, the European Union and its Member States have been the largest donors of humanitarian and resilience assistance to Syria and the region with €27.4 billion in response to the Syrian crisis. The Brussels Conference held in May 2022 aimed at reasserting the international community's commitment towards Syrians and their host communities in neighbouring countries and towards a credible, viable and inclusive political solution to the conflict, in line with all the dimensions of UN Security Council Resolution 2254.

I thank you.

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