

Statement by the Federal Foreign Office on the report on Aleppo by the UN Human Rights Council's Independent International Commission of Inquiry

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02.03.2017 - Press release 

A Federal Foreign Office Spokesperson issued the following statement today (2 March) on the report published yesterday by the UN.(United Nations) Human Rights Council's Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic :

“The latest report by the UN.(United Nations) Human Rights Council's Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic on the battle for Aleppo in autumn 2016 is harrowing.

It documents the brutality and ruthlessness of the Syrian regime and its allies, which deliberately puts civilians at risk by conducting targeted air strikes on schools and hospitals. However, the armed opposition groups were also guilty of serious human rights abuses.

The report by the Commission of Inquiry shows how urgently these severe human rights abuses must end and how important it is that the perpetrators be brought to justice.

This is another reason why it is important that the negotiations in Geneva be continued and that talks on concrete issues begin as soon as possible. Moreover, the situation of the people in Syria must finally significantly improve. Those who support the Syrian regime bear a particular responsibility in this regard.”

Background information:

On 2 March 2017, the Human Rights Council's Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic published its report on the battle for Aleppo in autumn 2016. In its report, the Commission of Inquiry notes the severest violations of

international humanitarian law and human rights, which it says amount to war crimes. Most of the criticism is directed at the Syrian regime and its allies. However, armed opposition groups were also guilty of violations through their indiscriminate shelling of civilians.

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