

Dedicated to Making A Difference

R radwanziadeh.com

Renowned

Author & Public Intellectual

Working towards democratic and pluralistic Syria

“Ziadeh is not so much a person as an institution,”
The Washington Post, September 2, 2011.

“Mr. Ziadeh is a prominent political figure in Syria”
New York Times, June 23, 2017.

“He is a secular liberal activist who not only dreams of a Syrian democracy, but also for years did his best to promote one through organizations he founded”
The Washington Post, Editorial Board, June 29, 2017.

“He is the most prominent, respected, and trusted Syrian dissident in the Washington, D.C., area”
Foreign Policy, July 25, 2017.



Hello, I am Radwan Ziadeh. I am a renowned author, public speaker, and activist. I have dedicated my life to making a difference through my activities and my writing. I have a focus on Syria, not because it is my home country but it also because Syria today is the tragedy of our times.

My areas of expertise and interests: Syria, Arab Spring, Democratization, Political Islam, Middle East Politics, U.S Foreign Policy, Human Rights, Religion, Development and Governance.

My Current Positions

My Work in Transitional Justice

The Syrian Uprising

- Since the Syrian uprising started on March 15, 2011, I was involved in documenting the ongoing human rights violations in Syria and testified at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva twice and in front of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission in the U.S Congress.
- I was also involved in the Syrian political opposition. I was elected in October 2011 as the director of the Foreign Relations Office of the Syrian National Council until I resigned from the position in November 2012.
- Late in 2012, I established the Syria Experts House (<http://syrianexperthouse.org>), which is a combined group of approximately 300 human rights activists, academics, judges, lawyers, opposition leaders, and diplomats. All of the members were committed to holding periodic meetings to build a final vision of the transitional period and produce considered, deliberate recommendations for Syria`s political future.
- At the end of 2013, the Syria Experts House developed the “Syria Transition Roadmap” <http://syrianexperthouse.org/archives/775>), which was considered as the most comprehensive vision for the democratic future of Syria and endorsed by the Syrian opposition, the Friends of Syria coalition, and the U.N.
- In 2016, I participated in the Syria Peace Talks in Geneva as a representative of the Syrian civil society and engaged with the negotiations to implement the UNSC resolution 2254, especially in the issues of drafting a new constitution and elections. In 2017, I became the legal adviser to the Syrian opposition delegation to Astana talks in Kazakhstan with the focus on the issues of political prisoners and the missing persons of the Syria war.

Building The Civil Society in Syria

My Academic Background

A Visiting Fellow & Scholar

Op-ed Writer

My Awards



About the “We Are Syrians” Book

My biography featured in a book called "We Are Syrians: Three Generations. Three Dissidents" that was edited by Adam Braver and Abby DeVeuve. The book gives an insight into the "courage and defiance," and "tells the larger story of the Syrian conflict and the conditions that brought about the worst humanitarian crisis in recent history."

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