

Federal Decree-Law no. (5) of 2012
 Issued on 25 Ramadan 1433 AH
 Corresponding to 13 August 2012 AD
ON COMBATING CYBERCRIMES

Abrogating:**Federal law no.2/2006 dated 3/1/2006 AD.**

We, Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan President of the United Arab Emirates State,
 After perusal of the constitution, and
 Federal Law no. (1) of 1972 on the Jurisdictions of the Ministries and the Powers of the Ministers and the amending laws thereof, and
 Federal Law no. (9) of 1976 on Delinquent and Homeless Juveniles, and
 Federal Law no. (10) of 1980 on the Central Bank, the Monetary System and the Regulation of the Profession of Bankers, and the amending laws thereof, and
 Federal Law no. (15) of 1980 on Publications and Publishing, and
 Federal Law no. (3) of 1987 on the Issuance of the Penal Code and the amending laws thereof, and
 Federal Law no. (35) of 1992 on the Issuance of the Penal Procedures Code and the amending laws thereof, and
 Federal Law no. (37) of 1992 on Trademarks and the amending laws thereof, and
 Federal Law no. (14) of 1994 on Combating Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and the amending laws thereof, and
 Federal Law no. (4) of 2002 on Criminalizing Money Laundering, and
 Federal Law no. (7) of 2002 on the Copyright and related rights and the amending laws thereof,
 Federal Law no. (17) of 2002 on Regulation and Protection of Industrial Ownership patents, industrial drawings and designs, and
 Federal Decree-Law no. (3) of 2003 on Regulation of the Communication Sector and the amending Laws thereof, and
 Federal Decree-Law no. (1) of 2004 on Combating Terrorism Crimes, and
 Federal Law no. (1) of 2006 on Electronic Transactions and Commerce, and
 Federal Law no. (2) of 2006 on Combating Cybercrimes, and
 Federal Law no. (51) of 2006 on Combating Human Trafficking, and
 Federal Law no. (6) of 2008 on the Establishment of the National Council for Tourism and Archeology, and
 Federal Law no. (3) of 2009 on Fire Weapons, Ammunitions and explosives, and
 Federal Decree-Law no. (3) of 2012 on the Establishment of the National Electronic Security Authority, and
 Upon the proposal of the Minister of Justice and the approval of the Council of Ministers,
 Have promulgated the following Decree-Law:

Article 1

The following terms and phrases shall have the meanings assigned opposite to each of them unless the context indicates otherwise:

The State:	The United Arab Emirates State.
Competent Authorities:	Federal or local authorities concerned in the electronic security affairs in the State.
The Content:	Information, data and electronic services.
Electronic Information:	Any information which may be stored, processed, generated and transmitted through information technology means and in specific writings, images, sound, digits, letters, symbols, signals and others.

Computer Program	A set of data, instructions and orders which are enforceable through information technology means designed for a certain task.
Electronic Information System	A set of computer programs and information technology means designed for processing, managing and saving electronic information and the like.
Computer Network:	Two or more computer programs and information technology means linked together to enable users to access and exchange information.
Electronic Document:	A computer record or data to be established, stored, extracted, copied, sent, notified or received by electronic means through a medium.
Website:	A place where the electronic information are made available on the computer network, including social communication sites, personal pages and blogs.
Information Technology means:	Any tool, whether electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical or any other tool which is used to process electronic data, perform logical and arithmetic operations or storage functions, and includes any directly related to or operating in conjunction with such means which enables such means to store electronic information or communicate them to others.
Government Data	Means electronic data or information whether private or relating to the federal government or local governments of the Emirates of the State, or to federal or local public authorities or public establishments.
Financial, Commercial, or Economical Facilities:	Any facility which acquires its financial, commercial or economical description pursuant to the license issued by the competent authority in the State.
Electronic:	Whatever is related to electromagnetic, photoelectric, digital, credit, or light technology or the like.
Pornography involving Juveniles	Any photographing, recordings, drawings or others which arouses sex organs or any actual, virtual or simulated sexual acts with a juvenile under eighteen years of age.
Internet Protocol address	A numerical label assigned to any information technology means participating in a computer network which is used for communication purposes.
Confidential	Any information or data unauthorized to be disclosed or made available to third parties unless by a prior permission from the owner of this authorization.
Reception:	Viewing or obtaining data or information.
Offense:	Every deliberate expression against any person or entity deemed by an ordinary person as insulting or afflicts the dignity or honor of that person or entity.

Article 2

1- Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than one hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of three hundred thousand Dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever gains access to a website, an electronic information system, computer network or information technology means without authorization or in excess of authorization or unlawfully remains therein.

2- The punishment shall be imprisonment for a period of at least six month and a fine not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of seven hundred and fifty thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties if any of the acts specified in paragraph (10) of this Article has resulted in deletion, omission, destruction, disclosure, deterioration, alteration, copying, publication or re-publishing of any data or information.

3- The punishment shall be imprisonment for a period of at least one year and a fine not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties if the data or information objects of the acts mentioned in paragraph (2) of this Article are personal.

Article 3

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least one year and by a fine not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever commits any of the crimes specified in sections (1) and (2) of Article (2) of this Decree-Law in the course of or because of his work.

Article 4

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment and a fine not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million five hundred thousand dirhams whoever accesses a website, electronic information system, computer network, or information technology means without authorization whether such access is intended to obtain government data, or confidential information relating to a financial, commercial or economical facility.

The punishment shall be imprisonment for a period of at least five years and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of two million dirhams, if these data or information were deleted, omitted, deteriorated, destructed, disclosed, altered, copied, published or re-published.

Article 5

Shall be punished by imprisonment and by a fine not less than one hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of three hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever gains access to a website without authorization intending to change its designs, or delete, destroy or modify it, or occupy its address.

Article 6

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment and a fine not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of seven hundred and fifty thousand dirham whoever commits forgery of any electronic document of the federal or local government or authorities or federal or local public establishments.

The punishment shall be both imprisonment and a fine not less than one hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of three hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties if the forged documents belong to an authority other than those mentioned in paragraph one of this Article.

Shall be punished by the same penalty decided for the crime of forgery, as the case may be, whoever uses this forged electronic document with his knowledge that the document is forged.

Article 7

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment whoever obtains, possesses, modifies, destroys or discloses without authorization the data of any electronic document or electronic information through the computer network, a website, an electronic information system or information technology means where these data or information are related to medical examinations, medical diagnosis, medical treatment or care or medical records.

Article 8

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than one hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of three hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever hinders or obstructs access to the computer network or to a website or an electronic information system.

Article 9

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever uses a fraudulent computer network protocol address by using a false address or a third-party address by any other means for the purpose of committing a crime or preventing its discovery.

Article 10

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least five years and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of three million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever willfully and without authorization runs a software on the computer network or an electronic information system or any information technology means, and caused them to stop functioning or being impaired, or resulted in crashing, deletion, omission, destruction or alteration of the program, system, website, data or information.

The punishment shall be imprisonment and a fine not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties if the result was not reached.

The punishment shall be imprisonment and a fine or either of these two penalties for any deliberate act which intends to flood the electronic mail with messages causing it to stop functioning, inactivate it or destroy its contents.

Article 11

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least one year and a fine not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever takes over a personal property, benefit, deed or its signature whether for oneself or for other persons and without legal right, by resorting to any fraudulent method or by adopting a false name, or false personation through the computer network, or an electronic information system or any information technology means.

Article 12

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine or either of these two penalties whoever gains access, without legal right, to credit or electronic card numbers or data or to bank accounts numbers or data or any other electronic payment method by using the computer network or an electronic information system or any information technology means.

The punishment shall be imprisonment for a period of at least six months and a fine not less than one hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of three hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties, if it is intended to use these data and numbers to take over the funds of others or to benefit from the services which they provide.

If he has reached to take over the funds of others whether for himself or for others, he shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least one year, and a fine not less than two hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties.

Shall be punished with the same penalty specified in the preceding paragraph, whoever publishes or re-publishes credit or electronic card numbers or data or bank accounts numbers or data which belong to others or any other electronic payment method.

Article 13

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of two million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever forges, counterfeits or reproduces a credit card or debit card or any other electronic payment method by using any information technology means or computer program.

Shall be punished by the same penalty whoever:

1- Manufactures or designs any information technology means or computer program for the purpose of facilitating any of the acts specified in paragraph 1 of this Article.

2- Uses, without authorization, a credit or electronic card or debit card or any other electronic payment method aiming to obtain, whether for himself or for others, the funds or properties of others or benefit from the services provided by third parties.

3- Accepts to deal with these forged, counterfeited, reproduced cards or other electronic payment method with his knowledge of its illegality.

Article 14

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than two hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever obtains, without legal right, a secret number, code, password or any other means to have access to an information technology means, website, electronic information system, computer network or electronic information.

Shall be punished with the same penalty whoever prepares, designs, produces, sells, buys, imports, displays for sale or make available any computer program or any information technology means, or promotes by any means links to websites, computer program or any information technology means designed for the purposes of committing, facilitating or abetting in the commission of the crimes specified in this Decree-Law.

Article 15

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than one hundred fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever, without authorization, deliberately receives or intercepts any communication through any computer network.

Whoever discloses the information which he has obtained through illegal reception or interception of communications shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least one year.

Article 16

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of two years at most and a fine not less than two hundred fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever uses a computer network or information technology means to extort or threaten another person to force him to engage in or prevent him from engaging in a certain act.

The punishment shall be imprisonment up to ten years if the subject of threat is to commit a felony or engage in matters against honor or morals.

Article 17

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or transmits, sends, publishes or re-publishes through the computer network pornographic materials or gambling activities and whatever that may afflict the public morals.

Shall be punished by the same penalty whoever produces, draws up, prepares, sends or saves for exploitation, distribution, or display to others through the computer network, pornographic materials or gambling activities and whatever that may afflict the public morals.

If the subject of the pornographic content involves a juvenile under eighteen years of age, or if such content is designed to seduce juveniles, the principal shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least one year and a fine not less than fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one hundred and fifty thousand dirhams.

Article 18

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least six months and a fine not less than one hundred fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams whoever has deliberately acquired pornographic materials involving juveniles by using an electronic information system or computer network or electronic website or any information technology means.

Article 19

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than two hundred fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever entices, aids or abets another person, by using a computer network or any information technology means, to engage in prostitution or lewdness.

The punishment shall be imprisonment for a period of at least five years and a fine not in excess of one million dirhams if the victim is a juvenile under the age of eighteen years of age.

Article 20

Without prejudice to the crime of slander determined by the Islamic Sharia, shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than two hundred fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever insults or accuses another person of a matter of which he shall be subject to punishment or being held in contempt by others, by using a computer network or an information technology means.

If a slander or insult is committed against a public official or servant in the course of or because of his work, this shall be considered an aggravating factor of the crime.

Article 21

Shall be punished by imprisonment of a period of at least six months and a fine not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever uses a computer network or and electronic information system or any information technology means for the invasion of privacy of another person in other than the cases allowed by the law and by any of the following ways:

1- Eavesdropping, interception, recording, transferring, transmitting or disclosure of conversations or communications, or audio or visual materials.

2- Photographing others or creating, transferring, disclosing, copying or saving electronic photos.

3- Publishing news, electronic photos or photographs, scenes, comments, statements or information even if true and correct.

Shall also be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least one year and a fine not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever uses an electronic information system or any information technology means for amending or processing a record, photo or scene for the purpose of defamation of or offending another person or for attacking or invading his privacy.

Article 22

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least six months and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever uses, without authorization, any computer network, website or information technology means to disclose confidential information which he has obtained in the course of or because of his work.

Article 23

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever establishes, administer or runs a website or publishes information on a computer network or any information technology means for the purpose of trafficking in humans or human organs or dealing in them illegally.

Article 24

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams whoever establishes or administer or runs a website or publishes on a computer network or any information technology means which would promote or praise any programs or ideas which would prompt riot, hatred, racism, sectarianism, or damage the national unity or social peace or prejudice the public order and public morals.

Article 25

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least one year and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or publishes information on a computer network or any information technology means for the purpose of trading or promoting fire weapons, ammunitions or explosives in instances other than those permitted by the law.

Article 26

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of at least five years and a fine not less than one million dirhams and not in excess of two million dirhams whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or publishes information on the computer network or information technology means for the interest of a terrorist group or any unauthorized group, association, organization, or body with the intent to facilitate communication with their leaders or members or attract new members, or to promote or praise their ideas, finance their activities or provide actual assistance thereof or for the purpose of publishing methods for manufacturing incendiary devices or explosives or any other devices used in terrorism acts.

Article 27

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than two hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of five hundred thousand dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or publishes information on the computer network or any information technology means to call or promote for the collection of donations without a license accredited by the competent authority.

Article 28

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment and a fine not in excess of one million dirhams whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or uses information on the computer network or information technology means with intent to incite acts or publishes or transmits information, news or cartoon drawings or any other pictures which may endanger the national security and the higher interests of the State or afflicts its public order.

Article 29

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment and a fine not in excess of one million dirhams whoever publishes information, news, statements or rumors on a website or any computer network or information technology means with intent to make sarcasm or damage the reputation, prestige or stature of the State or any of its institutions or its president, vice-president, any of the rulers of the Emirates, their crown princes, or the deputy rulers of the Emirates, the State flag, the national peace, its logo, national anthem or any of its symbols.

Article 30

Shall be punished by life imprisonment whoever establishes, manages or runs a website, or publishes information on the Computer network or information technology means aiming or calling to overthrow, change the ruling system of the State, or seize it or to disrupt the provisions of the constitution or the laws applicable in the country or to oppose the basic principles which constitutes the foundations of the ruling system of the state.

Shall be punished by the same penalty whoever promotes to, incites or facilitates to others the commission of any of the aforementioned acts.

Article 31

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than two hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever calls or incites to disobeying the laws and regulation in force in the State through publishing information on the Computer network or information technology means.

Article 32

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or uses the Computer network or any information technology means for planning, organizing, promoting or calling for demonstrations or protests or the like without license from the competent authority.

Article 33

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or uses the Computer network or information technology means for trafficking in antiquities or archeological artifacts in instances other than those permitted by the law.

Article 34

Shall be punished by imprisonment of at least of one year and a fine not less than two hundred fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever uses communication services, audio or video broadcasting channels without legal right or facilitates such use by others over the Computer network or information technology means.

Article 35

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Islamic Sharia, shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not less than two hundred fifty thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever commits through the computer network or any information technology means or a website any of the following crimes:

- 1- Insult to any of the Islamic sanctities or rituals.
- 2- Insult to any of the sanctities or rituals of other religions where these sanctities and rituals are inviolable pursuant to the provisions of Islamic Sharia.
- 3- Insult to any of the recognized celestial religions.

4- Condoning, provoking or promoting sin.

If the crime contains any insult to the Divinity (Allah, God) or to the messengers and prophets or be against the religion of Islam or injures its basis and principles which constitute its foundation, or whoever oppose or injures the well-known teachings and rituals of Islamic religion or prejudices the religion of Islam or preaching another religion or calls for, praises or promotes a doctrine or a notion which involves any of the aforementioned shall be punished by imprisonment up to seven years.

Article 36

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment and a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of one million dirhams or either of these two penalties whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or publishes information on the computer network or any information technology means for trafficking in or promoting narcotics or psychotropic substances and the like or the manner for their use or facilitates such dealing in instances other than those permitted by the law.

Article 37

Without prejudice to the provisions specified in the Money Laundering Law, shall be punished by imprisonment up to seven years and by a fine not less than five hundred thousand dirhams and not in excess of two million dirhams whoever deliberately commits, by using a computer network, an electronic information system or any information technology means, any of the acts mentioned hereinafter:

- 1- Illegal transfer, transport or deposit of funds with intent to conceal or disguise the source of funds.
- 2- Concealing or disguising the nature of the illicit funds, or its origin, movement, related rights or ownership.
- 3- Illegal attainment, possession or use of funds with the knowledge of its illegal origin.

Shall be punished by the same punishment whoever establishes, manages or runs a website or publishes information on a computer network or information technology means to facilitate or incites the commission of any of the acts specified in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 38

Shall be punished by temporary imprisonment whoever provides any organizations, institutions, authorities or any other entities through the computer network or any information technology means any incorrect, inaccurate or misleading information which may damage the interests of the State or injures its reputation, prestige or stature.

Article 39

Shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine or any of these two penalties any owner or operator of a website or computer network who deliberately and knowingly saves or makes available any illicit content or if he fails to remove or blocks access to this illicit content within the period determined in the written notice addressed by the competent authorities indicating the illegal content and being available on the website or the computer network.

Article 40

Attempted misdemeanors specified in this Decree-Law shall be punished with half the penalty specified for the complete crime.

Article 41

Without prejudice to the right of bona fide third-party, shall be ordered, in all instances, the confiscation of devices, programs or means used in the commission of any of the crimes specified in this Decree-Law or the money accrued thereof, or deletion of the information and statements or their killing, as to the closure of the domain or site in which any of these crimes is committed whether permanent closure or for a specified period as determined by court.

Article 42

The court may decide deportation of a foreigner who is condemned in any of the crimes specified in this Decree-Law upon execution of the punishment adjudged.

Article 43

Without prejudice to the provisions of the penalties specified in this Decree-Law, the court may order to put the condemned under surveillance or control or orders his deprivation from the right to use any computer network or electronic information system or any other information technology means or place him in a rehabilitation center for a period which the court may deem appropriate.

Article 44

The crimes mentioned in Articles (4, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30 and 38) of this Decree-Law shall be considered as crimes against the State security.

Shall also be deemed as crimes against State security any crime specified in this Decree-Law if committed to the account or benefit of a foreign country or any terrorist group or illegal group, association, organization or body.

Article 45

Mitigation of or exemption from punishment may be ordered by the court, at the request of the public prosecutor, regarding criminals who have provided the judicial or administrative authorities with information in respect of any of the crimes relating to the State security pursuant to the provisions of this Decree-Law, where such a matter has resulted in the discovery of the crime, or proving the case against them or arresting any of them.

Article 46

The use of the computer network, the Internet, any electronic information system, a website or any information technology means shall be considered an aggravating factor when committing any crime not specified by the present Decree-Law.

Shall also be considered as an aggravating factor the commission of a crime specified in this Decree-Law to the account or benefit of a foreign country or any terrorist group, or illegal group, association, organization or body.

Article 47

Without prejudice to the provisions of chapter two of part two of book one of the Penal Code, the provisions of this Decree-Law shall apply to any person who has committed any of the crimes mentioned therein outside the country, if its object is an electronic information system, computer network, website or information technology means relates to the federal government or any of the local governments of the Emirates of the State or any authority or public institution owned by any of them.

Article 48

The application of the penalties specified in this Decree-Law shall not prejudice any other greater penalty specified by the Penal Code or any other law.

Article 49

The officials determined by a decision from the Minister of Justice shall have the capacity of judicial officers for the ascertainment of acts committed in violation to the provisions of this Decree-Law, and the competent authorities in the Emirates are required to submit facilities necessary to those officials to enable them to perform their tasks.

Article 50

Federal Law no. (2) of 2006 on Combatting Cybercrimes shall be abrogated, and shall also be abrogated any provision contrary to or contradicting with the provisions of this Decree-Law.

Article 51

This Decree-Law shall be published in the official gazette and be put into effect on the next day of publication.

Issued by Us, at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi

On 25 Ramadan 1433 AH

Corresponding to 13/08/2012 AD

Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

President of the United Arab Emirates State

The present Federal Decree-Law was published in the Official Gazette, issue no. 540 (Addendum), p. 19.



NEWS

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UAE supports statements of Kingdom of Bahrain and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Qatar.

6/5/2017



وزارة الخارجية والتعاون الدولي MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The United Arab Emirates has issued the following statement:

"The UAE affirms its complete commitment and support to the Gulf Cooperation Council and to the security and stability of the GCC States. Within this framework, and based on the insistence of the State of Qatar to continue to undermine the security and stability of

the region and its failure to honour international commitments and agreements, it has been decided to take the following measures that are necessary for safeguarding the interests of the GCC States in general and those of the brotherly Qatari people in particular:

1-In support of the statements issued by the sisterly Kingdom of Bahrain and sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates severs all relations with the State of Qatar, including breaking off diplomatic relations, and gives Qatari diplomats 48 hours to leave the UAE.

2-Preventing Qatari nationals from entering the UAE or crossing its points of entry, giving Qatari residents and visitors in the UAE 14 days to leave the country for precautionary security reasons. The UAE nationals are likewise banned from traveling to or staying in Qatar or transiting through its territories.

3-Closure of UAE airspace and seaports for all Qataris in 24 hours and banning all Qatari means of transportation, coming to or leaving the UAE, from crossing, entering or leaving the UAE territories, and taking all legal measures in collaboration with friendly countries and international companies with regards to Qataris using the UAE airspace and territorial waters, from and to Qatar, for national security considerations.

The UAE is taking these decisive measures as a result of the Qatari authorities' failure to abide by the Riyadh Agreement on returning GCC diplomats to Doha and its Complementary Arrangement in 2014, and Qatar's continued support, funding and hosting of terror groups, primarily Islamic Brotherhood, and its sustained endeavours to promote the ideologies of Daesh and Al Qaeda across its direct and indirect media in addition to Qatar's violation of the statement issued at the US-Islamic Summit in Riyadh on May 21st, 2017 on countering terrorism in the region and considering Iran a state sponsor of terrorism. The UAE measures are taken as well based on Qatari authorities' hosting of terrorist elements and meddling in the affairs of other countries as well as their support of terror groups – policies which are likely to push the region into a stage of unpredictable consequences.

While regretting the policies taken by the State of Qatar that sow seeds of sedition and discord among the region's countries, the UAE affirms its full respect and appreciation for the brotherly Qatari people on account of the profound historical, religious and fraternal ties and kin relations binding UAE and Qatari peoples."

Al-Bayan<http://www.albayan.ae>**Attorney General Warns against Sympathy for Qatar or Objecting to the State's Positions****Source:** Al-Bayan Online**Date:** June 07, 2017

Counsellor Dr. Hamad Saif Al-Shamsi, the UAE Attorney General, warned that the State of the United Arab Emirates had taken a decisive decision against the Qatari government due to its hostile and irresponsible policy toward the State and a number of sister Gulf and Arab States, and that the decision is intended to protect the national security of the State, its supreme interests, and the interests of its people.

Therefore, it is necessary to announce that expressing sympathy, bias, or affection for that state, or objecting to the position of the State of the United Arab Emirates and the strict and firm measures that it has taken against the Qatari government, whether through social media with tweets or posts, or any other verbal or written method, is considered a crime punishable by temporary imprisonment for three to fifteen years and a fine of no less than five hundred thousand dirhams in accordance with the Federal Penal Code and the Federal Decree-Law on Combating Cybercrimes. This is due to the damage that such acts cause to the supreme interests of the State, national unity, and social peace, as well as the effect that such acts have in weakening the social fabric of the State and the unity of its people.

The Federal Public Prosecution will enforce the law against the perpetrators of such crimes.

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النائب العام يحذر من التعاطف مع قطر أو الاعتراض على مواقف الدولة

المصدر: البيان الإلكتروني

التاريخ: June 2017 07

صرح المستشار الدكتور حمد سيف الشامسي النائب العام للدولة بأن دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة قد اتخذت قراراً حاسماً ضد حكومة قطر نتيجة لسياساتها العدائية واللامسئولة ضد الدولة وعدد من الدول الشقيقة الخليجية والعربية وبأني هذا القرار حفاظاً على الأمن القومي للدولة ومصالحها العليا ومصالح شعبيها .

لذا وجب التنويه إلى أن إبداء التعاطف أو الميل أو المحاباة تجاه تلك الدولة ، أو الاعتراض على موقف دولة الامارات العربية المتحدة وما اتخذته من إجراءات صارمة وحازمة مع حكومة قطر، سواء عبر وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي بتغريدات أو مشاركات، أو بأي وسيلة أخرى قولاً أو كتابة، يعد جريمة معاقبا عليها بالسجن المؤقت من ثلاثة إلى خمس عشرة سنة وبالغرامة التي لا تقل عن خمسمائة الف درهم طبقاً لقانون العقوبات الاتحادي والمرسوم بقانون إتحادي بشأن مكافحة جرائم تقنية المعلومات ، لما يترتب عليها من أضرار بالمصالح العليا للدولة ، والوحدة الوطنية والسلم الاجتماعي ، فضلاً عما لتلك الممارسات من أثر في إضعاف النسيج الاجتماعي للدولة ووحدة شعبيها .

وستمارس النيابة العامة الاتحادية واجبها الوطني بتطبيق القانون على مرتكبي هذه الجرائم.

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CERTIFICATION

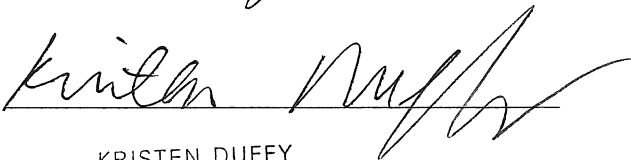
This is to certify that the attached translation is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a true and accurate translation from Arabic into English of the attached article titled “Attorney General Warns against Sympathy for Qatar for Objecting to the State’s Position,” dated June 7, 2017.



Jeff Cureton, Senior Managing Editor
Geotext Translations, Inc.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 8th day of June, 2018.



KRISTEN DUFFY
NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK
No. 01DU6121852
Qualified In Queens County
My Commission Expires 01-31-2021



Date : 11/06/2017

No.2/2/1023

To all United Arab Emirates Ports and ship agents.

After Greetings

**Subject: Implementation Process of the decision
related to Qatar sanctions.**

With reference to the decisions issued by the Government of United Arab Emirates on severing relations with State of Qatar, all UAE ports implement the following:

1. Not to receive any Qatari flag vessel or owned by Qatari Companies or Qatari individuals.
2. Not Load /Unload any cargo of Qatari origin in any port or water of UAE
3. Not to allow ships to load any cargo of UAE origin to State of Qatar.

Kindly informed and alert those concerned to implement strictly

Dr. Abdullah Salem Alkatheeri
Director General



**First Report Regarding the Human Rights
Violations
as a Result of the Blockade on the State of Qatar**

Phone & Fax

Telephone: 00974444048844

Fax: 0097444444013

Hotline

0097466626663

0097450800006

009745006008

E-mail

nhrc@qatar.org.qa

Website

www.nhrc-qa.org

P. O. Box

23104

Doha, Qatar.

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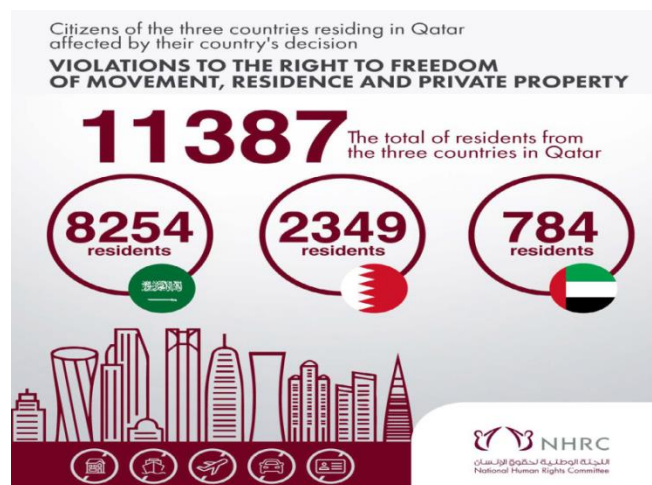
- I. Summary
- II. Report Methodology
- III. Most Notable Violations of the rights to:
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 - c. Work
 - d. Freedom of Expression and Opinion
 - e. Rights to movement and residence
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I. Summary

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Kingdom of Bahrain severed relations with the state of Qatar, on 5 June, 2017, that involved closure of sea, land, and air routes in the face of trades, and also in the face of Gulf Citizens in a series of actions never witnessed before by the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), disregarding all human rights and humanitarian standards and principles and their legal obligations, as those three states are fully aware of the great interrelations and connections among the region's people and nations on all social, economic, cultural, civilian levels.

In this report, the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) sheds light on the violations of the most basic human rights reported since 5 June, the day on which the blockade and ban was imposed, until Monday , 12 June, by citizens of: KSA, Qatar, UAE, Bahrain (without addressing the political domain, as it is not included in the mandate of the NHRC).

Since Monday , 5 June 2017, hundreds of complaints have been submitted to the NHRC via e-mail, phone and hotlines , or personal visits to the NHRC headquarters in Doha, Qatar's capital. According to the data received, approximately 11,387 citizens from the three states live in Qatar, and approximately 1927 Qatari citizens live in those states. All of those people have been affected in different areas and ways to varying degrees. In some cases, the actions taken by these states separated mothers from her children.



On Sunday , 11 June, (Six days after the decision), KSA issued a royal order to take into consideration the humanitarian situation of mixed families (Saudi-Qatari), then the UAE followed their footsteps, and then Kingdom of Bahrain. While the NHRC appreciates this step and sees it as a step in the right direction, NHRC also calls on the three states to clarify the implementation mechanisms, emphasizes that it has to include all human rights and legal areas, and calls for ending the blockade and all violations in all its forms, and compensating the affected families and individuals.

Dr. Ali al Marri, chairman of NHRC, stated that “The GCC Dispute Settlement Commission should play a role in resolving the ongoing conflict, especially that the conflict directly affects the lives and rights of a large number of GCC citizens.”

II. Report methodology

In the aftermath of the crisis that affected citizens of four GCC states (citizens and residents in the State of Qatar), NHRC extended working hours for monitoring, documenting, and following-up cases. NHRC received about 119 complaints via e-mail, and countless phone calls. About 381 individuals visited the NHRC to report their cases. During the period covered by the report, researchers opened files, filled in complaints forms prepared by NHRC, with attaching copies of identification documents, while some complainants attached university and school reports, work contracts, family related information, and other documents that are available in the NHRC archive.

NHRC will, and is, progressively sharing these files with the concerned international human rights and legal parties. It is worth noting that an individual might be subjected to more than one type of violations. Therefore, the total number of files reflecting the total number of violations is certainly greater than the total number of individuals; as we reported cases in which some individuals were deprived of their families, their right to education and freedom of movement is affected. As of Monday, 12 June, a total of 764 violations have been reported since 5 June, the date on which the blockade, ban, and boycott imposed.

In this report, we shed light on the most notable violations that occurred. Out of the 764 documented cases, we refer to the most notable two, or three forms of each violation, in order to maintain the size of the report. Please note that the concerned parties can acquire all of these forms and documents.

Also, we referred to names using initial letters in order to preserve their safety and security, in light of unprecedented procedures by the UAE that involved imposing penalties including to 3-15 years' imprisonment and fines of 500,000 AED for merely showing sympathy towards the state of Qatar.

Surely, the data provided by the victims are different from one case to another. However, all of these cases enjoy a high level of credibility. Most of the data were acquired personally through personal visits from the affected parties. Additionally, we received complaints from people regarding violations against their first-degree relatives, where the victims were in other countries and are, as they claimed, unable to visit the NHRC headquarters, contact it, or send an e-mail -which we are still receiving on a daily basis- in this regard, we encourage all the citizens of the four states who suffer from any violations as a result of these abusive decisions to submit their complaints at the NHRC or any other national or international organizations. In light of this, what the NHRC was able to report and document is still the bare minimum, considering that many of those whose rights were violated don't know of the existence of any mechanisms for complaint submission. In addition, many of them seriously are afraid to reveal their identities due to that measures and actions that could be taken against them by their countries' local authorities if they contacted or submitted a complaint.

The Qatari government has not taken any action against the citizens of the three states, and we didn't receive any complaint of that nature.

III. Most notable violations

The following table includes classifications of the 764 files we reported, and their distribution according to each of the 3 states:

Complaint / Country	Educati on	Owners hip	Family Separation	Travel	Health	Religiou s Practice s	Work	Residen cy	Total
Saudi Arabia	9	179	74	212	4	25	23	7	764
UAE	16	35	21	46	-	-	3	-	
Bahrain	5	2	60	19	5	-	12	2	
Multiple	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	
Total	30	216	155	282	9	25	38	9	

Types of Human Rights Violations resulting from Cutting the Diplomatic Ties :

Violations of the right to

- ✈ Freedom of movement
- 🏠 Private property
- 🗣 Freedom of opinion and expression
- 👨👩👧👦 Family reunification and forced deportation
- 🎓 Education
- 🕌 Religious practice
- 🏥 Healthcare
- 🏢 Work

Affected groups:

- women
- children
- mixed families
- persons with disabilities
- nationals
- residents



A. Violation to the right of family reunification

This might be the most serious and appalling violation that resulted from the abusive decisions made by the three states, because it affects and threatens the ties of the united Gulf Families.

It also threatens the most vulnerable categories of society – women, children, people with disabilities, and the elderly- not to mention that it is an explicit violation to many articles of the international human rights laws.

In this regard, NHRC recorded 155 forms pertaining to families that were separated, even though we are absolutely certain that actual number is far greater.

Citizens of the three countries residing in Qatar affected by their country's decision

VIOLATIONS AFFECTING MIXED FAMILIES

Qatari women married to:



Qatari men married to:



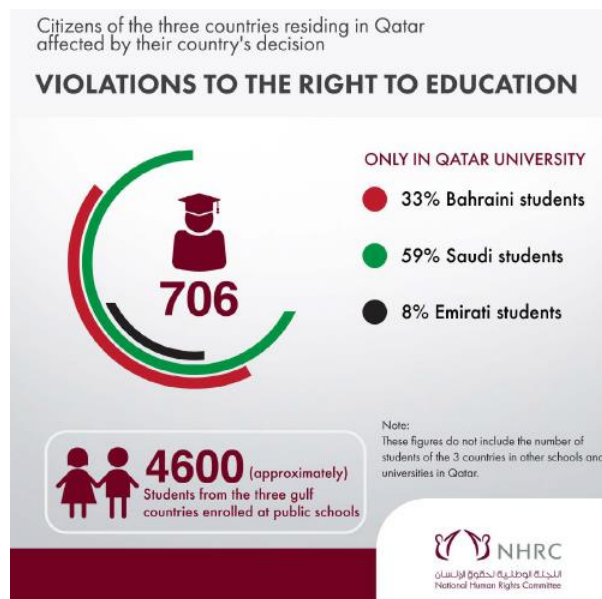
Mrs. (N.H.), Saudi born in 1990, visited the NHRC headquarters and stated the violations she suffered from: “I have been a widow for three years. I live in the State of Qatar along with my two minor children who have a Qatari nationality. I don’t have a job, but I am supporting my family financially from my late husband’s family, which is paid by the State of Qatar. I am enrolled in Qatar University, and living in a rented house until the inheritance case is settled at court. On 8 June, Saudi authorities informed me to go back to the Saudi Arabia without my children.

I can’t leave my children alone in Qatar, but I am afraid arbitrary actions will be taken against me if I didn’t comply.”

Mr. (K.S.), Bahraini born in 1984, called NHRC and then visited NHRC headquarters and stated that: “I live and work in the State of Qatar with my wife and my mother who both have Qatari nationality. The decision to sever relations with Qatar will force me to leave my work and family in Qatar and go back to Bahrain. How can I leave my wife and my mother, who suffers from a disability, and uproot my life and work here? I don’t wish to leave Qatar, and I am afraid of the punitive actions that might be taken against me by the Bahraini authorities.”

B. Violation of the right to Education

The education future of every Saudi, Emirati, or Bahraini studying in Qatar schools or universities has been put in jeopardy this year. Therefore, Qatari authorities decided to postpone those students' exams in order to maintain their right to complete their education and lose the progress they made in their whole academic year especially that we are at the end of the school year. However, the focus remains on the Qatari students studying in the three states.



NHRC received 30 cases regarding that violation in particular – we will highlight the following four main cases:

(F.M.), an Emirati student, born in 1998, he was deprived of the opportunity to complete his education. Also, he was separated from his mother who has a Qatari nationality. He stated that:

“I am in grade year 11 at Mohammad ben Abdul Aziz High School in Doha, Qatar. I live with my divorced mother in the State of Qatar. The Emirati authorities notified me that I have to leave Qatar, which will prevent me from completing my education, and will separate me from my mother who has a Qatari nationality.”

(H.A.), Qatari born in 1986, contacted NHRC and stated that: “I study at the Applied Science University in the Kingdom of Bahrain. On 8 June, 2017, Bahraini authorities prevented me from entering the Bahraini lands, so I won’t be able to attend my exams, which means I will fail.”

According to what Mrs. (A.F.), Qatari, stated to the NHRC that, University of Sharjah, in the UAE, cancelled her registration at the university and prevented her from completing her education until 2018 after ties were cut with Qatar: “After paying the full expenses for the summer internship semester at Sharjah University, I was prevented from continuing my studies on 8 June, 2017, and, even more, I was forced to leave UAE on the same day.”

Mrs. (K.W.), Qatari born in 1992 and lives in Dubai emirate, he stated that : “I live, work, and study in Dubai emirate , in my last year at Zayed University, and I have a work contract as a jockey at Al Nasr Stable owned by Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid .. The university administration called me on 10 June, 2017, to inform me that I was banned from studying due to the “recent political developments”. I lost my education, my work, and my future.”

C. Violation of the right to Work

As with education, hundreds of business owners were affected after those states abruptly stopped -in order to cause as much harm as possible- all trading convoys, and thousands of tons of food or health supplies have expired. Hundreds of business owners lost great, immeasurable sums of money.

What is even more crucial is that there are entire families that rely completely on traveling between Gulf states, and those families’ only source of income has been cut off. However, none of the three states have compensated those families or sought an alternative for them, which intensified popular resentment even further.

Moreover, many citizens who are employed at public, private, or government sectors and used to move freely between the four countries are now jobless with no source of income and with no compensations from the three states that initiated the blockade.

NHRC received no less than 38 complaints from individuals who are affected by these abusive actions.



Mr. (H.M.), Saudi born in 1979, stated that: “I work at the State of Qatar, and I have a wife and kids who live with me in Doha, and I am also supporting my elder mother financially. Because of the decision to cut ties between my country and Qatar, I have to leave my job and go back to KSA. I am afraid that I will be subjected to arbitrary punitive actions in case I don’t comply with the news decisions.”

Mr. (A.B.), Saudi, expressed his concern about him being subjected to sanctions if he doesn’t comply with his country’s decisions and leave Qatar. Mr. (A.B) stated that: “I have been living in Qatar since 1974. I have my wife and kids here who live with me in Doha and are enrolled in schools here. This decision will force me to leave my job and the country that I lived all this time in. I am afraid of the sanctions that would be incurred by the Saudi authorities if I don’t comply.”

D. Violations to the right of Freedom of Opinion and Expression

UAE imposes penalties 3-15 years' imprisonment and fines of 500,000 AED just for merely showing sympathy towards the State of Qatar by even a word, a like, or a tweet on social media in an unprecedented threat to freedom of expression. Bahrain’s Ministry of Interior imposes five-year imprisonment, while KSA considered this an internet crime.

These very extreme and harsh actions betray the fragility of the grounds and legitimacy of the blockade decision by those three states, and reflect how much those states' authorities are afraid from citizens' freedom to express any opinions that don't agree with their will.

This blatantly goes against many of international and regional declarations and covenants as we will detail further in the Legal Description portion of this report.

In the media field , the NHRC observed 103 affected media personnel from the three states that imposed the blockade and boycott, who used to work at several positions such as Audio, Print, and Visual Media in the State of Qatar have all been subjected to various types of violations, including being forced resign by their countries from their jobs. Accordingly, 10 of those were forced to submit and resign, and lost their jobs and source of income. There are still great pressures on everyone who didn't submit their resignation. These actions constitute a blatant violation to the freedom of the press, freedom to work, freedom of residence, and freedom of opinion all at the same time.



E. violations of the right to movement and residence (including for the dead)

Mr. (M.R.), Saudi, stated that: “My father died at Hamad Hospital in the State of Qatar. On 7 June, 2017, Saudi authorities prohibited me from going to Qatar to receive his body. They don’t respect the sanctity of death.”

F. Other violations

We recorded other forms of violation, all were due to the blockade, and some of which overlap with the main aforementioned violations, such as family separation and denial of travel. These violations are:

- Violation of the right of private property

Mr. (A.E.), Qatari, visited NHRC and stated that:

“I own a large group of camels in KSA, and I leased a land for my camels, in addition to a vehicle and also I hire workers whom I obtained a work residency from the State of Qatar so they can take care of my camels and feed and water them. On 5 June, 2017,

Saudi authorities barred me from passing through the land crossing (Salwa) so I can access my properties. And I couldn’t bring the workers back to Qatar. These actions will result in fines being imposed on me related to the workers’ residency permits, and I don’t know what will be done to my properties in Saudi Arbaia, and I am afraid my camels will die.”

Mr. (H.N.), Qatari who owns residential and industrial lands in UAE, called us and we asked him to come to NHRC headquarters, and stated that:

“I have four residential lands in Masfout Strip, Ajman area, and one industrial land in Arqoub area, Sharjah city. Emirati authorities prevented me on 5 June, 2017, from entering UAE and accessing my properties. I don’t have any idea what will happen to my properties in light of this actions.”



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Mr. (K.M.), Qatari born in 1969, stated that after Emirati authorities banned him from entering their lands: “I have been living with my family in Dubai emirate for years. I have been working for Ras al-Khaimah Bank for 14 years.

Emirati authorities banned me from going into UAE after the decision to cut ties with Qatar, and they didn’t let me see my wife and daughter, and I was subjected to a degrading, inhumane treatment by Dubai Airport employees.”

- Being subjected to Inhumane degrading treatment, , and violation to the right to freedom of religious practices

Qataris going for Umrah (minor pilgrimage to Mecca) in Saudi Arabia were prohibited from doing so after the decision to cut ties was taken. Saudi authorities forced them to leave their lands, and they treated them in an ill-manner.

A Qatari citizen filming himself in a video at Jeddah Airport, and how Saudi authorities forbade him to go into Mecca for Umrah.

https://youtu.be/64_Dn2XMw54

Mrs. (M.G.), Qatari born in 1954, told NHRC the details of the violations she suffered: “On 5 June, 2017, I had to leave KSA before I got to perform an Umrah. The authorities

didn’t let me travel directly from Jeddah Airport to Doha Airport, and I had to go there through Turkey, which caused a great psychological and financial burdens on me.”

Mr. (M.E.), Qatari born in 1942, contacted NHRC and gave a testimony, and talked about his violation: “On 5 June, 2017, and after the decision to cut ties with the State of Qatar, I was forced to leave KSA before I got to conduct an Umrah. The Saudi authorities prohibited me from traveling directly from Jeddah Airport to Doha Airport, and I had to go back through Turkey, which had caused a great psychological and financial toll on me.”

- Violation of the right to Health - Especially for persons with Disabilities

Mr. (K.S), Saudi, contacted NHRC and stated that: “I live in the State of Qatar, and I suffer from an illness in my kidney. On 11 June, 2017, I was supposed to undergo a surgery in my right kidney at Hamad General Hospital in the State of Qatar. But after the decision to



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cut ties between Saudi Arabia and Qatar, I have to go back to KSA, and the situation will be complicated and my health will be affected. In case I don't comply, I will be subjected to the penalties KSA issued.”

Mrs. (R.M.), Qatari, talked to NHRC and stated that: “I have health conditions, and I was about to undergo a surgery at Suliman al Habib Hospital in Riyadh city, KSA on 17 June, 2017, but the decision to cut ties with Qatar will force me to go back to Qatar without completing my treatment, which will affect my health, but I am afraid from the actions that could be taken against me if I stayed in Saudi Arabia”

IV. Conclusions and Legal Description

In their resolutions, KSA, UAE, and Kingdom of Bahrain, violated a number of principle international human rights laws and rules, which are related to the most fundamental human rights , which are treated as international norms. These resolutions violate a number of articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, other articles included in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in addition to articles in the: Arab Charter on Human Rights, the GCC Declarations of Human Rights, and the Economic Agreement between the GCC States. Therefore, those states are responsible for protecting and preserving the rights and interests of the individuals living on their lands.

The Texts of the Articles that were violated by the three Gulf states:

First: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.
2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious



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groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Second: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

PART II

Article 2

1. Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Third: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Part III

Article 6

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his living by work which he freely chooses or accepts, and will take appropriate steps to safeguard this right.

Article 10

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize that:



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1. The widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family, which is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, particularly for its establishment and while it is responsible for the care and education of dependent children. Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses.
2. Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. During such period working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.
3. Special measures of protection and assistance should be taken on behalf of all children and young persons without any discrimination for reasons of parentage or other conditions. Children and young persons should be protected from economic and social exploitation.

Their employment in work harmful to their morals or health or dangerous to life or likely to hamper their normal development should be punishable by law. States should also set age limits below which the paid employment of child labor should be prohibited and punishable by law.

Article 13

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to education. They agree that education shall be directed to the full development of the

human personality and the sense of its dignity, and shall strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. They further agree that education shall enable all persons to participate effectively in a free society, promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations and all racial, ethnic or religious groups, and further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

Fourth: Arab Charter on Human Rights

Article 3

1. Each State party to the present Charter undertakes to ensure to all individuals subject to its jurisdiction the right to enjoy the rights and freedoms set forth herein, without



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distinction on grounds of race, color, sex, language, religious belief, opinion, thought, national or social origin, wealth, birth or physical or mental disability.

Article 8

1. No one shall be subjected to physical or psychological torture or to cruel, degrading, humiliating or inhuman treatment.

Article 26

1. Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State party shall, within that territory, have the right to freedom of movement and to freely choose his residence in any part of that territory in conformity with the laws in force.

Article 32

1. The present Charter guarantees the right to information and to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any medium, regardless of geographical boundaries.

2. Such rights and freedoms shall be exercised in conformity with the fundamental values of society and shall be subject only to such limitations as are required to ensure

respect for the rights or reputation of others or the protection of national security, public order and public health or morals.

Article 33

1. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society; it is based on marriage between a man and a woman. Men and women of marrying age have the right to marry and to found a family according to the rules and conditions of marriage. No

marriage can take place without the full and free consent of both parties. The laws in force regulate the rights and duties of the man and woman as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.



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2. The State and society shall ensure the protection of the family, the strengthening of family ties, the protection of its members and the prohibition of all forms of violence or abuse in the relations among its members, and particularly against women and children. They shall also ensure the necessary protection and care for mothers, children, older persons and persons with special needs and shall provide adolescents and young persons with the best opportunities for physical and mental development.

3. The States parties shall take all necessary legislative, administrative and judicial measures to guarantee the protection, survival, development and well-being of the child in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity and shall ensure, in all cases, that the child's best interests are the basic criterion for all measures taken in his regard, whether the child is at risk of delinquency or is a juvenile offender.

Fifth: Human Rights Declaration for the Member States of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf

Article (6)

The Freedom of belief and the practice of religious rites is a right of every person according to the regulation (law) without disruption of the public order and public morals.

Article (9)

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and exercising such freedom is guaranteed insofar as it accords with Islamic Sharia law, public order and the regulations (laws) regulating this area.

Article (14)

The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, originally composed of a man and a woman, governed by religion, morals and patriotism; its entity and bonds are maintained and reinforced by religion. Motherhood, childhood and members of the family are protected by religion as well as the State and society against all forms of abuse and domestic violence.

Article (24)

Every person, who has the capacity of doing so, has the right to work and has the right to free choice of employment according to the requirements of dignity and public interest, while just and favorable employment conditions, as well as employees' and employers' rights, are ensured.

Article (27)

Private property is inviolable and no one shall be prevented from the disposition of his property except by the regulation (law), and it may not be expropriated unless for public interest with fair compensation.

V. Recommendations

The United Nations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

1- The great amount of social violations constitute a threat to the stability of the region, and is stated to have a negative impact on the economic and social levels. Speedy steps must be taken to force the states that issued these unjust decisions to repeal their actions.

2- The OHCHR to prepare reports and statements documenting the various types of violations that affected great numbers of people, especially the families that were

separated, including the negative consequences on women and children as a result of the separation of their families. Also, the OHCHR to call on these states to respect the basic freedoms of the people living on their lands.

Human Rights Council

To Take every possible action in order to end the blockade and its ramifications, and call for the compensation of all people who were harmed and affected.

Human Rights Council Special Rapporteurs

To Document forms of the various types of violations that occurred, and contact the certain concerned governments in that regard as soon as possible. NHRC is fully prepared to share all the related data.

General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council

The Dispute Settlement Commission of the Supreme Council at the Gulf Cooperation Council to take urgent actions and do everything in its power to convince the concerned governments to start settling the dispute and the social, civil, and cultural situation for the affected families and citizens.

KSA, UAE, and Kingdom of Bahrain

1- Respect the nature of the Gulf societies, and to refrain from making any decisions that sever the relations and ties between families and societies , and to repeal these decisions as early as possible.2- Respect the basic human rights related to freedom of movement, private property, work, residence, and freedom of expression and opinion that are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

3- The political disputes must not affect the humanitarian and social rights and will being of citizens, which is considered a violation of the international law and the international human rights law.

4- Respect the holiness of the Month of Ramadan, repeal all decisions, and end the siege before Eid al-Fitr.

QATAR DISCRIMINATION

Gulf / Qatar dispute: Human dignity trampled and families facing uncertainty as sinister deadline passes

19 June 2017, 10:14 UTC

Thousands of people in the Gulf face the prospect of their lives being further disrupted and their families torn apart as new arbitrary measures announced by Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the context of their dispute with Qatar are due to come into force from today, said Amnesty International.

The three Gulf states had given their citizens the deadline of 19 June to leave Qatar and return to their respective countries or face fines and other unspecified consequences. They had given Qatari nationals the same deadline to leave Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the UAE and have refused entry to Qatari nationals since 5 June.

“The situation that people across the Gulf have been placed in shows utter contempt for human dignity. This arbitrary deadline has caused widespread uncertainty and dread amongst thousands of people who fear they will be separated from their loved ones,” said James Lynch, Deputy Director of Amnesty International’s Global Issues Programme.

“ The situation that people across the Gulf have been placed in shows utter contempt for human dignity. This arbitrary deadline has caused widespread uncertainty and dread amongst thousands of people who fear they will be separated from their loved ones. ”

James Lynch, Deputy Director of Amnesty International’s Global Issues Programme

“With these measures, the governments of Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain have needlessly put mixed-nationality families at the heart of a political crisis.”

“They should immediately cancel this sinister arbitrary deadline, otherwise thousands of families risk being torn apart, with others losing their jobs or the opportunity to continue their education. People undergoing medical treatment are being made to choose between continuing their treatment or complying with the overly broad and harsh measures announced by Saudi Arabia, UAE and Bahrain.”

The dispute has created growing concern about what will happen if residents choose to remain with their families across Gulf states. Some have told Amnesty International they are preparing to travel to countries outside the dispute to be reunited with their families.

The governments of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and UAE have made statements acknowledging the impact of their measures on mixed-nationality families and announced the establishment of emergency hot lines for affected individuals. Such a measure is clearly insufficient to address the human rights impact of the arbitrary, blanket measures imposed on 5 June.

Additionally, Amnesty International has spoken to a number of people who tried to call these hot lines. Their experiences raise serious questions about whether these hot lines are providing effective advice or information. Several people said they had tried in vain for hours or days to get through to the hot lines. Those who got through said officials asked them for minimal details about their cases and told them they would receive a call back, but there had been no follow-up. Amnesty International has rung the hot lines and asked how cases registered were being dealt with, but officials were not able to provide any information.

Some affected families have told Amnesty International that they are too scared to call hot lines and register their presence, or their family's presence, in a “rival” country for fear of reprisal.

Statements by the authorities in Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain that people will be punished for expressing sympathy towards Qatar or criticizing government actions have contributed to the climate of fear spreading across the region.

On 13 June a Bahraini lawyer was arrested after he filed a lawsuit against his government arguing that the measures taken against Qatar are unconstitutional and violate the rights of Bahraini citizens, then posted a copy of this complaint on his Facebook page.

A Qatari man unable to return to his farmland in Saudi Arabia has told Amnesty International that his friends in Saudi Arabia were too scared to look after his land or remain in contact with him for fear of being prosecuted by the Saudi Arabian government for sympathizing with him.

“It is unthinkable that states can so blatantly infringe on the right to freedom of expression. Citizens have the right to express views and concerns about their governments, as well as feelings of sympathy towards others,” said James Lynch.

Topics

QATAR SAUDI ARABIA UNITED ARAB EMIRATESOMAN KUWAIT BAHRAIN

DISCRIMINATION



The 13 demands on Qatar from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the UAE and Egypt

Acting as a mediator, Kuwait has presented Qatar a list of demands from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the UAE and Egypt, the four Arab nations that cut ties with Qatar in early June.

June 23, 2017

Updated: June 23, 2017 04:00 AM



One of the demands issued to Qatar is to close Al Jazeera and its affiliate stations.. Osama Faisal / AP File

KUWAIT CITY // Acting as a mediator, Kuwait has presented Qatar a list of demands from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the UAE and Egypt, the four Arab nations that cut ties with Qatar in early June.

Here's the demands:

1. Curb diplomatic ties with Iran and close its diplomatic missions there. Expel members of Iran's Revolutionary Guard from Qatar and cut off any joint military cooperation with Iran. Only trade and commerce with Iran that complies with US and international sanctions will be permitted.
2. Sever all ties to terrorist organisations, specifically the Muslim Brotherhood, ISIL, Al Qaeda, and Hizbollah. Formally declare those entities as terrorist groups.

3. Shut down Al Jazeera and its affiliate stations.
4. Shut down news outlets that Qatar funds, directly and indirectly, including Arabi21, Rassd, Al Araby Al Jadeed and Middle East Eye.
5. Immediately terminate the Turkish military presence currently in Qatar and end any joint military cooperation with Turkey inside Qatar.
6. Stop all means of funding for individuals, groups or organisations that have been designated as terrorists by Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt, Bahrain, the US and other countries.
7. Hand over terrorist figures and wanted individuals from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt and Bahrain to their countries of origin. Freeze their assets, and provide any desired information about their residency, movements and finances.
8. End interference in sovereign countries' internal affairs. Stop granting citizenship to wanted nationals from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt and Bahrain. Revoke Qatari citizenship for existing nationals where such citizenship violates those countries' laws.
9. Stop all contacts with the political opposition in Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt and Bahrain. Hand over all files detailing Qatar's prior contacts with and support for those opposition groups.
10. Pay reparations and compensation for loss of life and other, financial losses caused by Qatar's policies in recent years. The sum will be determined in coordination with Qatar.
11. Align itself with the other Gulf and Arab countries militarily, politically, socially and economically, as well as on economic matters, in line with an agreement reached with Saudi Arabia in 2014.
12. Agree to all the demands within 10 days of it being submitted to Qatar, or the list becomes invalid. The document doesn't specify what the countries will do if Qatar refuses to comply.
13. Consent to monthly audits for the first year after agreeing to the demands, then once per quarter during the second year. For the following 10 years, Qatar would be monitored annually for compliance.

* Associated Press

NHRC Second Report Regarding the Human Rights Violations as a Result of the Blockade on the State of Qatar

Phone & Fax

Telephone: 00974444048844

Fax: 0097444444013

Hotline

0097466626663

0097450800006

0097450006008

E-mail

nhrc@qatar.net.qa

Website

www.nhrc-qa.org

P. O. Box

23104

Doha, Qatar.

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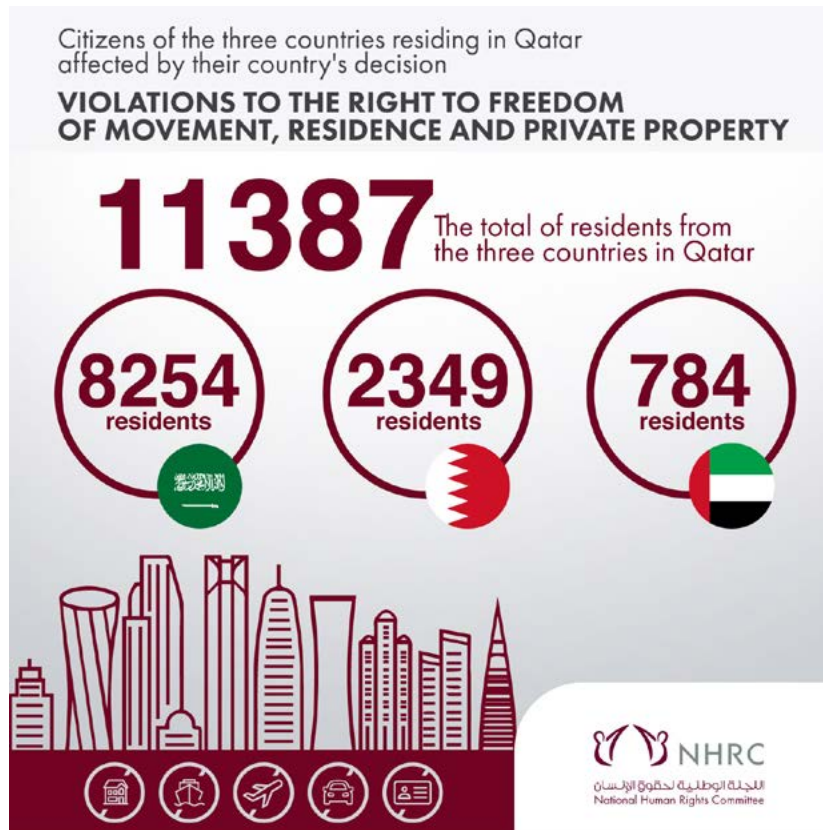
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I. Summary

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Kingdom of Bahrain severed relations with the state of Qatar, on 5 June, 2017, that involved closure of sea, land, and air routes in the face of trades, and also in the face of Gulf Citizens in a series of actions never witnessed before by the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), disregarding all human rights and humanitarian standards and principles and their legal obligations, as those three states are fully aware of the great interrelations and connections among the region's people and nations on all social, economic, cultural, civilian levels.

In this report, the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) sheds light on the violations of the most basic human rights reported since 5 June, the day on which the blockade and ban was imposed, until Wednesday 28 June, by citizens of: KSA, Qatar, UAE, Bahrain (without addressing the political domain, as it is not included in the mandate of the NHRC).

Since Monday , 5 June 2017, hundreds of complaints have been submitted to the NHRC via e-mail, phone and hotlines , or personal visits to the NHRC headquarters in Doha, Qatar's capital. According to the data received, approximately 11,387 citizens from the three states live in Qatar, and approximately 1927 Qatari citizens live in those states. All of those people have been affected in different areas and ways to varying degrees. In some cases, the actions taken by these states separated mothers from her children.



On Sunday , 11 June, (Six days after the decision), KSA issued a royal order to take into consideration the humanitarian situation of mixed families (Saudi-Qatari), then the UAE followed their footsteps, and then Kingdom of Bahrain. While the NHRC appreciates this step and sees it as a step in the right direction, NHRC also calls on the three states to clarify the implementation mechanisms, emphasizes that it has to include all human rights and legal areas, and calls for ending the blockade and all violations in all its forms, and compensating the affected families and individuals.

Dr. Ali Al Marri, chairman of NHRC, stated that ““The suffering of the GCC people has become notable through the reports of the NHRC, international reports and statements and stories published in the mainstream media and social media. After all, we hope that the besiege countries take into account the rights and interests of the GCC peoples”.

II. Report methodology

In the aftermath of the crisis that affected citizens of four GCC states (citizens and residents in the State of Qatar), NHRC has increased working hours, even within the Eid holiday, due to the large number of complaints received daily, submitted by those affected. Victims communicate with the NHRC legal researchers via mail or the three dedicated hotlines. If victims are within the State of Qatar, they are asked to visit the Committee's headquarters in person, where they fill in complaint forms with required basic details, along with their personal ID numbers. Some of them attach university or school reports, work contracts, or other documents, all of which are available in the Committee's archives. It should be borne in mind that an individual may be subjected to more than one type of violations, and therefore the accumulated number of files reporting all violations is certainly greater than the total number of individuals. We have recorded incidents in which some individuals have been separated from their families, prevented from continuing education and had their right to movement violated. So, three violations against one individual.

In this report, we shed light on the most notable violations, we refer to the most notable two, or three forms of each violation, in order to maintain the size of the report. Please note that the concerned parties can acquire all of these forms and documents.

Also, we referred to names using initial letters in order to preserve their safety and security, in light of unprecedented procedures by the UAE that involved imposing penalties including to 3-15 years' imprisonment and fines of 500,000 AED for merely showing sympathy towards the state of Qatar.

Surely, the data provided by the victims are different from one case to another. However, all of these cases enjoy a high level of credibility. Most of the data were acquired personally through personal visits from the affected parties. Additionally, we received

complaints from people regarding violations against their first-degree relatives, where the victims were in other countries and are, as they claimed, unable to visit the NHRC headquarters, contact it, or send an e-mail -which we are still receiving on a daily basis- in this regard, we encourage all the citizens of the four states who suffer from any violations as a result of these abusive decisions to submit their complaints at the NHRC or any other national or international organizations. In light of this, what the NHRC was able to report and document is still the bare minimum, considering that many of those whose rights were violated don't know of the existence of any mechanisms for complaint submission. In addition, many of them seriously are afraid to reveal their identities due to that measures and actions that could be taken against them by their countries' local authorities if they contacted or submitted a complaint. Finally, there are violations against minors (under 18 years), and since they do not have identity documents, statistics do not include a large number of them. However, the psychological impact of violations affected by them is too deep to heal by time. The Qatari government has not taken any action against the citizens of the three states, and we didn't receive any complaint of that nature.

III. Most notable violations

The following table includes classifications of the violations recorded by the NHRC, 2451 in total. The violations are sorted by the state that perpetrated the violation and the type of each violation. The table includes the violations against the citizens of the three states in addition to Qatari citizens:

Complaint Country	Educati on	Owners hip	Family Separation	Travel	Health	Religious Practices	Work	Residen cy	Total
Saudi Arabia	29	464	261	557	14	121	64	50	1560
UAE	85	165	52	196	1	-	7	1	507
Bahrain	25	22	167	99	10	-	30	22	375
Multiple	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	9
Total	139	651	480	861	25	121	101	73	2451

A. Violations of the right of family reunification

This might be the most serious and appalling violation that resulted from the abusive decisions made by the three states, because it affects and threatens the ties of the united Gulf Families.

It also threatens the most vulnerable categories of society – women, children, people with disabilities, and the elderly- not to mention that it is an explicit violation to many articles of the international human rights laws.

In this regard, NHRC recorded 480 forms pertaining to families that were separated, even though we are absolutely certain that actual number is far greater.

In addition, the three besieging countries prevented any citizen or resident in the State of Qatar from carrying out any financial or even postal transactions, and thus not only cut family ties during the month of Ramadan and Eid, but prevented bread-winners from transferring money to their dependents, including women and children which constitutes, accordingly, a violation of all human rights and conventions.

Consequently, given that the besieging countries have failed to rectify any of the repercussions of their unfair decisions, the National Human Rights Committee has the conviction that these countries have not taken these decisions randomly, but deliberately with the intention to inflict humiliating and commit violation of fundamental freedoms, values and religious and social norms.

M. B. is a Qatari national married to a Bahraini; she stated “I live with my family in Qatar. As a result of the decision to sever relations with Qatar, my husband and children will have to leave Qatar and our family will be separated. My husband has a job here and my children are schooling here as well. My life is under threat and the future of my family is unknown under this decision.” She said.

Mrs. (N.H.), Saudi born in 1990, visited the NHRC headquarters and stated the violations she suffered from: “I have been a widow for three years. I live in the State of Qatar along with my two minor children who have a Qatari nationality. I don’t have a job, but I am supporting my family financially from my late husband’s family, which is paid by the State of Qatar. I am enrolled in Qatar University, and living in a rented house until the inheritance case is settled at court. On 8 June, Saudi authorities informed me to go back to the Saudi Arabia without my children. I can’t leave my children alone in Qatar, but I am afraid arbitrary actions will be taken against me if I didn’t comply.”

Mr. (K.S.), Bahraini born in 1984, called NHRC and then visited NHRC headquarters and stated that: “I live and work in the State of Qatar with my wife and my mother who both have Qatari nationality. The decision to sever relations with Qatar will force me to leave my work and family in Qatar and go back to Bahrain. How can I leave my wife and my mother, who suffers from a disability, and uproot my life and work here? I don’t wish to leave Qatar, and I am afraid of the punitive actions that might be taken against me by the Bahraini authorities.”

B. Violation of the right to Education

The education future of every Saudi, Emirati, or Bahraini studying in Qatar schools or universities including QF has been put in jeopardy this year. Therefore, Qatari authorities decided to postpone those students’ exams in order to maintain their right to complete their education and lose the progress they made in their whole academic year especially that we are at the end of the school year. However, the focus remains on the Qatari students studying in the three states, where their rights have been terribly violated, as laws have prevented them from traveling to complete their exams, obtaining documents from their university.

The National Human Rights Committee has recorded 139 cases pertaining specifically to this violation, including the following six main cases:

J.Z is a Qatari female student at the American University of the UAE, born in 1993; she sated “my graduation date was set on July 27, 2017; I am prevented from entering the UAE after the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar.”

Student H. M., a Qatari national born in 1997, reported to the NHRC headquarters and told his story of being denied access to education after the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar: “I am a Qatari student at Ajman University in the UAE. I am left with only two examinations to finish my study. However, the UAE denied me entry into its territory and this will prevent me from realizing my dream and completing my educational journey.” He said.

According to student M. H., he was prevented from completing his education at a university in the UAE after the authorities denied him entry because of being a Qatari citizen. “I booked my university seat at Al-Jazira University in Dubai and paid all fees installments. I was waiting for next semester to start my studies. However, after the decision to sever relationship with Qatar I won’t be able to continue my studies, and thus I did not only lose my seat, but half the amount I paid because the university will not give me full refund.” He explained.

Student H. M., a Qatari citizen born in 1991, has been denied access to education. “I am a student sent by the Commercial Bank of Qatar to complete my studies in the Emirate of Sharjah. Only 9 hours separated me from graduation, but the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar will prevent me from completing my studies and achieving my dream.” He told the NHRC.

Saudi child S. H. born in 2006, he was separated from his mother who is a Qatari national. “I am a 4th-grade student at the Qadisiya Independent Model School in Qatar. I have been living with my mother in Qatar. The Saudi authorities have asked me to leave Qatar, which will prevent me from completing my studies and will also separate me from Qatari mother.” He testified before the NHRC.

Student H. A., a Qatari national studying at the University of Applied Sciences in Bahrain. “The Bahraini authorities have prevented me from entering their territory as of 8 June 2017. I will not be able to complete my exams and I will be fail if I am not allowed to enter the country.” He said in his report to NHRC.

C. Violation of the right to Work

As with education, hundreds of business owners were affected after those states abruptly stopped -in order to cause as much harm as possible- all trading convoys, and thousands of tons of food or health supplies have expired. Hundreds of business owners lost great, immeasurable sums of money.

What is even more crucial is that there are entire families that rely completely on traveling between Gulf states, and those families’ only source of income has been cut off. However, none of the three states have compensated those families or sought an alternative for them, which intensified popular resentment even further.

Moreover, many citizens who are employed at public, private, or government sectors and used to move freely between the four countries are now jobless with no source of income and with no compensations from the three states that initiated the blockade.

The NHRC has received at least 101 cases of persons who have been denied access to their work due to the arbitrary decisions.

Born in 1988, A. M. is a Saudi national female working as teacher in Qatar. “After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, the Saudi authorities informed me that I should leave Qatar. I will lose my job if I return to Saudi Arabia, but I am also afraid of any consequences or punitive measures that will follow if I stay here.” She said in her testimony before the NHRC.

Mr. H. Q, who is a Saudi national married to a Qatari woman, contacted the NHRC and then visited its headquarters in person. He gave details of the violation to which he was subjected. “I have been living and working in the State of Qatar as an administrative supervisor at a junior high school. On 18 June 2017 the Saudi authorities asked me to leave both my job and my Qatari wife and return to Saudi Arabia. I am afraid of losing my job and I do not want to leave my wife in Qatar alone. This decision will affect my life and the life of my entire family. I am afraid of any punitive measures against me by the authorities.” He explained.

Mr. A. I, a Saudi national, contacted NHRC and presented his testimony. “I work for Qatar Aircraft Fuel Company. On 16 June 2017 the Saudi authorities informed me that I should leave Qatar and return to my country. I do not want to go back and I do not want to leave my job. This decision will make me lose the job I like, but I am afraid of any sanctions for not noncompliance with the decision”.

Ms. Sh. M. mentions the violations she has been exposed to. “After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, the Saudi authorities informed me that I should return to my country and leave my job at Hamad Medical Corporation,” she said. “This decision will separate me from my family, as I have a sister with Qatari nationality. We work together to support our mother. I will lose my job, and I will leave my family. I don’t know what penalties I have to face if I do not comply.”

In an interview with Mr. A. M, a Saudi national, at the headquarters of the NHRC, he gave his testimony after his right to work came under threat. The Saudi authorities asked him to leave Qatar: “I work at a car and motorcycle racing club. After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar I will have to give up my job. Otherwise, I will be subject to sanctions that the Saudi authorities may impose against me. This decision will threaten my future career.” He testified.

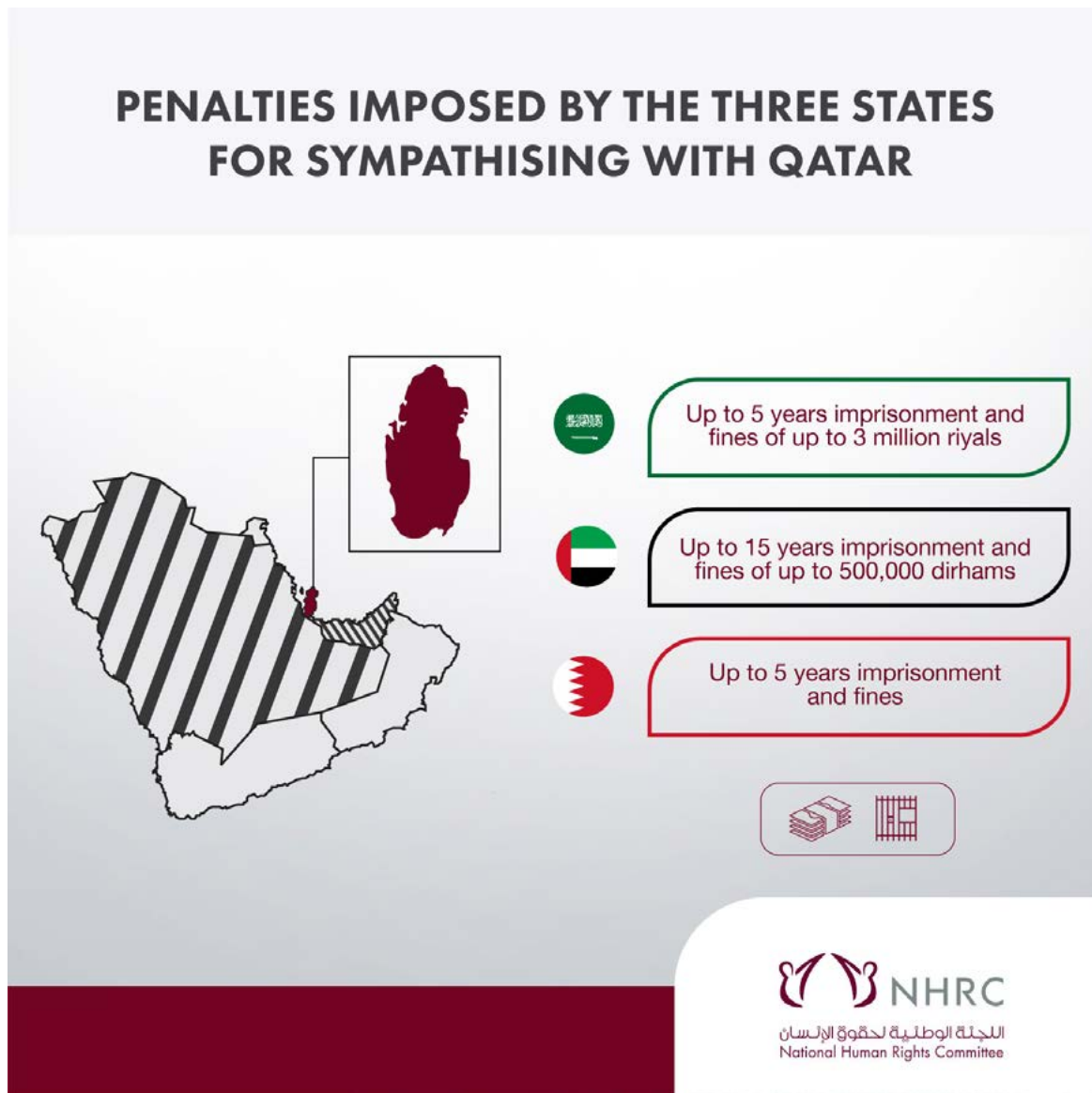
Ms. F. A. who is a Saudi national expresses fear that she might be exposed to sanctions if she does not comply with her country's decision to leave Qatar. "I have been in Qatar since 2007 and I work as a football trainer in the Qatar Women's Sports Committee", she said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "As a result of the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar I will have to leave my job and the country where I lived all this time."

Mr. H. J, who is a Saudi national, told the NHRC about the details of what he was exposed to after the decision to sever relations with Qatar. He stated that he works for Qatar Steel. "Following my country's decision to sever the relations with Qatar I will have to leave my job and return to Saudi Arabia. I am afraid of being subjected to arbitrary punitive measures in the event should I not comply with the decision."

D. Violations to the right of Freedom of Opinion and Expression

It is worth mentioning that the NHRC holds no right to record violations of the freedom of opinion and expression in the three sanctioning states and Egypt. However, NHRC reported violations on the background of severing relations with Qatar. Violations have gone to extremes for just showing sympathy with Qatar via social media, including media outlets funded by the State of Qatar, that certainly do not broadcast newsletters or news programs or political matters, thus indicating the deplorable condition of the freedom of opinion and expression in the three countries and Egypt. Just wearing a Barcelona or Paris Saint-Germain T-shirt, out of sympathy is enough for a person to receive severe punishment.

UAE imposes penalties 3-15 years' imprisonment and fines of 500,000 AED just for merely showing sympathy towards the State of Qatar by even a word, a like, or a tweet on social media in an unprecedented threat to freedom of expression. Bahrain's Ministry of Interior imposes five-year imprisonment, while KSA considered this an internet crime.



This very extreme and harsh actions betray the fragility of the grounds and legitimacy of the blockade decision by those three states, and reflect how much those states' authorities are afraid from citizens' freedom to express any opinions that don't agree with their will. This blatantly goes against many of international and regional declarations and covenants as we will detail further in the Legal Description portion of this report.

In the media sector alone, NHRC recorded that 103 media figures from the three states that imposed the blockade and boycott who used to work at several visual media outlets in the State of Qatar have all been subjected to various types of violations, including pressuring them as a way to force them to resign from their jobs. Due to the pressure, 10 of those were forced to submit and forcibly asked for their termination, and, therefore, lost their jobs and source of income. There are still great pressures on everyone who didn't submit his resignation. These actions constitute a blatant violation to the freedom of journalism, freedom of work, freedom of residency, and freedom of opinion all at the same time.

E. Denial of the right to movement and residence (even for the dead)

Mr. H. Q., a Qatari national was denied the right to movement. "My brother died following a traffic accident in Saudi Arabia on 6 June 2017. I was prevented from entering the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to receive my brother's body to bury it". He told the NHRC.

Mr. S. M, a Saudi national, reports his plight to NHRC. “My father died in the State of Qatar and on 7 June 2017 the Saudi authorities prevented me from traveling to Qatar to receive the body of my father,” he said.

Ms. W. H, a Qatari national, tells NURC: “I booked in a hotel in Mecca and paid my accommodation fees,” she said. “The reservation was cancelled on 13 June 2017, but I was not refunded.”

F. Violation of the right to ownership:

The sudden siege laws imposed by the three countries have resulted in huge losses of assets and property to tens of thousands of people, which indicate that those who have taken this decision have total disrespect basic rights. Money and property were confiscated because their owners could not travel, as all persons prohibited from traveling cannot be able to use their property or dispose of it.

Due to the great overlap and interrelatedness of the businesses between the Gulf States, this may not be noticed by many organizations and countries. For example, we have received complaints that there are hundreds of workers in Saudi Arabia whose Qatari directors can no longer pay their salaries, because money transfer services have been stopped. Thus, their work was stopped in the first place, and secondly these workers are now displaced. Another blatant example is the loss of real estate purchased on installments such as land, buildings and apartments, especially in the Emirate of Dubai.

As a result of the freezing of the assets of Qatari nationals in these countries, cheque debits have been stopped and if the situation continues for two months, this may result in complete loss of the property. It may even lead to the owner becoming subject to lawsuit because of the failure to pay its monthly debits.

In addition to the above, the three countries have gone as far as limiting the financial transfers and postal transactions to any of the citizens or residents in the State of Qatar, to eliminate any possibility of saving any financial losses. All this indicates that the sanctioning countries meant to intentionally violate fundamental freedoms from the start. This is further emphasized by the fact that no measures have been taken so far to eliminate the serious repercussions on the citizens of the three countries as well as the citizens of the State of Qatar.

The NHRC has also recorded presence of a large number of workers who hold Qatari residence permits and work in companies owned by Qatari citizens. After the decision to impose siege on Qatar, workers were prevented from returning to Qatar. They stopped working and there is no one to pay for their expenses.

Mr. B. S, a Qatari national, visited the headquarters of the NHRC and presented his case in detail.

“I own an apartment and a car in the UAE and I cannot reach them under the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar. I have been deprived of my most basic rights.” He said.

Mr. M. Kh, a Qatari national who owns property in Saudi Arabia, contacted us and we asked him to come to the headquarters of the NHRC. He gave his testimony and details of the violation he was subjected to: “I own a group of livestock and camels in Saudi Arabia and I cannot enter Saudi Arabia. I know nothing at all about the fate of my possessions.”

Ms. A. R, a Qatari national told NHRC about the violation of her rights. “I cannot access my property in the wake of the decision to sever relations with Qatar. I have two studios in Jebel Ali in the UAE and two studios in Dubai,” said A R. “I have one car park, and I also own a hotel apartment with one car park, but now I cannot dispose of my property or access it.”

Mr. H. M., a Qatari national, reported to the NHRC about his properties in Saudi Arabia. “I have 80 heads of camels and 120 of sheep in Saudi Arabia. I cannot provide these animals with water and feeds, because of the closure of the border and I am prevented from entering Saudi territory. I fear the loss of my livestock. I do not know the fate of my cars and workers. I am not in a position to renew their work permits if expired”. He explained.

Ms. B. M, born in 1982 in Qatar, testified before the NHRC that she has been denied entry to Saudi Arabia following the decision to sever ties. “I have two pieces of land in Saudi Arabia and a house that I bought for 700,000 riyals, and a number of livestock. I have workers and I cannot renew their work visas in the event of expiration.” She said.

“I have a bank account at Al-Rajhi Bank in Saudi Arabia and I cannot go to the bank to withdraw my money because of the violation,” said H. F, a Qatari lady before the NHRC.

G. Violations of the right to freedom to practice a religion:

Mecca and Medina, two holy cities for all Muslims, are located in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The two cities are a constant destination for Muslims to perform Umrah. The blockade imposed by Saudi Arabia has impeded the rights of nearly 1.5 million Muslims residing in Qatar to performing religious rituals. Saudi Arabia did not make exceptions for those who might wish to perform such rituals. Instead of a trip that takes one and a half hours via Jeddah Airport, citizens and residents of Qatar have to travel via the city of Muscat in Oman, taking up to 12 hours, let alone the doubled cost. Scores of people have been held back from performing Umrah due to these conditions. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is held fully responsible religiously, morally and legally.

When the unfair decisions were issued, the authorities in Saudi Arabia prevented a group of Qatari citizens who were on board the plane or at Jeddah airport from entering Jeddah and had to return to Qatar.

A Qatari citizen filming himself in [a video](#) at Jeddah Airport, and how Saudi authorities forbade him to go into Mecca for Umrah.

Mr. M. A, a Qatari national who was born in 1987 contacted the NHRC and gave his testimony. “On 5 June 2017, after the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, I could not enter Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah, and in addition to being denied travel, I lost the amount I had paid for the hotel reservation in the city of Mecca.” He said.

“On 11 June 2017, I was prevented from entering Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah following the decision to sever relations with Qatar,” said Mr. B. A. a Qatari national who was born in 1984, to the NHRC.

H. Incitement of violence and hate speech:

The NHRC has recorded hundreds of cases of hate speech, some of which went as far as inciting the carrying out of bomb blasts in the State of Qatar. In some of the TV series, children have been indoctrinated and incited against Qatar. It is clear that all this amount of incitement, hate speech and violence will generate tendency towards extremist reactions from the various segments of society, intellectuals and the illiterate alike. This may lead to the perpetration of criminal acts not only against Qatari citizens, but it may generate reactions from the Qatari society towards the nationals of these three countries and the State of Egypt as well. This will threaten peace, security and stability in the entire region. The NHRC has recorded the names and details of each person involved in hate speech and violence, particularly those who have been monitored by our researchers. They will be held legally responsible for any incident of racist, terrorist violence against any Qatari citizen or any citizen of the three countries and Egypt.

International law clearly criminalizes hate speech and violence as set forth in Article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as Article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. These articles prohibit any advocacy of hate on the basis of nationalism, racism or religion, and consider it an incitement to enmity and violence.

I. Violation of the right to Health - Especially for persons with Disabilities

Hundreds of patients from the three sanctioning countries were receiving medical treatment in hospitals in the State of Qatar. Some Qataris were also receiving treatment in hospitals in these countries. All of them have been affected, as they were asked leaver without any exception or exclusion of the sick, injured, pregnant women, children or those with disability. It shows beyond doubt how the three countries blatantly disregard the rights of their sick citizens, as well as indifference towards their most basic human rights. The most fundamental aspect of the right to health is non-discrimination. The three countries should have not expelled Qatari patients for political differences, because the right to health is enshrined in several international treaties and conventions, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Article 12.

IV. Conclusions and Legal Description

In their resolutions, KSA, UAE, and Kingdom of Bahrain, violated a number of principle international human rights laws and rules, which are related to the most fundamental human rights, which are treated as international norms. These resolutions violate a number of articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, other articles included in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in addition to articles in the: Arab Charter on Human Rights, the GCC Declarations of Human Rights, and the Economic Agreement between the GCC States. Therefore, those states are responsible for protecting and preserving the rights and interests of the individuals living on their lands.

The Articles that were violated by the three Gulf states:

First: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

Article 25

- (1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
- (2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Second: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

PART II

Article 2

1. Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 20

1. Any propaganda for war shall be prohibited by law.
2. Any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law.

Third: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Part III

Article 6

1.The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his living by work which he freely chooses or accepts, and will take appropriate steps to safeguard this right.

Article 10

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize that:

1.The widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family, which is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, particularly for its establishment and while it is responsible for the care and education of dependent children. Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses.

2.Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. During such period working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.

3.Special measures of protection and assistance should be taken on behalf of all children and young persons without any discrimination for reasons of parentage or other conditions. Children and young persons should be protected from economic and social exploitation.

Their employment in work harmful to their morals or health or dangerous to life or likely to hamper their normal development should be punishable by law. States should also set age limits below which the paid employment of child labor should be prohibited and punishable by law.

Article 12

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.
2. The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for:
 - (a) The provision for the reduction of the stillbirth-rate and of infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child;
 - (b) The improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene;
 - (c) The prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases;
 - (d) The creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness.

Article 13

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to education. They further agree that education shall enable all persons to participate effectively in a free society, promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations and all racial, ethnic or religious groups, and further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

Fourth: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Article 4

States Parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic origin, or which attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed

to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to this end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of this Convention, inter alia:

(a) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(b) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and also organized and all other propaganda activities, which promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(c) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination.

Fifth: Arab Charter on Human Rights

Article 3

1. Each State party to the present Charter undertakes to ensure to all individuals subject to its jurisdiction the right to enjoy the rights and freedoms set forth herein, without distinction on grounds of race, color, sex, language, religious belief, opinion, thought, national or social origin, wealth, birth or physical or mental disability.

Article 8

1.No one shall be subjected to physical or psychological torture or to cruel, degrading, humiliating or inhuman treatment.

Article 26

1.Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State party shall, within that territory, have the right to freedom of movement and to freely choose his residence in any part of that territory in conformity with the laws in force.

Article 32

1.The present Charter guarantees the right to information and to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any medium, regardless of geographical boundaries.

2.Such rights and freedoms shall be exercised in conformity with the fundamental values of society and shall be subject only to such limitations as are required to ensure respect for the rights or reputation of others or the protection of national security, public order and public health or morals.

Article 33

1.The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society; it is based on marriage between a man and a woman. Men and women of marrying age have the right to marry and to found a family according to the rules and conditions of marriage.

No marriage can take place without the full and free consent of both parties. The laws in force regulate the rights and duties of the man and woman as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

2.The State and society shall ensure the protection of the family, the strengthening of family ties, the protection of its members and the prohibition of all forms of violence or abuse in the relations among its members, and particularly against women and children. They shall also ensure the necessary protection and care for mothers, children, older persons and persons with special needs and shall provide adolescents and young persons with the best opportunities for physical and mental development.

3.The States parties shall take all necessary legislative, administrative and judicial measures to guarantee the protection, survival, development and well-being of the child in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity and shall ensure, in all cases, that the child's best interests are the basic criterion for all measures taken in his regard, whether the child is at risk of delinquency or is a juvenile offender.

Sixth: Human Rights Declaration for the Member States of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf

Article (6)

The Freedom of belief and the practice of religious rites is a right of every person according to the regulation (law) without disruption of the public order and public morals.

Article (9)

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and exercising such freedom is guaranteed insofar as it accords with Islamic Sharia law, public order and the regulations (laws) regulating this area.

Article (14)

The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, originally composed of a man and a woman, governed by religion, morals and patriotism; its entity and bonds are maintained and reinforced by religion. Motherhood, childhood and members of the family are protected by religion as well as the State and society against all forms of abuse and domestic violence.

Article (24)

Every person, who has the capacity of doing so, has the right to work and has the right to free choice of employment according to the requirements of dignity and public interest, while just and favorable employment conditions, as well as employees' and employers' rights, are ensured.

Article (27)

Private property is inviolable and no one shall be prevented from the disposition of his property except by the regulation (law), and it may not be expropriated unless for public interest with fair compensation.

V. Recommendations

To the international community:

To take urgent action to lift the siege, and make every possible effort to mitigate its repercussions on the people of the State of Qatar and citizens of the three countries.

The United Nations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

1- The great amount of social violations constitute a threat to the stability of the region, and is stated to have a negative impact on the economic and social levels. Speedy steps must be taken to force the states that issued these unjust decisions to repeal their actions.

2- The OHCHR to prepare reports and statements documenting the various types of violations that affected great numbers of people, especially the families that were

separated, including the negative consequences on women and children as a result of the separation of their families. Also, the OHCHR to call on these states to respect the basic freedoms of the people living on their lands.

Human Rights Council

To Take every possible action in order to end the blockade and its ramifications, and call for the compensation of all people who were harmed and affected.

Human Rights Council Special Rapporteurs

To Document forms of the various types of violations that occurred, and contact the certain concerned governments in that regard as soon as possible. NHRC is fully prepared to share all the related data.

General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council

The Dispute Settlement Commission of the Supreme Council at the Gulf Cooperation Council to take urgent actions and do everything in its power to convince the concerned governments to start settling the dispute and the social, civil, and cultural situation for the affected families and citizens.

KSA, UAE, and Kingdom of Bahrain

1- Respect the nature of the Gulf societies, and to refrain from making any decisions that sever the relations and ties between families and societies , and to repeal these decisions as early as possible.2- Respect the basic human rights related to freedom of movement, private property, work, residence, and freedom of expression and opinion that are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

3- The political disputes must not affect the humanitarian and social rights and will being of citizens, which is considered a violation of the international law and the international human rights law.

To the Qatari Government:

To take all possible steps at the international level, at the level of the Security Council and the international forums, to lift the siege on the people of Qatar, to defend their rights in the face of violations against them, and to hold accountable the preparators.

READ: Full joint statement of boycotting countries on Qatar crisis

english.alarabiya.net/en/News/gulf/2017/07/05/READ-Full-joint-statement-of-boycotting-countries-on-Qatar-crisis.html



Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry (R) talks to reporters during a joint press conference with UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan (C) and Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir (L). (AFP)

Staff writer, Al Arabiya English Wednesday, 5 July 2017

Text size [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

The foreign ministers of the four Arab countries, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain issued a joint statement following their meeting in Cairo today on the Qatari crisis.

Following is the text of the statement read by the Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shukri:

“The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Kingdom of Bahrain met in Cairo on Wednesday, the 5th of July 2017 to consult on the ongoing efforts to stop the State of Qatar’s support for extremism and terrorism and its interference in the internal affairs of Arab countries and the threats against Arab national security and international peace and security due to Qatar’s policies.

“It was stressed that the position of the four countries is based on the importance of adherence to international conventions, charters and resolutions as well as the principles stipulated in the charters of the United Nations, the Arab League and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

in addition to the conventions on combating international terrorism with emphasis on the following principles:

1. Commitment to combat extremism and terrorism in all its forms and to prevent their financing or the provision of safe havens.
2. Prohibiting all acts of incitement and all forms of expression which spread, incite, promote or justify hatred and violence.
- 3 - Full commitment to Riyadh Agreement 2013 and the supplementary agreement and its executive mechanism for 2014 within the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) for Arab States.
- 4 - Commitment to all the outcomes of the Arab-Islamic-US Summit held in Riyadh in May 2017.
5. Refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of States and from supporting illegal entities.
6. The responsibility of all States of international community to confront all forms of extremism and terrorism as a threat to international peace and security.

The four countries affirmed that supporting extremism, terrorism and interfering in the internal affairs of the Arab countries is a matter that cannot be tolerated or procrastinated and that the list of demands made to the State of Qatar came within the framework of ensuring adherence to the six principles outlined above, protecting Arab national security, maintaining international peace and security, combating extremism and terrorism and providing appropriate circumstances to reach a political settlement of the region's crises where it is no longer possible to tolerate the destructive role being played by the State of Qatar.

"The four Arab countries stressed that the measures taken and sustained by them are the result of the violation by the State of Qatar of its obligations and commitments under international law and its continued interference in the affairs of the Arab States and its support for extremism and terrorism and the consequent threats to the security of the region,"

The four countries expressed their thanks and appreciation to Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait, for his efforts and endeavor to resolve the crisis with the State of Qatar and expressed sorrow over negligence, lack of seriousness and the negative response received by the State of Qatar to deal with the roots of the problem and not ready to reconsider its policies and practices, reflecting a lack of understanding of the gravity of the situation,"

"The four countries stressed their keenness on the importance of the relationship between the Arab peoples and the deep appreciation to the Qatari people, expressing the hope that wisdom would prevail and the State of Qatar may make the right decision,"

“The four countries stressed that the time has come for the international community to shoulder its responsibility to put an end to the support of extremism and terrorism and that there is no room for any entity or party involved in practicing, supporting or financing of extremism and terrorism in the international community or to be as a partner in the efforts of peaceful settlement of political crises in the region,”

“In this context, the four countries expressed their appreciation for the decisive position adopted by President Donald Trump of the United States of America on the need for an immediate end to the support and elimination of extremism and terrorism and the intolerability of any violations by any party in this regard.”

The ministers agreed to follow up the situation and hold their next meeting in Manama.

Last Update: Wednesday, 5 July 2017 KSA 22:16 - GMT 19:16

The logo for Human Rights Watch, consisting of the words "HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH" in white, uppercase letters arranged in three lines within a blue square.

JULY 12, 2017 6:01PM EDT

Qatar: Isolation Causing Rights Abuses

Families Separated; Workers Stranded; Education, Medical Care Interrupted

(Beirut) – The isolation of Qatar by Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is precipitating serious human rights violations, Human Rights Watch said today. It is infringing on the right to free expression, separating families, interrupting medical care – in one case forcing a child to miss a scheduled brain surgery, interrupting education, and stranding migrant workers without food or water. Travel to and from Qatar is restricted, and the land border with Saudi Arabia is closed.



A road sign is seen near Abu Samra border crossing to Saudi Arabia, Qatar June 12, 2017.

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On June 5, 2017, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the UAE cut off diplomatic relations with Qatar and ordered the expulsion of Qatari citizens and the return of their citizens from Qatar within 14 days. The three countries applied the travel restrictions suddenly, collectively, and without taking individual situations into account. On June 23, the three countries and Egypt issued a list of 13 demands to Qatar for ending the crisis that included shutting down Al Jazeera and other media they claim are funded by Qatar; downgrading diplomatic ties with Iran; severing ties with “terrorist organizations,” including the Muslim Brotherhood; and paying reparations to other Gulf countries for “loss of life” and “other financial losses” resulting from Qatar’s policies.

“Gulf autocrats’ political disputes are violating the rights of peaceful Gulf residents who were living their lives and caring for their families,” said Sarah Leah Whitson, Middle East director at Human Rights Watch. “Hundreds of Saudis, Bahrainis, and Emiratis have been forced into the impossible situation of either disregarding their countries’ orders or leaving behind their families and jobs.”

Human Rights Watch researchers interviewed and documented the cases of 50 citizens of Qatar, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia, as well as 70 foreign migrant workers living in Qatar, many of whose rights have been violated by restrictive policies imposed since June 5. More than 11,327 Gulf nationals were living in Qatar and nearly 1,927 Qataris in other Gulf countries, Qatar’s national human rights body reported on July 1.

Gulf nationals told Human Rights Watch that parents had been forcibly separated from their young children and husbands from their wives, and that family members were prevented from visiting sick or elderly parents. Qatari media reported that family members of a Saudi man who died in Qatar on June 8 could not enter to retrieve his body, and authorities eventually buried him in Qatar. Article 26 of the Arab Charter on Human Rights, which Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the UAE have ratified, prohibits arbitrary expulsion of foreigners and any collective expulsion.

One Qatari man said he is cut off from his pregnant Saudi wife, who was visiting family members in Saudi Arabia when the restrictions were imposed. A Qatari woman said that she left her ailing 70-year-old Bahraini husband in Bahrain because her embassy advised her to return to Qatar. A Bahraini woman virtually went into hiding to keep her government from discovering she had remained with her Qatari husband and 2-month-old daughter, who is a Qatari citizen.

Some Gulf states have threatened citizens who remain in Qatar with specific punishments. Saudi Arabia’s General Directorate of Passports placed Qatar on its list of countries to which Saudi citizens are not allowed to travel under penalty of a three-year travel ban and a fine of 10,000 Saudi Riyals (US\$2,600). On June 13, Bahrain’s Interior Ministry issued an order stating that “anyone who violates the ban ... shall have his personal passport withdrawn and his request to renew it shall be denied.”

On June 12, in response to reports of family separations, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the UAE announced that they would grant exceptions for “humanitarian cases of mixed families” for travel back and forth from Qatar and each country established hotlines. Yet, of the 12 Gulf nationals who said they tried to contact these hotlines, only two managed to get permission to go back and forth. Others said that they did not call because they worried that the three countries would use the hotlines to discover the identities of citizens who remained in Qatar.

Other Gulf nationals said that the travel restrictions had interrupted ongoing medical treatment or studies. Two Qatari parents said that their children missed scheduled surgeries in Saudi hospitals, including one girl whose mother said if she does not receive specialist treatment she could end up paralyzed, and a 67-year-old Saudi man who had to end ongoing heart and kidney treatment in Qatar. The exceptions Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Bahrain announced made no reference to medical treatment.

A Qatari woman who had been in her third year at a UAE university showed Human Rights Watch a screenshot of an email from a university administrator on June 7, informing her that the university had withdrawn her from her summer and fall courses, wishing her “success in your educational journey.” Another Qatari woman in the final year of her medical degree in the UAE also was abruptly withdrawn from her studies. All Qatari students interviewed said that the travel restrictions forced them to return to Qatar.

Four Qataris said that migrant workers they sponsor are stranded in Saudi Arabia without adequate food or water. Human Rights Watch also interviewed 70 migrant workers at various locations in Doha, nearly all of whom complained about the rise in food prices in Qatar because of increasing import costs due to the land border closure. The border closure also exacerbates existing abuses that workers said they faced, including non-payment of salaries.

Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the UAE have sought to use their political measures against Qatar to shutter critical media outlets in their countries, especially Al Jazeera, which Gulf leaders have accused of fomenting terrorism and unrest across the region. Bahrain and the UAE have threatened to punish their own citizens for “expressing sympathy” for Qatar online.

“Gulf countries need to take a step back and see the harm they are doing to their own citizens,” Whitson said. “Gulf countries should put people’s well-being before their harmful power games.”

Family Separation

Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the UAE ordered the expulsion of all Qatari citizens from their countries and mandated the return of their citizens from Qatar within 14 days – by June 19. The three countries ended all commercial direct flights to and from Doha, forcing returning Gulf nationals to lay over in a third country, usually Oman or Kuwait, and redirected flights to Qatar outside of their airspace. Some Gulf states have threatened citizens who remain in Qatar with specific punishments.

A July 1 report by the state-funded Qatari National Human Rights Committee says that approximately 8,254 Saudis, 2,349 Bahrainis, and 784 Emiratis lived in Qatar prior to the crisis and that 1,927 Qataris

lived in the three neighboring countries. The report said that the committee had received 480 family separation cases since June 5.

No Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) country allows dual nationality, and all discriminate against women by not allowing women to pass nationality to their children on the same basis as men. Qatar, like other Gulf states, allows men to pass citizenship to their children, whereas children of Qatari women and non-citizen fathers can only apply for citizenship under strict conditions. The 2005 acquisition of Qatari nationality law provides that individuals resident for more than 25 years can apply for nationality, with priority for those with Qatari mothers, under specific conditions.

“Sami,” a 36-year-old Bahraini man born in Qatar to a Qatari mother and Bahraini father, said, “I was born here, studied here, and work here.” He applied for Qatari nationality six years ago, but had not been notified of a decision: “There is a committee. I did a medical test, CID [a check with Criminal Investigation Department], and paid 3000 riyals (US\$823). They said all fine, but said that I have to wait for government approval. But they didn’t call me.”

Of the 50 Gulf nationals Human Rights Watch interviewed, 22 reported that the travel restrictions cut them off from immediate family members. Human Rights Watch interviewed 15 people who said they were married to someone holding another one of these nationalities or were divorced but had children with them.

“Maher,” a 37-year old Qatari, said the travel restrictions cut him off from his Saudi wife, who had been visiting her mother in Saudi Arabia’s Eastern Province. He said his wife, who is from his own extended family, is not allowed to fly because she is in her last trimester of pregnancy, and that Saudi authorities will not allow her to cross the land border into Qatar: “On Thursday [June 15], I went to the border at noon and spoke to them, and they said I have to speak with the Interior Ministry. I talked to them on the number they gave me and they said they would call me back. I waited there 2 hours, from 12 to 2 p.m. ... I went back [home] eventually because my car had no petrol [left].”

Maher said the situation is complicated by the fact that he never registered his marriage in either country: “I just want my wife and to be with the baby. We didn’t finish our marriage papers, so there is no confirmation of marriage for us. Now I can’t complete the papers. I am afraid they will take my child away and make his nationality Saudi.” He said he also fears potential criminal sanction against his wife because of her pregnancy. Sexual relations outside of marriage are criminalized in Gulf states, and flogging penalties can be imposed on Muslims.

“Leila,” a 26-year old Bahraini woman, said that she frequently traveled back and forth between Qatar and Bahrain with her Qatari husband. She said she delivered a baby girl in Qatar several weeks before the

travel restrictions were imposed, and was forced to decide between complying with the order to return to Bahrain or remain with her daughter and husband. She said she was deeply worried over Bahrain's order to cancel passports of citizens who remain in Qatar, and hoped she could keep Bahraini authorities from learning that she is in Qatar. She said she would not travel until the crisis is resolved: "I'm scared to travel anywhere. What if they get information about me and are able to cancel my passport? I don't want any information in the system anywhere." She said she had tried to call the Bahraini hotline but was told she had to return to Bahrain and asked for her passport number.

Human Rights Watch interviewed two Qataris who were forced to return but were staying in hotels in Doha because they did not have homes in Qatar.

"Reem" said that she had lived in Bahrain with her Bahraini husband and children for 36 years. She called the Qatari embassy in Manama, which she says informed her that she had to return to Qatar. She said that she left behind her 70-year-old Bahraini husband and two sons: "There is nobody in Bahrain to take care of [my husband]. He is 70, he can barely take care of himself, and my other sons have their own families. They were very upset I was leaving."



A sign indicating a route to Qatar embassy is seen in Manama, Bahrain, June 5, 2017.

© 2017 Hamad I Mohammed/Reuters

She said that she brought to Qatar her 25-year old son, a Bahraini national, who suffers from an intellectual disability and epilepsy and requires regular medical treatment. She said she worries what will happen if Bahraini authorities discover that he is in Qatar. In Qatar, she has limited foreign currency in cash that she had difficulty exchanging, and is now dependent on the Qatari authorities and charities to provide her with accommodation and financial assistance.

Another Qatari man, "Ahmed," who is married to an Emirati woman and lives in the UAE, said that the UAE had denied his entry around the time it imposed the travel restrictions and forced him back to Qatar, where he was staying in a hotel. "Does anyone want this?" he said. "Does this comply with international laws and customs? In Holy Ramadan [the Muslim holy month], there is a complete lack of mercy and families are broken apart, children from their father and a husband from his wife."

“Nora,” a 36-year old Saudi woman living in Qatar said she has a 3-year-old Qatari son from a previous marriage to a Qatari. She said that she has legal custody over her son and is entitled to monthly financial and child support, but that her former husband was encouraging her to return to Saudi Arabia so that he could regain custody and stop his support payments.

Of the 50 Gulf nationals interviewed, only 12 said that they had attempted to contact the family separation hotlines. The rest said that they did not think they would receive permission to travel back and forth, or that they were worried that the hotlines were intended to collect information on which citizens had failed to return to or from Qatar.

Only 2 of the 12 people who had contacted the hotlines, one Saudi and one Bahraini, said they had obtained permission to live in Qatar and travel back and forth.

Forced separation of families often violates the right of all individuals to have their established family life respected. The right to family life is enshrined in article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 23 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and article 23 of the Arab Charter on Human Rights. The Convention on the Rights of the Child prohibits states from separating children from their parents against their will, except when necessary for their own best interests (article 9), and from discriminating against children on the basis of their parents’ status (article 2). Article 26 of the Arab Charter states that “[n]o State party may expel a person who does not hold its nationality but is lawfully in its territory, other than in pursuance of a decision reached in accordance with law and after that person has been allowed to submit a petition to the competent authority” and that “collective expulsion is prohibited under all circumstances.”

Interrupted Medical Treatment

Five Gulf nationals said that the travel restrictions disrupted medical treatment for themselves or family members.

“Amani,” a Qatari woman, said that her 15-year-old daughter was born with a spinal problem and had undergone a series of operations at two hospitals in Riyadh since she was an infant. She said that in February, her daughter had brain surgery, and that she was scheduled for another surgery in Riyadh on June 17, which she missed because of the travel restrictions. She said such specialist treatment is not available in Qatar: “[There is] no chance to travel and the headaches are becoming more severe. ... It could become paralysis. She needs an immediate solution. ... We don’t have money to go elsewhere for such treatment.”

“Mahmoud,” a 67-year old Saudi man, said that he has lived and worked in Qatar for more than 10 years. He said he missed the 14-day deadline as he had medical appointments every day. He said he would return to Saudi Arabia and forgo follow-up medical treatment because he feared fines or prison: “I have medical conditions – one in my heart, and one in my kidney. My current medical treatment is in Qatar. ... I have two appointments [in Qatar] that I will miss. ... I feel confused, I want to see my family, but I want to work here. I am scared of actions that may be taken against me.” Shortly after meeting with Human Rights Watch, he was able to enter Saudi Arabia.

“Walid,” 56, a Qatari, said that his son had been scheduled for required facial surgery at a hospital in Riyadh on June 9. He said the treatment plan following the operation is not available in Qatar. He said he would speak with the Qatari Health Ministry to see if they would provide financial support to seek the surgery and necessary treatment outside the Gulf.

Interrupted Education

Eleven Qataris who had been attending university programs or specialized training courses in the UAE when the restrictions were imposed all said that their universities summarily withdrew them from their courses and told them to return to Qatar. They expressed concerns that universities in Qatar or other countries might not allow them to transfer and accept academic credits for completed courses, or that certain courses are not available in Qatar.

“Hassan,” 34, said that he was among 13 Qataris attending aviation school in the UAE. He said that his group had only completed two of the five courses necessary to graduate: “We cannot sit for the exam and we will not graduate this year. It is the only aviation school in the region with this program, otherwise we have to go to the UK or US, but I don’t know if the credits would transfer.”

Another Qatari man, “Samer,” one of around 25 to 30 students attending a part-time university degree course in the UAE, described the problems resulting from his expulsion: “We have rented apartments, furniture, and clothes that are still there and have to pay internet and telephone bills. The owner [of the apartment] has our checks – we have to provide four checks in advance which they will take from the account. The rental contract is one year. If there is no balance left in the account, then the owner can make a police case file. Anytime you go back you can be arrested...”

“Rana,” a 22-year old Qatari, said that her withdrawal from a prominent university in the UAE had set back her plan to eventually pursue higher education in France: “All I can say is that this siege has robbed me of the right to pursue the quality of education that I aimed to achieve. This siege has harmed our dreams and our futures.”

Identity Documentation Issues

Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the UAE, and Egypt have withdrawn their embassies and staff from Qatar, making passport renewal difficult for nationals of those countries who do not have permission to remain in Qatar. They also face significant obstacles obtaining documents for newborn children.

Residency visas in Qatar are linked to valid passports, and some foreign nationals expressed concern about what will happen to their residency visas once their passports expire.

“Hussein,” a 38-year old Saudi, said that he has lived in Doha for 25 years, and that his wife gave birth to a son the day the travel restrictions were imposed. His son has a Qatari birth certificate, but Hussein said he cannot add the baby to his Saudi family book, a form of ID that is commonly used as children’s main form of identification in the Middle East, or obtain a passport for him, because the process in Saudi Arabia requires him to come in person. He said, “the system in Saudi Arabia is that a newborn in the first week must obtain a Saudi ID, but Saudi Arabia requires me to go back to complete [the procedure]. But I feel in danger going back. How can I leave Saudi Arabia if I go there?”

Another Saudi man, “Assem,” said that his 12-year old sister’s Saudi passport expired, and he worried that he may not be able to enroll her in school in Qatar, as Qatar requires that foreign students have valid passports.

All Bahraini interviewees told Human Rights Watch that they feared the consequences of Bahrain’s announcement that it would revoke the passports of Bahraini citizens who remain in Qatar. One divorced Qatari woman whose adult children have their father’s Bahraini nationality, but are estranged from him, said that she cannot travel abroad with her children as she feared that their passports may be invalidated.

Human Rights Watch spoke to seven Egyptian employees of Al Jazeera who said that they cannot renew their Egyptian passports and therefore are worried about losing their Qatari residency permits. Many of them moved to Qatar after they were threatened, intimidated, beaten, or arrested by authorities in Egypt. One journalist said he applied for his Egyptian passport in January, but that Egyptian embassy officials told him in April that he would not receive the passport. It will expire in one month.

Effects on Non-Gulf Migrant Workers

The isolation of Qatar has negatively affected non-Gulf foreign migrant workers, primarily from South Asia. Four Qataris interviewed said that migrant workers they sponsor are stranded in Saudi Arabia.

One Qatari, “Omar,” said that he employed two Bangladeshi workers at a 14,000-square meter farm he owns just over the border in Saudi Arabia. He said the workers are registered in Qatar, but that Saudi

Arabia previously allowed Qataris to bring workers in for three-month periods for a fee. He said he can no longer reach his farm and worries about the two workers: “I can send their salaries to Bangladesh, but how can I feed them? ... The supermarket [in Saudi Arabia] refused to give them anything [because they have no money], and we are scared the police will take them. There is no way to pay their salaries to them.” He added, “They are humans, they are calling me every day saying they have nothing to drink or eat, and they are scared.”

Omar called one of the Bangladeshi men on his phone in front of a Human Rights Watch researcher, and the man confirmed their plight.

“Salim,” a 50-year old Qatari, said that he owns two houses and 150 camels in Saudi Arabia. He said he has group of Qatar-registered migrant workers from India, Sudan, and Nepal caring for his camels and property who are now stranded in Saudi Arabia.

“Anwar,” another Qatari, said that he and his brothers own 50 camels and three cars in Saudi Arabia, which are looked after by three migrant workers – two from Bangladesh and one from Sudan – who are stranded. He said he lost contact with them a week into the crisis because they ran out of phone credit. He said he cannot get their salary to them and is concerned that they are running out of food. “A week before [the] crisis I gave food for one month. But now they don’t have petrol for the [generator-run] refrigerator and the air conditioner.” He does not have friends nearby to help.

The problems for these workers are compounded by the fact that in March, Saudi Arabia declared a large-scale campaign, “A Homeland with no Violator,” to locate and expel foreigners violating residency laws.

In addition to the migrants trapped in Saudi Arabia, Human Rights Watch interviewed 70 migrant workers – most from Nepal, India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan – at various locations in Doha, including the Corniche, al-Attiyah Market, and Musheirib. Some reported long-standing abuses such as non-payment or late payment of salaries or unsanitary living conditions, but nearly all complained that the closure of the land border had caused a rise in food prices in Qatar that was causing serious economic hardship.

A 43-year-old Nepalese man working in a plumbing shop in Qatar said that from his monthly salary of 1,200 Qatari Riyals (US\$327), he normally spends around 200 Riyals (\$55) on food, but that the increase in food prices would cost him an extra 100 to 300 Riyals (\$27 to \$82) per month, up to a third of his salary. Another 21-year-old Nepalese construction worker said he earns 800 Riyals (\$220) a month but that his food expenses would increase to 350 Riyals (\$96), nearly half of his salary.

Human Rights Watch researchers visited four supermarkets in Doha on June 22-23, including two smaller markets frequented by migrants, and two high-end supermarkets. Nearly all migrants said that, before the

land border closure, tomatoes cost between 3-4 Qatari Riyals (\$0.82-\$1.10) a kilo. For the lower end supermarkets in migrant worker areas, researchers observed that poor quality tomatoes were now selling for 6.5 Riyals (\$1.79) per kilo in one market and better-quality tomatoes for 8 Riyals (\$2.20) in another market. In the high-end markets, one had no tomatoes in stock, while another sold only expensive imported tomatoes from Holland, for 24.75 Riyals (\$6.80) per kilo. One of the low-end markets was selling cucumbers for 8 Riyals (\$2.20) per kilo, up from 3 Riyals (\$0.82) prior to the crisis.

A corporate social responsibility officer at a large company in Qatar said by phone that she heard from two other companies with migrant worker employees that fruit companies were not selling their produce “in supermarkets for workers” but did not know why. She said that her company was focused on nutrition for its migrant workers and looking at alternatives for perishable fruits and vegetables such as fruit juice, and frozen fruits and vegetables.

Two construction workers also said that their work sites had run out of building materials because of the land border closure, and that they worried about their companies’ stability.

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Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism; and the Special Rapporteur on the right to education.

REFERENCE:
UA ARE 5/2017

18 August 2017

Excellency,

We have the honour to address you in our capacity as Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism; and Special Rapporteur on the right to education, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 34/18, 33/9, 34/21, 34/35, 31/3, and 26/17.

In this connection, we would like to bring to the attention of your Excellency's Government information we have received concerning the **adverse situation and the violations of human rights of Qatari migrants in the United Arab Emirates, as well as Emirati migrants in the State of Qatar as a result of the United Arab Emirates government's decision to suspend ties with the State of Qatar, particularly their right to movement and residence, family unity, education, work, freedom of expression, health and the right to property, without discrimination on any basis.**

According to the information received:

On 5 June 2017, the United Arab Emirates severed ties with the State of Qatar. This involved the closure of air, land, and sea routes, in relation to both trade and migrant residents. Qatari nationals were ordered to leave the United Arab Emirates within 14 days, whilst Emirati citizens were given the same timeframe to leave the State of Qatar. An estimated 784 Emirati nationals are allegedly residing in the State of Qatar. This order has threatened the most vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons. The Government of Qatar has reportedly not taken action against Emirati citizens.

Mixed-citizenship families have been affected and the order has caused Emirati-Qatari families to be separated. Divorced Emirati women living in the State of Qatar whose children have Qatari nationality from their father, are prevented to return to Qatar. The Emirati order has reportedly affected Qatari women married

to approximately 556 Emirati men, as well as Qatari men married to approximately 3,138 Emirati women. This order threatens to leave children, women, older persons, sick and persons with disabilities separated from other family members and in loss of assistance, support and income. Emirati nationals living in Qatar married to Qatari women are forced to return to the United Arab Emirates, leaving behind their families and quit their work with no source of income or compensation. Furthermore, the United Arab Emirates has allegedly limited the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar from undertaking financial transfers and postal transactions, thereby blocking financial transfers to dependent family members, including women and children.

On 11 June 2017, the United Arab Emirates issued a royal order to take into account the humanitarian situation of mixed Emirati-Qatari families who were affected by the ban. However, no implementation mechanism has been indicated. Furthermore, there has been no compensation or alternatives offered to families and individuals who have had their human rights violated and been affected by the blockade.

Emirati nationals working in the State of Qatar, as well as Qatari nationals working in the United Arab Emirates risk losing their jobs following the issued instructions by the Emirati authorities to leave their jobs and return to their homeland. Individuals who are dependent on the travel between Qatar and the United Arab Emirates have also reportedly been affected. For those completely financially reliant on the flow between both countries, this order has led to a cutting of their only source of income. For example, business owners have allegedly had their income levels affected as a result of the halt of trading convoys, and the expiration of large quantities of food or health supplies. Reportedly, Emirati nationals working in the public and private sectors in Qatar have also been forced to return to the United Arab Emirates resulting in the loss of employment without compensation. Similarly, Qatari nationals working in the United Arab Emirates have also lost their employment without compensation.

Furthermore, migrant workers relying on free movement between both countries have allegedly lost their jobs and proper compensation has not been ensured. Individuals who possess property – from clothing and furniture, to cars or real estate business – are allegedly denied access to their belongings. Following the 5 June 2017 order, assets and property have reportedly been confiscated, consequently prohibiting Qatari migrants from using their property or disposing of it. Qatari migrants fear losing their belongings and are uncertain about the future for their properties.

Emirati migrants in the State of Qatar working in media outlets have allegedly been pressured to resign from their jobs by the United Arab Emirates. Those who

have not yet submitted their resignation have allegedly been pressured to do so by the Emirati authorities. In addition, the United Arab Emirates has reportedly imposed penalties of up to 15 years imprisonment and fines of up to 500,000 dirhams for “sympathising with Qatar”, through a word, a “like” on social media, or a tweet.

Qatari migrant students in the United Arab Emirates and Emirati migrant students in the State of Qatar pursuing their studies in schools or universities have been prohibited from doing so because of the order asking them to leave their country of residence. Emirati students in the State of Qatar have had their exams postponed to allow for them to take their exams at a later date. This has allegedly not been the case for Qatari nationals studying in the the United Arab Emirates, who have been unable to complete their exams and obtaining educational documents from their university in the United Arab Emirates.

As a result of the order for Emirati nationals to leave Qatar, Emirati migrants, including children, older persons or persons with disabilities, that were being treated in hospitals in the State of Qatar in need of specialised or with ongoing treatment, have allegedly been asked to return to the United Arab Emirates. Similarly, Qatari migrants residing in the United Arab Emirates, have allegedly had their treatments halted and their health subsequently impacted.

While we do not wish to prejudge the accuracy of these allegations, and given the harm this order has on thousands of Qatari residents in the United Arab Emirates and Emirati residents in the State of Qatar, we consider the alleged situation of extreme gravity. Serious concerns are expressed at the numerous rights being infringed, including the right to movement and residence, family reunification, education, work, freedom of expression, health, freedom of religious practice, and the right to private property, without discrimination on any basis.

In connection to the above alleged facts and concerns, we would like to draw the attention of your Excellency’s Government’s to its obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the regional Arab Charter on Human Rights. We would like to recall that, while States have a sovereign right to determine conditions of entry and stay in their territories, they also have an obligation to respect and protect the human rights of all individuals under their jurisdiction, regardless of their nationality, origin or immigration status.

We would like to bring to the attention of your Excellency’s Government Article 7 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) that states that ‘All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this

Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.’ We would furthermore like to stress the obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), acceded to by the United Arab Emirates on 20 June 1974. Article 5 provides for the enjoyment of civil rights including: the right to freedom of movement and residence within the border of the State; the right to leave any country, including one’s own, and to return to one’s country; the right to own property; and, the right to freedom of opinion and expression. It further provides for the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, including: the rights to work, to free choice of employment, and to protection against unemployment; the right to housing; the right to public health, medical care, social security and social services; the right to education and training; and, the right of access to any place or service intended for use by the general public, such as transport and hotels.

Furthermore, we would like to bring your attention to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination’s General Recommendation No. 30 on discrimination against non-citizens. In specific, the State Party should “ensure that non-citizens are not subject to collective expulsion, in particular in situations where there are insufficient guarantees that the personal circumstances of each of the persons concerned have been taken into account”. In addition, it should “avoid expulsions of non-citizens, especially of long-term residents, that would result in disproportionate interference with the right to family life”. State Parties should “ensure that States parties respect the right of non-citizens to an adequate standard of physical and mental health by, inter alia, refraining from denying or limiting their access to preventive, curative and palliative health services”.

We would like to bring your attention to Article 9 and Article 12 of the UDHR that stipulate that “no one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile”. Article 13 articulates that “everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country”. Your Excellency’s Government has further obligations under the Arab Charter on Human Rights (ACHR), ratified by your Excellency’s Government on 16 January 2008, Article 26 that provides that “every person lawfully within the territory of a State Party shall, within the territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence in accordance with applicable regulations”. Article 27 further articulates that “no one shall be arbitrarily or unlawfully prevented from leaving any country, including his own, nor prohibited from residing, or compelled to reside, in any part of his country”.

We would also like to stress that Article 19 of the UDHR provides that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. This right applies to “everyone”, regardless of their citizenship or any other status. Its guarantee regardless of frontiers is further stipulated in Article 32 of the ACHR.

Article 23 of the UDHR further expresses the right of everyone “to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment”. Furthermore, the ACHR, articulates the right to work in Article 34, which provides for the freedom to work and equality of opportunity without discrimination of any kind as to any statuses, including national origin. It states that every worker has the right to enjoy “just and favourable conditions of work”, and every State Party shall ensure protection to workers migrating to its territory in accordance with the laws”. Further, Article 31 of ACHR provides everyone with “a guaranteed right to own private property”. It further provides that “no person shall under any circumstances be divested of all or any part of his property in an arbitrary or unlawful manner”.

Concerning the family separation, especially of widowed and divorced women from their children, we would like to refer to the rights of women. We would further like to refer your Excellency’s Government to Article 16 of the UDHR that states that “the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by the society and the State”. It provides that the State Party shall take appropriate measures within its available resources to ensure the realization of this right. Furthermore, Article 10 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), to which the United Arab Emirates acceded to on 3 January 1997, which establishes, inter alia, that “applications by a child or his or her parents to enter or leave a State Party for the purpose of family reunification shall be dealt with by State Parties in a positive, humane and expeditious manner”. This should be read in the light of Article 3 of the Convention which provides that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration. In this connection, I would like to recall to your Excellency’s Government Paragraph 10 of the General Assembly Resolution 62/156 which “urges States to ensure that repatriation mechanisms allow for the identification and special protection of persons in vulnerable situations and take into account, in conformity with their international obligations and commitments, the principle of the best interest of the child and family reunification”. Moreover, Article 9 of CRC provides that States Parties “shall ensure that a child shall not be separated from his or her parents against their will, except when competent authorities subject to judicial review determine, in accordance with applicable law and procedures, that such separation is necessary for the best interests of the child”.

The aforementioned rights are raised again in the ACHR. It states in Article 33 that the family is the natural and fundamental unit of society. The State and society are obliged to provide for the protection of the family and its members, for the strengthening of its bonds. They undertake to provide outstanding care and special protection for mothers, children and the elderly. Young persons have the right to be ensured “maximum opportunities for physical and mental development”.

Furthermore, we would like to refer to Article 16 of the CRC that stipulates that “no child shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy,

family, home or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on his or her honour and reputation”. The right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health is recognized in Article 24. It further states that States Parties shall strive to ensure that no child is deprived of his or her right of access to such health care services. In addition, Article 28 provides that State Parties recognize the right of the child to education, ensuring in particular that primary education is compulsory and available free to all, and take measures to encourage regular attendance at schools and the reduction of drop-out rates.

The full texts of the human rights instruments and standards recalled above are available on www.ohchr.org or can be provided upon request.

In view of the urgency of the matter, we would appreciate a response on the initial steps taken by your Excellency’s Government to safeguard the rights of the above-mentioned person(s) in compliance with international instruments.

As it is our responsibility, under the mandates provided to us by the Human Rights Council, to seek to clarify all cases brought to our attention, we would be grateful for your observations on the following matters:

1. Please provide any additional information and any comment you may have on the above-mentioned allegations.
2. What measures have been taken to ensure that families with mixed Emirati-Qatari nationalities are prevented from separation?
3. How has the right to health been guaranteed in relation to Emirati migrants living in the State of Qatar and Qatari nationals residing in the United Arab Emirates?
4. What actions have been taken to guarantee access to education for Qatari migrant students in the United Arab Emirates, as well as Emirati migrant students in the State of Qatar to pursue their education at schools and universities, without discrimination on any basis?
5. Please provide information on the compliance with international and regional instruments in guaranteeing the right of freedom of movement and residence.
6. Has compensation been provided to migrants, particularly those who own property and businesses, affected by the severed relations between the United Arab Emirates and the State of Qatar?

7. Please provide information on how the criminalization of online expression based on grounds of “sympathizing with Qatar” is applied and enforced, and explain how this is legal basis for restricting expression is compatible with international human rights standards.
8. What measures have been taken to guarantee the aforementioned human rights of migrants, without discrimination on any basis, in compliance with your government’s obligations under international law?

While awaiting a reply, we urge that all necessary interim measures be taken to halt the alleged violations and prevent their re-occurrence and in the event that the investigations support or suggest the allegations to be correct, to ensure the accountability of any person responsible of the alleged violations. We further urge your Excellency’s Government to take all necessary steps to ensure the rights of persons affected by the severed ties and mobility ban are respected.

We wish to inform you that a letter with similar content has been sent to the authorities of Bahrain and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Your Excellency’s Government’s response will be made available in a report to be presented to the Human Rights Council for its consideration.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Felipe González Morales
Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

David Kaye
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion
and expression

Dainius Pūras
Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable
standard of physical and mental health

Mutuma Ruteere
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia
and related intolerance

Fionnuala Ní Aoláin
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering
terrorism

Koumbou Boly Barry
Special Rapporteur on the right to education



اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
National Human Rights Committee

Doha - Qatar

100 Days

Under the Blockade

**NHRC Third report on human
rights violations caused by
the blockade imposed on the
state of Qatar**

Report Content

i	Summary
ii	Brief on the NHRC
iii	Report Methodology
iv	Most Notable Violations of the rights to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Family Reunificationb. Educationc. Workd. Freedom of Expression and Opinione. Rights to movement and residencef. Right to private propertyg. Right to freedom of practicing religious ritualsh. Incitement to violence a hatredi. Right to health (especially for women, children and people with disabilities)
v	Conclusions and Legal Description
vi	Recommandations

i. Summary:

This is the third of a series of reports issued by Qatar National Human Rights committee since the beginning of the blockade which was imposed on 5 June 2017 by Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain. It contains new testimonies of victims from Qatar, Saudi Arabia, The United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain who have been subjected to serious violations of their fundamental rights. The NHRC shall continue to update and issue reports as long as the blockade continues, and complaints are received.

Since Monday, 5 June 2017, hundreds of complaints have been submitted to the NHRC via e-mail, phone, or personal visits to the NHRC headquarters in Doha, Qatar's capital. According to the data received, approximately 11,360 citizens from the three states live in Qatar, and approximately 1927 Qatari citizens live in those states. All of those people have been affected in different areas and ways to varying degrees. In some cases, the actions taken by these states separated a mother from her children.

Citizens of the three countries residing in Qatar
affected by their country's decision

VIOLATIONS TO THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, RESIDENCE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

11387 The total of residents from
the three countries in Qatar



On Sunday, 11 June, (Six days after the decision), KSA issued a royal order to take into consideration the humanitarian situation of mixed families (Saudi-Qatari), then the UAE followed their footsteps, and then Kingdom of Bahrain. While the NHRC appreciates this step and sees it as a step in the right direction, NHRC also calls on the three states to clarify the implementation mechanisms, emphasizes that it has to include all human rights

and legal areas, and calls for ending the blockade and all violations in all its forms, and compensating the affected families and individuals.

Dr. Ali al Marri, Chairman of NHRC, stated that:

“Every day that passes without lifting of the blockade leads to more violations and suffering, and thus more legal, economic and humanitarian consequences. We wished that the blockade would be lifted and families to be reunified in Eid Al-Adha.”

ii. Brief On The NHRC:

The National Human Rights Committee of Qatar is one of the most prominent national human rights institutions (NHRIs), established in accordance with the Paris Principles adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. These institutions are members of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) after being accredited by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) of the GANHRI, and under the supervision of National Institutions Division and Regional Mechanisms and Civil Society affiliated to the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which serves as the Secretariat of the SCA in the GANHRI. The National Committee was established in 2002 with its competencies and mandate to protect and promote human rights as defined by the Paris Principles. The Committee received an A-status in 2010 for a period of 5 years, and was reaccruited status A in 2015 for another 5 years. This is the highest rating given to a national institution and demonstrates its credibility and independency as well as its full compliance with the Paris Principles.

iii. Report Methodology:

Since June 5, 2017, the National Human Rights Committee has received daily visits from victims affected by the decisions of the besieging countries. The Committee officials received the victims, and report their statements, and sort their complaints according to the type of violation. Complaints can be submitted via e-mail and hotlines.

During the period covered by the report, researchers opened files, filled in complaints forms prepared by NHRC, with attaching copies of identification documents, while some complainants attached university and school reports, work contracts, family related information, and other documents that are available in the NHRC archive. NHRC will, and is, progressively sharing these files with the concerned international human rights and legal parties. It is worth noting that an individual might be subjected to more than one type of violations. Therefore, the total number of files reflecting the total number of violations is certainly greater than the total number of individuals.

In this report, we shed light on the most notable violations that occurred. We refer to the most notable two, or three forms of each violation, in order to maintain the size of the report. Please note that the concerned parties can acquire all of these forms and documents. Also, we referred to names using initial letters in order to preserve their safety and security, in light of unprecedented procedures by the UAE that involved imposing penalties including to 3-15 years' imprisonment and fines of 500,000 AED for merely showing sympathy towards the state of Qatar.

Surely, the data provided by the victims differ from one case to another. However, all

of these cases are of a high level of credibility. Most of the data were acquired personally through personal visits from the affected parties. Additionally, we received complaints from people regarding violations against their first-degree relatives, where the victims were in other countries and are, as they claimed, unable to visit the NHRC headquarters, contact it, or send an e-mail -which we are still receiving on a daily basis- in this regard, we encourage all the citizens of the four states who suffer from any violations as a result of these abusive decisions to submit their complaints at the NHRC or any other national or international organizations. In light of this, what the NHRC was able to report and document is still the bare minimum, considering that many of those whose rights were violated don't know of the existence of any mechanisms for complaint submission. In addition, many of them seriously are afraid to reveal their identities due to that measures and actions that could be taken against them by their countries' local authorities if they contacted or submitted a complaint.

The Qatari government has not taken any action against the citizens of the three states, and we didn't receive any complaint of that nature.

iv. Most Notable Violations:

The following table includes classifications of the 745 files we reported, and their distribution according to each of the 3 states:

Violation/ Country	Education	Property	Family Separation	Movement	Health	Religious Practices	Work	Residence	Total
Saudi Arabia	55	633	331	724	19	158	76	58	2045
UAE	130	367	78	307	2	-	8	4	896
Bahrain	28	50	211	124	14	-	37	32	496
Other	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	9
Total	213	1050	620	1164	35	158	112	94	3446

a. Violation To The Right Of Family Reunification:

The besieging countries have not respected the distinguished season which is very dear to the hearts of the Arab, Islamic and Gulf peoples. The blockade was not lifted during Eid al-Fitr, and continued until Eid al-Adha, which have critical psychological and social repercussions on the peoples of these countries which have made unjust decisions against them and their families; this violation is considered the most serious and the most terrible, because it affects and threatens the Gulf family, and threatens the most vulnerable groups in society (women, children, people with disabilities and the elderly) The National Human Rights Committee has reported 620 cases of violation of the right to family reunification, but we are sure that the real impact is greater.

- Mrs. (N.H.), Saudi born in 1990, visited the NHRC headquarters and stated the violations she suffered from: "I have been a widow for three years. I live in the State of Qatar along with my two minor children who have a Qatari nationality. I don't have a job, but I am supporting my family financially from my late husband's family, which is paid by the State of Qatar. I am enrolled in Qatar University, and living in a rented house until the inheritance case is settled at court. On 8 June, Saudi authorities informed me to go back to the Saudi Arabia without my children. I can't leave my children alone in Qatar, but I am afraid arbitrary actions will be taken against me if I didn't comply."
- Mr. H, a Qatari who was born in 1987, visited the headquarters of the Committee and gave details of the violation he was subjected to: "I am married, my wife is Emirati, we are expecting our second child, she is in her seventh month of pregnancy but she cannot go to her family in the UAE and give birth there, my first baby is Qatari and cannot travel with her. I am afraid of racial treatment that they may be subjected to. "We have been deprived of our most basic rights, in addition to the material losses incurred. I have businesses and projects in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the UAE, all of which are now suspended as a result of the decision to sever relations."
- Ms. W.A, born in 1987, an Emirati lady living in Qatar, She visited the headquarters of the Committee and reported the details of the violation she was subjected to: I have lived since my birth in Qatar and my mother is Qatari who is old, suffering from pressure sickness and diabetes. "I built a life here, I am working here and my family is here and I cannot leave my mother alone, but I am afraid of any punitive action the UAE authorities might take against me if I remain in Qatar."
- Ms. S. A, a Qatari lady born in 1974, visited the Committee and stated that: "I am a divorcee and I live in the UAE. I have four children who are Emirati, My family in Qatar planned to travel to Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah and before I return back to UAE, the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar was issued and therefore I could not travel to the UAE to see my children, this unjust decision has separated my family."

b. The Right To Education:

The UAE and the State of Bahrain are still preventing Qatari students from entering Qatar and preventing their citizens from going to Qatar to complete their education. Hundreds of students will lose their seats and many of them have lost their funds. The universities in the blockading countries refused to refund financial dues. In addition, students were prevented from obtaining certificates from the university proving that the student passed the stage that they had completed.

The National Human Rights Committee reported 213 forms relating specifically to this violation, including the following four cases:

- Mr. A.G, Qatari born in 1997, he studies in the UAE, he visited the Committee to give details of the violation he was subjected to: "I am a student in the last year of secondary school in the UAE, my mother is Emirati, because of the blockade I returned to Qatar and could not go to Abu Dhabi to complete the exam for the second round of one of the subjects and get my secondary school certificate, knowing that I submitted a complaint at the Department of Education in Abu Dhabi to raise only 3 degrees for this course but my request was rejected. I cannot apply for any university."
- Ms. H, Qatari mother whose children are Saudi, they applied to the Australian University in Dubai and the fees were paid, the school year is planned to start on 13/9/2017, now she cannot travel to Dubai with her my children and not even to Saudi Arabia to claim any dues.
- Ms. N.A, a Qatari citizen who came to the National Human Rights committee and stated the following "I am a law student in the second year of Ajman University, in Fujairah. I returned to Qatar in the middle of the final exams. I lost the ability to concentrate in my studies because of the developments due to the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar, and although I left the residence in which I lived in the UAE, we are required to pay rent and the bills of electricity, water and the Internet."
- A Qatari student came to the National Human Rights Committee and stated the details of the violation: "I received a circulation on June 4, 2017, from Al-Jazira University in Dubai concerning the requirement to pay for the summer term (15,750 AED). After the decision to cut off relations with the State of Qatar, I contacted the university on 7/6/2017 in order to refund the amount paid but the university refused. I lost the money paid and also lost my studies in the summer term this year. This leads to the delay of my graduation from the university. "
- (F.M.), an Emirati student, born in 1998, he was deprived of the opportunity to complete his education. Also, he was separated from his mother who has a Qatari nationality.

c. Violation Of The Right To Work :

As with education, hundreds of business owners were affected after those states abruptly stopped -in order to cause as much harm as possible- all trading convoys, and thousands of tons of food or health supplies have expired. Hundreds of business owners lost great, immeasurable sums of money. What is even more crucial is that there are entire families that rely completely on traveling between Gulf states, and those families' only source of income has been cut off. However, none of the three states have compensated those families or sought an alternative for them, which intensified popular resentment even further.

Moreover, many citizens who are employed at public, private, or government sectors and used to move freely between the four countries are now jobless with no source of income and with no compensations from the three states that initiated the blockade.

NHRC received no less than 112 complaints from individuals who are affected by the blockade.

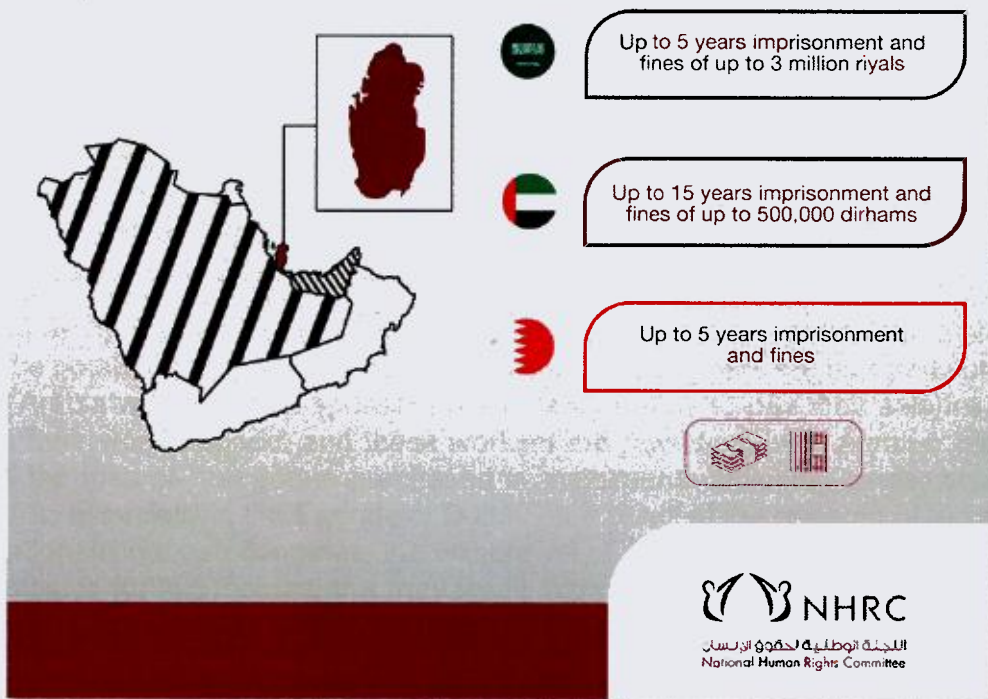
- Ms. A.M, a Saudi born in 1988. She works as a teacher in the State of Qatar. She visited the National Human Rights Committee and stated that: "After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, the Saudi authorities informed me that I should leave Qatar. I will lose my job if I went back to Saudi Arabia, but I am afraid of any consequences or punitive measures that might be taken against me if I stay here. "
- Mr. H. A, a Qatari national born in 1953, contacted the National Human Rights Committee, then visited its headquarters and stated: "I reside in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in the UAE since 30 years and I am working there. After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, I was forced to leave everything in Abu Dhabi and return to my country, and I lost my work and my life.
- Ms. T.S, a Saudi national, came to the National Human Rights Committee and gave details of the violation: "I have been living in the State of Qatar for 3 years and I work as a project manager. I have a brother with special needs who need special treatment and enrolled in rehabilitation center. After relations with the State of Qatar has been severed, the Saudi authorities contacted us to return to the Kingdom, but the 14 days' notice period was not enough to handle the situation especially for my brother, bearing in mind that my father is dead and we do not have a breadwinner."
- In an interview with Mr. H, a Bahraini citizen, came to the headquarters of the National Human Rights Committee, and stated that The Bahraini authorities asked him to leave Qatar: "I work in Qatar at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. I do not want to leave the State of Qatar. I consider it my second country. I have many memories and achievements, most notably the award of the best university student for the year 2013 and the best actor award at the Qatar Professional actor Festival in 2013."

d. Violations To The Right Of Freedom Of Opinion And Expression:

It must be emphasized that the mandate of Qatar National Human Rights Committee does not imply reporting the violations of the freedom of opinion and expression in the three besieging states and Egypt, however NHRC reports violations and sanctions imposed on the citizens of these countries after severing relations and imposing the blockade on Qatar, including the media campaigns launched against the State of Qatar, blocking sports channels, which certainly do not broadcast political or news programs, the situation becomes very critical to the extent that wearing a Barcelona or Paris St Germain shirt is considered a form of showing sympathy with Qatar which is criminalized!

UAE imposes penalties 3-15 years' imprisonment and fines of 500,000 AED just for merely showing sympathy towards the State of Qatar by even a word, a like, or a tweet on social media in an unprecedented threat to freedom of expression. Bahrain's Ministry of Interior imposes five-year imprisonment, while KSA considered this an internet crime.

PENALTIES IMPOSED BY THE THREE STATES FOR SYMPATHISING WITH QATAR



These very extreme and harsh actions betray the fragility of the grounds and legitimacy of the blockade decision by those three states, and reflect how much those states' authorities are afraid from citizens' freedom to express any opinions that don't agree with their will. This blatantly goes against many of international and regional declarations and covenants as we will detail further in the Legal Description portion of this report. In the media field, the NHRC received 103 media figures from the three states that imposed the blockade, who used to work at several Audio, Print, and Visual Media in the State of Qatar, have all been

subjected to various types of violations, including forcing them to resign from their jobs. Accordingly, 10 of those were forced to submit and forcibly asked for their resignation, lost their jobs and source of income. There are still great pressures on everyone who didn't submit his resignation. These actions constitute a blatant violation to the freedom of the press, freedom to work, freedom of residence, and freedom of opinion at the same time.

e. Violations Of The Right To Movement And Residence (Even For The Dead):

- Mr. S.S, a Bahrain citizen, stated that: "After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, the Bahraini authorities informed us to return to Bahrain, or we would be subject to penalties of 15 years imprisonment, fines that may reach to more than half a million riyals and the threat of withdrawal of nationality. This has coincided with the expiration of the passports of my children. "I have learned that the Bahraini authorities are spying and recording phone calls of my eldest son who lives there, which is unusual and violates our national rights."
- Ms. F.A, a Saudi lady, stated that: "I am 40 years old. I have been living in Qatar since 2007. I am working in Qatar. I have financial commitments and an independent life. How can I resume my life again and how I can repay the debt that I committed to."
- Mr. A.A, a Qatari national born in 1971, visited the headquarters of the National Human Rights committee and gave details of the violation: "I planned to travel to the UAE in June and booked a ticket on Emirates Airways and on the date of the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar I was told by an office of the UAE Airlines that the airline should be replaced and that my nationality does not allow me to enter the UAE or transit through its territory. The reservation was canceled and I lost the money I paid"

f. Violation Of The Right Of Private Property:

The blockade imposed by the three countries caused huge losses of property of tens of thousands of people. This indicates the disrespect of their basic rights when making decisions. Money and property were stolen because their owners could not travel. All persons prohibited from traveling use or dispose their properties.

In view of the great overlap and intertwining of business between the Gulf state (which may not be notable in many countries), we have known that there are hundreds of workers in Saudi Arabia whose Qatari sponsors are no longer able to pay their salaries. Money, and thus their work stopped, and these workers are now displaced. Another blatant example is the loss of real estate purchased in instalments including lands, buildings or apartments, especially in the Emirate of Dubai. As a result of the freezing of the assets of Qatari nationals in these countries, the withdrawal of checks has stopped and if the situation continues for two months, this may result in the loss of the property in full, and may even lead to a legal liability due to the failure to pay the monthly instalments.

In addition to the above, the three countries have continued to limit financial transfers to any of the citizens or residents of Qatar which deliberately violates fundamental freedoms; there are no measures have been taken so far to remove the critical repercussions on the citizens of the three countries and citizens of the State of Qatar.

The National Committee also reported a large number of cases of workers who hold Qatari residence and work in companies owned by Qatari citizens, whom were prevented from returning to Qatar after they stopped working.

- Mr. A.A, a Qatari born in 1985, holds a Qatari nationality, states that: "I have businesses regulated by contracts worth more than QR 226,640,000 and after the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar by Saudi Arabia and the UAE Bahrain, I lost large sums of money I have bought goods from Saudi Arabia and I could not bring them to the State of Qatar to meet my obligations."
- Mr. Y.A, a Qatari national who has properties in the Kingdom of Bahrain: "My wife and I had two commercial properties, one in Manama and the other in Muharraq and I have a durable power of attorney to manage the architecture that she owns. Since the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, I have lost the ability to manage my property. I have received financial dues from the tenants, causing me considerable material losses. I also have a residential building that is still under construction. Due to measures taken by Bahrain, I am deprived of the most basic human rights."
- Ms. M.H, a Qatari lady, stated that: "The decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar prevented me from accessing my two residential apartments in the Kingdom of Bahrain and from meeting with my sick mother who is Bahraini."
- Three Qatari brothers explained their concerns and stated that: "We inherited several properties from our father in the industrial zone in Sharjah, UAE. We have filed a lawsuit (No. 785/2015) in the Dubai Court, to get our financial amounts (amounted 133 million dirhams) which have been frozen after the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar; we can no longer access our property or even get our dues from rents".

g. Violations Of The Right To Practice Religious Rituals:

Makkah and Madinah are two holy cities located in KSA. They are constantly visited to perform Umrah. The blockade imposed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia affected nearly 1.5 million Muslims in Qatar. And instead of a one-and-a-half-hour trip to Jeddah Airport, the citizen and residents of Qatar have to travel from the city of Muscat in Oman. The trip may take up to 12 hours, adding to this the doubling of the cost; the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia should shoulder the religious, moral and legal responsibility.

The authorities in Saudi Arabia prevented a group of Qatari citizens from entering Jeddah and forced them to return to Qatar, although they were on board or at Jeddah airport when the decisions were announced.

As of the date of preparation of this report, despite the approach of the pilgrimage season, which is the fifth obligations in Islam, Saudi Arabia continues to put obstacles to the practice of religious rites in which about 1250 pilgrims have been affected, where losses reached to tens of millions of dollars.

Photos of a Qatari citizen in a video in Jeddah airport, where the Saudi authorities prevented him from entering the city of Mecca for the performance of Umrah:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wPVX-xm33DE>

- Mr. A.M, a Qatari pilgrim, visited the headquarters of the National Human Rights Committee and stated the following: "I registered in a Hajj and Umrah campaign and paid the full amount. The obstacles imposed by the besieging countries prevented me to perform Umrah, I am afraid to be insulted and I do not know how the security measures will be taken against us. This has caused me great psychological harm. My dream of pilgrimage this year has been lost."

- Mr. Y.A, a Qatari expressed his regret for his inability to perform Hajj this year and stated that: "I have completed all the procedures for the performance of pilgrimage with the campaigns organized by the State of Qatar and I have not encountered any problem, however the obstacles that Saudi Arabia has put in place prevented our travel, how can Muslims be prevented from performing their religious rituals?"
- Mr. M.H, a Qatari national, stated that: "I planned to go to Hajj with my family through the land port, but the measures taken by Saudi Arabia after the decision to sever relations with Qatar and The closure of the land crossing made me afraid to go and I was afraid of any risks we might face or any discriminatory measures that might be taken against me as a Qatari."
- Mr. Y.A, a Yemeni resident in Qatar, stated that: "Four years ago, I planned to go to Hajj and I arranged with my family and with the Hajj campaigns for everything with ease, but the measures taken by Saudi Arabia prevented me from traveling and performing Hajj this year."
- Mr. A.J, a Jordanian citizen who lives in the State of Qatar, stated that: "I planned to perform Hajj with my son through one of the campaigns organizing Hajj and Umrah in Qatar. The measures taken by Saudi Arabia hindered the arrangements for the Hajj, adding to this the closure of land ports, the disruption of air traffic and the closure of the Saudi embassy in Qatar; all this prevented me to perform Hajj this year."

h. Being Subjected To Inhumane Degrading Treatment:

The National Human Rights Committee has reported hundreds of cases of hate speech and incitement to carry out terrorist acts in the State of Qatar. In some of the series, the children have been indoctrinated to neighboring Qatar. This discourse has escalated violently because of the involvement of some official advisers and some of the very well-known media officials, which will definitely generate intellectuals and illiterate reactions This may lead to the perpetration of criminal acts not only against the citizens of Qatar. Rather, reactions may be generated from the Qatari society towards the societies of these three countries and Egypt. This in turn threatens the peace, security and stability of the entire region. The NHRC reported the names of everyone who incited to hatred, and hold them legally responsible for any racist terrorist violence affecting any Qatari citizen or any citizen of the three countries and citizens of Egypt.

International law clearly criminalizes hate speech and violence as set forth in article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

i. Violation Of The Right To Health - Especially For Persons With Disabilities:

Hundreds of people from the three besieging countries receive treatments in hospitals in Qatar, in addition to hundreds of Qataris who are receiving treatment in hospital in these countries. Citizens without exception have been asked to leave the countries including, injured persons, pregnant women, children, especially infants. The three blockading states should not expel Qatari patients, due to political disputes.

- Ms. R.A, a Qatari national and mother of three Bahraini children, two with special needs, stated that: “I have two children with special needs who live with me in Qatar and their father lives in the Kingdom of Bahrain. I used to travel with them every week to see their father. However, since the beginning of the blockade my children and I are deprived of seeing my husband.”

Mr. H.K, a Qatari who receives treatment at Al-Sharqiya Psychiatric Hospital in Saudi Arabia, stated that his mother has been informed that that he should be transferred from the hospital because he is Qatari”.

v. Conclusions and Legal Description:

In their resolutions, KSA, UAE, and Kingdom of Bahrain, violated a number of principle international human rights laws and rules, which are related to the most fundamental human rights, which are treated as international norms. These resolutions violate a number of articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, other articles included in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in addition to articles in the: Arab Charter on Human Rights, the GCC Declarations of Human Rights, and the Economic Agreement between the GCC States. Therefore, those states are responsible for protecting and preserving the rights and interests of the individuals living on their lands.

The Texts of the Articles that were violated by the three Gulf states:

First: Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

Article 25

1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Second: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights:

PART II

Article 2

1. Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color,

sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 20

1. Any propaganda for war shall be prohibited by law.
2. Any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law.

Third: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights:

Part III

Article 6

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his living by work which he freely chooses or accepts, and will take appropriate steps to safeguard this right.

Article 10

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize that:

1. The widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family, which is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, particularly for its establishment and while it is responsible for the care and education of dependent children. Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses.
2. Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. During such period working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.
3. Special measures of protection and assistance should be taken on behalf of all children and young persons without any discrimination for reasons of parentage or other conditions. Children and young persons should be protected from economic and social exploitation. Their employment in work harmful to their morals or health or dangerous to life or likely to hamper their normal development should be punishable by law. States should also set age limits below which the paid employment of child labor should be prohibited and punishable by law.

Article 12

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.
2. The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for:

- (a) The provision for the reduction of the stillbirth-rate and of infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child;
- (b) The improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene;
- (c) The prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases;
- (d) The creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness.

Article 13

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to education. They agree that education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity, and shall strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. They further agree that education shall enable all persons to participate effectively in a free society, promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations and all racial, ethnic or religious groups, and further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

Fourth: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination:

Article 4

States Parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic origin, or which attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to this end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of this Convention, inter alia:

- (a) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;
- (b) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and also organized and all other propaganda activities, which promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;
- (c) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination.

Fifth: Arab charter of human rights:

Article 3

Each State Party to the present Charter undertakes to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its Jurisdiction the right to enjoy all the rights and freedoms recognized herein, without any distinction on grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status and without any discrimination between men and women.

Article 8

Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person and no one shall be arrested, held in custody or detained without a legal warrant and without being brought promptly before a judge.

Article 26

Everyone has a guaranteed right to freedom of belief, thought and opinion.

Article 32

The State shall ensure that its citizens enjoy equality of opportunity in regard to work, as

Article 33

1. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society; it is based on marriage between a man and a woman. Men and women of marrying age have the right to marry and to found a family according to the rules and conditions of marriage. No marriage can take place without the full and free consent of both parties. The laws in force regulate the rights and duties of the man and woman as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

2. The State and society shall ensure the protection of the family, the strengthening of family ties, the protection of its members and the prohibition of all forms of violence or abuse in the relations among its members, and particularly against women and children. They shall also ensure the necessary protection and care for mothers, children, older persons and persons with special needs and shall provide adolescents and young persons with the best opportunities for physical and mental development.

3. The States parties shall take all necessary legislative, administrative and judicial measures to guarantee the protection, survival, development and well-being of the child in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity and shall ensure, in all cases, that the child's best interests are the basic criterion for all measures taken in his regard, whether the child is at risk of delinquency or is a juvenile offender.

Sixth: GCC human rights declaration:

Article (6)

The Freedom of belief and the practice of religious rites is a right of every person according to the regulation (law) without disruption of the public order and public morals.

Article (9)

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and exercising such freedom is guaranteed insofar as it accords with Islamic Sharia law, public order and the regulations (laws) regulating this area.

Article (14)

The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, originally composed of a man and a woman, governed by religion, morals and patriotism; its entity and bonds are maintained and reinforced by religion. Motherhood, childhood and members of the family are protected by religion as well as the State and society against all forms of abuse and domestic violence.

Article 24

Every person, who has the capacity of doing so, has the right to work and has the right to free choice of employment according to the requirements of dignity and public interest, while just and favorable employment conditions, as well as employees' and employers' rights, are ensured.

Article 27

Private property is inviolable and no one shall be prevented from the disposition of his property except by the regulation (law), and it may not be expropriated unless for public interest with fair compensation.

vi. Recommendations:

To the international community:

To take urgent action to lift the blockade, and make every possible effort to mitigate its repercussions on the people of Qatar, and the citizens of the three countries.

To The United Nations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR):

1- The great amount of social violations constitutes a threat to the stability of the region, and is stated to have a negative impact on the economic and social levels.

Speedy steps must be taken to force the states that issued these unjust decisions to repeal their actions.

2- The OHCHR to prepare reports and statements documenting the various types of violations that affected great numbers of people, especially the families that were separated, including the negative consequences on women and children as a result of the separation of their families, and to call on these states to respect the basic freedoms of the people living on their lands.

To the Human Rights Council:

To take every possible action in order to end the blockade and its ramifications, and call for the compensation of all people who were harmed and affected.

Human Rights Council Special Rapporteurs:

To Document forms on the various types of violations that occurred, and contact certain the concerned governments in that regard as soon as possible. NHRC is fully prepared to share all the related data.

Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council:

The Dispute Settlement Commission of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council to take urgent actions and do everything in its power to convince the concerned governments to start settling the dispute and the social, civil, and cultural situation for the affected families and citizens.

KSA, UAE, and Kingdom of Bahrain:

1- Respect the nature of the Gulf societies, and to refrain from making any decisions that sever the relations and ties between families and societies, and to repeal these decisions as early as possible.

2- Respect the basic human rights related to freedom of movement, private property, work, residence, and freedom of expression and opinion that are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

3- Neutralize political developments in a way that do not to affect the humanitarian and social situations as stipulated in the international law and the international human rights law.

To the Qatari Government:

To take all possible steps at the international level, at the level of the Security Council and the international tribunals, to lift the blockade on the people of Qatar, to defend their rights in the face of violations against them, and to hold accountable those who are responsible for them.

Citizens of the three countries residing in Qatar affected by their country's decision
VIOLATIONS TO THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, RESIDENCE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

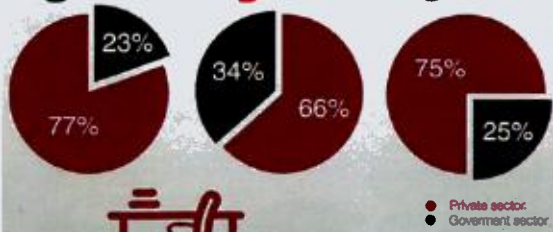
11387 The total of residents from the three countries in Qatar



NHRC
 اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
 National Human Rights Committee

Citizens of the three countries residing in Qatar affected by their country's decision
VIOLATIONS TO THE RIGHT TO WORK

1053 employees (Bahrain)
830 employees (Saudi Arabia)
71 employees (UAE)



NHRC
 اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
 National Human Rights Committee

Citizens of the three countries residing in Qatar affected by their country's decision
VIOLATIONS TO THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION



- ONLY IN QATAR UNIVERSITY
- 33% Bahraini students
 - 59% Saudi students
 - 8% Emirati students

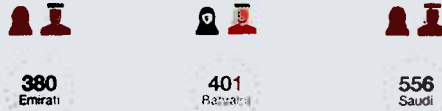
4600 (approximately)
 Students from the three gulf countries enrolled at public schools

Note: These figures do not include the number of students of the 3 countries in other schools and universities in Qatar.

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 National Human Rights Committee

Citizens of the three countries residing in the State of Qatar who are affected by these decisions
VIOLATIONS TO MIXED FAMILIES

Qatari women married to:



Qatari men married to:

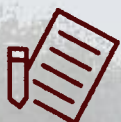


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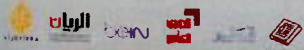
Citizens of the three countries residing in the State of Qatar who are affected by these decisions
VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND FREEDOM OF OPINION AND EXPRESSION

93 Media personnel are being forced by their states to leave their jobs

10 Media personnel were forced to resign



Media outlets blocked in the three countries



NHRC
 اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
 National Human Rights Committee

Types of Human Rights Violations resulted from Cutting the Diplomatic Ties :

Violations of the right to

- Freedom of movement
- Private property
- Freedom of opinion and expression
- Family reunification and forced deportation
- Education
- Religious practice
- Healthcare
- Work

Affected groups:



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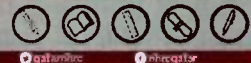
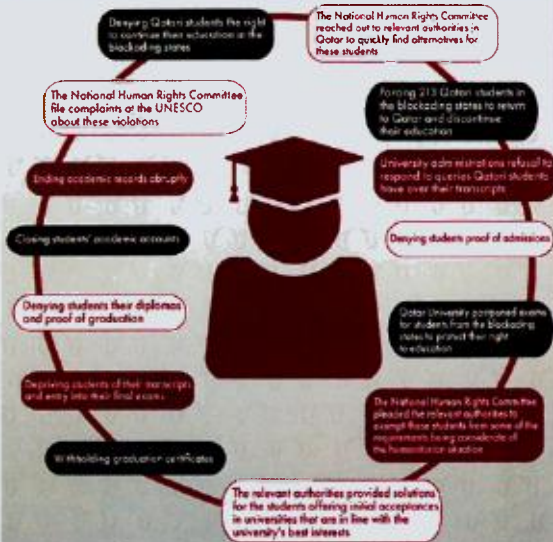
PENALTIES IMPOSED BY THE THREE STATES FOR SYMPATHISING WITH QATAR



- Saudi Arabia:** Up to 5 years imprisonment and fines of up to 3 million riyals
- UAE:** Up to 15 years imprisonment and fines of up to 500,000 dirhams
- Bahrain:** Up to 5 years imprisonment and fines



Violations of the right to education under the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar



Right to freedom of practicing religious rituals

The blockade imposed on Qatar led by the kingdom of Saudi Arabia has the following negative impacts:

The fifth pillar of Islam



Around **1.5m** Muslims reside in Qatar

Around **1250** average number of pilgrims from the State of Qatar annually

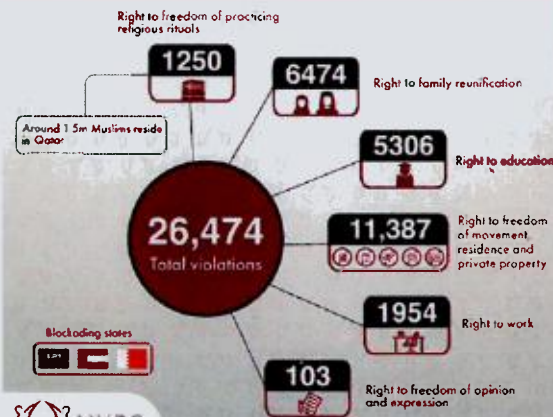
All the agencies concerned with booking airline tickets, facilitating visa issuance and reservation of hotels for pilgrims have been affected by the blockade, where their losses reached tens of millions of dollars

Limiting Qatar pilgrims with only two air ports of entry on their way to the holy sites, through transit, which led to an increase in journey time and financial cost

Incitement and hate speech that is broadcasted on official media outlets from the blocking states heightened the fears of Qatari residents and citizens from performing Al-Hajj



100 DAYS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS FROM THE BLOCKADE IMPOSED ON QATAR





PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE STATE OF QATAR TO THE UNITED
NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA - SWITZERLAND



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HE the Foreign Minister delivers a statement before the 36th session of the Human Rights Council

11 September 2017



Qatar's Minister of Foreign Affairs HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani has underlined that Qatar's national, regional and international bias towards human rights, public opinion and the right of peoples to self-determination is one of the most important reasons for attempts to impose guardianship on it and to influence its foreign policy independence and its media.

Addressing the 36th Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva today, HE the Foreign Minister reiterated Qatar's readiness to dialogue to end the Gulf crisis, within the framework of mutual respect and preservation of the sovereignty of the States, away from dictates, but in the form of compromises resulting in mutual collective obligations.

HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani expressed Qatar's appreciation and support for the Kuwaiti mediation, which is being carried out by HH the Emir Sheikh Sabah Al Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah to end the crisis.

HE the Foreign Minister affirmed Qatar's firm belief in the dialogue to resolve the crisis, despite the depth of the wound in the hearts of the Qatari people, which was caused by the policies the siege countries, despite the low level of media discourse of the countries of the blockade and the policy of spreading lies and fabrications, and despite the official discourse of some officials of the siege countries of respected international diplomatic framework to an unprecedented level, even in their speeches towards those who consider them their enemies.

HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani said that the use of force policy in all its forms in domestic and foreign policy is a major reason for the waste of justice in the international system, which reflects negatively on the respect and protection of human rights as well as the threat of security, peace and peaceful coexistence in the international community.

HE the Minister of Foreign Affairs noted that the State of Qatar has been subjected to exceptional circumstances and challenges for more than three months as a result of an illegal siege imposed by a number of countries which clearly violate international human rights laws and conventions, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations General Assembly resolution, the outcomes of the World Summit of 16 September 2005, the provisions of international law and the rules governing relations between States.

He pointed out that this crisis began with the crime of hacking the website of the Qatar News Agency and spreading false news attributed to HH the Emir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, followed by malicious media campaigns against the State of Qatar, and false accusations are not based on any evidence that the State of Qatar funds terrorism, stressing that all this confirms the existence of political intent built behind piracy.

HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani said that the siege countries had closed since the first day air, sea and land borders in violation of the provisions of international law and international trade rules, which had a negative impact on the freedom of trade and investment, noting that these countries had taken many illegal

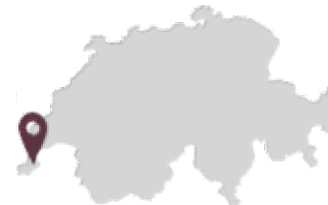
measures that constitute a grave violation of civil, economic and social rights, including prohibiting the entry of Qatari citizens into or passing through their countries, as well as preventing their citizens from traveling to or residing in Qatar. He added that these measures led to the dispersal of many families and their members, especially women and children, and the deprivation of many Qatari students of their right to continue their education in universities after being expelled from them. Many other basic rights and freedoms, such as the right to work for the siege countries citizens working in Qatar, who had been forced to return home, the right to own private property, both for Qatari citizens in the siege countries or for nationals of these countries in Qatar, and freedom of movement, noting that these violations are still ongoing.



Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar
27 - 29 avenue du Bouchet
1209 Genève
Genève - Switzerland

+41227988500

geneva@mofa.gov.qa



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Ministry Of Foreign Affairs - Qatar



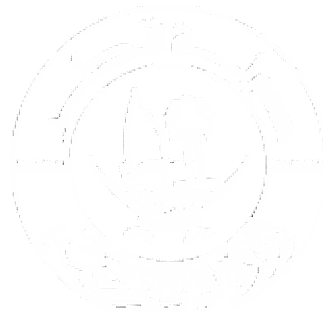
Permanent Committee of Conferences



Diplomatic Institute

PERMANENT MISSION

OF THE STATE OF QATAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA - SWITZERLAND



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 Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar
27 - 29 avenue du Bouchet
1209 Genève
Geneva - Switzerland

 +41227988500

 +41227910485

 geneva@mofa.gov.qa

 Twitter

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(Translated from Arabic)

State reply to the joint communication from the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council concerning the allegations that the human rights of Qatari citizens have been violated

The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office at Geneva presents its compliments to the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, and with reference to letter UA ARE 5/2017 dated 18 August 2017, gives its assurances that the relevant authorities in the State have received the communication and have studied all the procedural and legal aspects of the allegations contained therein. The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates has the honour to transmit herewith the clarifications provided in response to the communication.

I: The procedural and technical aspects of the communication

From a procedural perspective, the claims made in the communication are completely unjustifiable. Article 9 (Letters of allegation) of resolution No. 5/2 of the Human Rights Council on the code of conduct for special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council states the following:

“With a view to achieving effectiveness and harmonization in the handling of letters of allegation by special procedures, mandate holders shall assess their conformity with reference to the following criteria:

“(a) The communication should not be manifestly unfounded or politically motivated;”

1. The severing of diplomatic relations between the United Arab Emirates and Qatar is a prime example of political motivation. The United Arab Emirates broke diplomatic ties with Qatar on the grounds that Qatar was supporting radical terrorist and sectarian groups, in particular the Muslim Brotherhood, who were continuing to disseminate the ideology of ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida via direct and indirect media channels.

2. The communication was produced by the Qatari National Human Rights Committee, which is an agency of the Qatari State and is supposed to operate independently, in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles) and Decree-Law No. 17 of 2010 establishing the Committee, article 3 of which sets out its mandate and its terms of reference. The Committee has confirmed — both directly and through its regular communications, its first and second periodic reports and its meetings with various United Nations human rights agencies, committees and mechanisms — that it has submitted a number of communications and complaints to the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council. A number of non-governmental organizations loyal to the Qatari State have also submitted complaints and communications. Other non-governmental organizations have also done so at the request of the Qatari Government.

“(b) The communication should contain a factual description of the alleged violations of human rights;”

1. The communication received does not contain a detailed, factual description of the alleged systematic violations of human rights. Instead, it provides merely a general overview of the events related to the severing of diplomatic ties between the United Arab



Emirates and Qatar. Moreover, the figures and statistics cited in the communication have not been verified.

2. Neither the communication from the Qatari National Human Rights Committee nor those from the special procedures mandate holders or other human rights mechanisms provide the names of any of the persons whose rights have allegedly been violated, which means that the allegations cannot be verified.

“(d) The communication should be submitted by a person or a group of persons claiming to be victim of violations or by any person or group of persons, including non-governmental organizations, acting in good faith in accordance with principles of human rights, and free from politically motivated stands or contrary to, the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, and claiming to have direct or reliable knowledge of those violations substantiated by clear information;”

1. The communication was submitted by the Qatari National Human Rights Committee. Its political motivations for doing so are clear, as demonstrated by its comments during the meetings and press conferences that it has convened.

“(e) The communication should not be exclusively based on reports disseminated by mass media.”

1. The communication is based on information disseminated by the Qatari National Human Rights Committee in its regular communications and periodic reports, as well as information included in the reports issued by non-governmental organizations invited to Qatar by the National Human Rights Committee under the pretext of assessing the human rights situation. Naturally, the media seized on that information without verifying its accuracy.

II: The nature of the communication received

The United Arab Emirates is highly displeased that the communication was deemed worthy of issuing an urgent appeal. It raises numerous questions about the way in which communications are categorized by the special procedures mechanism:

1. The communication was issued as an urgent appeal, requiring a response within 30 days. However, this constitutes a procedural violation of the provisions of article 10 on urgent appeals of resolution No. 5/2, which states the following:

“Mandate holders may resort to urgent appeals in cases where the alleged violations are time-sensitive in terms of involving loss of life, life-threatening situations or either imminent or ongoing damage of a very grave nature to victims that cannot be addressed in a timely manner by the procedure under article 9 of the present Code.”

The communication does not include any violations involving loss of life, life-threatening situations or either imminent or ongoing damage of a very grave nature to victims that cannot be addressed in a timely manner. Rather, the allegations are concerned solely with issues of education, freedom of movement, the right to property, the right to trade and invest, freedom of expression and the right to work.

2. As stated in the communication — and as is commonly known — the United Arab Emirates severed diplomatic ties with Qatar on 5 June 2017, at which point all Qatari residents in the United Arab Emirates were ordered to leave the country within 14 days and all Emirati residents in Qatar were instructed likewise. However, the communication was issued through the urgent appeals mechanism on 18 August 2017; i.e., two and half months after diplomatic ties were severed. This calls into question the real urgency of the communication, given that it was presented two and a half months after the fact.

III: The allegations included in the communication

To respond to the questions raised in the communication:

General comments regarding the allegations:

Ordinarily, communications sent by United Nations agencies, committees and mechanisms tend to include a highly detailed summary of the facts surrounding the events in connection with which violations are alleged to have taken place, including the names of those involved and the dates of the events. All such information has usually been verified upon receipt by the special procedures mandate holders with the party that submitted the allegations. On this occasion, however, the summary in the communication amounts to a mere two pages and contains only general and imprecise allegations made by the source.

Furthermore, for three pages the authors of the communication sought to remind the Government of the United Arab Emirates of its regional and international obligations under the Arab Charter on Human Rights, the International Convention on the Eradication of Racial Discrimination, the International Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The United Arab Emirates continues to uphold those treaties and is fully aware of its obligations and commitments in that regard.

IV: In response to the general allegations set out in the communication and the questions posed by the special procedures mandate holders

The implementation mechanism established by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates (God protect him), for use in humanitarian situations:

A committee representing all relevant entities in the country has been established in order to facilitate procedures for families of mixed Emirati-Qatari nationality and to deal with issues related to real estate, businesses and vehicles owned by Qatari nationals, as well as matters related to health. In that regard, a hotline has also been set up.

Measures to prevent the separation of mixed-nationality families

A decision issued by the President allows mixed Emirati-Qatari nationalities families to remain in the United Arab Emirates. The aforementioned committee is currently conducting a survey of all such families.

Guaranteeing the right to health of Qatari nationals living in the United Arab Emirates

Qatari nationals suffering from an illness have the right to complete their treatment at hospitals in the United Arab Emirates.

Measures to guarantee the right to education for Qatari students in the United Arab Emirates and allegations that such students have been unable to take their exams or obtain educational documents

The committee is currently assessing the measures applicable to Qatari students in the United Arab Emirates, including with regard to administrative matters.

Administrative requirements affecting Qatari students, such as the authentication of certificates, are no longer in effect.

Information on how the State criminalizes freedom of expression online on the grounds that the individual sympathized with Qatar

The communication failed to provide specific examples of cases in which a prison sentence or a fine were imposed. The United Arab Emirates is therefore unable to comment on any specific cases.

Numerous individuals, Qataris and others, have been able to exercise their right to expression on the severing of diplomatic ties between Qatar and the United Arab Emirates via various social media platforms, including Twitter and Facebook. The special procedures mandate holders can verify this fact on those websites.

Freedom of movement

Sea and air borders with Qatar remain open to all nationals except those from countries covered by the boycott. This is a sovereign right and a way to protect national

security in the face of the aggressive policies pursued by Qatar, and its interference in the internal affairs of other States.

Property and interests of Qatari nationals in the United Arab Emirates

Qatari nationals who have property or interests in the United Arab Emirates are entitled to appoint a lawyer or any other person they deem suitable to manage those interests. There is no basis in the allegations that Qatari nationals have been denied access to their property or have been prevented from managing their property. All such property is registered in line with Emirati law.

The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations will continue to strengthen its cooperation with the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council with regard to their work carried out in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and with the Code of Conduct for special procedures mandate holders. The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates takes this opportunity to convey to the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.



Ref: 2/3/32 - 352

Date: 18 September 2017

The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Special Procedures Branch and with reference to the latter's joint communication no. UA ARE 5/2017 of 18 August 2017 concerning **the adverse situation and the violations of human rights of Qatari migrants in the United Arab Emirates, as well as Emirati migrants in the State of Qatar as a result of the United Arab Emirates government's decision to suspend ties with the State of Qatar**, has the honour to forward herewith the response as received from the relevant authorities in the United Arab Emirates.

The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the to the Special Procedures Branch the assurances of its highest consideration.



Enclosures:

- Statements from the Qatari highest authorities on the normal life in Qatar despite "boycott"
- UAE President directives to address humanitarian cases of Emirati-Qatari joint families

Special Procedures Branch

Fax: (+41-22) 917 90 08

E-mail: registry@ohchr.org

الموضوع: رد الدولة على بلاغ الإجراءات الخاصة والمتعلق بادعاءات ما يسمى بانتهاكات حقوق

الانسان بحق المواطنين القطريين

تهدي البعثة الدائمة للامارات العربية المتحدة لدى الامم المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة في جنيف أطيب تحياتها إلى أمانة الاجراءات الخاصة في جنيف. وبالإشارة إلى مذكرة الأمانة رقم ARE UA 2017/5 المرسل للبعثة بتاريخ 2017/8/18. تود البعثة الدائمة لدولة الامارات العربية المتحدة في هذا الإطار افادتكم بأن الجهات المعنية في الدولة اطلعت على البلاغ المذكور وقامت بدراسته من جميع جوانبه الاجرائية والقانونية وما تضمنه من ادعاءات. وبناء عليه تود توضيح ما يلي:-

أولاً: في ما يتعلق بالنواحي الاجرائية والفنية الخاصة بالبلاغ:-

1. تؤكد دولة الامارات بأنه لا صحة من الناحية الاجرائية للأسس التي قام عليها البلاغ المرسل، وذلك استناداً لما تضمنه قرار مجلس حقوق الانسان رقم 5/2 حول مدونة قواعد السلوك لأصحاب الولايات في إطار الإجراءات الخاصة لمجلس حقوق الإنسان وما ورد في المادة 9 الخاصة برسائل الادعاء والتي نصت على ما يلي:-

(بغية تحقيق الفعالية والتنسيق في تناول رسائل الادعاء في إطار الإجراءات الخاصة، يقيم أصحاب الولايات امثالها للمعايير التالية) :

(أ) ألا تكون البلاغات بلا أساس على نحو واضح أو ألا تكون مقدمة بدوافع

سياسية؛

(1) ان اساس الازمة التي شهدتها العلاقات في ما بين دولة الامارات ودولة قطر سياسي بامتياز حيث قطعت الاولى علاقتها الدبلوماسية مع الاخيرة وذلك نتيجة لمواصلة دولة قطر في دعمها وتمويلها واحتضانها للتنظيمات الارهابية والمتطرفة والطائفية وعلى رأسها جماعة الاخوان المسلمين وعملها المستمر على نشر وترويج فكر تنظيم داعش والقاعدة عبر وسائل اعلامها المباشر وغير المباشر.

(2) قدم البلاغ من قبل اللجنة الوطنية القطرية لحقوق الانسان (تعتبر كيان وجهاز من اجهزة الدولة في قطر يفترض ان يعمل بصفة مستقلة في أداء مهامه كما نصت عليه مبادئ باريس للمؤسسات الوطنية وبناء على مرسوم بقانون رقم (17) لسنة 2010 الخاص بتنظيم اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان والذي حدد في مادته الثالثة مهام واختصاصات اللجنة) وقد اقرت اللجنة بنفسها وعبر بياناتها الدورية وتقاريرها الدورية الاولى والثاني وعبر اجتماعاتها بمختلف أجهزة ولجان واليات الامم المتحدة المعنية بحقوق الانسان بأنها قامت بإرسال بلاغات وشكاوي إلى نظام الاجراءات الخاصة التابع لمجلس حقوق الانسان. بالاضافة الى عدد المنظمات غير الحكومية الموالية لقطر وغيرها من المنظمات غير الحكومية التي قامت قطر بحشدها لتقديم بلاغات وشكاوي.

(أ) أن تتضمن البلاغات وصفاً لوقائع الانتهاكات المزعومة لحقوق الإنسان؛

1- لا يتضمن البلاغ المرسل وصفاً دقيقاً وواقعياً لانتهاكات ممنهجة ومزعومة لحقوق الانسان، وانما تطرق الى وصف عام وتوجهات عامة لاجراءات تتعلق بقطع العلاقات الدبلوماسية مع قطر والاشارة الى بعض الارقام والاحصائيات التي لم يتم التحقق والتأكد من صحتها.

2- لم يتضمن البلاغ المرسل اي اشارة إلى اسماء الاشخاص التي وقعت في حقهم انتهاكات مزعومة لحقوق الانسان كي يتم التحقق منها. كما هو الحال في البلاغات المرسلة من قبل الاجراءات الخاصة وغيرها من الاليات الاخرى المعنية بحقوق الانسان.

(ج) أن يقدم البلاغ شخص أو مجموعة أشخاص يدعون أنهم ضحية

انتهاكات، أو أي شخص أو مجموعة أشخاص، بما في ذلك المنظمات غير الحكومية، يتصرفون بحسن نية وفقاً لمبادئ حقوق الإنسان، وليس لهم مواقف ودافعها سياسية لا صلة لها بأحكام ميثاق الأمم المتحدة أو مخالفة لتلك الأحكام، ويدعون أن لهم معرفة مباشرة أو موثوقة بهذه الانتهاكات مدعومة بمعلومات واضحة؛

1- البلاغ مقدم من قبل اللجنة الوطنية القطرية لحقوق الانسان، ومواقف اللجنة ودوافعها السياسية لتقديم البلاغ واضحة وقد اعلنتها خلال اجتماعاتها ولقاءاتها والمؤتمرات الصحفية التي عقدتها.

(هـ) ألا تستند البلاغات حصراً إلى تقارير منشورة في وسائل الإعلام.

البلاغ استند الى ما نشرته اللجنة الوطنية القطرية لحقوق الانسان في بياناتها الدورية وفي تقاريرها الدورية والتي تناولتها بطبيعة الحال وسائل الاعلام دون التحقق والتأكد من مصداقيتها. بالاضافة الى تقارير بعض المنظمات غير الحكومية التي استضافتها اللجنة الوطنية في قطر وذلك في اطار ما يسمى الاطلاع على اوضاع حقوق الانسان في قطر.

ثانياً: طبيعة البلاغ المرسل:-

تعرب الدولة عن استياءها الشديد إزاء اعتبار البلاغ المزعوم نداء عاجلاً يستوجب الرد عليه بصفة استعجالية، وهذا الامر من شأنه ان يطرح علامات تعجب واستفهام كثيرة بشأن الية وكيفية تصنيف وفرز البلاغات في إطار نظام الاجراءات الخاصة:-

1- ارسل البلاغ في إطار النداءات العاجلة والتي تتطلب الرد في غضون (30) يوماً وهذا يتنافى تماماً من الناحية الاجرائية مع اعمال المادة(10) المعنية بالنداءات العاجلة والتي نصت على ما يلي:-

(يجوز لأصحاب الولايات أن يلجأوا إلى توجيه نداءات عاجلة في حالات الانتهاكات المزعومة التي يكون فيها عامل الوقت حاسماً لأنها تنطوي على الوفاة أو تشكل خطراً على الحياة، أو تنطوي على إلحاق ضرر بضحايا يكون ضرراً وشيكاً أو قائماً ذا طابع خطير للغاية ولا يمكن معالجته في وقت مناسب بالإجراء المنصوص عليه في المادة 9 من هذه المدونة)

- لا يتضمن البلاغ المزعوم اي ادعاءات لحالات وفاة او حالات معرضة لخطر على حياتها. كما لم يتعرض لضحايا وحالات الحق بحقها ضررا وشيكا او قائما ذا طابع خطير للغاية ولا يمكن معالجته في الوقت المناسب. والتناقض هنا ان وصف الاجراءات التي تناولها البلاغ تتضمن مسائل تتعلق بالتعليم وحرية التنقل وحرية التملك والتجارة والاستثمار وحرية التعبير وحرية ممارسة الاعمال.

2. اشار البلاغ وكما هو معلوم بأن الدولة قطعت علاقتها الدبلوماسية بقطر بتاريخ 5 يونيو 2017 وبانها امهلت المواطنين القطريين بمغادرة الدولة في غضون 14 يوم والعكس في ما يتعلق الامر بالمواطنين الاماراتيين. بينما ارسل البلاغ تحت اطار النداءات العاجلة بتاريخ 18 اغسطس 2017 اي بعد مرور شهرين ونصف من قطع العلاقة. يطرح هذا الامر استغراب شديد وشكوك حول الصفة الاستعجالية التي ارسل بموجبها البلاغ أي بعد مرور شهرين ونصف من قطع العلاقات.

ثالثا: مضمون الادعاءات الواردة في البلاغ:-

أولا: الرد على الاسئلة الواردة في البلاغ:

1. تعليق عام بشأن الادعاءات الواردة في البلاغ:-

جرت العادة ان تتناول البلاغات المرسلة من قبل مختلف أجهزة واليات ولجان الامم المتحدة، وكما هو معمول به في موجز الوقائع وصفا دقيقا جدا للحالات التي تم الادعاء بوقوع انتهاكات بحقها، ويتناول هذا الوصف الاسماء والتواريخ وذلك بعد ان يتم التحقق والتأكد من صحتها من قبل نظام الاجراءات الخاصة وبعد تدقيقها وبشكل جيد عند استلامها من قبل مصدر البلاغ ولكن لوحظ بأن موجز الوقائع والتي ورت في صفحتين تناولت مزاعم وادعاءات عامة من قبل المصدر غير دقيقة.

-تضمن البلاغ في عدد 3 صفحات تذكير الدولة بالتزاماتها الاقليمية والدولية وذلك في اطار الميثاق العربي لحقوق الانسان والاتفاقية الدولية للقضاء على جميع اشكال

التمييز العنصري واتفاقية حقوق الاطفال والاعلان العالمي لحقوق الانسان والتي تحترمها الدولة وتدرك جيداً واجباتها والتزاماتها في اطار تلك الاتفاقيات.

رابعاً:- في ما يتعلق بالمزاعم والادعاءات العامة الواردة في موجز وقائع البلاغ والاسئلة الموجهة من قبل الإجراءات الخاصة:-

آلية تنفيذ توجيه صاحب السمو رئيس الدولة حفظه الله للحالات الإنسانية-

تم انشاء لجنة تضم الجهات المعنية في الدولة وذلك لتسهيل الإجراءات الخاصة بالاسر المشتركة الإماراتية القطرية وتسهيل الإجراءات الأخرى المتعلقة بامتلاكات القطريين من عقار وتجارة ومركبات وعلاج واية حالات أخرى. كما تم تخصيص رقم هاتف لمتابعة تلك الحالات

-التدابير المتخذة لمنع الاسر المشتركة من الانفصال

يسمح قرار صاحب السمو رئيس الدولة للاسر الإماراتية والقطرية المشتركة في البقاء في الدولة، ويتم دراسة حالات الاسر من قبل اللجنة المشكلة

- ضمان الحق في الصحة في ما يتعلق بالمواطنين القطريين في الدولة

يحق للمرضى القطريين استكمال علاجهم في مستشفيات الدولة

- الإجراءات المتخذة بشأن ضمان حصول الطلاب القطريين على الحق في التعليم في الدولة

وعدم تمكن القطريين الدارسين في الامارات من إتمام امتحاناتهم والحصول على وثائقهم

التعليمية.

- تدرس اللجنة حالياً الإجراءات المتعلقة بالطلاب القطريين في مدارس الدولة، بما فيها المسائل الإدارية.

- الإجراءات الإدارية الخاصة بمعاملات الطلبة القطريين كالتصديق على الشهادات لا تزال سارية

-تقديم معلومات عن كيفية تطبيق تجريم حرية التعبير عبر الانترنت على أساس التعاطف مع

قطر

-لم يتطرق البلاغ الى الحالات التي فرض عقوبات السجن بحقها او فرض غرامات عليها كي تقوم الدولة بدورها بموافاتهم بالرد بشأن هذه الحالات.

- يمارس العديد من الافراد سواء القطريين او غيرهم من الجنسيات الأخرى حرية التعبير عن ارائهم ومواقفهم على مواقع التواصل الاجتماعي سواء عبر التغريد في تويتر او في فيس بوك وغيرها من المواقع الأخرى على خلفية قطع العلاقات الدبلوماسية مع دولة قطر. وبإمكان الإجراءات الخاصة الاطلاع على مواقع التواصل الاجتماعي للتأكد من هذا الامر.

حرية التنقل

- تجدر الإشارة بأن منافذ قطر البحرية والجوية مفتوحة لكافة الدول للتنقل باستثناء دول المقاطعة التي اتخذت هذا الأجراء وهو حق سيادي لها في مواجهة السياسات العدائية القطرية وتدخلاتها في الشؤون الداخلية لتلك الدول ولحماية امنها القومي.

- ممتلكات ومصالح القطريين في الدولة

يحق للقطريين ممن لديهم أملاك ومصالح في الدولة توكيل محامي او من يجدونه مناسباً لادارة ومتابعة مصالحهم في الدولة. وبالتالي لا صحة للمزاعم المتعلقة بحرمانهم من الوصول لممتلكاتهم وادارتها. خاصة وان هذه المصالح والممتلكات موثقة قانونياً في الدولة.

تؤكد البعثة الدائمة للامارات العربية المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة على حرص الدولة على تعزيز تعاونها مع نظام الإجراءات الخاصة لمجلس حقوق الانسان وبما يتماشى مع الولايات المناطة بهم بموجب قرارات مجلس حقوق الانسان ذات الصلة ومدونة قواعد السلوك لاصحاب الولايات. وتغتني البعثة هذه الفرصة لتعرب لأمانة الإجراءات الخاصة عن فائق تقديرها واحترامها.

[Emblem of the State of Qatar]

Address by
His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani
Amir of the State of Qatar

At
The General Debate of the 72nd Session of the United
Nations General Assembly

New York 19 September 2017

In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful,

Honorable Attendees,

I am happy to congratulate His Excellency Mr. Miroslav Lajcak on assuming the position of President of the 72nd Session of the General Assembly, and I wish him every success in his mission.

I wish also to express my appreciation to His Excellency Mr. Peter Thomson for his valuable efforts in managing the affairs of the 71st Session of the General Assembly.

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend the efforts of His Excellency the Secretary-General, Mr. Antonio Guterres, in enhancing the role of the United Nations.

Mr. President,

Maintaining regional and international peace and security is a foreign policy priority of the State of Qatar, whose principles and objectives are based on the United Nations Charter and the rules of international legitimacy, which calls for constructive cooperation among States, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs, good neighborliness, peaceful coexistence and the pursuit peaceful means to settle disputes.

The issue of settling disputes by peaceful means is still being approached as an incidental and non-binding recommendation. Perhaps the time has come to impose dialogue and negotiation as a basis for resolving disputes through the execution of an international convention on peaceful resolution of disputes between States.

In this context, and after major events such as the Second World War, Rwanda, Burundi, and the Balkans in the last century, all of humanity is once again threatened with the impunity of perpetrators of crimes against humanity and genocide becoming the rule rather than the exception. This is because international legitimacy is subject to political pressures, the interests of the axes and the dictates of force on the ground, which is a harbinger that the law of force may supersede the force of law.

In our view, the positions of the major powers should not range between two extremes: direct occupation to impose their will and policies on other countries, or taking the position of spectators who refrain from doing anything vis-a-vis wars of genocide and crimes against humanity perpetrated by a fascist, despotic regime, or continuous oppression by an occupying state of people under occupation.

Lately, a feeling is spreading that peoples who are oppressed are facing their fates alone, as if the international arena were governed by the law of the jungle, and that the countries under threat must manage their affairs through their alliances and relations, in the absence of a system to enforce the provisions of international law and binding conventions and charters.

Mr. President,

We commend the selection of the theme of this session: **“Focusing on People: Striving for Peace and a Decent Life for All on a Sustainable Planet.”**

In this context, I call upon the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the international community to assume their legal and moral responsibility to take the necessary measures to stop the violence against the Rohingya minority and to provide them with protection, repatriate the displaced to their homeland, prevent sectarian or ethnic discrimination against them, and ensure that they receive all of their full legitimate rights as full-fledged citizens. We also urge all States to provide humanitarian assistance to them.

Mr. President,

Each time I stand here, I defend constructive international cooperation, just peace, and the rights of peoples under occupation, as well as those who are subjected to crimes against humanity and those who are under siege.

This time, I stand here while my country and my people are subjected to a continuing and unjust blockade imposed since June 5th by neighboring countries. The blockade involves all aspects of life, including intervention by these countries to sever family ties. Qatar is currently successfully managing

its life, economy, development plans, and contact with the outside world, thanks to the existence of sea and air routes that these countries have no control over.

The blockade was imposed abruptly and without warning, prompting the Qataris to view it as a sort of betrayal.

It appears that those who planned and implemented it imagined that their move would cause a direct and shocking impact that would bring the State of Qatar to its knees and cause it to capitulate to complete tutelage to be imposed upon it.

Worse, the architects of the blockade found it necessary to rely on fabricated quotes attributed to me and planted on the website of Qatar News Agency after it was hacked. The media of these countries, which is weaponized and servile, was prepared and ready to launch an all-out campaign of incitement that was prepared in advance, in which all values, morals and norms were violated, and by which the truth was violated with a torrent of lies. Currently, no expense is being spared on the creation and dissemination of fabrications in the hope that people will confuse the truth with lies.

Despite the exposure of the hacking and falsification of the statements of the Emir of a sovereign State, the blockading countries did not back down or apologize for lying, but intensified their campaign, in the hope that the blockade would have a cumulative effect on the economy and society of my country, having failed to bring about any direct impact.

The perpetrators of the hacking and falsification of the statements have committed an assault on a sovereign State. The crime was committed to serve premeditated political aims and was followed by a list of political dictates that contravene [our] sovereignty, causing worldwide astonishment.

This disgraceful act has once again raised international questions about digital security and unruliness in cybercrime and electronic piracy.

It also revealed the anxiety in public and official circles around the world about the absence of clear-cut international legislation and institutions to regulate this dangerous and vital field and punish the perpetrators of transnational crimes in this domain.

It is time now to take steps in this regard, and we are prepared to put our capabilities at the service of a joint effort such as this.

The countries that have imposed the unjust blockade against Qatar have intervened in the internal affairs of the State by putting pressure on its citizens using food, medicine, and family ties to force them to change their political positions in order to destabilize a sovereign state. Is this not one definition of terrorism?

Nor was this illegal blockade confined to economics and a breach of the World Trade Organization Agreement; it exceeded that to violate the human rights conventions with arbitrary measures that have caused social, economic and religious distress to thousands of citizens and residents of the Gulf Cooperation Council states by violating the basic human rights to work, education, freedom of movement and the right to dispose of private property.

Things did not stop at this point; the blockading countries went beyond this to persecute their own citizens and residents and punish them with imprisonment and fines for the mere expression of sympathy with Qatar, even if through social media. This is a precedent that has never before been seen in the world, and is a violation of the human rights conventions and agreements, which guarantee the human right to freedom of opinion and expression.

There are states that allow themselves not only to attack a neighboring country to dictate its foreign and media policy, but also believe that their possession of funds qualifies them to pressure and extort other states to participate in their aggression. Such [states] are supposed to be held accountable internationally for what they have done.

The states that have imposed the blockade on the State of Qatar interfere in the internal affairs of numerous countries and accuse all those who oppose them domestically and abroad of terrorism. By doing so, they are inflicting damage on the war on terror. At the same time, they oppose reform and

support tyrannical regimes in our region, from whose prisons terrorists graduate.

We were not taken by surprise alone by the imposition of the blockade. Many countries were also surprised, and their leaders have questioned [the blockade's] motives and reasons. The blockading countries have promised all parties who asked them about the reasons for the blockade to provide them with evidence of their absurd allegations and fabrications against Qatar, which have varied depending on the identity of the addressee. Everybody is still waiting for evidence that did not and will not arrive because it does not exist. To the contrary, there is plentiful evidence of Qatar's contributions in the war against terrorism, as recognized by the entire international community.

The State of Qatar has fought terrorism, and the entire international community bears witness to this. Indeed, it is still fighting and will continue to do so. It stands in the camp of those who are fighting it through security and believes that it is necessary to fight it ideologically as well. It also goes beyond such means by participating in draining its sources by providing education to seven million children around the world to prevent them from falling prey to ignorance and radical ideas.

We have refused to yield to dictates made through pressure and siege; our people expect no less. At the same time, we have taken an open attitude towards dialogue without dictation, and have expressed our willingness to resolve our differences through compromises based on common undertakings. The resolution of conflicts by peaceful means is one of the existing priorities of our foreign policy. At this juncture, I renew the call for unconditional dialogue based on mutual respect for sovereignty and I greatly value the sincere and appreciated mediation, which the State of Qatar has supported since the beginning, which was initiated by my brother, His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of the sisterly State of Kuwait. I also thank all of the countries that have supported this mediation.

Allow me, on this occasion and from this podium, to express my pride in my Qatari people, along with the multinational and multicultural residents of Qatar.

The people have been steadfast under the conditions of siege. They have rejected the dictations with resolve and pride, insisted on the independence of Qatar's sovereign decision, and strengthened its unity and solidarity, maintaining their refined manners and progress despite the fierceness of the campaign against them and their country.

I reiterate my thanks to the sisterly and friendly countries that recognize the significance of respecting the sovereignty of nations and the rules of international law for their appreciated positions which were and continue to be supportive of the Qatari people during this crisis.

Mr. President,

Terrorism and extremism are among the most serious challenges facing the world. Countering them requires us all to work together against terrorist organizations and their extremist ideology to maintain security for humanity and stability for the world.

The governments of the world have no choice but to cooperate in the security confrontation with terrorism. Halting the production of terrorism and extremism must be achieved by addressing its social, political and cultural root causes.

We must also be careful not to allow the fight against terrorism to be an umbrella for reprisals or bombardment against civilians.

The fight against terrorism and extremism was and will continue to be one of our highest priorities. This is affirmed by the effective contributions of the State of Qatar in regional and international efforts through the implementation of the measures included in the United Nations strategy adopted in 2006, the implementation of all Security Council resolutions and measures related to the fight against terrorism and its financing, and through participation in the International Coalition, regional organizations and bilateral relations with the United States and many countries of the world. The State of Qatar will continue and further develop its regional and international efforts in this regard.

While we reaffirm our condemnation of all forms of extremism and terrorism, we reject the use of double standards with this phenomenon depending on the identity of the perpetrators and linking it to any particular religion, race, civilization, culture or society.

Mr. President,

The issues of the Middle East continue to be among the greatest threats to international peace and security, due to the vital importance of this region to the world.

Israel still stands in the way of achieving a lasting, just and comprehensive peace and rejects the Arab Peace initiative. The Israeli government continues its intransigent approach and strategy to create facts on the ground by expanding settlement construction in the occupied territories, Judaizing Jerusalem and restricting the performance of religious rituals in Al-Aqsa Mosque—a serious, provocative act—and continuing its blockade of the Gaza Strip.

The international community must give high priority to the resumption of peace negotiations based on ending the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories within a specified time frame and reaching a just, comprehensive and final settlement in accordance with the two-state solution agreed upon by the international community, based on the resolutions of international legitimacy and the Arab Peace initiative.

This can only be achieved through the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the basis of the 1967 borders, with Jerusalem as its capital.

I renew my appeal to the Palestinian brothers to complete their national reconciliation and to unify their positions and words in confronting the threats and challenges facing the Palestinian cause and the future of the Palestinian people.

Mr. President,

The international community remains unable to find a solution to the Syrian crisis despite its consequences and serious repercussions on the region and the world. Political efforts continue to falter due to conflicting international and regional interests. This conflict protects those against whom we are supposed to stand united. The international community has relinquished its legal and moral responsibilities, including the implementation of its decisions, in submission to the logic of might. What is required is to work seriously to reach a political solution to the Syrian crisis that fulfills the aspirations of the Syrian people for justice, dignity and freedom, and maintains the unity and sovereignty of Syria in accordance with the Geneva I affirmations.

Qatar will spare no effort in providing support and assistance to alleviate the humanitarian suffering of our Syrian brothers and to implement our humanitarian pledges within the framework of the United Nations.

The international community has given up the task of protecting civilians. Will it also hesitate to hold war criminals accountable? Impunity on their part would have dire consequences on the situation in Syria and the region, which would affect the behavior of future dictatorships toward their peoples in the absence of any deterrent.

On the Libyan issue, a national Libyan consensus that would preserve Libya's unity, sovereignty and social fabric and restore its stability can be achieved by combining domestic and international efforts. We must all intensify our efforts and support the Government of National Accord, which was established with the support of United Nations, in its efforts to restore stability and counter terrorism and its grave consequences. The State of Qatar has supported international mediation efforts and will support them in the future to achieve the aspirations of the Libyan people.

Concerning the brotherly state of Iraq, we support the efforts of the Iraqi government in its efforts to achieve security, stability and unity of the territory and people of Iraq. We commend its achievements in its fight against terrorism and affirm that the State of Qatar will provide it with the

necessary support to complement these victories with the realization of the aspirations of the people of Iraq for equality among its citizens and the restoration of its role at the regional and international levels.

Concerning Yemen, we stress the importance of maintaining Yemen's unity, security and stability, ending the state of infighting and war, and adopting dialogue, political solution and national reconciliation as a basis for ending this crisis and implementing Security Council Resolution 2216.

We call upon the international community to facilitate the access of humanitarian assistance to all regions of Yemen. The State of Qatar supports the efforts of the UN Envoy to end this crisis and realize the aspirations of the brotherly Yemeni people for unity, security and stability.

In order to achieve security and stability in the Gulf region, we renew the call that we launched from this podium for constructive dialogue among the Gulf Cooperation Council States and Iran on the basis of common interests, the principle of good neighborliness, and respect for the sovereignty of states and non-interference in their internal affairs.

Mr. President,

Within the framework of the international efforts to tackle the humanitarian crises, the State of Qatar has continued to contribute to the response to the growing humanitarian needs in the world.

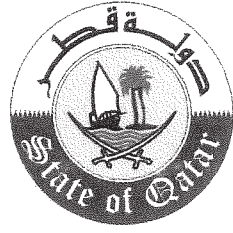
We have increased our financial contributions to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to enable the United Nations to implement UN programs and provide humanitarian relief to those in need around the world. The State of Qatar ranks third on the list of major donors to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in 2017.

We have continued to provide support to countries facing challenges to help them to implement their development plans. It should be noted that the State of Qatar ranked first in the Arab world and 33rd in the world in the field of human development. This proves the effectiveness of our humanitarian and development policy. We look forward to achieving the goals of the United Nations Sustainable

Development Agenda, to the realization of which we have all committed ourselves.

In conclusion, we reiterate that the State of Qatar will spare no effort in working to strengthen the role and efforts of the United Nations to achieve the aspirations of the international community with respect to peace and security, to promote human rights, and to advance development. Qatar will remain, as always, a safe haven for the oppressed, and will continue its mediation efforts to find just solutions in conflict zones.

Thank you. May peace and the mercy and blessings of God be upon you.



خطاب

حضرة صاحب السمو الشيخ تميم بن حمد آل ثاني
أمير دولة قطر

في

المناقشة العامة للدورة الثانية والسبعين
للجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة

نيويورك

١٩ سبتمبر ٢٠١٧

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحضور الكرام،

يسُرني أن أتوجّه بالتهنئة إلى سعادة السيد ميروسلاف لاجاك على توليه مهام رئيس الدورة الثانية والسبعين للجمعية العامة، متمنياً له التوفيق والسداد، في مهامه.

كما أعرب عن تقديري لسعادة السيد بيتر تومسون على ما بذله من جهود قيمة في إدارة أعمال الدورة الحادية والسبعين للجمعية العامة.

وأغتنم هذه المناسبة لأشيد بالجهود التي يبذلها سعادة الأمين العام السيد انطونيو غوتيريش في تعزيز دور الأمم المتحدة.

السيد الرئيس،

يمثل حفظ السلم والأمن الإقليمي والدولي أولوية في السياسة الخارجية لدولة قطر والتي تستند في مبادئها وأهدافها إلى ميثاق الأمم المتحدة وقواعد الشرعية الدولية الداعية إلى التعاون البناء بين الدول والاحترام المتبادل وعدم التدخل في الشؤون الداخلية وحسن الجوار وتعزيز التعايش السلمي واتباع الوسائل السلمية لتسوية النزاعات.

ولا تزال مسألة تسوية المنازعات بالطرق السلمية تُقَارَبُ كاقترح عارض وغير ملزم. وربما أن الأوان لفرض الحوار والتفاوض قاعدةً في حل الخلافات من خلال إبرام ميثاق دولي بشأن تسوية المنازعات بين الدول بالطرق السلمية.

وفي هذا السياق، وبعد مفترقات كبرى كالحرب العالمية الثانية، ورواندا وبورندي والبلقان في القرن الماضي، عاد من جديد ليحدق بالإنسانية كلها خطرٌ أن يصبح إفلات مرتكبي الجرائم ضد الإنسانية وجرائم الإبادة الجماعية من العقاب هو القاعدة وليس الاستثناء، وذلك بسبب خضوع الشرعية الدولية للضغوط السياسية ومصالح المحاور وإملاءات القوة على الأرض، ما ينذر بسيادة قانون القوة بدلا عن قوة القانون.

وفي رأينا، لا يجوز أن يتراوح موقف الدول الكبرى بين طرفين هما: إما الاحتلال المباشر للدول لفرض إرادتها وسياستها، أو اتخاذ موقف المتفرج الممتنع عن فعل أي شيء إزاء حروب إبادة وجرائم ضد الإنسانية يقوم بها نظام حكم مستبد فاشي، أو قمع متواصل لشعب واقع تحت الاحتلال تقوم به دولة محتلة.

ومؤخرا ينتشر شعور أن الشعوب التي تتعرض للقمع تواجه وحدها مصيرها، وكأن الساحة الدولية تخضع لنظام الغاب، وما على الدول المعرّضة للتهديد إلا أن تتدبر أمرها عبر تحالفاتها وعلاقاتها، ذلك في غياب نظام لتنفيذ أحكام القانون الدولي والاتفاقيات والمواثيق الملزمة.

السيد الرئيس،

إننا نُنثي على اختيار شعار هذه الدورة "محورية الإنسان في السعي لتحقيق السلام والحياة الكريمة للجميع في كوكب مستدام".

وفي هذا السياق، أدعو حكومة جمهورية اتحاد ميانمار والمجتمع الدولي للاضطلاع بمسؤوليتهم القانونية والأخلاقية باتخاذ الإجراءات اللازمة لوقف العنف ضد أبناء أقلية الروهينغا وتوفير الحماية لهم وإعادة النازحين إلى موطنهم ومنع التمييز الطائفي أو العرقي ضدهم، وضمان حصولهم على كامل حقوقهم المشروعة كمواطنين كاملي المواطنة، ونحث جميع الدول لتقديم المساعدات الإنسانية لهم.

السيد الرئيس،

في كل مرة أقف هنا أذافع عن التعاون الدولي البناء والسلام العادل وحقوق الشعوب الواقعة تحت الاحتلال، وتلك التي تتعرض إلى جرائم ضد الإنسانية، والواقعة تحت الحصار.

وفي هذه المرة أقف هنا وبلدي وشعبي يتعرضان لحصار جائر مستمر، فرضته دول مجاورة منذ ٥ يونيو الماضي. ويشمل هذا الحصار كافة مناحي الحياة بما في ذلك تدخل الدول لقطع الصلات العائلية. وتدير قطر حاليا حياتها واقتصادها

وخططها التنموية وتواصلها مع العالم الخارجي بنجاح بفضل وجود معابر بحرية وجوية ليست لهذه الدول سيطرة عليها.

لقد فُرضَ الحصار فجأة ودون سابق إنذار، ما حدا بالقطريين لاعتباره نوعاً من الغدر.

ويبدو أن الذين خططوا له ونفذوه، تصوروا أن تحديث الخطوة أثراً صادمًا مباشرًا يؤدي إلى تركيع دولة قطر واستسلامها لوصاية شاملة تفرض عليها.

والأدهى أن مخططي الحصار وجدوا من الضروري الاستناد إلى تصريحات مختلقة نُسبت إليّ وزُرعت في موقع كالة الأنباء القطرية بعد قرصنتها. وكان إعلام هذه الدول، وهو إعلام مجنّد ومأمور، جاهزاً على أهبة الاستعداد لبدء حملة تحريض شاملة معدة سلفاً انتهكت فيها كافة القيم والأخلاق والأعراف، وانتهكت الحقيقة بوابل من الأكاذيب. وما زالت الأموال تصرف بسخاء على آلة صنع الافتراءات ونشرها على أمل أن تختلط على الناس الحقيقة بالكذب.

وعلى الرغم من افتضاح أمر القرصنة، وتزييف تصريحات أمير دولة ذات سيادة، لم تتراجع الدول المحاصرة أو تعتذر عن الكذب، بل زادت شدة حملتها، وهي تُمنّي النفس أن يُحدث الحصارُ أثراً تراكمياً على الاقتصاد والمجتمع في بلدي، ما دام قد فشل في إحداث الأثر المباشر.

لقد ارتكب من قام بالقرصنة وتزييف التصريحات اعتداءً على دولة ذات سيادة، ذلك أن الجريمة تمت لأهداف سياسية مبيتة، وأعقبها قائمة إملاءات سياسية تمس بالسيادة أثارت استغراباً عالمياً.

وحققت هذه الفعلة المشينة من جديد التساؤلات الدولية حول الأمن الرقمي والفلتان في عمليات القرصنة الإلكترونية.

كما أظهرت قلق أوساط واسعة رسمية وشعبية في العالم من عدم وجود مؤسسات وتشريعات دولية واضحة تنظم هذا المجال الخطير والحيوي وتعاقب مرتكبي الجرائم العابرة للحدود فيه.

وقد آن الأوان لاتخاذ خطوات في هذا الصدد. ونحن مستعدون لوضع إمكانياتنا في خدمة جهد مشترك كهذا.

لقد قامت الدول التي فرضت الحصار الجائر على قطر بالتدخل في الشؤون الداخلية للدولة عبر الضغط على مدنييها بالغذاء والدواء وصلات الرحم لتغيير موقفهم السياسي لزعزعة الاستقرار في دولة ذات سيادة. أليس هذا أحد تعريفات الإرهاب؟

لم يقتصر هذا الحصار غير المشروع على الشق الاقتصادي وخرق اتفاقية منظمة التجارة العالمية، بل تجاوز ذلك إلى انتهاك ميثاق حقوق الإنسان بالإجراءات التعسفية التي سببت أضراراً للآلاف من مواطني دول مجلس التعاون الخليجي والمقيمين على أراضيها، اجتماعياً، واقتصادياً، ودينياً، حيث انتهكت أبسط حقوق الانسان في العمل والتعليم والتنقل والتصرف بالملكية الخاصة.

ولم يقف الأمر عند هذا الحد بل تعداه إلى ملاحقة دول الحصار مواطنيها والمقيمين على أراضيها وفرض عقوبات بالحبس والغرامة عليهم، لمجرد التعبير عن التعاطف مع دولة قطر، حتى في وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي، وذلك في سابقة لم يشهدها العالم من قبل، في مخالفة لأحكام ميثاق واتفاقيات حقوق الإنسان التي تكفل حق الإنسان في التعبير عن أفكاره وآرائه.

ثمة دول تبيح لنفسها، ليس فقط الاعتداء على دولة جارة لإملاء سياستها الخارجية والإعلامية، بل تعتقد أيضاً أن حيازتها للمال تؤهلها للضغط على دول أخرى وابتزازها لتشارك معها في عدوانها. وهي التي يفترض أن تحاسب دولياً على ما قامت به.

إن الدول التي فرضت الحصار على دولة قطر تتدخل في الشؤون الداخلية للعديد من البلدان، وتتهم كل من يعارضها في الداخل والخارج بالإرهاب. وهي بهذا تلحق

ضرراً بالحرب على الإرهاب، وهي في الوقت ذاته معارضة للإصلاح وداعمة لأنظمة الاستبداد في منطقتنا، والتي يتخرج الإرهابيون من سجونها.

لم نتفاجأ وحدنا من فرض الحصار، فقد تفاجأت معنا دولٌ كثيرة شكك قادتها بدوافعه وأسبابه، وقد وعدت الدول المحاصرة كل من سألها عن أسباب الحصار أن تقدم له الأدلة عن مزاعمها العبيثية وافتراءاتها ضد قطر، والتي تغيرت حسب هوية المخاطب. وما زال الجميع ينتظر أدلةً لم تصل ولن تصل، لأنها غير موجودة أصلاً، ويوجد نقيضها الكثير من الأدلة حول مساهمة قطر في محاربة الإرهاب باعتراف المجتمع الدولي كله.

لقد كافتحت دولة قطر الإرهاب، ويشهد بذلك المجتمع الدولي بأسره، وما زالت وستظل تحاربه، وتقف في معسكر من يحاربه أمنياً، وترى ضرورة محاربهته أيديولوجياً أيضاً. وهي تتجاوز ذلك إلى الإسهام في تجفيف منابعه من خلال تعليمها لسبعة ملايين طفل حول العالم، حتى لا يقعوا فريسة للجهل والأفكار المتطرفة.

لقد رفضنا الانصياع للإملاءات بالضغط والحصار، ولم يرض شعبنا بأقل من ذلك. وفي الوقت نفسه اتخذنا موقفاً منفتحاً على الحوار دون إملاءات، وأعربنا عن استعدادنا لحل الخلافات بالتسويات القائمة على التعهدات المشتركة، فحل النزاعات بالطرق السلمية هو أصلاً من أولويات سياستنا الخارجية. ومن هنا أجدد الدعوة إلى الحوار غير المشروط القائم على الاحترام المتبادل للسيادة، وأُثمن عالياً الوساطة المخلصة والمقدرة التي دعمتها دولة قطر منذ بداية الأزمة، والتي يقوم بها أخي صاحب السمو الشيخ صباح الأحمد الجابر الصباح أمير دولة الكويت الشقيقة، كما أشكر جميع الدول التي ساندت هذه الوساطة.

واسمحوا لي في هذه المناسبة ومن على هذه المنصة أن أعبر عن اعتزازي بشعبي القطري، ومعهم المقيمين على أرض قطر من مختلف الجنسيات والثقافات.

لقد صمد هذا الشعب في ظروف الحصار، ورفض الإملاءات بعزة وكبرياء، وأصر على استقلالية قرار قطر السيادي، وعزز وحدته وتضامنه، وحافظ على رفعة أخلاقه ورقية رغم شراسة الحملة الموجهة ضده وضد بلده.

وأجدد الشكر للدول الشقيقة والصديقة التي تُدرك أهمية احترام سيادة الدول وأحكام القانون الدولي ومواقفها المقدرة، والتي كانت، وما زالت سنداً للشعب القطري خلال هذه الأزمة.

السيد الرئيس،

الإرهاب والتطرف من أخطر التحديات التي يواجهها العالم. وتتطلب مواجهتهما منا جميعاً عملاً متضافراً ضد التنظيمات الإرهابية وفكرها المتطرف لنحفظ للبشرية أمنها وللعالم استقراره.

ولا خيار أمام حكومات العالم سوى التعاون في مجال المواجهة الأمنية للإرهاب، أما وقف إنتاج الإرهاب والتطرف فيتحقق من خلال معالجة جذوره الاجتماعية والسياسية والثقافية.

كما علينا أن نحرص على ألا تكون مكافحة الإرهاب مظلة لارتكاب أعمال انتقامية أو قصف للمدنيين.

كانت مكافحة الإرهاب والتطرف وستظل على رأس أولوياتنا، وتؤكد ذلك المساهمة الفعالة لدولة قطر في الجهود الإقليمية والدولية من خلال تنفيذ التدابير التي تضمنتها استراتيجية الأمم المتحدة التي تم اعتمادها عام ٢٠٠٦، وتنفيذ كافة القرارات والتدابير الصادرة عن مجلس الأمن المتعلقة بمكافحة الإرهاب وتمويله ومن خلال المشاركة في التحالف الدولي، والمنظمات الإقليمية والعلاقات الثنائية مع الولايات المتحدة والعديد من دول العالم. وستواصل دولة قطر جهودها الإقليمية والدولية في هذا الشأن وتطورها.

وفي الوقت الذي نجد فيه إدانتنا لكافة أشكال التطرف والإرهاب، فإننا نرفض التعامل بمعايير مزدوجة مع هذه الظاهرة حسب هوية مرتكبيها، أو ربطها بدين أو عرق أو حضارة أو ثقافة أو مجتمع.

السيد الرئيس،

تظل قضايا الشرق الأوسط من الأكثر تهديدا للأمن والسلم الدوليين، لما لهذه المنطقة من أهمية حيوية للعالم.

ولا تزال إسرائيل تقف حائلاً أمام تحقيق السلام الدائم والعدل والشامل فيها، وترفض مبادرة السلام العربية. وتواصل الحكومة الإسرائيلية نهجها المتعنت واستراتيجيتها في خلق الحقائق على الأرض من خلال التوسع في بناء المستوطنات في الأراضي المحتلة. وتهويد القدس وتقييد أداء الشعائر الدينية في المسجد الأقصى المبارك، والذي يُعدّ عملاً استفزازياً خطيراً، كما تواصل حصارها لقطاع غزة.

ويتعين على المجتمع الدولي منح أولوية قصوى لاستئناف مفاوضات السلام على أساس إنهاء الاحتلال الإسرائيلي للأراضي العربية في إطار زمني محدد، والتوصل لتسوية عادلة وشاملة ونهائية وفقاً لحل الدولتين الذي توافق عليه المجتمع الدولي، استناداً إلى قرارات الشرعية الدولية ومبادرة السلام العربية.

ولن يتحقق ذلك إلا من خلال إقامة دولة فلسطين المستقلة على حدود عام ١٩٦٧ وعاصمتها القدس الشريف.

وأجدد مناشدتي للأشقاء الفلسطينيين لإتمام المصالحة الوطنية وتوحيد المواقف والكلمة في مواجهة الأخطار والتحديات المحدقة بالقضية الفلسطينية ومستقبل الشعب الفلسطيني.

السيد الرئيس،

ما زال المجتمع الدولي يقف عاجزاً عن إيجاد حل للأزمة السورية رغم نتائجها وتداعياتها الخطيرة على المنطقة والعالم، فالجهود السياسية لا تزال متعثرة بسبب تضارب المصالح الدولية والإقليمية، هذا التضارب الذي يؤدي إلى حماية من يفترض أن نتوحد ضده. ويتخلى المجتمع الدولي عن القيام بمسؤولياته القانونية والأخلاقية، بما في ذلك تنفيذ قراراته التي اتخذها، وذلك خضوعاً لمنطق القوة. والمطلوب هو العمل الجاد من أجل التوصل إلى حل سياسي للأزمة السورية، بشكل يلبي تطلعات الشعب السوري للعدالة والكرامة والحرية، ويحفظ وحدة سوريا وسيادتها، وذلك وفق مقررات جنيف - ١.

ولن تدخر قطر جهداً في تقديم الدعم والمساعدات لتخفيف المعاناة الإنسانية لأشقائنا السوريين، وتنفيذ تعهداتنا الإنسانية في إطار الأمم المتحدة.

لقد تخلى المجتمع الدولي عن مهمة حماية المدنيين، فهل سوف يتوانى أيضاً عن محاسبة مجرمي الحرب؟ إن لإفلاتهم من العقاب عواقب وخيمة على الأوضاع في سوريا والإقليم، مما سيؤثر على سلوك الأنظمة الديكتاتورية في المستقبل تجاه شعوبها في غياب أي رادع.

وبالنسبة للشأن الليبي، يمكن تحقيق التوافق الوطني الليبي الذي يحافظ على وحدة ليبيا وسيادتها ونسيجها الاجتماعي ويعيد لها الاستقرار، بتضافر الجهود المحلية والدولية. وعلينا جميعاً تكثيف الجهود ومساندة حكومة الوفاق، التي قامت بدعم من الأمم المتحدة، في مساعيها لاستعادة الاستقرار والتصدي للإرهاب وآثاره الخطيرة. لقد دعمت دولة قطر جهود الوساطة الدولية وسوف تدعمها مستقبلاً لتحقيق تطلعات الشعب الليبي.

وفيما يخص العراق الشقيق فإننا ندعم جهود الحكومة العراقية في العمل على تحقيق أمن واستقرار ووحدة العراق أرضاً وشعباً، ونشيد بالإنجازات التي حققتها في معركته ضد الإرهاب، ونؤكد على تقديم دولة قطر الدعم اللازم له في استكمال هذه

الانتصارات بتحقيق تطلعات الشعب العراقي للمساواة بين مواطنيه، واستعادة دوره على المستويين الإقليمي والدولي.

وفي الشأن اليمني نؤكد على أهمية المحافظة على وحدة اليمن وتحقيق أمنه واستقراره، وإنهاء حالة الإقتتال والحرب وتبني الحوار والحل السياسي والمصالحة الوطنية كأساس لإنهاء هذه الأزمة وتنفيذ قرار مجلس الأمن رقم (٢٢١٦).

وندعو المجتمع الدولي إلى تسهيل وصول المساعدات الإنسانية إلى مختلف المناطق اليمنية. وتدعم دولة قطر جهود المبعوث الأممي في إنهاء هذه الأزمة وتحقيق طموحات الشعب اليمني الشقيق في الوحدة والأمن والاستقرار.

وحرصاً على تحقيق الأمن والاستقرار في منطقة الخليج نجدد دعوتنا التي سبق أن أطلقناها من على هذا المنبر إلى إجراء حوار بناء بين دول مجلس التعاون الخليجي وإيران على أساس المصالح المشتركة ومبدأ حسن الجوار واحترام سيادة الدول وعدم التدخل في شؤونها الداخلية.

السيد الرئيس،

في إطار الجهود الدولية لمواجهة الأزمات الإنسانية، واصلت دولة قطر مساهمتها في الاستجابة للاحتياجات الإنسانية المتزايدة في العالم،

فقد قمنا بزيادة مساهماتنا المالية في مكتب الأمم المتحدة لتنسيق الشؤون الإنسانية، لتمكين الأمم المتحدة من تنفيذ البرامج الأممية وتقديم الإغاثة الإنسانية للمحتاجين في العالم، وتحتل دولة قطر اليوم المرتبة الثالثة على قائمة الدول المانحة الكبرى لعام ٢٠١٧ لمكتب الأمم المتحدة لتنسيق الشؤون الإنسانية.

وقد واصلنا تقديم الدعم للدول التي تواجه تحديات لمساعدتها في تنفيذ خططها التنموية، وأشير هنا إلى أن حصول دولة قطر على المرتبة الأولى عربياً والمرتبة الثالثة والثلاثين عالمياً في مجال التنمية البشرية، يؤكد نجاعة سياستها في المجال

الإنساني والتنموي، ونتطلع إلى تحقيق أهداف خطة الأمم المتحدة للتنمية المستدامة، التي التزمنا جميعاً بالعمل على تحقيقها.

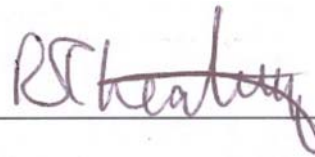
وفي الختام نؤكد أن دولة قطر لن تألو جهداً في العمل على تعزيز دور وجهود الأمم المتحدة الرامية لتحقيق ما ينشده المجتمع الدولي من سلم وأمن، وتعزيز حقوق الإنسان والدفع بعجلة التنمية. وسوف تبقى قطر كما عهدتموها كعبة للمضيوم، وستواصل جهودها في الوساطة لإيجاد حلول عادلة في مناطق النزاع.

أشركم والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

London
United Kingdom

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the attached translation is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a true and accurate translation from Arabic into English of the attached Address by His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar.



Richard Keating, Senior Managing Editor
Geotext Translations, Ltd.

9 June 2018

Chicago
+1.312.242.3756

Frankfurt
+49.69.7593.8434

Hong Kong
+852.2159.9143

Houston
+1.713.353.3909

London
+44.20.7553.4100

New York
+1.212.631.7432

Paris
+33.1.42.68.51.47

San Francisco
+1.415.576.9500

Stockholm
+46.8.463.11.87

Washington, D.C.
+1.202.828.1267



**OHCHR TECHNICAL MISSION TO
THE STATE OF QATAR
17- 24 November 2017**

**Report
On the impact of the Gulf Crisis on human rights
December 2017**

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I. Introduction

1. Since the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Kingdom of Bahrain and Arab Republic of Egypt (*hereafter the Quartet*) took the decision, on 5 June 2017, to cut diplomatic ties with the State of Qatar, OHCHR has been closely monitoring the consequences of that decision on the enjoyment of human rights. On 14 June, the High Commissioner issued a press statement urging “*all the States involved to solve this dispute as quickly as possible through dialogue, to refrain from any actions that could affect the well-being, health, employment and integrity of their inhabitants, and to respect their obligations under international human rights law*”. He further held meetings with the Quartet’s Permanent Representatives in Geneva, urging them to take immediate corrective measures, including by establishing hotlines to look into individual cases.

2. Various international human rights organizations and mechanisms have expressed concern about the detrimental impact of the decision on individuals’ civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights. The National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) of Qatar has been very active in monitoring and documenting allegations of human rights violations reported to them by Qatari citizens and residents since 5 June, particularly those living in neighbouring countries.

3. On 14 September 2017, the Chairperson of the NHRC invited the High Commissioner to dispatch a technical mission to Qatar, as soon as possible, to assess the impact of the crisis on human rights. Subsequently, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Section informed the Permanent Missions of KSA, UAE and Bahrain about the invitation, expressing the readiness to conduct similar missions. The MENA Section further informed the United Nations Department of Political Affairs, the United Nations Task Force on the Gulf crisis and other relevant actors about OHCHR’s engagement with the States concerned.

4. Consequently, an OHCHR team (*hereafter the Team*) visited Qatar from 17 March to 24 November 2017, with the following objectives:

- i. To engage with Government institutions, the NHRC, civil society representatives and other actors, with a view to gathering information about the impact of the ongoing crisis on human rights;
- ii. To explore opportunities to provide technical assistance to national actors, including the NHRC, and;
- iii. To report to the High Commissioner and recommend concrete actions.

5. The mission was facilitated by the NHRC, whose support was highly appreciated. The

team also met with representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Defence; Interior; Economy and Trade; Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs; Education; Health; Religious Affairs; the Customs Authority; the Chamber of Commerce; the Qatar University; the Qatar Foundation; the Director of the Salwa crossing point with Saudi Arabia; the Qatar News Agency, editors in chiefs of all main local newspapers, staff of *Al Jazeera* and the High Audio-visual Authority; the compensation claims commission (established to provide legal advice to individuals filing claims related to the crisis); migrant communities, and Qatar Airways. The team also met with the regional representatives of UNESCO and UNODC.

6. Moreover, based on cases filed with the NHRC, the team interviewed about 40 individuals to get a better understanding of their situation. It also reviewed a large number of other cases, documents and data provided by various entities.

II. Background

7. Although rooted in long-standing tensions among KSA, UAE and Qatar in particular, the emergence of the current crisis has been attributed to comments aired initially in Qatari media on 24 May 2017, reportedly made by the Emir of Qatar, denouncing the hostile remarks made by the President of the United States of America towards Iran during his visit to KSA. The Government of Qatar has declared that these statements were planted by hackers. The Governments of KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt have dismissed this explanation.

8. On 5 June 2017, the Governments of KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt announced they were cutting diplomatic ties with the State of Qatar, ordering their citizens to leave Qatar, declaring a ban on all travel to and from Qatar, and instructing Qatari residents and visitors to leave their territories within 14 days. The four States gave Qatari diplomats 48 hours to evacuate. While the Governments of KSA, UAE and Bahrain withdrew their diplomatic personnel from Qatar, Egypt maintained a limited number of staff under the protection of the Embassy of Greece in Doha. Qatar was subsequently expelled from the Saudi-led coalition on Yemen. Kuwait and Oman have remained neutral, with Kuwait engaging in mediation efforts to solve the crisis.

9. As of 5 June, the Governments of KSA, UAE and Bahrain closed all air, sea and land transportation links with Qatar. These measures have had a significant impact on Qatar's economy and residents, particularly during the first weeks of the crisis due to the considerable dependence of the country on KSA and the UAE.

10. While the Emir of Kuwait endeavoured to engage with all the States concerned so as to ease tensions and avoid any escalation, dialogue appears to have stalled. Many people met by

the team expressed disappointment with the passivity of regional organizations, notably the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the League of Arab States. The crisis has generated particular distrust in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) which had thus far been the medium of numerous cooperation agreements among its members.

11. On 9 June, the Quartet designated 59 individuals and 12 institutions alleged to have financed terrorist organizations and to have received support from Qatar. On 23 June, and according to online reports, the Quartet further issued a 10-day ultimatum on Qatar to abide by a list of 13 demands, including closing down Al Jazeera among other things, cutting diplomatic and commercial ties with Iran, shutting down the Turkish military base in Qatar and, ending any form of support and assistance to the Muslim Brotherhood. On 5 July, the Quartet replaced this initial list of demands with six broader “principles” that still include the shutting down of the permanent Turkish military base in Qatar, and the closure of Al Jazeera and other Qatar-backed news outlets which the Quartet accuses of spreading extremist views and providing platforms for dissidents.

III. Main human rights issues arising from the crisis

12. The 5 June decision and related measures undertaken by the Quartet had immediate negative, intertwined effects on a number of human rights, as described in the present chapter.

13. There are four categories of victims of the crisis:

- Qatari individuals who were residing in KSA, UAE, Bahrain (and studying in Egypt), and were compelled to rapidly exit these countries, leaving behind their family, businesses, employment, property, or being forced to interrupt their studies.
- KSA, UAE and Bahrain nationals who resided in Qatar (including many married to Qataris) and felt compelled to move to their country of origin, and have consequently been separated from their family, source(s) of income and/or property.
- Migrant workers and their families, who constitute the majority of the population of Qatar, some of whom have lost their employment and have been facing increased economic pressure.
- The population of Qatar, KSA, UAE and Bahrain at large due to the suspension of freedom of movement between their countries and the repercussions on various civil, economic, social and cultural rights.

1. Instrumentalization of the media and restrictions of freedom of expression

14. The instrumentalization of the media, particularly in KSA and UAE, has been a prominent feature of the crisis. The Mission was informed by all interlocutors that the

Quartet's unilateral measures have been accompanied by a widespread defamation and hatred campaign against Qatar and Qataris in various media linked to the four countries as well as on social media, and by the introduction of criminal sanctions in KSA, UAE and Bahrain against people expressing sympathy for Qatar and Qataris.

15. Most media professionals the Mission met described the instrumentalization of foreign media networks by the authorities of KSA and UAE, particularly to convey anti-Qatar and anti-Qatari editorial lines. Most interlocutors were of the view that this media and social media campaign was premeditated and organized to “*generate a general feeling of hostility and hatred towards Qatar*”.

16. The Mission was informed that at least 1,120 press articles and some 600 anti-Qatar caricatures were published in KSA, UAE and Bahrain between June and October 2017, which has been documented by media professionals and the NHRC. Such material included accusations of Qatar's support to terrorism, calls for a regime change or a *coup d'état*, attacks against leading figures and symbols of Qatar, as well as appeals for attacks on, and murder of Qataris. For instance, a Saudi tweeter with five million followers has been issuing “*religious opinions*” calling for the killing of the Emir of Qatar. Another Saudi tweeter warned he could send one million Yemeni suicide bombers to Qatar.

17. Entertainment programmes have also been used to air anti-Qatar messages. For example, Rotana media company produced songs by popular artists stigmatizing Qatar (“Qulo la Qatar”- “Tell Qatar”, and “Sanoalem Qatar”- “We will teach Qatar”) and well-known television series on MBC and Rotana channels (“Selfie” and “Garabeb Sood”) conveyed negative messages on Qatar, which have been regularly and widely broadcast.

18. The team met the editor-in-chief of the Qatari daily newspaper Al Arab, Mr. Jaber Al Mirri, who has been listed No. 18 on the list of 59 individuals accused by Quartet's as a terrorists. He reported having received 10 death threats since then and described the psychological impact on his family.

19. The Governments of KSA, UAE and Bahrain announced, via their respective news agencies, that any individuals within their jurisdiction expressing empathy vis-à-vis Qatar would be subjected to criminal sanctions in the form of hefty fines and/or detention. A group of editors-in-chief of Qatari newspapers met by the team stated that an Adviser to the Royal Court in KSA, reportedly, was orchestrating the media campaign against Qatar, referring to the mobilization of a “social media army”. They also alleged that person had been urging people, via tweeter, to denounce individuals supporting Qatar or Qataris through a hotline number, which had reportedly generated 800 calls.

20. The effect of this media campaign may amount to a form of incitement. It has also undoubtedly created anxiety among many people in KSA, UAE and Bahrain who have had

close family, amical or commercial ties with Qataris. Most journalists met by the team referred to the fear this situation has instilled among their colleagues and friends in KSA, UAE and Bahrain. Several interlocutors further noted they would be contacted by relatives and friends in KSA through non-KSA phone numbers for fear of being tracked.

21. The Governments of KSA, UAE and Bahrain have suspended the circulation and broadcasting of all Qatari and Qatar-based media and, as satellite diffusion cannot be controlled, they prohibited commercial entities (such as hotels) to offer access to such media (namely Al Jazeera, BEIN Sports and associated channels). The case of Al Jazeera is emblematic as the closure of this broadcaster and affiliate stations remains one of the requirements set by the Quartet to restore diplomatic ties with Qatar.

22. All interlocutors met by the team stated that the Government of Qatar had clearly instructed all Qataris, Qatari based institutions, companies and media not to criticize the citizens of KSA, UAE and Bahrain. The Qatari and Qatar-based media met by the team, including Al Jazeera, all declared they had encouraged their staff members from the Quartet countries to remain in Doha. The editor-in-chief of Al Raya Al Qataria, a daily newspaper, noted that 50 to 60 per cent of his journalists were Egyptians and that while all had left Qatar after the call of their Government on its citizens to come home, 40 per cent of them had returned to Qatar after obtaining formal approval from the Egyptian authorities. Al Jazeera reported that only three of their 26 journalists from KSA had left while its 349 Egyptian and three Bahraini employees had continued to work for the broadcaster.

2. Suspension and restrictions of freedom of movement and communications

23. One of the most immediate and visible impact of the decision of 5 June has been the border closures (air, sea and land), with considerable effects on freedom of movement to and from Qatar. On 17 November, the team was informed that the Government of KSA had closed down its border with Qatar. Some interruption of telecommunications (namely phone connections) was also reported to the team. Besides the economic implications for Qatar, the suspension and restrictions of freedom of movement and communications have affected the exercise of various rights, as described in subsequent sections of this chapter.

24. On 5 June, the authorities of KSA and UAE notified their ports and shipping authorities they would not receive Qatari vessels or ship owned by Qatari companies or individuals. The KSA General Authority of Civil Aviation prohibited the landing of any Qatari planes in KSA airports, while Abu Dhabi-based Etihad, Dubai-based fly-Dubai and long-haul carrier Emirates announced the suspension of flights to Qatar. Qatar Airways was forced to suspend all flights to KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt until further notice, and to reroute most of its West-bound flights.

25. Shortly thereafter, the Government of Qatar issued a statement assuring that Qatar's

seaports would remain open for trade, and airspace for trade, transport and travel, except with the countries that had closed their borders and airspace with Qatar. The statement indicated that the Government of Qatar would not take any measures of reprisal against citizens of KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt working in Qatar.

26. The considerable restrictions on movement of people and goods had an immediate impact on various human rights. Some had a punctual effect but most have had continuing implications to date. These measures first constituted a direct violation of freedom of movement, particularly as they were not communicated formally and were not legally motivated. The lack of freedom of movement between Qatar and the other countries is sanctioning Qataris and residents of Qatar, as well as residents of KSA, UAE and Bahrain. At least temporarily, the restrictions of movement disrupted the exercise of freedom of religion as they were imposed in the midst of Ramadan and the Hajj pilgrimage. The implications for family life are also important given the bonds between the countries concerned. Moreover, many young people were forced to interrupt their studies or could not take exams. Durable consequences of the restrictions of movement are a deprivation of the rights to work and to access to property for those who were residing, working and / or engaged in trade cross-border. These aspects are described in the subsequent sections of this chapter.

27. While the Government of Egypt did not issue a formal order to Qatari citizens to leave its territory, Qatari students who tried to return to Egypt in August 2017, after the summer holiday, were not issued visas or were requested to apply for security clearance upon obtaining visas. Students interviewed by the team and the NHRC stated they still had not obtained security clearance. On 18 November, the National Council for Human Rights in Egypt informed the NHRC of Qatar that it had lifted restrictions for some categories of the Qatari population and that students would be granted visas. At the time of the mission, it was too early to assess whether this measure was being implemented.

28. More broadly, the suspension of movement of people and goods between Qatar and the three Gulf countries of the Quartet has had considerable implications for Qatar's economy, impeding trade and financial flows, and considerably increasing the costs of transportation and goods as the Government (and individuals) has had to resort to alternative options.

29. Although imports from the other Gulf States were modest, the bulk of trade flow before the crisis occurred through KSA and UAE in particular (via land, sea and air), including overland from Jordan and Lebanon, and via cargo ship that would dock at ports in KSA and UAE, from which merchandise would be transported by trucks to other Gulf destinations, including Qatar. Thus, Qatar was heavily dependent on its two neighbours to access items vital for the subsistence of its population, such as food and medicines, and for its economy. Qatari officials met by the team, notably the Customs Authority, underlined that the abrupt closure by the authorities of KSA of their border with Qatar had left any vehicles transporting perishable food items and other merchandise stranded in KSA. According to the Ministry of

Economy and Trade, before the crisis, some 800 trucks used to cross the land border from KSA into Qatar on a daily basis. In the couple of weeks that followed the 5 June decision, this situation caused some panicked reactions, with people rushing to supermarkets to stock up food.

30. In a meeting with Director's Managing Team of Qatar Airways, the team was informed that the closure of airspace was a major irritant as Qatar is largely surrounded by the airspace of KSA, UAE and Bahrain, with only a narrow corridor to the north available, requiring Qatar Airways' flights to be routed through Iran and then flow wide around Saudi Arabia to access destinations to the west and south. This, combined with the end of flights to and from KSA, UAE and Bahrain has significantly reduced Qatar's accessibility by air and increased travel times and costs.

31. While telecommunications between the three countries and Qatar have generally remained operational, some people reported experiencing difficulties in contacting people in KSA, UAE and Bahrain, or have been using foreign phone numbers to call people in Qatar for fear of sanctions. Some interlocutors also stated that they would be no response when they would contact institutions in KSA and UAE (for instance universities). Postal services have ceased to function between Qatar and the three countries, and access to some Qatari websites has been blocked by the authorities in KSA, UAE and Bahrain.

3. Separation of families and related issues of nationality and residence

32. The decision of 5 June has led to cases of temporary or potentially durable separation of families across the countries concerned, which has caused psychological distress as well as some difficulties for some individuals to economically support their relatives left in Qatar or the other countries.

33. Moreover, the crisis has underscored the urgency of addressing the long-standing issues of nationality and residence in the Gulf countries, including in Qatar. Indeed, the non-Qatari spouses and children of Qataris have faced acute uncertainties, even if the majority have reportedly remained in Qatar. The NHRC received a high number of calls, particularly in June, from women who were afraid to be unable to apply for the renewal of their national passport and Qatar residence ID, and feared being expelled from Qatar or compelled to return to their country of origin, and being consequently separated from their husband and children.

34. As of 5 June 2017, according to official data, the State of Qatar counted some 6,474 mixed marriages involving citizens of Qatar, KSA, UAE and Bahrain (5,137 Qatari men and 1,337 Qatari women). The authorities of KSA, UAE and Bahrain ordered their citizens to leave Qatar within 14 days, with their children, under threat of civil penalties, including deprivation of their nationality, and criminal sanctions. However, the team did not get any information that such cases had occurred.

35. Many of those who have not returned, fearing separation from their family, were concerned they may not be able to renew their passport, particularly given the closure of the KSA, UAE and Bahrain Embassies. This generated particular anxiety for those whose passport was close to expiring as a valid passport was required to apply for and obtain the extension of a residence permit in Qatar (which is valid for 10 years) and to access various services. However, the Ministry of Interior informed the team that after the 5 June crises the Government of Qatar had lifted such a condition to address the situation of non-Qatari residents from KSA, UAE and Bahrain.

36. In addition, the possible forfeiture of nationality risks making these people stateless. Saudi, Emirati and Bahraini women whose husband and children are Qatari fear pressure from their State of origin for them to leave Qatar. Those who contacted their embassies within the 14 days following 5 June were reportedly instructed to return alone to their country of origin.

37. The team was informed that in response to some reports of family separations, the Governments of KSA, UAE and Bahrain had stated they would grant exceptions for 'humanitarian cases of mixed families' to travel back and forth between Qatar and their territories. Yet, Qatari Government officials, including the Director of the Salwa border cross point with KSA, informed the team that such measures remained inappropriate, inefficient and random. Some families reported not using the hotlines, fearing to be identified by the KSA authority as citizens who remained in Qatar and to be subjected to intimidation.

38. Many people with relatives in KSA, UAE and Bahrain, including elderly or sick parents for instance, have reportedly refrained from traveling to these countries, fearing they would not be allowed to return to Qatar.

4. Impact on economic rights and the right to property

39. According to information received by the team, individuals from Qatar working in KSA, UAE and Bahrain, and / or with business interests in these countries, were forced to return to Qatar, reportedly with no access to their companies and other sources of activity and income since then. While the authorities could not determine the number of individuals affected with certainty, a national compensation claims commission established following the 5 June decision had documented at least 1,900 cases related to the right to property by the end of November 2017, with claims pertaining to private residences, stockshares, financial assets and livestock).

40. The team conducted interviews with some of the claimants, mostly Qatari nationals who have property in KSA and UAE, particularly commercial entities. They confirmed that financial transactions between Qatar and KSA, UAE and Bahrain had been suspended,

preventing people from receiving salaries or pensions, perceiving rents, paying bills, or supporting relatives. They also highlighted the absence of any formal and available litigation mechanism to claim and/or manage their assets. Indeed, legal cooperation has been suspended, including power of attorney. Furthermore, lawyers in these countries are unlikely to defend Qataris as this would likely be interpreted as an expression of sympathy towards Qatar.

41. The Chamber of commerce of Qatar described how it dealt with the impact of the crisis on entrepreneurs so as to mitigate the consequences on their work and property. From 5 June to 9 July, it identified supplies and alternatives to businesses that were blocked as a consequence of the 5 June decision. The Government of Qatar took measures to support entrepreneurs and coordinate logistical support. It shared a questionnaire with the 350.000 companies registered in Qatar and set up a hotline working 24/7 to receive complaints. It received 700 complaints. Since 10 July, the Chamber of Commerce has been trying to put in contact these entrepreneurs with potential contractors, mostly from Asia. It prioritized companies involved in the production of food, medicines and construction equipment. It also sent letter to creditors requesting a delay in payments and the waiving of penalties resulting from such delays.

42. The Customs authorities provided the team with statistics covering the period of 17 January to 30 June 2017, on products which were mainly imported from the Gulf countries, such as sugar (76 per cent was imported from these countries), oil (67 per cent), and dairy products (59 per cent), construction material (93 per cent), timber and gravel (47 per cent), cables for construction (51 per cent), showing the dependence of Qatar on its neighbours. The Qatar authorities immediately referred the situation to the World Organization of Customs. While the total importation from KSA, UAE and Bahrain amounted to some QAR 11.9 billion (USD 3 billion) in May 2017, it represented QAR 392 million (USD 107 million) in September 2017. This situation has provoked an increase of the price of commodities of 83 per cent (although the Government of Qatar has intervened to maintain it below the threshold of 3 per cent). Since June, the customs authorities have had no communications with the customs of the other Gulf countries.

5. Impact on the right to health

43. The team met with representatives of the Ministry of Health who raised some humanitarian consequences of the 5 June crises. As of 23 November, it had received 130 individuals reporting medical issues related to the crisis.

44. For instance, an individual previously treated in KSA and who returned to Qatar, had to travel to Germany to receive treatment as his means of payments from KSA were blocked in Qatar. Two patients from Qatar, who resided in KSA prior to the crisis, were transferred to Turkey and Kuwait to undergo surgery as they were reportedly unable to pursue their medical

treatment in KSA.

45. Medical services in Qatar are known to be of high quality. Since September 2017, the Ministry of health recorded 388.000 visits to public health services by patients, including by 260.000 patients from KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt whose residents in Qatar. The Qatar authorities stated they will continue to provide treatment to patients from these countries without any discrimination.

46. Medical public services employ 3.000 employees from the Quartet countries. Medical authorities also noted that Qatari individuals who will comply with the decision to leave or return to Qatar would affect their employment status and therefore their access to medical insurance or capacity to pay for medical services.

47. The suspension of trade has also affected Qatar's access to medicines (including life-saving items) and medical supply. Before 5 June, 50 to 60 per cent of Qatar pharmaceutical stock came from 20 suppliers companies based in the Gulf countries with most international pharmaceutical companies based in UAE. While the shortage of most drugs lasted only one day due to the Government's prompt identification of new suppliers, the Ministry of Health informed the team is was still seeking alternatives for 276 medicines. An illustrative case is that of anti-venom largely used in Qatar for snakebites, which can only be produced with snakes from the region and is therefore unavailable.

48. Recourse to suppliers from outside the region has led to an increase of the costs of products, transportation and insurance fees, and has incurred delays in getting some items. The State of Qatar has thus far been covering the extra cost to limit the impact on consumers.

49. Finally, the opening of new hospitals has been delayed due to construction material and other equipment being blocked in Dubai.

6. Effect on the right to education

50. The expulsion of Qatari students who were studying in KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt has had a detrimental effect on the right to education as Qatari students who were prevented from either pursuing their studies or passing their exams. Students in KSA, Bahrain, and reportedly particularly in UAE, were ordered to immediately return to Qatar, often by the administration of universities. According to information collected by the team, this was generally not followed by any formal or personalized communication.

51. The management and professors of Qatar University informed the team that the university had initially received 171 requests for the placement of students who had had to leave KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt. It reported being able to accommodate 66 students

while it transmitted the 105 other cases to the Ministry of Education for the review of the students' transcripts. The NHRC and the team followed up on some cases of students whose file was under review. They declared having been provided with at least two options by the Qatar University, namely to integrate that institution, usually by taking additional credit hours, or to be placed in a university abroad, for instance in Jordan and Malaysia. The efforts of Qatar University and the Ministry of Education to promptly identify solutions for each student are to be commended.

52. The Ministry of Education and Qatar University reported that students who had been enrolled in universities in UAE and Egypt were unable to get their transcripts, which hampered their placement as they were unable to produce any evidence of previous studies or examinations. Some UAE universities reportedly blocked access to their websites to Qatari students". In Egypt, the University of Cairo told Qatari students that they should collect their transcripts in person although the authorities were not providing visas to Qataris.

Countries	Number of Qatari students affected by the crisis
KSA	62
UAE	157
Bahrain	28
Egypt	3004
Sources. Ministry of Higher Educations	

53. The Ministry of Education of Qatar on its part estimates that at least 201 Qatari students were not able to pursue their studies, mainly due to the lack of transcripts, different credit systems or because their specialization is not available in Qatar. For instance medical studies were only recently introduced at Qatar University and students reaching their fifth year are not able to enrol.

7. Long-standing human rights issues

54. During the mission, the team raised a number of long-standing human rights issues with relevant authorities, namely regarding the rights of migrant workers and the issue of citizenship.

55. The team raised the case of those who have been stripped from their Qatari citizenship in 2004, the authorities informed that most of them (mainly those that did not possess another nationality) had regained their Qatari citizenship in 2005. The authorities further noted that approximately 100 cases are still pending to date.

56. The team also raised the case of two individuals (Sheikh Taleb bin Lahem bin Shraim and Mr. Bin Al Shafi) who, according to reports received by the team before the mission, have been arbitrarily stripped from their Qatari citizenship in connection with their political opinion in the context of the current crisis. Qatari counterparts confirmed that this decision was taken by executive decrees in accordance with Law No. 38/2005 on the acquisition of Qatari Nationality. This implies it was taken without any due process, with no possible

remedies.

57. Many of the people met by the team described how Qatar had managed to turn the crisis into an opportunity, notably to accelerate the reform agenda of the Emir, including on human rights. Efforts are underway to develop a road map for an effective implementation of migrant and domestic laws; to prepare a new law on asylum, and to possibly ratification of the Refugee Convention of 1951; to review of the nationality law to provide additional rights to the children of Qatari women married to non-Qataris; to increase engagement with international human rights mechanisms. The team was encouraged by the Government renewed commitment to further strengthen its cooperation with OHCHR in promoting and protecting human rights in Qatar.

58. The team's discussions on the aforementioned issues are to be reflected in a separate report or other form of communication.

IV. Findings and observations

59. All Interlocutors met by the team mostly referred to the decision of 5 June as a “blockade”, and some evoked an “embargo”, a “boycott” or “unilateral sanctions” against the State of Qatar and its inhabitants (nationals and residents). Most emphasized the unprecedented divide and distrust this situation has generated, not least given the tight family bonds across the Gulf region. They also expressed concern about the uncertain and far-reaching consequences, with fears that this crisis may become protracted and/or deteriorate.

60. The team found that the unilateral measures, consisting of severe restrictions of movement, termination and disruption of trade, financial and investment flows, as well as suspension of social and cultural exchanges imposed on the State of Qatar, had immediately translated into actions applying to nationals and residents of Qatar, including citizens of KSA, UAE and Bahrain. Many of these measures have a potentially durable effect on the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of those affected. As there is no evidence of any legal decisions motivating these various measures, and due to the lack of any legal recourse for most individuals concerned, these measures can be considered as arbitrary. These actions were exacerbated by various and widespread forms of media defamation and campaigns hated against Qatar, its leadership and people.

61. The majority of the measures were broad and non-targeted, making no distinction between the Government of Qatar and its population. In that sense, they constitute core elements of the definition of unilateral coercive measures as proposed by the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee: *“the use of economic, trade or other measures taken by a State, group of States or international organizations acting autonomously to compel a change of policy of another State or to pressure individuals, groups or entities in targeted States to*

influence a course of action without the authorization of the Security Council". Moreover, measures targeting individuals on the basis of their Qatari nationality or their links with Qatar can be qualified as non-disproportionate and discriminatory.

62. The considerable economic impact of the crisis takes over the dimension of an economic warfare, with significant financial losses for the State, companies and individuals, and the confidence of investors being eroded. To date, the wealth of Qatar and its human potential have allowed the country to promptly absorb the shock and protect the population from potentially disastrous economic and social consequences. However, the shock of the decision and the immediate and serious effect of unilateral coercive measures on many individuals have had a major psychological impact on the overall population. This has been exacerbated by a hostile media campaign that flared up from early June and is ongoing. All interlocutors met by the team evoked the lack of trust or even fear this situation has generated, and concerns about the social fabric of very closely-knit societies eroding.

63. In some cases, Qatari institutions, notably the NHRC, have proactively sought prompt solutions, especially for individuals whose studies were interrupted. The NHRC immediately, and for several weeks following 5 June, received a considerably number of complaints. They undertook a series of communications with regional and international mechanisms and have endeavoured to engage with the national human rights institutions of KSA, UAE, Bahrain (to no avail to date) and Egypt (the latter has reportedly cooperated). The team received a detailed report prepared by the National Compensation Claims Commission on the impact of the crisis on individuals (including on human rights impact), and was informed that the National Compensation Claims Commission had hired a private American law firm company to look at options for potential legal actions against the States of KSA, UAE and Bahrain. The commission indicated that the legal file was in the hands of the Government for its consideration.

64. The majority of cases remain unresolved and are likely to durably affect the victims, particularly those having experienced family separation, loss of employment or who have been barred from access to their assets.

65. The crisis has been characterized by the absence of dialogue among the States concerned, with the mediation efforts initiated by Kuwait having stalled. The team noted strong resentment about the lack of action by regional organizations and about the role of the GCC, which many considered as de facto defunct. Given the origins and ramifications of the crisis in KSA, UAE and Bahrain, it would be critical to pursue opportunities to engage with the Governments of these countries to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the situation, notably of the actions they have taken and the impact on their own citizens and residents.



اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
National Human Rights Committee

Doha, Qatar

6 MONTHS OF VIOLATIONS

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

THE FOURTH GENERAL REPORT ON THE VIOLATIONS OF

HUMAN RIGHTS ARISING FROM THE BLOCKADE

ON THE STATE OF QATAR

DECEMBER 5, 2017



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ONE: SUMMARY

The inhumane blockade imposed upon the State of Qatar has been ongoing since June 5, 2017 and it continues to this day by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the Kingdom of Bahrain, as well as the Arab Republic of Egypt. The violations associated with it have also continued without any responsiveness on the part of those countries to remedy these violations.

It is for this reason that the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) has compiled a series of special reports regarding these violations and has observed and recorded their humanitarian effects and the social and economic ramifications associated with them.

In this regard, the NHRC has contacted some 450 human rights entities and governmental and non-governmental national and regional organizations to plead with them to take urgent action to deal with the effects of the humanitarian crisis that is being caused by the blockade. The NHRC has also conducted 33 visits to European and world capitals to make them aware of the scale of the violations taking place in Qatar by the blockading countries. This is the fourth general report issued by the NHRC to document these violations, and it joins **the series of general reports already prepared by the NHRC:**

1. The First Report on Human Rights Violations arising from the blockade of the State of Qatar dated June 13, 2017;
2. The Second Report on Human Rights Violations arising from the blockade of the State of Qatar dated July 1, 2017; and
3. The Third Report on human rights violations arising from the blockade of the State of Qatar dated August 30, 2017.

These are in addition to the special reports on the violations:

1. The Report on the Violation of the Right to Education dated September 5, 2017;
2. The Report on the Deprivation of the Right to Perform Religious Observances dated August 24, 2017;
3. The Report on the Violation of the Right to Own Property dated August 30, 2017; and
4. The Report on the Violation of the Right to Food and Medicine dated September 3, 2017.

This report is based on new testimony of new victims who have suffered violations of their basic rights as a consequence of the blockade. The NHRC will continue to update the basic report while the blockade continues and the stream of complaints from its victims continues to flow.

The NHRC has met with numerous international human rights organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, such as the Technical Delegation of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of the United Nations (OHCHR) during the period from November 18-23, 2017, the office of Amnesty International twice during the periods from June 6-8, 2017 and November 28-30, 2017, the office of Human Rights Watch (HRW) during the period from June 19-20, 2017, and the international organization AFD during the period from July 22-25, 2017. The NHRC has also met with parliamentary delegations from European countries in order to familiarize them with the violations taking place against the State of Qatar due to the blockade.

According to information we have obtained, approximately 11,387 nationals of the three blockading Gulf States reside in the State of Qatar and 1,927 Qatari nationals reside in those states.

TWO: A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (NHRC)

The NHRC is one of what is known as the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), which were established in accordance with the so-called Paris Principles, which were endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly. These organizations obtain membership in the Global Alliance of Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) after having been subjected to an accreditation process approved by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) of the GANNRI Alliance under the supervision of the National Institutions, Regional Mechanisms and Civil Society Section (NRCS) of the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), which is the equivalent of the General Secretariat of the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) of the GANHRI alliance. The NHRC was established in 2002 and vested with powers and jurisdiction to protect and uphold human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles, and obtained a rating of “A” in 2010 for five years. It was again given the same rating in 2015 for a period of 5 years, which is the highest rating that can be awarded to a national organization and serves to confirm its reliability, independence, and complete adherence to the Paris Principles.

THREE: METHODOLOGY

The blockade against the State of Qatar has been in place for 184 days as of this date, and the NHRC’s official headquarters in the Qatari capital, Doha, continues to receive complaints from victims who have been harmed by the decisions of the blockading countries, which have committed **violations of a number of human rights in the following areas**: Family reunification, education, property rights, movement and residence, performance of religious rituals, health, employment, and others.

The decisions of the blockading states and their consequences have caused harm at all levels of society and constitute a violation of all of provisions on human rights under all international laws, statutes, and customs. These measures, which were suddenly announced publicly on June 5 of last year, forced the citizens of the State of Qatar to leave the three Gulf States within 14 days. Qatari citizens were prohibited from entering their territories and, in some cases, women were separated from their husbands, and mothers from their children. This struck a devastating blow against legal and humanitarian principles and standards.

- It should be mentioned here that single individuals have certainly, in some cases, been subjected to more than one type of violation. Therefore, the combined files are more than a collection of reports on a group of individuals; we have also recorded incidents in which an individual has been separated from his/her family, cases in which education has had to be discontinued, and others where movement has been prohibited. In some of these cases, a single individual has suffered from all three of these violations.
- When the Committee receives reports from the victims of the blockade, it documents the violations against their rights and then shares these violations on an ongoing basis with the competent legal and human rights bodies.
- The NHRC monitors the responsiveness of the blockading countries to its reports.
- The NHRC monitors instances of violations reported to the competent international legal and human rights bodies and continues to report them. We will cover this in detail for each right.

In this report we shine a light on the most important violations that have been inflicted on the State of Qatar as a result of the currently ongoing blockade. We have selected and presented the testimony of a selection of victims of each type of violation in order to keep the report within a manageable size. However, we confirm that it is possible for the competent authorities to obtain adequate supporting forms. In this report, we refer to individuals by their initials in order to protect their privacy, security, and safety.

At this juncture, we must point out that the Qatari Government has not taken any similar action against the nationals of the blockading states, and the NHRC has received no complaint in this regard. The State of Qatar set up a Compensation Claim Committee for damages arising from the blockade on June 22, 2017. **That committee has been tasked with the following:**

1. To receive complaints and claims for compensation from individuals, private organizations, and the public sector;
2. To investigate complaints from a legal point of view to ascertain whether it was the blockade that caused harm to the injured parties;
3. To instruct international law firms to investigate the possibility of initiating lawsuits against the blockading states to obtain compensation for the injured parties;
4. To supervise and coordinate among state authorities, the private sector, individuals, and law firms in order to ensure that they are furnished with the documentation they need; and
5. To closely monitor the claim filed by the State of Qatar to the World Trade Organization and provide the requirements thereof.

A cooperative relationship exists between the NHRC and the Compensation Claim Committee, to which the NHRC refers all of the complaints it receives. Numerous meetings continue to be held with it in order to categorize the victims in order to redress injuries in accordance with the relevant international and regional treaties.

As part of ongoing efforts to deal with the violations, the NHRC has corresponded with the following:

- The Saudi National Society for Human Rights (NSHR), September 24, 2017;
- Three letters were sent to the Emirates Human Rights Association:
 1. October 8, 2017,
 2. October 15, 2017,
 3. October 23, 2017; and
- The Egyptian National Council for Human Rights (NCHR), October 2, 2017.

The NHRC sent to the above organizations all lists of the victims in order to help them to contact the authorities in their own countries for assistance with the violations. However, the Committee has not received any response as of the present time, apart from the Egyptian NCHR, which responded positively to our letter. We point out that there have been continuous but unsuccessful attempts to contact the Bahraini National Human Rights Committee (NHRC).

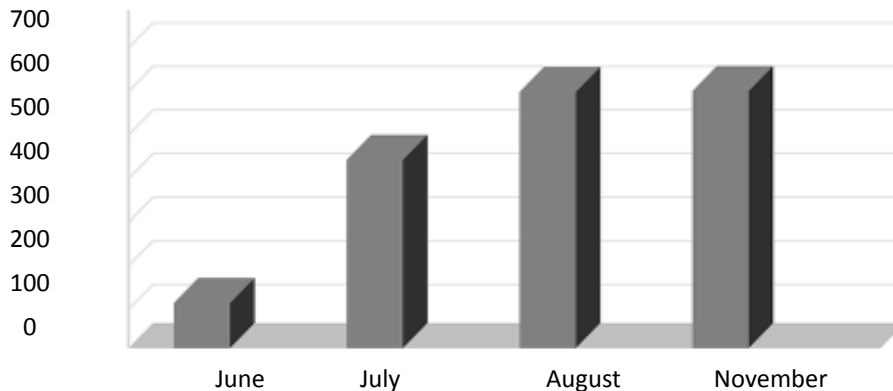
FOUR: THE MOST SIGNIFICANT VIOLATIONS

The following table shows a breakdown of the violations recorded by the NHRC, which amount to 3,970 reports as of the date of publication of this report. They have been classified by the country that committed the violation and according to the type of violation against the rights of the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar:

Date of record	Violations Violating country	Education	Ownership	Family Reunification	Movement	Health	Perform Religious Observances	Work	Residence	Total
December 5, 2017	Saudi Arabia	62	677	336	753	19	163	66	57	2,133
	Emirates	146	423	80	334	4	-	6	4	997
	Bahrain	28	52	213	126	14	-	37	32	502
	Various others	268	22	-	39	-	-	-	-	329
	Total	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	9
			504	1,174	629	1,261	37	163	109	93

This table sets out the latest statistics of the violations against the State of Qatar since the beginning of the blockade on June 5, 2017 until December 5, 2017. There were 504 violations against the right to education, 1,174 violations against the right to ownership, 629 violations against the right of family unity, 1,261 violations against the right to movement, 37 violations against the right to health, 163 violations against the right to perform religious observances, 109 violations against the right to work, and 93 violations against the right to residence.

A. FAMILY REUNIFICATION, PARTICULARLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN



This chart shows the increase in violations of family unity from June to November 2017.

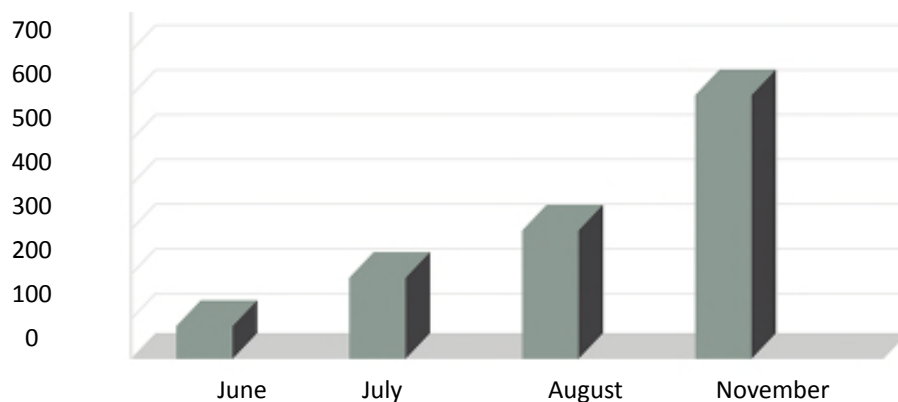
The Committee has received thousands of complaints about violations caused by the blockade imposed upon the State of Qatar. The most common among them were those relating to the violation of the right to keep members of the same Gulf families together, which have resulted in the separation of women, children, people with disabilities, and the elderly, and deprivation of parents of the right to remain with their children.

The citizens of the Gulf are interconnected by familial bonds of kinship that have existed for hundreds of years. The demand that Qatari citizens should leave the blockading states and that the citizens of the blockading states should leave Qatar has created inhumane situations, quite apart from constituting a violation of the right to travel as provided by numerous international conventions. This effectively means compulsory deportation and splitting of families and prevention of mothers from being able to remain with their children.

Due to these violations, the NHRC has recorded 629 cases relating to families that have been separated, but it is certain that the true figure must be much higher. There are certainly some instances of violations where families have been permitted to enter but for only one time and in a random fashion without any clear mechanism, after which the borders have been firmly sealed.

- Mr. S.F. is a Saudi national and sound engineer born in the State of Qatar in 1991. He contacted the NHRC in a state of great anxiety, saying: “My family and I were greatly affected by the news of the blockade. We have been ordered to leave the State of Qatar and have been forced to leave our family and extended family to comply with the orders. My wife is six months pregnant and is Qatari. I am suffering psychological distress.”
- According to the testimony of Mrs. I. R. to the NHRC, she was banned from travelling to see her children because she is a Qatari national. “I am a Qatari mother who is divorced from her Bahraini husband. I have children with him and I travel to the Kingdom of Bahrain four times a year to see my children. After this decision, I am unable to do so and the father is unwilling to send the children to Qatar so I can see them.”
- Mrs. A. F., a Qatari national born in 1987, gave testimony to the NHRC in which she set out in detail the nature of the violations she has been subjected to: “I was married to an Emirati citizen. When he divorced me, he initiated a lawsuit to deprive me of custody of my children and has now married another woman. After the decision to impose the blockade, the judge in the Emirates ordered that I should be deprived of custody without justification, and I have been deprived of all of my rights.”
- Mr. Kh. A., a Qatari national born in 1968, visited the headquarters of the NHRC and made a statement in which he detailed the violations he and his family have been subjected to: “My wife is Saudi and I am Qatari. Ever since the decision to impose the blockade, when all [Saudi] citizens were ordered to return to Saudi Arabia and leave Qatar, I have been unable to get my wife back because my situation does not allow it.”

B. STOPPAGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION



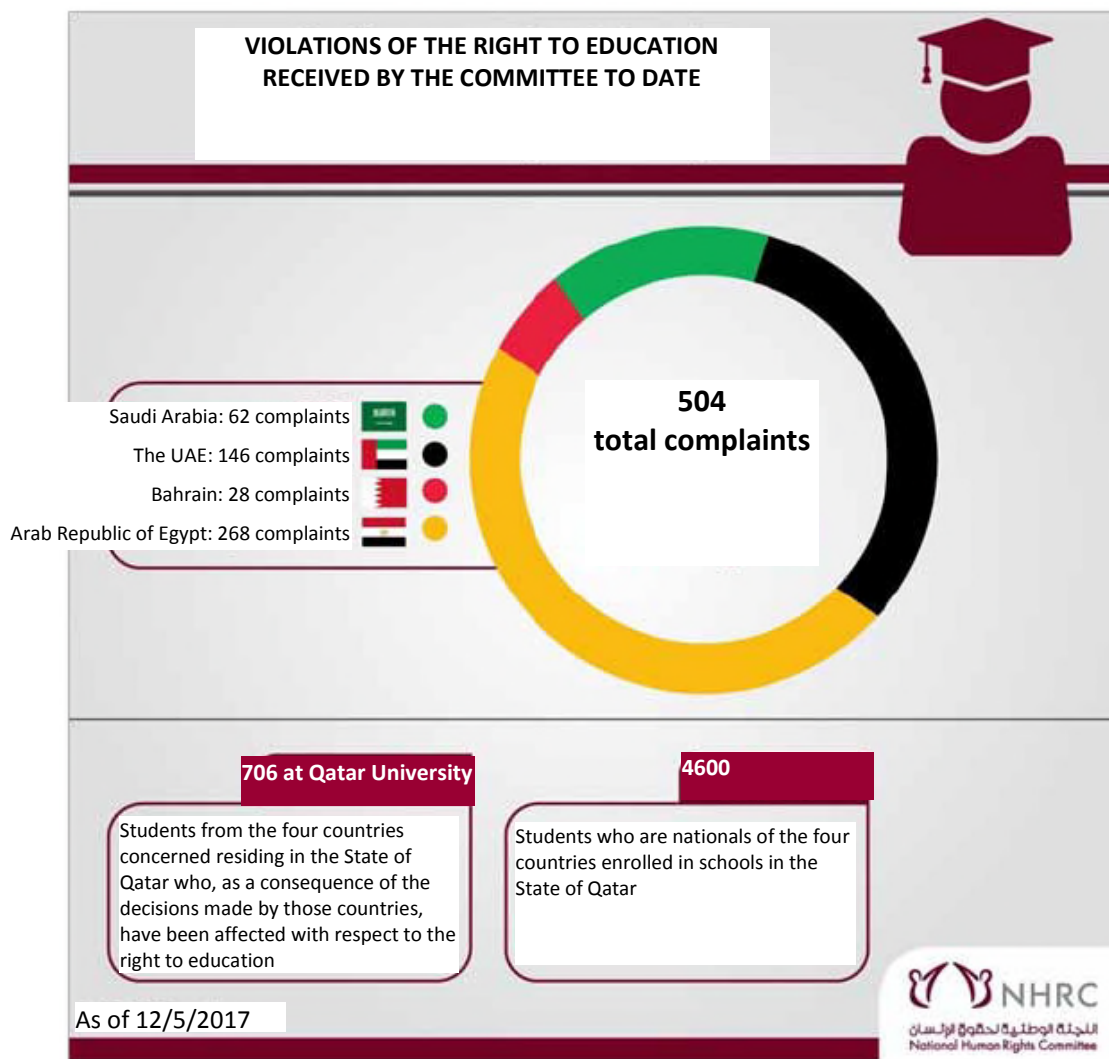
This chart shows the statistical increase in violations of stoppage of continuation of education from June to November 2017.

The Committee has been inundated by complaints under this heading concerning some 236 cases where Qatari students who were studying at universities in Saudi Arabia, the Emirates, and Bahrain have found themselves deprived of the opportunity to continue their studies; they have been forced to return to their countries after the decision of these countries to sever relations with Qatar on June 5, 2017. Due to those arbitrary measures and decisions, hundreds of students have been deprived of the opportunity to complete their studies, which constitutes a flagrant violation of the right to education. The blockading countries have also forced their students studying at Qatar University to return to their own countries (Saudi Arabia, the Emirates, and Bahrain) and have prevented 706 male and female students from completing their university studies.

- H. A., a student of Qatari nationality born in 1986 told the NHRC: “I am a student at the University of Applied Sciences in Bahrain and this is the last semester before graduation. I have two courses to complete and then I should receive my degree. There are lectures to attend and examinations to take but I have not been able to go because of the decision to impose the blockade, which has seriously disrupted my studies.”
- N.M., a Saudi female student at Qatar University born in 1995, told the NHRC: “I am married to a Qatari husband. My father died four years ago and we have two children together. I am a student at Qatar University. The Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia asked me to return to the territory of the Kingdom but I am unable to leave my children and my university studies.”
- H. A. was born in the State of Qatar in 1986 and is another victim of the blockade. He told the NHRC: “I am a student at the American University in the Emirates but due to the decision to impose a blockade on the State of Qatar I am unable to complete my university studies in the Emirates, in addition to the monetary losses and psychological stress I have suffered.”

The continuing monitoring by the NHRC of instances of violations of the right to education shows that the Emirates has not permitted students from the State of Qatar to resume their studies in any way, aside from some international universities which have transferred their students to other branches outside the Emirates at increased costs of travel and living to the students and their dependents, and with financial and psychological costs suffered by those concerned.

The NHRC has also documented the response of the Qatari universities, which have accommodated some 64 affected students. The Qatari Ministry of Education has also made some exceptions for other students who have suffered as a consequence of the blockade.



STUDENTS STUDYING IN THE [ARAB] REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

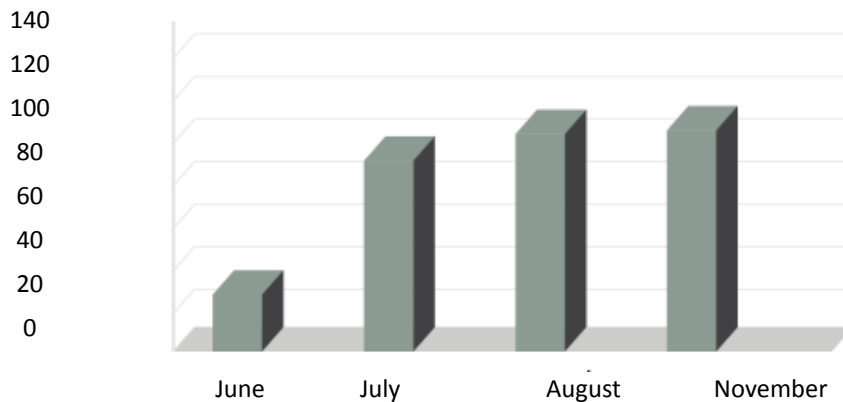
The NHRC has also recorded some 268 complaints from students who are Qatari nationals or residents who are enrolled at Egyptian universities and have been prevented from completing their studies. Some of these students were also prevented from sitting for the end-of-year academic examinations in September 2017. This prohibition is due to the actions taken by the Egyptian authorities, which have put restrictions on Qatari students enrolled at Egyptian universities by making it a condition that they must each obtain a security clearance before granting them entry visas.

The NHRC has corresponded with the Director of the Egyptian National Council for Human Rights concerning this matter in order to help the students complete their studies and alleviate the difficulties they are facing. The NHRC has been successful in convincing the Egyptian authorities to remove the restrictions placed on their studies and the Egyptian authorities have now issued new directives ordering entry visas to be granted to the students and the requirement for prior security clearance has been revoked.

Some examples of the complaints received by the NHRC:

- A. F., a Qatari national born in 1992, is a student in Egypt. He recounted to the NHRC the details of the violation he suffered: “I am a Qatari student studying law at Ain Shams University since 2015. I am now in my third year and have been prevented from completing my education in the Arab Republic of Egypt due to the current crisis. Because I am Qatari, I have been banned for security reasons and am unable to enter [Egypt] without a security visa. I have contacted the Egyptian embassy to obtain one, but so far one has not been issued.”
- S. H., a Qatari national born in 1982, has been deprived of the opportunity to continue his higher education at the University of Alexandria in Egypt, even though he is in the final year of his Masters studies. He gave the following testimony to the NHRC: “The Egyptian authorities made an arbitrary decision to prohibit Qatari students from attending its universities. We are not permitted to enter the country without a security visa and this has affected us and caused psychological and material damage amounting to some 12 thousand dollars.”
- H. M., a female Palestinian national born in 1997, visited the headquarters of the NHRC and provided details on how she has been deprived of the right to education by the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar: “I am a student at Cairo University under an open education program and have completed a year and a half of my studies, which have been stopped because of the blockade. So far, five months have passed without receiving a reply from Cairo University regarding my requests and my rights.”
- A. H., a Qatari national and born 1982, complains of the violation he suffered as a consequence of the blockade of the State of Qatar by Egypt. In his complaint, he told the NHRC: “I am a student at Cairo University in Egypt at the Faculty of Law, and I am in my fourth year of studies. I have been harmed by the blockade of the State of Qatar because I have been unable to complete my studies at Cairo University.”

C. STOPPAGE OF WORK



This chart shows the statistical increase in violations of the right to work from June to November 2017.

The inhumane actions and violations committed by the blockading countries against Qatari citizens or residents have not stopped there, but have also extended into all areas, including violations of the right to work.

The right to work is one of the most important economic and social rights; it is an economic right because it provides an individual with financial and economic security and enables the individual to pay for life’s necessities. It is also a social right because it contributes to the stability of society.

These violations have had a negative effect on the business sector because commercial and labor interests are closely intertwined. The decisions made by the blockading countries have caused hundreds of people to lose their jobs, which has affected their livelihoods and their families' circumstances. There is a continuous stream of complaints being received from this sector because the countries concerned suddenly imposed orders designed to cause maximum damage to all areas of business. More seriously, there are entire families that depend for their livelihood on the transportation business among the Gulf States and whose sole means of earning a living was cut off at a stroke. None of the three countries concerned has acted to compensate any of those people or find them an alternative.

Additionally, there is a large number of citizens and residents who are employed in public, private, or governmental companies who had been able to work and move freely between those countries whose source of income has also been cut off at a stroke. They have become unemployed without any compensation from the three countries that imposed the blockade.

The NHRC has recorded no fewer than 109 cases of people who have been deprived of the right to continue to work as a consequence of those arbitrary decisions. Among these, 66 are in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 6 are in the Emirates and 37 are in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

- Mrs. J. S., an Emirati national born in the year 1977, suffered a violation of her right to work. She told the NHRC when she visited it: "I am a resident in Doha and I work there. My children were born in the State of Qatar. My husband is Bahraini and also works in Qatar. We are unable to return because of the decisions imposed upon us as a consequence of the blockade of the State of Qatar and because the source of our livelihood is here."
- Mr. Y. A., a Bahraini national born in 1986, spoke to the NHRC about the violation he has suffered, saying: "I am a Bahraini citizen and have been a resident of the State of Qatar for ten years with my family and my new-born baby daughter. I work here and I can't leave my work and family because of the decisions made by those countries that have imposed a blockade on the State of Qatar."
- Mr. F. A., a Saudi national born in 1996, expressed to the NHRC his great anxiety and concern about the violation he has suffered, saying: "I was born in the State of Qatar and am a Saudi national. My mother is Qatari. I am a resident of and work in the State of Qatar. The decision taken by my country that I should leave Qatar will have an effect on my work because I live with my mother."

D. VIOLATION OF FREEDOM OF OPINION AND EXPRESSION

From the outset, it must be emphasized that it is not the NHRC's function to record violations of freedom of opinion and expression in the three blockading states and Egypt. We record only those violations and punishments suffered by the citizens of those countries that have reached unprecedented extremes, such as criminalizing any expression of sympathy with Qatar on social media, shutting down and blocking media outlets funded by the State of Qatar, including sports channels, that certainly do not broadcast news or political programs. This is an indication of the abyss into which freedom of opinion and expression has fallen in the three blockade states and Egypt.

The United Arab Emirates has enacted penalties of 3-15 years in prison and fines of up to AED 500,000 just for showing sympathy for the State of Qatar with a comment, "like," or tweet on social media, in an unprecedented threat to freedom of expression. The Bahraini Ministry of Interior followed that up by threatening 5 years' imprisonment. As for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, it considers such acts an Internet crime subject to up to 5 years in prison and a fine of up to SAR 3 million.

These extreme and harsh measures demonstrate the frailty of the grounds and legitimacy of the blockade decision by those three states. They demonstrate that the authorities in those states are afraid of their citizens' freedom to express an opinion contrary to the will of the authorities. This is blatantly at odds with several international and

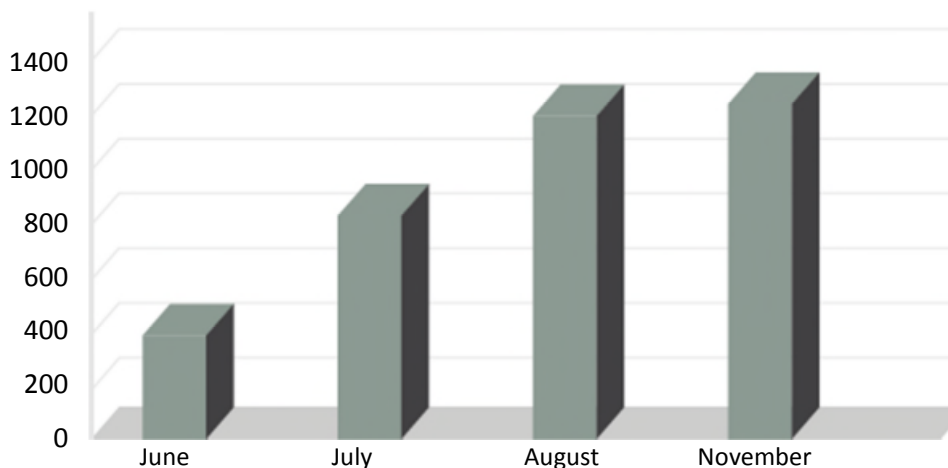
regional declarations and covenants, which will be addressed in the section on Legal Characterization.

In the media sector alone, NHRC recorded 103 cases of media figures from the three countries who used to work at a number of visual media outlets in the State of Qatar who were all subjected to various types of violations, including pressuring them to resign. Based on such pressure, 10 media figures were forced to submit their resignations, consequently losing their jobs and source of income. Great pressure is still exerted against those who have not resigned. These actions are a blatant violation of freedom of the press, the freedom to work, freedom of residency, and freedom of opinion all at the same time.

It should also be mentioned that the blockading states blocked Qatari channels, governmental and private. This was carried out through decrees issued by the blockade states' governments to warn all parties to delete all channels from the State of Qatar and the imposition of a fine of 100,000 riyals against any person who violates these directives. **The channels covered by the decree include:**

- Qatar Television channel
- Al-Rayyan channel
- Al-Kass channel
- Al-Jazeera Satellite Network
- beIn Sports channel

E. VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT OF MOVEMENT AND RESIDENCE



This chart shows the rising numbers of violations in deprivation of movement and residence between June and November 2017.

The definition of this right is that an individual must be able move within or beyond the territorial boundaries of his or her state and have the right to return to that state without restrictions or barriers. The blockading states have violated this right with its unjust blockade on the State of Qatar by preventing Qatari citizens and residents from moving within or residing in those states.

There reside in the State of Qatar 11,387 citizens of the three Gulf States, and approximately 1,927 Qataris live in those states. All persons forced to return to their home countries were harmed in various ways.

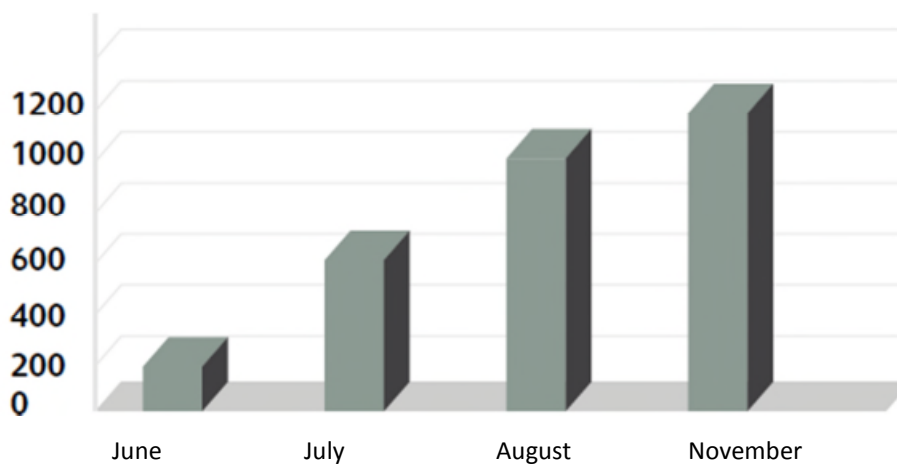
The blockading states have imposed penalties and issued decrees compelling them to exit their countries and prohibiting passage through their entry points. This caused many of the violations recorded by NHRC, totaling 1,354 cases related just to this right alone.

The blockading states also closed all Qatar Airways offices in their countries as soon as the blockade was announced, without prior warning to the people employed at those offices that would have allowed them to take their belongings from their offices.

Although the Saudi authorities had partially opened the Salwa border crossing on an individual, intermittent basis, it reverted and closed the crossing completely, even in the face of humanitarian cases such as patients, cross-border families, and individuals with disabilities. The crossing remains completely closed as of the writing of this report, which is a persistent violation of this right by the Saudi authorities.

- Mr. A.F., an Egyptian national, told NHRC when he gave his testimony: “On 11/19/2017, I reserved five plane tickets to Egypt for 7,400 riyals. I was surprised that the airline on which I made the reservation cancelled them and refunded the amount paid because I reside in the State of Qatar. This prevented me and my children from traveling.”
- Ms. E.A., a Jordanian national, told NHRC about being denied freedom of movement, stating: “My mother and I were unable to perform the [religious] obligation of Umrah despite paying the visa fee because the land crossing between Qatar and Saudi Arabia was closed and the process of transporting my car from Jordan to the State of Qatar was stopped.”
- Mr. A.M., a Bahraini national born in 1993, visited NHRC headquarters and recounted the details of the violation he suffered: “I was born in the State of Qatar and studied there until high school. My father is a businessman, and we have no family in the Kingdom of Bahrain. My mother’s family is in Qatar, and my sister is married to a Qatari man. The decision to blockade the State of Qatar and the order to return to the Kingdom of Bahrain is hard on us because of all of these connections.”

F. VIOLATION OF OWNERSHIP RIGHTS



This chart shows the increasing number of ownership rights violations between June and November 2017.

The right to property is one of the rights that a citizen enjoys within his or her own country or outside it and has the right to use or dispose of the property he or she owns without pressure from any party.

The sudden blockade laws imposed by the three states caused tens of thousands of people to suffer exorbitant

losses of funds and property. This indicates the decision makers' total recklessness and indifference to fundamental rights when making these decisions. Money and property have been snatched away because their owners were unable to travel to them. All persons prevented from traveling are no longer able to use or dispose of their property.

Given the extensive interaction and interconnectedness among the Gulf States, which might not be noticed by many organizations and countries, but there are hundreds of workers employed for Qataris and doing business in Saudi Arabia whose Qatari supervisors can no longer pay their wages because of the stoppage of money transfers, and so their work has stopped.

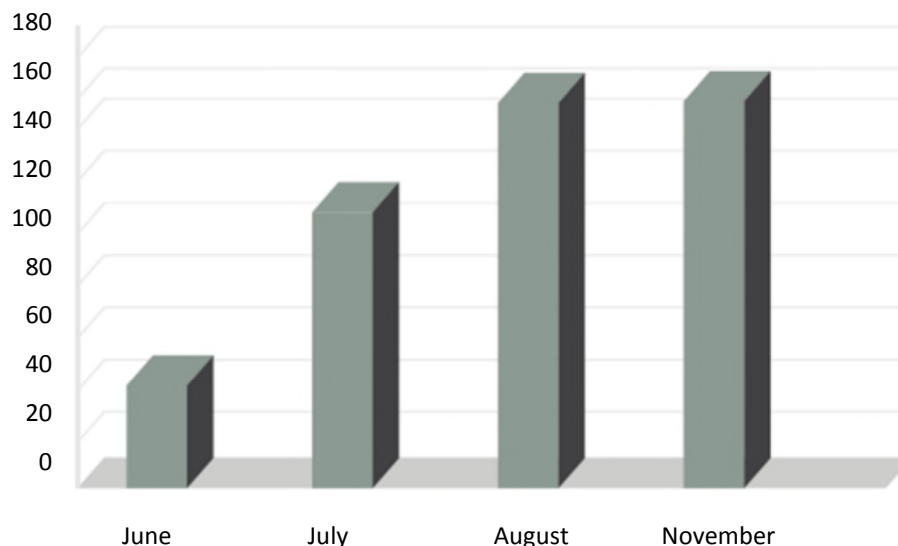
Another extreme example is the loss of real estate purchased in instalments, including land, buildings, and apartments, particularly in the Emirate of Dubai. Due to the freezing of Qatari citizens' assets in those countries, check debits have been stopped. If this situation continues, it could result in the complete loss of the property and even to the owner being legally prosecuted due to non-payment of obligatory monthly instalments, without the slightest misdeed on the part of the owner.

In addition to the above, the three states went so far as to prohibit financial transfers and postal money orders for any citizen or resident of the State of Qatar in order to shut the door on the possibility of forestalling financial losses. In our opinion, all of this demonstrates that the three blockading states' decisions were not spontaneous; they intentionally violated basic freedoms and sought to do so from the outset. This is underlined by the fact that no measures have been taken thus far to eliminate the grave repercussions on citizens of the three states and citizens of the State of Qatar.

The NHRC also recorded the existence of a large number of workers with Qatari residency who work for companies owned by Qatari citizens in those states. After the blockade was imposed, these workers were prevented from returning to Qatar. They are no longer working and no one is spending on them. We provide a few examples to illustrate the magnitude of the violations. For instance, the complaints we have received include:

- Ms. N.A., a Qatari national born in 1971, told the NHRC the details of the violation she suffered: "I bought a villa in a residential development in Dubai. I am now prohibited from entering Dubai and enjoying my own property, despite the fact that I made the first payment. I request a refund of the full amount."
- Mr. A.H., a Qatari national born in 1960 who has property in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, came to the NHRC's headquarters and gave us his testimony, detailing the violation he has suffered: "I have camels and cars in Saudi Arabia, and workers whose residency ended. Because of the blockade on the State of Qatar, I can't go."
- Mr. N.A., a Qatari national born in 1952, visited the NHRC's headquarters and detailed the property rights violation he suffered: "I have 200,000 riyals at the Bahrain Islamic Bank. I couldn't withdraw the money from the bank because we were not allowed to enter the Kingdom of Bahrain after the blockade decision against the State of Qatar."

G. DEPRIVATION OF THE RIGHT TO PERFORM RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES



This chart shows the increasing numbers of property rights violations between June and November 2017.

Mecca and Medina, two cities that are holy to all Muslims, are located in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and they are a constant destination for Muslims to perform the rites of the Hajj and the Umrah.

The blockade decision, to which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a party, has deprived approximately 1.5 million Muslims living in the State of Qatar of their right to engage in their religious observances, which is a flagrant violation of the right to worship.

The Saudi authorities made no exceptions from the unjust blockade measures for anyone wishing to exercise his or her right to perform the rites of the Hajj and the Umrah. Instead, they involved religious observances in political and diplomatic disputes and used the observances as a tool to exert political pressure, blatantly violating international human rights agreements.

In light of the continued blockade, air embargo, land border closure, along with the abusive measures taken by the Saudi authorities regarding the right to worship and engage in religious observances, **starting with actions to:**

- Prevent Qatari Umrah performers from entering Saudi territory during last Ramadan to perform the rites of the Umrah;
- Compel those present in the Kingdom to exit Saudi territory quickly without completing those rites;
- Stop dealing with Qatari currency and Qatari bank cards;
- Mistreat Qataris at land and air entry and exit points in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and
- Prevent Qatar Airways aircraft from landing at airports in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which resulted in Qatari Umrah performers returning to Doha via Saudi Arabia, who were forced to return on other airlines through the State of Kuwait and the Sultanate of Oman without consideration for humanitarian cases such as patients, women, children, elderly persons, and individuals with disabilities.

It should be noted that all of the abusive measures carried out during last Ramadan led [Qatari] citizens and residents to fear to perform their religious observances if they were allowed to do so, out of concern that events would be repeated.

- **This is in addition to the actions of the authorities during the 2017 Hajj season:**

With the approach of the 2017 Hajj season, the Saudi authorities erected impediments and barriers to Qatari citizens and residents wishing to perform the obligation of the Hajj, “the fifth pillar of Islam.”

These barriers amounted to a prohibition, because the authorities refused to work or coordinate with the Ministry of Religious Endowments and Islamic Affairs in the State of Qatar to enable those wishing to perform the obligation to do so.

The authorities have continued thus far to erect impediments and barriers to performing religious rites and observances before Qatari citizens and residents. This is in addition to the complaints submitted by the owners of Hajj and Umrah carriers in the State of Qatar about the complications and difficulties that have beset the performance of Umrah rituals for residents of the State, including:

- Closure of the electronic registration portal for the Hajj and Umrah and all Umrah performers from the State of Qatar not being allowed to register;
- Prevention by the authorities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of monetary transfers between Qatari carriers and Saudi Umrah agents authorized to grant Umrah permits; and
- The Saudi authorities’ continued refusal to work or coordinate with the Ministry of Religious Endowments and Islamic Affairs in the State of Qatar.

All of this definitively confirms that the Saudi authorities are continuing the policy of politicizing religious observances, which has inflicted enormous harm and financial losses on the State of Qatar since the beginning of the blockade because performance of Hajj and Umrah is prevented. Such harm and financial loss is exemplified in:

- The loss to the Ministry of Religious Endowments and Islamic Affairs in connection with Hajj and Umrah affairs, which amounts to approximately SAR 4,500,000, and other losses resulting from the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar; and
- Burdensome losses to Hajj and Umrah carriers. **We have communicated with nine carriers and obtained an accounting of their losses for this year:**

Carrier Name	Monetary Losses
Al-Forgan Carrier	7 million
Fifth Pillar Carrier	4 million
Al-Hamadi Carrier	2 million
Labbaik Carrier	6 million
Al-Hoda Carrier	2.7 million
Tawba Carrier	2.7 million
Qatar Carrier	400 thousand riyals
Hatem Carrier	2.7 million
Al-Quds Carrier	3 million
Total	QAR 30.5 million

In connection with material harm and losses, there is definite, serious psychological and intangible harm that have befallen all Qatari citizen and resident Muslims as a result of their being deprived of their right to work and engage in religious observances, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia bears full religious, moral, rights-based, and legal responsibility therefor.

Since the start of the blockade up to this day, the NHRC has noted 163 violations. Here are some testimonies of victims who suffered such violations:

- Mr. A. Sh., a Qatari national born in 1978, visited the NHRC's headquarters and gave his testimony, detailing the violation he suffered: "I made a reservation at a hotel in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, and I bought travel tickets for 27,000 riyals in order to perform the obligation of the Umrah, but the decision prevented me from performing this religious observance, and the hotel refused to refund the money for my reservation."
- Ms. F.A., a Palestinian born in 1950, expressed her regret that she could not perform the obligation of the Hajj in 2017. She gave her testimony to the NHRC: "After waiting five years to perform the Hajj obligation, my children and I were barred from performing it this year, and I am a sick and elderly widow."
- Mr. A.A., a Qatari national born in 1981, detailed the violation he suffered to the NHRC: "I made reservations at a hotel in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, and I paid 104,650 riyals for hotel reservations. I booked travel tickets to go for the Umrah, but I was blocked from going because of the blockade decision against the State of Qatar that bars its citizens from traveling to the blockading states."

H. INCITEMENT OF VIOLENCE AND HATRED

The NHRC has recorded hundreds of instances of hate speech which, in some cases, reached the level of incitement and provocation to commit terrorist bombings in the State of Qatar. Some television series have resorted to inciting children against the neighboring country of Qatar. We have also recorded discriminatory speech that aims to disparage and shame Qatari citizens. Such speech has increased dramatically due to the blatant involvement of some official advisors and media personalities in it. Indeed, merely wearing the uniforms of FC Barcelona or Paris Saint Germain has come to be viewed as an expression of sympathy, and the wearer is punished due to the presence of the names and logos of Qatar Airways and QNB on those uniforms.

We can summarize the cases of hate speech and incitement of violence as follows:

- Use of hate speech in songs, television series, and documentary films;
- Use of social media celebrities to disparage the State of Qatar, including its people and symbols;
- Disparagement of the symbols of the State in newspaper cartoons in neighboring states; and
- Incitement to conduct acts of sabotage and terrorism in the State of Qatar, and incitement to strike the State of Qatar and its media with missiles.

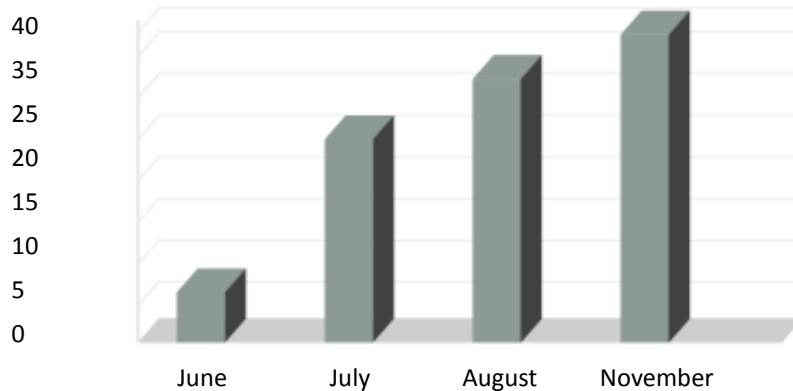
It is no secret that all of this media and artistic effort to incite hatred and violence will generate extreme reactions among the various segments of society that may bring about the commission of criminal acts not just against Qatari citizens, but also may generate reactions among the Qatari population against the three states and Egypt. This poses a threat to the peace, security, and stability of the entire region. We at the NHRC have recorded the names and capacities of every person who has incited violence and hatred that our researchers have been able to identify. We hold them responsible for any act of discriminatory terrorist violence that harms any Qatari citizen or any citizen of the three states and Egypt.

International law clearly criminalizes hate speech and violence, as provided by Article 20 of the International

Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as does Article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which prohibits any call for national, racial, or religious hate, and deems such calls to be incitement of hostility and violence.

Due to the incitement of violence and hate speech by the blockading states, Qataris in the blockading states have been subject to defacement of their vehicles and have had stones thrown at them. Further, hatred, hostility, and discrimination toward Qatari citizens by some citizens of neighboring states has been a result.

D. VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT TO HEALTH, PARTICULARLY FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND THE DISABLED



This chart shows the increase in violations of the right to health from June to November 2017.

Hundreds of patients from the three blockade countries who were being treated in Qatari hospitals were harmed, as well as Qataris who were receiving treatment in these three countries' hospitals. Citizens were instructed to leave without any exceptions for cases of illness or special groups such as pregnant women, young children, or even infants and the handicapped. This clearly demonstrates the extent of the blatant recklessness being shown by the three blockading countries toward their own ailing citizens, and the depth of their disregard for the most fundamental human rights. The most basic right to health is the right not to be discriminated against. Therefore, the three blockade countries have no right to expel Qatari patients based on a political disagreement. The right to health is explicitly provided for in several international charters and treaties, including Article 25 of the International Declaration of Human Rights and Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

- Mrs. N. A., a citizen of the UAE who has a Qatari son, stated: "I can't go to the UAE because of the blockade on the State of Qatar. My passport will expire in two months, and I can't travel for fear that I might not be able to return to Qatar. I'm sick and I need to be treated outside the country, but because of my passport [being about to] expire, I haven't been able to go for treatment because I'm currently receiving treatment in Qatar."
- A young man, R. M., a Qatari national born in 1994, told the NHRC, "I had an operation on my right cornea in Bahrain in January this year, and now I have pain in the eye after the stitches on the cornea opened up. When I

went to a hospital in Qatar, they told me I would need to see the doctor who performed the procedure in Bahrain, but because of the blockade against Qatar, I haven't been able to. I need to do so as soon as possible because the pain is getting worse, and I have infections [in the wound]."

- Mrs. R. T., a Qatari woman born in 1986, told the NHRC she was afraid she wouldn't be able to complete treatment in Bahrain. "I had an operation in Bahrain in January, and I need to complete the remaining part of the operation during the same year, but I haven't been able to travel because of relations with Qatar being cut off."

J. THE RIGHT TO LITIGATION

The right of access to the judiciary is the legitimate and legal means of protecting human rights, preventing human rights violations, keeping them from recurring, and ensuring justice for victims in keeping with the principle of reparation set forth in human rights agreements through recourse to litigation and through the provision of procedures necessary to achieve this end. Given the consequences of the blockade against Qatar, however, Qatari citizens and residents have not been able to access the courts in the blockade countries.

What has happened as a result of the blockade being imposed against Qatar has caused many violations which require recourse to the blockading countries' local judiciaries. Such violations include the following:

1. Violation of the right to ownership. These individuals possess the right to litigation because they have properties and businesses due to previous commercial activities or inheritances. However, they have been prevented from completing the necessary litigation procedures or following up on cases already before the courts.
2. The right to education. These individuals were studying in the blockading countries, and some of them had paid their tuition as well as their residency fees. However, they have not been able to recover their money.
3. Hotel and airplane reservations were made, and the victims have not been able to claim their rights.

The NHRC has recorded egregious violations of the right to litigation. The following are the most salient aspects of these violations:

- Hindering Qatari citizens and residents from exercising their right to litigation before the courts in the blockading countries, particularly the UAE and Saudi Arabia.
- Not allowing Qatari citizens and residents to appear before the courts by preventing them from entering the blockade countries. This constitutes a violation of their right to litigation and other rights related thereto, such as the right to defense.
- Making it difficult for their legal representatives to initiate legal proceedings on their behalf.
- Refusal by law firms in the blockade countries to take on the cases of litigants who are Qatari citizens or residents and neglecting to follow up on cases they had already taken on.
- Non-implementation of verdicts issued in favor of Qatari citizens.
- Nullification of verdicts issued in favor of Qatari citizens and residents due to their inability to pursue their cases and exercise their right to litigation and legal defense.
- Mr. (I. A.), a Qatari national born in 1964, told the NHRC, "I have land, real estate, and private automobiles in the UAE, so I need to check on my property, collect financial returns, and follow up on committees and real

estate administrative procedures. However, because of the blockade and the fact that Qatari citizens aren't allowed into the blockade countries, I've faced fines, I've been delayed in my ability to make use of facilities, and my real estate properties have been frozen. This has caused me major financial harm, including a monthly loss of around 40,000 riyals, and a commercial loss of more than 16 million UAE dirhams."

- Mr. (B. Th. [and] A. M.), both Qatari nationals, presented their complaint to the NHRC, saying, "We inherited several real estate properties from our late father in the UAE (Sharjah). But the properties are still in our father's name, and still haven't been transferred. There is an executive case, as well as approximately 133 million dirhams, bearing in mind that the real estate properties are located in the industrial zone, and some of them are being rented out."

Fifth: Conclusions and legal profile:

Through their arbitrary decisions and illegal measures, the governments of the blockade countries have violated, and continue to violate, several rules and principles of international human rights law. They have, for example, clearly violated several articles of the International Declaration of Human Rights, and articles of both the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as articles of other legal instruments, the most salient of these being:

The Arab Human Rights Charter, the Declaration of Human Rights of the Gulf Cooperation States, and the Economic Agreement Between the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council

The blockade countries have also violated the Chicago Agreement by banning Qatari civil aircraft from flying over their regions without justification, war-related necessity, or reasons of relevance to public security.

The articles which the three Gulf countries have violated are as follows:

First: The International Declaration of Human Rights:

Articles 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 19, 23, 25, and 26

Second: The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights:

Part II (Article 2), and Part III (Articles 9, 12, 13, 14, 20, 23, and 24)

Third: The International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights:

Part III (Articles 6, 10, 12, and 13)

Fourth: The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination:

Article 4

Fifth: The Arab Human Rights Charter:

Article 3

1. Every state which is party to this Charter pledges to guarantee to each individual under its mandate the rights and freedoms provided for in this Charter without discrimination based on race, color, gender, language, religious belief, opinion, thought, national or social origin, wealth, birth, or physical or mental disability.

Article (8)

1. No person may be tortured physically or psychologically, or subjected to cruel, degrading, demeaning, or inhumane treatment.

Article (11)

All persons are equal before the law and have the right to be protected thereby without discrimination.

Article (12)

1. All persons are equal before the judiciary, and Party States shall guarantee the independence of the judiciary and protect judges from any interference, pressures, or threats. They shall also guarantee the right to litigation in its various degrees to every person under their mandate.

Article (13)

1. Every person shall have the right to a fair trial with sufficient guarantees by a competent, independent, and partial court previously established by law in the face of any criminal accusation raised against him or her, or to rule on his or her rights and obligations. Moreover, each Party State shall guarantee that those who are financially incapable will receive legal aid to defend their rights.
2. The trial shall be public unless, in exceptional circumstances, the interests of justice dictate otherwise in a society which respects freedoms and human rights.

Article (26)

1. Every person legally present in the territory of a Party State shall enjoy freedom of movement and the freedom to choose where he or she shall reside in said territory within the limits of the laws in force.

Article (32)

1. This Charter guarantees the right to [access] the media, freedom of thought, opinion, and expression, as well as the right to obtain news and transmit it to others by any means and without consideration for geographical boundaries.
2. These rights and freedoms shall be exercised within the framework of the fundamental components of society and shall only be subject to those restrictions imposed by respect for others' rights or reputation, or by the need to preserve national security or public order, health or morals.

Article (33)

1. The family is the natural and fundamental unit of society. The basis for the family's formation is marriage between a man and a woman, who, from the time when they reach marriageable age, shall have the right to marry and establish a family in keeping with the conditions and pillars of marriage. Marriage shall only take place with the full consent of both parties thereto, and without compulsion. The man's and the woman's rights and duties shall be regulated by the legislation in force when the marriage goes into effect, throughout its duration, and upon its dissolution.
2. The state and society shall guarantee families' protection, strengthen their bonds, protect the individuals belonging to them, and prohibit all forms of violence and mistreatment by its members, particularly against women and children. Mothers, young children, the elderly, and those with special needs shall be ensured the necessary protection and care, while teenagers and young adults shall be guaranteed maximum opportunities for physical and mental development.

3. Party States shall take all legislative, administrative, and judicial measures necessary to guarantee a child's protection, survival, development and welfare in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity. The child's best interest shall be the fundamental criterion for determining all measures taken in this connection in all circumstances and whether he or she is delinquent or liable to become so.

Sixth: The Declaration of Human Rights of the Gulf Cooperation Council

Article (6)

Freedom of religious faith and practice is the right of every person in keeping with the Law insofar as the exercise of such freedom does not prejudice public order or public morals.

Article (9)

Freedom of opinion and expression is the right of every person, and the exercise of this right is guaranteed to everyone insofar as it is consistent with Islamic Law, public order, and the laws regulating such matters.

Article (14)

The family, consisting of a man and a woman and governed by religion, morals, and love of country, is the natural and fundamental unit of society. The family entity is preserved, and its ties strengthened, by religion, which protects mothers, young children, and other members of the family from all forms of abuse and domestic violence. The protection of the family is to be ensured by society and the State.

Article (24)

Work is a right of every able-bodied person. Each individual shall have the right to choose the type [of work he or she engages in] in keeping with the requirements of dignity and the public interest. The fairness of the terms of employment and the rights of both employees and employers shall be guaranteed.

Article (27)

Private property is protected. No person shall be prevented from disposing of his or her personal property beyond the bounds of the Law. Nor may anyone's property be wrested from him or her except in the service of the public interest and in return for just compensation.

Article (32)

People are equal before the judiciary, and the right to litigation is guaranteed to everyone within a fully independent judiciary.

Sixth: Recommendations of the National Human Rights Council:

Freedom of religious faith and practice is the right of every person in keeping with the Law insofar as the exercise of such freedom does not prejudice public order or public morals.

To the international community:

It is vital that immediate action is taken to end the blockade, and that every possible effort be made to mitigate its repercussions for the residents of Qatar and citizens of the blockade countries.

To the United Nations and the High Commission on Human Rights:

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights constituted and sent a technical mission to Doha from November 18 and 23 2017 to determine the effects of the blockade on the human rights situation of the citizens and residents of Doha, Qatar and some citizens of the GCC countries. On this basis we demand:

First: That the blockade countries be addressed concerning the need to cease and desist their blockade of Qatar; that they correct the violations caused by the arbitrary, unilateral measures they have taken; and that they ensure justice for the victims and compensate them for the material and psychological damages they have suffered.

Second: That a presentation be made of the reports and statements documenting the various types of violations that have affected huge numbers of people, particularly as they relate to the splitting of families. Such reports and statements should address the alarming implications of family disintegration for women and children, and the blockade countries should be pressed to respect the basic freedoms of those residing in their territories.

Third: That a detailed report on human rights violations be submitted to the Council on Human Rights, state rapporteurs, and contractual mechanisms to address these violations and ensure that they are not repeated.

To the Human Rights Council:

- To issue a resolution, take all possible measures toward lifting the blockade, put an end to the violations to which it has led, and provide compensation to all individuals who suffered damages.
- To form a fact-finding committee and conduct direct interviews with the victims.

To the special rapporteurs on the Human Rights Council:

First: To respond quickly to the reports of the National Human Rights Council and to letters from victims, and issue urgent and joint calls to act in this connection.

Second: To urge the governments of the blockading countries to eliminate the violations and extend justice to the victims.

Third: To make field visits to Qatar and the blockading countries to gather information on the human rights violations resulting from the blockade.

Fourth: To record the violations committed by the blockading countries in the periodic reports that are submitted to the Human Rights Council.

To the Secretariat-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council:

To call upon the legal affairs sector in the Secretariat-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, an in particular its Human Rights Bureau, to demand that the blockading countries eliminate the violations, extend justice to the victims, and put a stop to any new arbitrary measures.

To the blockade countries:

First: Commit to respect the pledges listed in the human rights agreements which you have ratified and joined.

Second: Cease these violations, correct them, and extend justice to the victims.

Third: Respond to the NHRC's reports and international reports.

Fourth: Allow international organizations and missions to make field visits to familiarize themselves closely with the humanitarian situations, identify responsibilities, and extend justice to the victims.

Fifth: Cease allowing politics to impact humanitarian and social conditions and stop using them as a bargaining chip because doing so is a violation of international law and international human rights law.

To the Government of Qatar:

First: Take all possible steps at the international level, at the level of the Security Council, and before the international courts and arbitration tribunals to lift the blockade on Qatar's citizens and residents, and to provide justice for the victims.

Second: Call upon the Compensation Commission to expedite litigation procedures in order to ensure justice for the victims.

Third: Facilitate procedures to integrate students into Qatari universities and the Qatari educational system and address the humanitarian situations of those who have been injured.



اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
National Human Rights Committee

Doha, Qatar



اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
National Human Rights Committee
الدوحة - قطر

٦ أشهر من الانتهاكات .. ماذا بعد؟!

التقرير العام الرابع للانتهاكات
حقوق الإنسان جراء حصار دولة
قطر

٥ ديسمبر ٢٠١٧ م



فهرس التقرير

أولاً	ملخص
ثانياً	نبذة تعريفية عن اللجنة
ثالثاً	منهجية التقرير
رابعاً	أهم الانتهاكات التي وقعت: ألف: قطع شمل الأسر، خصوصاً النساء والأطفال باء: التوقف عن متابعة التعليم تاء: التوقف عن العمل ثاء: انتهاك حرية الرأي والتعبير جيم: انتهاك الحق في التنقل و الإقامة حاء: انتهاك حق الملكية خاء: الحرمان من تأدية الشعائر الدينية دال: التحريض على العنف والكراهية ذال: انتهاك الحق في الصحة، خاصة النساء والأطفال وذوي الإعاقة راء: الحق في التقاضي
خامساً	الاستنتاجات والتوصيف القانوني
سادساً	التوصيات

أولاً: ملخص:

يستمر الحصار غير الإنساني المفروض على دولة قطر منذ تاريخ ٥ يونيو ٢٠١٧م وحتى يومنا هذا من قبل كل من المملكة العربية السعودية والإمارات العربية المتحدة ومملكة البحرين بالإضافة إلى جمهورية مصر العربية. كما تستمر معه الانتهاكات دون أية تجاوب من هذه الدول لمعالجتها و لهذا تقوم اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC بإعداد سلسلة تقارير خاصة بتلك الانتهاكات ، ورصد وتوثيق الآثار الإنسانية، والتداعيات الاجتماعية والاقتصادية المترتبة عليها .

وبهذا الخصوص خاطبت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC نحو ٤٥٠ جهة حقوقية ومنظمات دولية وإقليمية حكومية وغير حكومية مناشدة لهم بالتحرك العاجل لمعالجة آثار الأزمة الإنسانية التي تسبب بها الحصار. وقامت بـ ٣٣ زيارة لعواصم أوروبية وعالمية لتعريفهم بحجم الانتهاكات القائمة على دولة قطر من قبل دول الحصار. وهذا هو التقرير الرابع العام الذي تصدره اللجنة لتوثيق هذه الانتهاكات بجانب سلسلة التقارير العامة التي أعدها:-

١. التقرير الأول لانتهاكات حقوق الإنسان لدولة قطر جراء الحصار ١٣ يونيو ٢٠١٧.
٢. التقرير الثاني لانتهاكات حقوق الإنسان لدولة قطر جراء الحصار ١ يوليو ٢٠١٧.
٣. التقرير الثالث لانتهاكات حقوق الإنسان لدولة قطر جراء الحصار ٣٠ أغسطس ٢٠١٧.

أيضاً تقارير الانتهاكات الخاصة:-

١. تقرير انتهاك الحق في التعليم ٥ سبتمبر ٢٠١٧.
 ٢. تقرير الحرمان من تأدية الشعائر الدينية ٢٤ أغسطس ٢٠١٧.
 ٣. تقرير انتهاك الحق في الملكية ٣٠ أغسطس ٢٠١٧.
 ٤. تقرير انتهاك الحق في الغذاء والدواء ٣ سبتمبر ٢٠١٧.
- وسيتطرق هذا التقرير إلى ذكر شهادات جديدة لضحايا جدد انتهكت حقوقهم الأساسية من جراء الحصار ، كما ستستمر اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC بتحديث هذا التقرير الأساسي طالما استمر الحصار، واستمر تدفق الشكاوى من الضحايا .

وقد استقبلت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC العديد من المنظمات الدولية لحقوق الإنسان الحكومية منها و غير الحكومية مثل البعثة الفنية التابعة للمفوضية السامية لحقوق الإنسان بالأمم المتحدة OHCHR خلال الفترة من ١٨ - ٢٣ نوفمبر ٢٠١٧ ، بعثة منظمة العفو الدولية (Amnesty) مرتين خلال الفترة من ٦-٨ يونيو ٢٠١٧ و ٢٨-٣٠ نوفمبر ٢٠١٧ ، وبعثة منظمة هيومن رايس و تشر HRW خلال الفترة من ١٩-٢٠ يونيو ٢٠١٧ ، ومنظمة AFD الدولية خلال الفترة ٢٢-٢٥ يوليو ٢٠١٧. كما استقبلت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC أيضاً وفود برلمانية من دول أوروبية بغرض الاطلاع على الانتهاكات الواقعة على دولة قطر بسبب الحصار.

بحسب البيانات التي حصلنا عليها ، يُقيم في دولة قطر قرابة ١١٣٨٧ مواطناً من دول الحصار الخليجية الثلاث ، ويُقيم قرابة ١٩٢٧ مواطناً قترياً في تلك الدول ،

ثانياً: نبذة تعريفية عن اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان

الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان بدولة قطر NHRC هي جزء مما يعرف بالمؤسسات الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRIs، التي تُنشأ وفق ما يسمى بمبادئ باريس والتي اعتمدها الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة، وتحصل هذه المؤسسات على العضوية في التحالف العالمي للمؤسسات الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان GANHRI بعد خضوعها لعملية اعتماد من اللجنة الفرعية للاعتماد SCA التابعة للتحالف GANNRI، وبإشراف قسم المؤسسات الوطنية والآليات الإقليمية والمجتمع المدني NRCS التابع للمفوضية السامية لحقوق الإنسان OHCHR وهي بمثابة الأمانة العامة وسكرتارية اللجنة الفرعية للاعتماد (SCA) في التحالف GANHRI، وأنشأت اللجنة الوطنية NHRC في عام ٢٠٠٢ باختصاصاتها وولايتها لحماية وتعزيز حقوق الإنسان كما حددتها مبادئ باريس وحصلت على تصنيف A في عام ٢٠١٠ لمدة ٥ سنوات، وتم إعادة تصنيفها بـ A مرة أخرى في ٢٠١٥ لمدة ٥ سنوات، وهو أعلى تصنيف يعطى لمؤسسة وطنية ويدل على المصداقية والاستقلالية والامتثال التام لمبادئ باريس.

ثالثاً: منهجية التقرير:

مر على حصار دولة قطر ١٨٤ يوماً، ولا زالت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC تتلقى في مقرها الرسمي بالعاصمة القطرية الدوحة شكاوى من ضحايا متضررين من قرارات دول الحصار التي تسببت في انتهاكات عدة لحقوق الإنسان طالت المجالات التالية: لم شمل الأسر، التعليم، الملكية، التنقل والإقامة، وممارسة الشعائر الدينية، والصحة، والعمل وغيرها من الانتهاكات الأخرى.

وتعتبر قرارات دول الحصار وما ترتب عليها من أضرار على كافة الأصعدة الإنسانية، انتهاكاً لجميع بنود حقوق الإنسان المنصوص عليها في كافة الشرائع والقوانين والأعراف الدولية، وأجبرت تلك الإجراءات المعلنة فجأة في ٥ من يونيو الماضي مواطني دولة قطر على الخروج من الدول الخليجية الثلاث في غضون ١٤ يوماً، ومنعت أي مواطن قطري من الدخول إلى أراضيها، وقضت أحياناً بالتفريق بين المرء وزوجه والأم ووليدها، وذلك بقرارات تضرب عرض الحائط بجميع المبادئ والمعايير الحقوقية والإنسانية.

• لا بد من التذكير هنا أن الفرد الواحد قد يتعرّض لأكثر من نوع واحد من الانتهاكات، وبالتالي فإنّ حصيلة الملفات التي تُعبّر عن جميع الانتهاكات هي بالتأكيد أكبر من مجموع الأفراد، فقد سجلنا حوادث تعرّض فيها الفرد للتشرّد عن أسرته، ومُنع من مواصلة تعليمه، ومن التّنقل، فهذه ثلاثة انتهاكات وقعت على فرد واحد.

• تقوم اللجنة بعد استقبالها لضحايا الحصار وتوثيق الانتهاكات الواقعة بحقهم، بمشاركة حالات تلك الانتهاكات على نحوٍ متتالٍ مع الجهات الحقوقية والقانونية الدولية المختصة.

• متابعة مدى تجاوب دول الحصار مع تقارير اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC.

• متابعة حالات الانتهاكات من قبل اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC التي تم رفعها للجهات الحقوقية والقانونية والدولية المختصة ومحاولة رفع الانتهاك عنها، وهذا ما سنذكره بشكل مفصل لكل حق على حده.

وفي هذا التقرير سلطنا الضوء على أهم الانتهاكات التي وقعت على دولة قطر جراء الحصار والتي لا تزال مستمرة حتى الآن، وذلك باختيار وعرض شهادات بعض الضحايا لكل نوع من أنواع الانتهاكات، حفاظاً على حجم مُعيّن للتقرير، مع التأكيد أنّ بإمكان الجهات المختصة الحصول على الاستمارات والوثائق كافة، كما قمنا بالإشارة إلى الأحرف الأولى من أسماء الضحايا حفاظاً خصوصياتهم وأمنهم وسلامتهم.

ونوه هنا بأن الحكومة القطرية لم تَقْمُ بأي إجراء مماثل بحق مواطني دول الحصار، ولم تتلقَ في اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC أية شكاوى في هذا الخصوص. كما قامت دولة قطر بإنشاء لجنة المطالبة بالتعويضات عن الأضرار الناجمة من الحصار بتاريخ ٢٢ يونيو ٢٠١٧، وتختص هذه اللجنة بالآتي:-

١. استقبال شكاوى المطالبة بالتعويضات من قبل الافراد والمؤسسات الخاصة والقطاع العام.
٢. البحث في تلك الشكاوى من الناحية القانونية بحيث يكون الحصار سبب في الضرر الذي اصاب المتضررين.
٣. تكليف مكاتب محاماة دولية لبحث أوجه إمكانية رفع دعاوى على دول الحصار لتعويض المتضررين.
٤. الإشراف والتنسيق بين جهات الدولة والقطاع الخاص والافراد وبين مكاتب المحاماة لتزويدهم بالوثائق اللازمة.
٥. المتابعة عن كَثب دعوى دولة قطر في منظمة التجارة العالمية وتزويدها باللازم.

وهناك علاقة وتعاون بين اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC و لجنة المطالبة بالتعويضات حيث تقوم اللجنة الوطنية بإحالة كافة ملفات الشكاوى التي استقبلتها من المتضررين إليها واستمرارية عقد العديد من الاجتماعات معها، من أجل إنصاف الضحايا وتحقيق مبدأ جبر الضرر المنصوص عليه في الاتفاقيات الدولية والإقليمية.

وفي إطار سعيها الدائم إلى معالجة الانتهاكات قامت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC بمخاطبة كلاً من:

- الجمعية الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان - السعودية بتاريخ ٢٤ سبتمبر ٢٠١٧.
- جمعية الإمارات لحقوق الإنسان و جهته لها ثلاث خطابات:-
 ١. بتاريخ ٨ أكتوبر ٢٠١٧.
 ٢. بتاريخ ١٥ أكتوبر ٢٠١٧.
 ٣. بتاريخ ٢٣ أكتوبر ٢٠١٧
- المجلس القومي لحقوق الإنسان بمصر بتاريخ ٢ أكتوبر ٢٠١٧ م.

حيث أرسلت لهم اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC كافة قوائم الضحايا بغرض السعي و التواصل مع سلطاتهم لمعالجة تلك الانتهاكات، ولم تتلقى اللجنة أي ردود من طرفهم حتى الآن، عدا المجلس القومي لحقوق الإنسان بمصر الذي تعامل بإيجابية مع خطابها، ونشير هنا إلى محاولات اللجنة المستمرة للتواصل مع المؤسسة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC في مملكة البحرين دون جدوى.

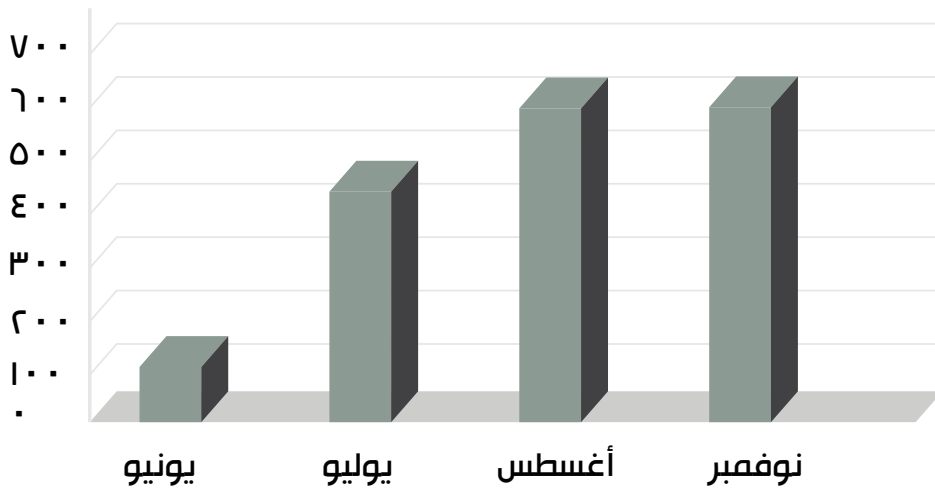
رابعاً: أهم الانتهاكات التي وقعت:

يُظهر الجدول التالي فرزاً بحسب الانتهاكات التي سجلتها اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC والتي وصلت إلى ٣٩٧٠ حالة حتى تاريخ إعداد هذا التقرير، وقد تم توزيعها بحسب الدولة التي قامت بالانتهاك، وبحسب نوع كل انتهاك وقع بحق مواطني ومقيمي دولة قطر:

النوع الرئيسي للانتهاك	الانتهاك بالبلد التي قامت بالانتهاك	التعليم	الملكية	لم تشمل الأسرة	التنقل	الصحة	ممارسة الشعائر الدينية	العمل	الإقامة	الإجمالي
٨١٠٢ انتهاك	السعودية	٦٢	٦٧٧	٣٣٦	٧٥٣	١٩	١٦٣	٦٦	٥٧	٢١٣٣
	الإمارات	146	٤٢٣	٨٠	٣٣٤	٤	-	٦	٤	٩٩٧
	البحرين	٢٨	٥٢	٢١٣	١٢٦	١٤	-	٣٧	٣٢	٥٠٢
	متنوع	٢٦٨	22	-	٣٩	-	-	-	-	٣٢٩
	المجموع	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	٩
			٥٠٤	١١٧٤	٦٢٩	1261	٣٧	١٦٣	١٠٩	٩٣

يوضح هذا الجدول آخر الإحصائيات الخاصة بالانتهاكات الواقعة على دولة قطر منذ بداية الحصار الموافق ٥ يونيو ٢٠١٧ وحتى ٥ ديسمبر ٢٠١٧، حيث وقع ٥٠٤ انتهاكاً للحق في التعليم، ١١٧٤ انتهاكاً للحق في الملكية، ٦٢٩ انتهاكاً للحق في لم تشمل الأسر، ١٢٦١ انتهاكاً للحق في التنقل، ٣٧ انتهاكاً للحق في الصحة، ١٦٣ انتهاكاً للحق في ممارسة الشعائر الدينية، ١٠٩ انتهاكاً للحق في العمل، و ٩٣ انتهاكاً للحق في الإقامة.

ألف: قطع شمل الأسر، خصوصاً النساء والأطفال:



رسم بياني يوضح ارتفاع نسب الانتهاكات في قطع شمل الأسر من شهر يونيو وحتى نوفمبر ٢٠١٧

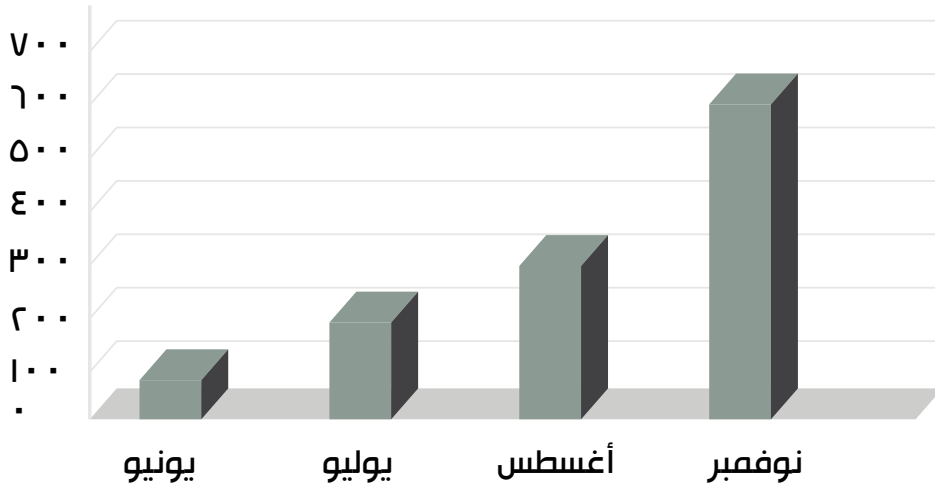
تلقت اللجنة آلاف الشكاوى بشأن انتهاكات الحصار المفروض على دولة قطر ، و أبرزها تلك التي طالت الحق في لم شمل ، حيث قطعت أو اصر الأسر الخليجية الواحدة ، و نتج عن ذلك تشتيت النساء ، والأطفال ، والأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة ، وكبار السن ، وحرمان الأمهات والآباء من البقاء مع أبنائهم وأطفالهم .

ويرتبط مواطنو دول الخليج بعلاقات نسب وقرابة ومصاهرة تعود لمئات السنين ، حيث تسبب طلب مغادرة المواطنين القطريين لدول الحصار وأيضاً ترحيل مواطني دول الحصار من دولة قطر بإيجاد أوضاع غير إنسانية عدا عن كونها انتهاكاً سافراً لعدة مواد في القوانين الدولية ، من خلال الترحيل الإجباري للعائلات وتشتيتها ، وحرمان الأمهات والآباء من أبنائهم وأطفالهم .

وبسبب هذا الانتهاك سجلت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان قرابة ٦٢٩ استمارة تتعلق بحالات قطع شمل الأسرة وتشتيتها ، لكنها على ثقة أن الحصيلة الحقيقية أضخم بشكل كبير . مع العلم بأن هناك بعض حالات الانتهاك الأسرية سُمح لها بالدخول ، ولكن لمرة واحدة فقط و بطريقة عشوائية ومن دون آلية واضحة ، وتم إغلاق الحدود تماماً بعدها .

- السيد (س . ف) سعودي الجنسية ، من مواليد دولة قطر لعام ١٩٩١ م يعمل كمهندس صوت يتحدث مع اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC بكل أسى قائلاً: "قد تأثرت أنا وعائلتي كثيراً بعد سماع خبر الحصار الذي أمرنا من خلاله بمغادرة دولة قطر وترك أسرنا وعائلاتنا وأطفالنا لتنفيذ تلك القرارات ، وزوجتي حامل بالشهر السادس وهي قطرية وأنا أعاني من اضطرابات نفسية".
- وبحسب شهادة السيدة (إ . ر) التي أدلت بها للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان فقد تمَّ حرمانها من السفر إلى أطفالها كونها تحمل الجنسية القطرية: " أنا أم قطرية مطلقة من زوج بحريني الجنسية ، ولدي أطفال منه ، وأذهب أربع مرات في السنة إلى مملكة البحرين من أجل رؤية أطفالي ، لكن بعد القرار لم أستطع ذلك ولم يقبل الأب بإرسال الأولاد لقطر من أجل أن أراهم".
- أدلت السيدة (أ . ف) قطرية الجنسية من مواليد عام ١٩٨٧ بشهادتها للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC ، وذكرت تفاصيل الانتهاك الذي تعرضت له : "كنت متزوجة من مواطن إماراتي الجنسية ورفع مطلقي علي قضية إسقاط حضانة أبنائي وهو متزوج من امرأة أخرى ، وبعد قرار الحصار أمر القاضي في دولة الإمارات بإسقاط الحضانة عني بدون أي سبب وجرمني من جميع حقوقي".
- زارَ السيد (خ . ع) من مواليد ١٩٦٨ يحمل الجنسية القطرية مقرراً للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC ، وذكر تفاصيل ما تعرّض له هو وعائلته من انتهاك: "زوجتي سعودية وأنا قطري الجنسية ، وبعد قرار الحصار وقرار رجوع كافة المواطنين إلى السعودية ومغادرة قطر ، لم أستطع إرجاع زوجتي لأن وضعي لا يسمح بذلك".

باء: التوقف عن متابعة التعليم:



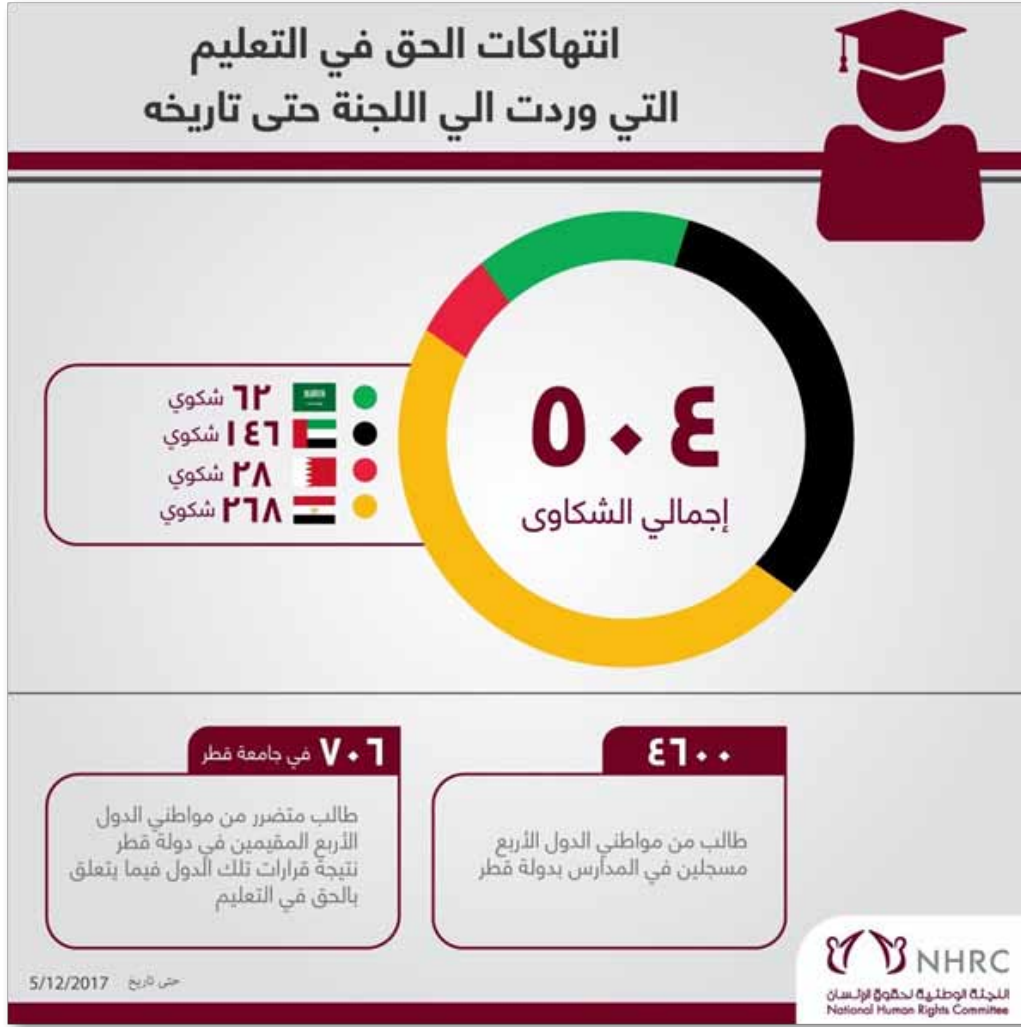
رسم بياني يوضح نسب ارتفاع احصائية الانتهاكات في حق متابعة التعليم من شهر يونيو وحتى نوفمبر ٢٠١٧

استقبلت اللجنة في انتهاك هذا الحق سيلاً من الشكاوى حيث بلغت ما يقارب ٢٣٦ حالة من طلاب قطريين يدرسون في جامعات السعودية والإمارات والبحرين، وجدوا أنفسهم فجأة محرومين من متابعة دراستهم، بل أُجبروا على المغادرة إلى وطنهم، بعد قرار تلك الدول قطع علاقاتها مع قطر في الخامس من يونيو ٢٠١٧. وبسبب الإجراءات والقرارات التعسفية في حرمان المئات من الطلبة من استكمال دراستهم شكل هذا انتهاكاً صارخاً للحق في التعليم. حيث أُجبرت دول الحصار أيضاً طلابها الدارسين في جامعة قطر على العودة إلى دولهم (السعودية، الإمارات، والبحرين) ومنعتهم من استكمال دراستهم الجامعية ويبلغ عددهم ٧٠٦ طالب وطالبة.

- يقول الطالب (ح. ع) قطري الجنسية من مواليد عام ١٩٨٦ للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC التالي: "أنا طالب في جامعة العلوم التطبيقية في البحرين وهذا آخر فصل دراسي للتخرج، بقي لي مادتان ورسالة التخرج، هناك محاضرات وامتحانات ولم أستطع الذهاب بسبب قرار الحصار الذي أدى إلى عرقلة دراستي".
- تقول (ن. م) للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC وهي من مواليد عام ١٩٩٥ م، سعودية الجنسية، طالبة في جامعة قطر: "أنا متزوجة من زوج قطري الجنسية وتوفي قبل ٤ سنوات ولدي ولدان منه، وأدرس في جامعة قطر. وقد طلبت مني سفارة المملكة العربية السعودية العودة إلى أراض المملكة وأنا لا أستطيع أن أترك أولادي ودراستي الجامعية".
- (ح، أ) من مواليد دولة قطر لعام ١٩٨٦ م وهو ضحية أخرى من ضحايا الحصار، يروي قصته للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC: "أدرس في الجامعة الأمريكية في دولة الإمارات وبسبب قرار الحصار على دولة قطر لم أتمكن من الذهاب لإكمال دراستي الجامعية في دولة الإمارات بالإضافة إلى الخسائر المادية والمعنوية".

ومع متابعة اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC لحالات انتهاك الحق في التعليم، لم تسمح دولة الإمارات لطلبة من دولة قطر باستئناف دراستهم بأي شكل من الأشكال، عدا بعض الجامعات الدولية التي حولت الطلبة الدارسين فيها إلى أفرع أخرى خارج الإمارات ولكن بتكاليف سفر ومعيشة أكبر، مما كبد الطلبة ومرافقيهم متطلبات ورسوم مادية ومعنوية أكثر من ذي قبل.

كما رصدت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان تجاوب الجامعات القطرية التي قامت بإدماج ما يقارب ٦٤ طالبا متضررا ، حيث قامت وزارة التعليم القطرية ببعض الاستثناءات للطلاب الآخرين المتضررين جراء الحصار .



الطلاب الدارسون في جمهورية مصر

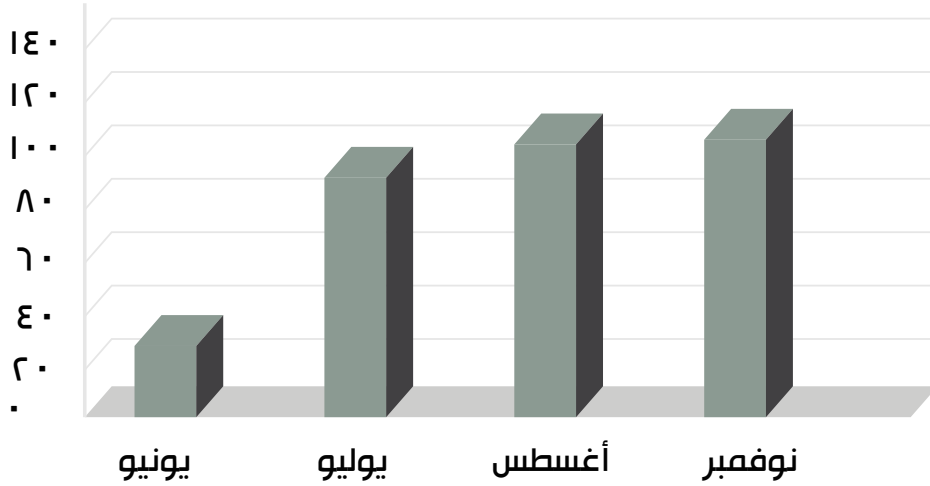
كما رصدت اللجنة حوالي ٢٦٨ شكوى من طلاب قطريين ومقيمين في دولة قطر يدرسون بالجامعات المصرية منعوا من استكمال دراستهم ، كما منع بعضهم من دخول امتحانات نهاية العام الدراسي في شهر سبتمبر ٢٠١٧ ، وقد جاء هذا المنع بسبب الإجراءات التي قامت بها السلطات المصرية من وضعها قيودا على الطلبة القطريين الذين يدرسون بالجامعات المصرية تمثلت في شرط الحصول على موافقة أمنية قبل منحهم تأشيرة دخول لاستكمال دراستهم بالجامعات المصرية وأداء الامتحانات بها .

وقد خاطبت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC رئيس المجلس القومي لحقوق الإنسان بمصر في هذا الشأن من أجل مساعدة الطلاب لإكمال دراستهم وتذليل الصعاب أمامهم ، وقد قام المجلس القومي بذلك ، عن طريق السعي لدى السلطات المصرية برفع الإجراءات التي أعاققت انتظامهم في الدراسة ، وذلك بقيام السلطات المصرية بإصدار تعليمات جديدة تقضي بمنح الطلبة تأشيرة دخول وإلغاء الموافقة الأمنية المطلوبة منهم سابقاً .

ومن أمثلة الشكاوى التي كانت قد تلقتها اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC:-

- ذكر الطالب (ع. ف) من مواليد عام ١٩٩٢، يحمل الجنسية القطرية ويدرس في جمهورية مصر، للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC تفاصيل الانتهاك الذي تعرّض له: "أنا طالب قطري التحقت بجامعة عين شمس منذ عام ٢٠١٥ لإكمال تعليمي في مجال القانون، وأنا الآن في السنة الدراسية الثالثة وتم منعي من تكميل تعليمي من قبل جمهورية مصر العربية بسبب الأزمة الحالية ولأنني قطري تم منعي لأسباب أمنية، ولا أستطيع الدخول الا بفيزا امنية، وراجعت السفارة المصرية لإصدارها ولم تصدر إلي الآن".
- تعرض الطالب (ص. ح) قطري الجنسية من مواليد عام ١٩٨٢، للحرمان من متابعة دراساته العليا في جامعة الاسكندرية في جمهورية مصر وهو في السنة الأخيرة من الماجستير، وقد أدلى بشهادته للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC وذكر تفاصيل الانتهاك الذي تعرّض له: "لقد اتخذت السلطات المصرية قراراً تعسفياً بمنع الطلاب القطريين من الالتحاق بجامعاتها. وعدم السماح بدخول الدولة إلا بفيزا أمنية وهذا ما أثر علينا وسبب لنا صدمة نفسية وخسائر مادية تقارب ١٢ ألف دولار".
- زارت طالبة (ح. م) تحمل الجنسية الفلسطينية وهي من مواليد عام ١٩٩٧م، مقرّ اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC، وذكرت تفاصيل ما تعرّضت له من حرمان للتعليم في ظل قرار قطع العلاقات مع دولة قطر: "أنا أدرس في جامعة القاهرة للتعليم المفتوح، أكملت سنة ونصف وتوقفت دراستي بسبب الحصار ومرت إلى الآن خمسة أشهر ولم تستجب جامعة القاهرة لمطالبنا أو لحقوقنا".
- الطالب (ع. ح) قطري الجنسية، مواليد عام ١٩٨٢م، يشكي الانتهاك الذي وقع عليه جراء الحصار على دولة قطر من قبل جمهورية مصر، قائلاً للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC في شكواه: "أنا طالب في جامعة القاهرة بمصر في كلية الحقوق سنة رابعة، متضرر من الحصار الحاصل على دولة قطر حيث لم يتسنى لي إكمال دراستي في جامعة القاهرة".

تاء: التوقف عن العمل:



رسم بياني يوضح نسب ارتفاع احصائية الانتهاكات في حق العمل من شهر يونيو وحتى نوفمبر ٢٠١٧ لم تتوقف الانتهاكات والممارسات اللاإنسانية التي ترتكبها دول الحصار بحق المواطنين القطريين أو المقيمين على أرضها عند حد ما، بل امتدت لكافة المجالات والأصعدة ومن ضمنها الحق في العمل. ويعد الحق في العمل من أهم الحقوق الاقتصادية والاجتماعية؛ فهو من الحقوق الاقتصادية، لأنه يؤمن الفرد مادياً واقتصادياً ويوفر له متطلبات معيشته. وهو من الحقوق الاجتماعية لارتباطه الوثيق بالمجتمع.

وهذا الانتهاك أثر سلباً على قطاع الأعمال ، نظراً لتشابك المصالح التجارية والعمالة ، كما ترتب على قرارات دول الحصار فقدان مئات الأشخاص لوظائفهم مما أثر على معيشتهم وعلى وضع أسرهم ، ومازالت التداعيات على هذا القطاع تتوالى بشكل مستمر ، فقد أوقفت البلدان وعلى نحو مفاجئ؛ -بهدف إحداث أكبر ضرر ممكن- جميع القوافل التجارية ، لكن الأخطر أن هناك عائلات بأكملها تعتمد على مهنة النُّقل بين البلدان الخليجية ، وقد انقطع مصدر عيشها الوحيد ، ولم تُبادر أيُّ من الدول الثلاث بتعويض هؤلاء أو إيجاد بدائل لهم .

إضافة إلى ذلك فإن هناك عدداً كبيراً من المواطنين والمقيمين الموظفين في شركات عامة أو خاصة ، أو حكومية ، كانوا يعملون ويتنقلون بحرية بين تلك البلدان وقد قطع مصدر دخلهم ، وأصبحوا عاطلين عن العمل ، دون أية تعويضات من الدول الثلاث التي قامت بالحصار .

وقد سجلت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC ما لا يقل عن ١٠٩ استمارة ، لأشخاص حُرِّموا من متابعة أعمالهم جراء هذه القرارات التعسفية . منهم ٦٦ في المملكة العربية السعودية ، و ٦ في دولة الإمارات ، و ٣٧ في مملكة البحرين .

• السيدة (ج . ص) إماراتية الجنسية من مواليد عام ١٩٧٧ و تعرضت لانتهاك حقها في العمل ، ذكرت للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC عند زيارتها قائلة: " أنا مقيمة في الدوحة وأعمل فيها ، وأبنائي من مواليد دولة قطر ، وزوجي بحريني الجنسية ويعمل في قطر أيضاً . ولا نستطيع العودة بسبب القرارات المفروضة علينا جراء الحصار على دولة قطر ، ولأن مصدر رزقنا هنا" .

• السيد (ي . أ) وهو بحريني الجنسية من مواليد عام ١٩٨٦ تحدث للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC عن ما تعرض له من انتهاك حيث قال: "أنا مواطن بحريني مقيم في دولة قطر لمدة عشر سنوات مع عائلتي وطفلتي حديثه الولادة ، وأعمل هنا ، ولا أستطيع ترك عملي وعائلتي بسبب القرارات الصادرة من دولتي جراء حصار دولة قطر" .

• أعرب السيد (ف . ع) من مواليد ١٩٩٦ ، سعودي الجنسية للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC عن قلقه وأسفه الشديدين من ما حدث له من انتهاك ذاكرة الآتي: " أنا من مواليد دولة قطر وسعودي الجنسية وأمي قطرية ، مقيم وموظف في دولة قطر ، وقرارات دولتي بمغادرة قطر سوف تؤثر على عملي وكوني أعيش مع والدي" .

تاء: انتهاك حرية الرأي والتعبير:

لابدَّ بداية من التأكيد على أن اللجنة الوطنية القطرية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC ليس من اختصاصها تسجيل انتهاكات حرية الرأي والتعبير لدول الحصار الثلاث ومصر ، ونحن نُسجِّل فقط ما تعرَّض له مواطنو تلك الدول من انتهاكات وعقوبات ، وصلت إلى حدود غير مسبوقه كتجريم التعاطف عبر وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي ، بل وإغلاق وحجب وسائل إعلام ممولة من دولة قطر ، بما فيها القنوات الرياضية والتي بالتأكيد لا تبثُّ نشرات أو برامج إخبارية أو سياسية ، وهذا مؤشر عن الهاوية التي سقطت فيها حرية الرأي والتعبير لدول الحصار الثلاث ومصر .

لقد سنَّت دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة عقوبات تصل إلى السجن ما بين ٣ - ١٥ عاماً وغرامة مالية تصل إلى ٥٠٠ ألف درهم لمجرد التعاطف مع دولة قطر ، ولو بالكلمة أو الإعجاب أو التغريد على صفحات التواصل الاجتماعي ، في تهديد غير مسبوق لحرية التعبير ، تلتها وزارة الداخلية البحرينية حيث هدَّدت بالسجن خمس سنوات ، أما المملكة العربية السعودية فقد اعتبرت ذلك جريمة جنائية من جرائم الإنترنت ، وعاقبت عليها بعقوبة تصل إلى السجن ٥ سنوات وغرامة مالية تصل إلى ٣ ملايين ريال سعودي .

إنَّ هذه الإجراءات بالغة الشدة والقسوة تُشير إلى ضعف حجة ومشروعية قرار الحصار من قبل تلك الدول الثلاث ، ويعبر عن خشية سلطات تلك الدول من حرية المواطنين في التعبير عن رأي يُخالف إرادتها ، وهذا

مخالف بشكل صارخ للعديد من الإعلانات والمواثيق الدولية والإقليمية كما سيرد في فقرة التوصيف القانوني . وفي المجال الإعلامي وحده سجلت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC ١٠٣ حالات لإعلاميين من مواطني البلدان الثلاثة، والذين كانوا يعملون في عدد من وسائل الإعلام المرئي الموجودة في دولة قطر، تعرضوا جميعاً لأنواع مختلفة من الانتهاكات، من بينها الضغط عليهم بهدف إجبارهم على تقديم استقالتهم، وبناءً على هذا الضغط اضطر ١٠ إعلاميين منهم للرضوخ، وقدموا مجبرين استقالاتهم، وبالتالي فقدوا أعمالهم ومصدر رزقهم، وما زالت هناك ضغوطات كبيرة تمارس على كل من لم يُقدم استقالته، وفي هذا التصرف انتهاك صارخ لحرية الصحافة، والعمل، والإقامة، والرأي، في آن واحد .

ومما يجب ذكره أيضاً قيام دول الحصار بحجب القنوات القطرية سواءً كانت هذه القنوات حكومية أو خاصة، وهذا ما أتى في قرارات حكومات دول الحصار منوهةً الجميع إلى حذف قنوات دولة قطر وفرض غرامة مالية قدرها ١٠٠ ألف ريال لمن يخالف هذه التوجيهات. ومن ضمن القنوات التي شملها القرار:-

• قناة قطر التلفزيونية .

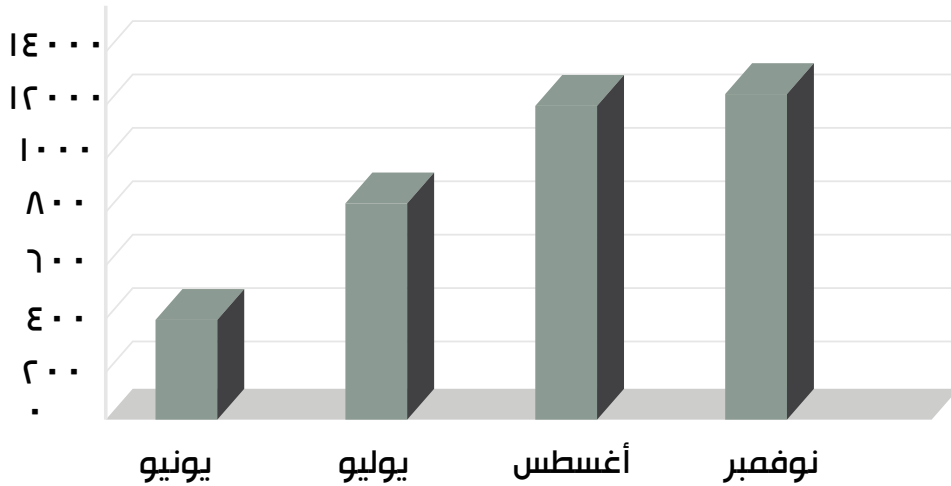
• قناة الريان .

• قناة الكأس .

• شبكة الجزيرة الفضائية .

• قناة بي إن سبورت

جيم: انتهاك الحق في التنقل والإقامة:



رسم بياني يوضح نسب ارتفاع احصائية الانتهاكات في الحرمان من التنقل والإقامة من شهر يونيو وحتى نوفمبر ٢٠١٧

يقصد بهذا الحق أن يتمكن الفرد من التنقل في حدود إقليم دولته أو خارجها مع حرية العودة إليها من دون قيود أو موانع، وهذا الحق قامت بانتهاكه دول الحصار من خلال حصارها الجائر على دولة قطر بمنع الأفراد القطريين أو المقيمين على أرض دولة قطر من التنقل والإقامة في تلك الدول .

حيث يقيم في دولة قطر ١١٣٨٧ مواطناً من الدول الخليجية الثلاث ، ويقيم نحو ١٩٢٧ قترياً في تلك الدول ، وجميع هؤلاء ممن فرض عليهم العودة قسراً إلى أوطانهم تضرروا في نواح مختلفة .

فرضت دول الحصار عقوبات وقرارات بمغادرة بلدانها وعدم العبور من منافذها، وهذا ما تسبب في كثير من الانتهاكات التي سجلتها اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC والتي بلغت ١٣٥٤ حالة انتهاك فيما يتعلق فقط بهذا الحق تحديداً.

كما قامت دول الحصار أيضاً بإغلاق كافة مكاتب الطيران الخاصة بدولة قطر في بلدانها بمجرد إعلان قرار الحصار، ومن دون سابق إنذار لمن يعملون في هذه المكاتب، من غير أخذ أي ممتلكات خاصة بمكاتبهم.

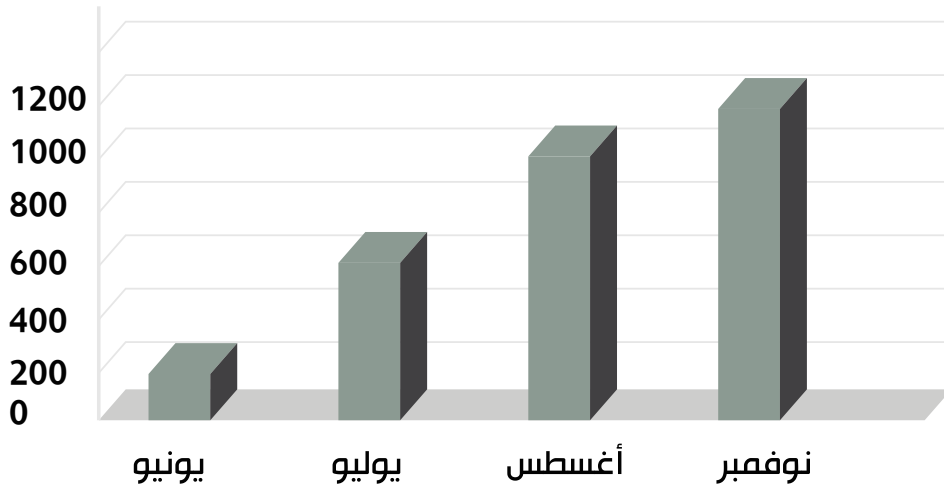
ورغم قيام السلطات السعودية بفتح منفذ سلوى الحدودي جزئياً وبشكل فردي على فترات إلا أنها عادت وأغلقت بشكل كامل و تام حتى أمام الحالات الإنسانية بما فيها المرضى والأسر المشتركة والأشخاص من ذوي الإعاقة، ولا يزال المعبر مغلقاً بشكل كامل حتى تاريخ إعداد هذا التقرير، مما يعد إمعاناً من جانب السلطات السعودية في انتهاك هذا الحق .

• وحسب ما ذكر السيد (ع. ف) مصري الجنسية للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC عندما أدلى بشهادته: "أنه في يوم ١٩/١١/٢٠١٧م قمت بحجز ٥ تذاكر طيران إلى مصر بمبلغ ٤٠٠,٧ ريال وفوجئت بعد ذلك بأن شركة الطيران التي حجزت عليها قامت بوقف الحجوزات وارجاع كافة المبلغ المدفوع وذلك بسبب إقامتي في دولة قطر، وهذا ما منعني وأولادي من السفر".

• كما ذكرت السيدة (إ. ع) أردنية الجنسية للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC الحرمان من التنقل الذي تعرضت له: "عدم القدرة على أداء فريضة العمرة لي ولوالدتي على الرغم من دفع رسم إصدار الفيزا و بسبب إغلاق المعبر البري بين قطر والسعودية توقفت أيضا عملية نقل سيارتي من الأردن الى دولة قطر".

• السيد (ع. م) بحريني الجنسية من مواليد عام ١٩٩٣م زار مقر اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC ذكر تفاصيل الانتهاك الذي تعرض له: "أنا من مواليد دولة قطر ودرست إلى الثانوية فيها، ووالدي رجل أعمال وليس لدينا أي عائلة في مملكة البحرين، ووالدتي أهلها في قطر وأختي متزوجة من قطري فقرار الحصار على دولة قطر والأمر بالعودة إلى مملكة البحرين يعد صعباً علينا بسبب كل هذه الارتباطات".

حاء: انتهاك حق الملكية:



رسم بياني يوضح نسب ارتفاع احصائية الانتهاكات في حق الملكية من شهر يونيو وحتى نوفمبر ٢٠١٧. الحق في الملكية هو أحد الحقوق التي يتمتع بها الفرد المواطن في دولته أو خارجها، ويحق له استعمال أو التصرف بما يملكه دون أي ضغط من أي جانب.

تسببت قوانين الحصار المفاجئة التي فرضتها الدول الثلاث بخسائر فادحة في الأموال والأموال لعشرات

آلاف الأشخاص ، وهذا يُشير إلى استهتار كامل وعدم مبالاة لدى صانع القرار في مراعاة الحقوق الأساسية عند اتخاذ هذه القرارات ، لقد سُلِبَت أموال وأملك نظراً لعدم تمكن أصحابها من السفر إليها ، ولم يعد بمقدور جميع من مُنعوا من السفر استعمال أموالهم أو التصرف بها .

ونظراً للتداخل والتشابك الكبير في الأعمال بين دول الخليج - وهذا الأمر قد لا يكون ملحوظاً لدى كثير من المنظمات والدول - هناك مئات العمال الذين يعملون لدى قطريين وبياشرون أعمالاً في السعودية لم يعد بمقدور مدراءهم قطريي الجنسية دفع رواتبهم؛ نظراً لإيقاف تحويل الأموال ، وبالتالي فقد توقف عملهم .

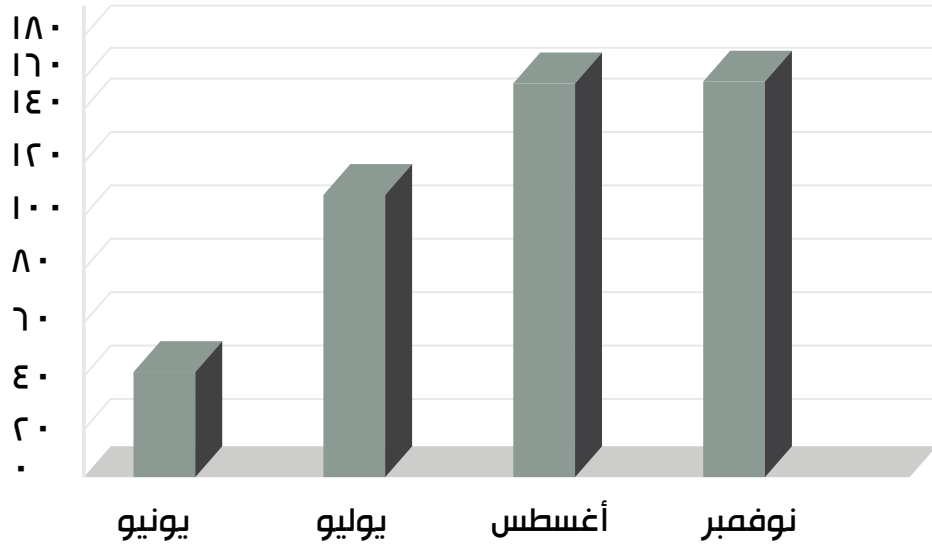
مثال آخر صارخ ، وهو خسارة الممتلكات العقارية التي تم شراؤها بالتقسيط ، من أراض ، أو أبنية أو شقق ، وخاصة في إمارة دبي ، فنظراً لتجميد أرصدة المواطنين القطريين في تلك البلدان ، فقد توقفت عملية سحب الشيكات ، وإذا استمر الحال على ما هو عليه؛ فقد يتسبب ذلك في خسارة العقار بالكامل ، بل قد يؤدي بصاحبه إلى أن يصبح ملاحقاً قانونياً؛ نظراً لعدم سداد ما عليه من أقساط شهرية وذلك دون أدنى ذنب منه .

إضافة إلى كل ما سبق فقد تمادت الدول الثلاث ووصل بها الحد إلى منع الحوالات المادية ، والبريدية لأي من المواطنين أو المقيمين في دولة قطر ، وذلك لإغلاق الباب أمام أية حالة من حالات تدارك الخسائر المادية ، وكل هذا يُشير برأينا إلى أن قرارات دول الحصار الثلاثة ، لم تكن عفوية بل تعمّدت انتهاك الحريات الأساسية ، وهدفت إلى ذلك منذ اللحظات الأولى ، ومما يعزز ذلك عدم اتخاذها أية إجراءات حتى الآن لإزالة الانعكاسات الخطيرة على مواطني الدول الثلاث ومواطني دولة قطر .

كما سجلت اللجنة الوطنية وجود عدد كبير من العمال الذين يحملون إقامة قطرية ويعملون في شركات يمتلكها مواطنون قطريون في تلك الدول ، وبعد فرض إجراءات الحصار مُنع هؤلاء العمال من العودة إلى قطر ، وقد توقفوا عن العمل ، ولا يوجد من يُنفق عليهم . ونورد بعضاً من النماذج ليتضح حجم الانتهاكات ، فعلى سبيل المثال ومما ورد إلينا من الشكاوى:

- ذكرت السيدة (ن . ع) التي تحمل الجنسية القطرية مواليد عام ١٩٧١ للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC تفاصيل ما تعرضت له من انتهاك: "اشترت فيلا في مشروع سكني في دبي وأنا الآن ممنوعة من دخول دبي والتمتع بالملكية الخاصة بي ، مع العلم أنني دفعت الدفعة الأولى من المبلغ وأطالب برد المبلغ لي كاملاً".
- السيد (ع . ه) وهو قطري الجنسية ، مواليد عام ١٩٦٠ م ولديه أملك في المملكة العربية السعودية ، حضر إلى مقر اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC ، وأدلى بشهادته وذكر تفاصيل الانتهاك الذي تعرّض له: "لدي إبل في السعودية وسيارات وأيضاً عمال انتهت إقامتهم وبسبب الحصار على دولة قطر لم أتمكن من الذهاب".
- زارَ السيد (ن . ع) من مواليد ١٩٥٢ قطري الجنسية ، مقر اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC وذكر تفاصيل انتهاك حق الملكية الذي تعرّض له: "يوجد لدي مبلغ وقدره ٢٠٠,٠٠٠ ألف ريال في بنك البحرين الإسلامي ، ولم أستطع سحب المبلغ من البنك وذلك بسبب عدم السماح لنا بدخول مملكة البحرين بعد قرار الحصار على دولة قطر".

خاء: الحرمان من تأدية الشعائر الدينية:



رسم بياني يوضح نسب ارتفاع احصائية الانتهاكات في حق الملكية من شهر يونيو وحتى نوفمبر ٢٠١٧ تقع في المملكة العربية السعودية مدينتا مكة والمدينة المنورة، وهما مدينتان مقدستان بالنسبة لعموم المسلمين، ويقصدونهما بشكل مستمر لأداء مناسك الحج والعمرة.

وقد تسبب قرار الحصار الذي شاركت فيه المملكة العربية السعودية في حرمان قرابة ١,٥ مليون مسلم مقيم في دولة قطر من حقهم في ممارسة شعائرهم الدينية، بما يمثل انتهاكا جسيماً للحق في العبادة.

لم تقم السلطات السعودية باستثناء من يرغب في ممارسة حقه في أداء مناسك الحج والعمرة من إجراءات الحصار الجائر، بل قامت بالزج بالشعائر الدينية في الخلافات السياسية والدبلوماسية و استعملتها كأداة للضغط السياسي في انتهاك صارخ للاتفاقيات الدولية لحقوق الإنسان.

وفي ظل استمرار الحصار والحظر الجوي وإغلاق الحدود البرية إلى جانب الإجراءات التعسفية التي تم اتخاذها من قبل السلطات السعودية بشأن الحق في حرية العبادة وممارسة الشعائر الدينية، بداية من قيامها:

- بمنع المعتمرين القطريين في شهر رمضان الماضي من دخول الأراضي السعودية لأداء مناسك العمرة.
- إجبار الموجودين منهم بالفعل داخل المملكة على سرعة مغادرة الأراضي السعودية دون إتمام تلك المناسك.
- وقف التعامل بالعملة القطرية وبطاقة السحب الآلي القطرية.
- سوء التعامل مع القطريين في منافذ الدخول والخروج البرية والجوية بالمملكة العربية السعودية.
- منع الطائرات التابعة للخطوط الجوية القطرية من النزول بمطارات المملكة العربية السعودية، ما أدى إلى صعوبة عودة المعتمرين القطريين إلى الدوحة عبر السعودية، واضطرارهم للعودة باستخدام خطوط بديلة عن طريق دولة الكويت و سلطنة عُمان دون مراعاة لأصحاب الحالات الإنسانية من المرضى و النساء والأطفال وكبار السن والأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة .

يلاحظ أن كل هذه الإجراءات التعسفية التي تمت خلال شهر رمضان الماضي أدت إلى تخوف المواطن والمقيم من تأدية شعائرهم الدينية إذا سُمح لهم بذلك خشية تكرار ما حدث.

- مروراً بما قامت به تلك السلطات في موسم الحج للعام ٢٠١٧

فمع قدوم موسم الحج للعام ٢٠١٧ وضعت السلطات السعودية المعوقات والعراقيل أمام الراغبين في أداء فريضة الحج "الركن الخامس من أركان الإسلام" من المواطنين القطريين والمقيمين على أرض دولة قطر بما ارتقى

إلى درجة المنع، حيث رفضت التعامل أو التنسيق مع وزارة الأوقاف والشؤون الإسلامية بدولة قطر من أجل تمكين الراغبين في أداء تلك الفريضة.

إن تلك السلطات تتماهى إلى الآن في وضع المعوقات والعراقيل أمام المواطنين القطريين والمقيمين بدولة قطر لأداء المناسك والشعائر الدينية، هذا بالإضافة لما تقدم به أصحاب حملات الحج والعمرة في دولة قطر من شكاوى حول المضايقات والصعوبات التي تعترض أداء مناسك العمرة أمام المقيمين بالدولة من:-

- إغلاق المسار الإلكتروني الخاص بتسجيل الحج والعمرة وعدم السماح بالتسجيل فيه لكافة المعتمرين من دولة قطر.

- إبي جانب منع التحويلات المالية من قبل السلطات في المملكة العربية السعودية بين الحملات القطرية ووكلاء العمرة السعوديين المخولين بمنح تصاريح العمرة.

- استمرار السلطات السعودية في رفض التعامل أو التنسيق مع وزارة الأوقاف والشؤون الإسلامية بدولة قطر.

كل هذا يؤكد بشكل قاطع على استمرار السلطات السعودية في سياسة تسييس الشعائر الدينية. وقد لحقت أضرار وخسائر مالية كبيرة بدولة قطر منذ بداية الحصار بسبب منع تأدية مناسك الحج والعمرة تمثلت في:

- خسائر خاصة بوزارة الأوقاف والشؤون الإسلامية متعلقة بشؤون مناسك الحج والعمرة بلغت ما يقارب ٤,٥٠٠,٠٠٠ ريال سعودي وخسائر أخرى نتجت بسبب فرض الحصار على دولة قطر.

- خسائر مالية جسيمة لحملات الحج والعمرة، وقد تواصلنا مع تسعة حملات وحصلنا منهم على حصيلة خسائرهم لهذا العام:

اسم الحملة	الخسائر المالية
حملة الفرقان	٧ مليون
حملة الركن الخامس	٤ مليون
حملة الحمادي	٢ مليون
حملة لبيك	٦ مليون
حملة الهدى	٢,٧٠٠ مليون
حملة التوبة	٢,٧٠٠ مليون
حملة قطر	٤٠٠ الف ريال
حملة حاتم	٢,٧٠٠ مليون
حملة القدس	٣ مليون
الإجمالي	٣٠,٥٠٠,٠٠٠ مليون ريال قطري

هذا فيما يتعلق بالخسائر والأضرار المادية، وهناك بالقطع أضرار نفسية ومعنوية جسيمة أصابت عموم المسلمين من المواطنين القطريين والمقيمين على أرض دولة قطر، جراء حرمانهم من حقهم في العبادة وممارسة شعائرهم الدينية، وتحمل المملكة العربية السعودية المسؤولية الدينية والأخلاقية والحقوقية والقانونية كاملة جراء ذلك.

وقد رصدت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC منذ بداية الحصار إلى يومنا هذا ١٦٣ حالة انتهاك .
وهنا بعض شهادات الضحايا الذين تعرضوا لهذا الانتهاك:-

- زار السيد (ع . ش) قطري الجنسية مواليد عام ١٩٧٨ م مقرراً اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC وأدلى بشهادته وذكر تفاصيل الانتهاك الذي تعرّض له: " حجزت في أحد الفنادق في مدينة مكة المكرمة- السعودية واشترت تذكار سفر بمبلغ ٢٧,٠٠٠ الف ريال من أجل أداء فريضة العمرة ولكن بسبب القرار منعت من أداء هذه الشعيرة الدينية ، كما رفض الفندق إرجاع مبلغ الحجز الخاص بي".
- وأعربت السيدة (ف . ع) فلسطينية الجنسية، مواليد عام ١٩٥٠م، عن أسفها لعدم قدرتها على أداء فريضة الحج لهذا العام ٢٠١٧ وادلت بشهادتها للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC : "بعد انتظاري خمس سنوات من أجل أداء فريضة الحج، حُرمت أنا وأبنائي من تأدية هذه الفريضة في هذا العام حيث أنني امرأة أرملة ومسننة ومريضة".
- ذكر السيد (ع.ع) الذي يحمل الجنسية القطرية، مواليد عام ١٩٨١م، للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC تفاصيل الانتهاك الذي تعرض له: "قمت بعمل حجوزات في فندق بمكة المكرمة - السعودية- ودفعت مبلغ وقدره ١٠٤,٦٥٠ الف ريال خاص بالحجوزات الفندقية وحجرت تذكار سفر للذهاب للعمرة إلا أنني حرمت من ذلك بسبب قرار الحصار على دولة قطر ومنع مواطنيها من السفر إلى دول الحصار".

دال: التحريض على العنف والكراهية:

رصدت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان مئات حالات خطاب الكراهية وصلت في بعضها حدّ التحريض والدفع باتجاه القيام بأعمال إرهابية تفجيرية في دولة قطر، كما امتدّت في بعض المسلسلات التلفزيونية إلى تلقين الأطفال وتحريضهم على دولة الجوار قطر، كما رصدنا خطاب تمييز عنصري ينزع نحو احتقار المواطن القطري وتغييره، وقد تصاعد هذا الخطاب بشكل عنيف نظراً لانخراط بعض المستشارين الرسميين، وبعض الإعلاميين المعروفين فيه بشكل سافر، بل بلغ الأمر اعتبار مجرد ارتداء قميص نادي برشلونه أو باريس سان جيرمان تعاطفاً، ويعاقب صاحبه لوجود اسم وشعاري الخطوط الجوية القطرية وبنك قطر الوطني على هذه القمصان.

ونستطيع اختصار حالات خطاب الكراهية والتحريض على العنف بالتالي:-

- استخدام خطاب الكراهية عبر الأغاني والمسلسلات والأفلام الوثائقية.
- استخدام مشاهير السوشيال ميديا للإساءة إلى دولة قطر شعباً ورموزاً.
- الإساءة إلى رموز عبر كاريكاتيرات في صحف دول الحصار.
- التحريض على القيام بأعمال تخريبية وإرهابية داخل دولة قطر، والتحريض على ضرب دولة قطر ووسائل إعلامها بالصواريخ.

ولا يخفى أن كل هذا الكم من الضخ الإعلامي والفني للتحريض على الكراهية والعنف سيولد لدى شرائح مختلفة داخل المجتمع من مثقفين وأميين ردود فعل متطرفة قد تصل إلى ارتكاب أفعال إجرامية ليس فقط بحق المواطنين القطريين، بل قد تتولد ردود فعل من المجتمع القطري تجاه مجتمعات تلك الدول الثلاث و جمهورية مصر؛ وهذا ما يهدد السلم والأمن والاستقرار في المنطقة بأكملها، ونحن في اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC قد سجلنا أسماء وصفات كل من حرّض على العنف والكراهية ممن تمكن باحثونا من متابعتهم، ونحملهم المسؤولية القانونية عن أية حادثة عنف عنصري إرهابي تُصيب أي مواطن قطري، أو أيّاً من مواطني الدول الثلاث و مصر.

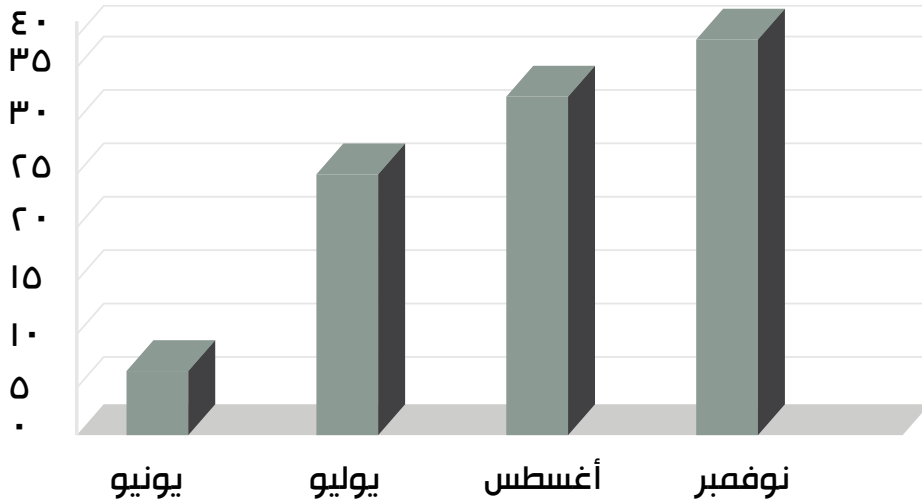
يُجرّم القانون الدولي بشكل واضح خطاب الكراهية والعنف كما ورد في المادة ٢٠ من العهد الدولي الخاص

بالحقوق المدنية والسياسية، وأيضاً المادة ٤ من الاتفاقية الدولية للقضاء على جميع أشكال التمييز العنصري، حيث يحظر أية دعوة إلى الكراهية القومية أو العنصرية أو الدينية، ويعتبرها تحريضاً على العداوة والعنف.

وبسبب التحريض على خطاب العنف والكراهية من قبل دول الحصار تعرض قطريون من دول الحصار لتشويه سياراتهم وقذفهم بالحجارة، وليس ذلك فقط بل نتجت عن ذلك الضغينة والعداوة والتمييز للمواطن القطري من قبل بعض أفراد دول الحصار.

ذال: انتهاك الحق في الصحة، خاصة النساء والأطفال وذوي

الإعاقة:



رسم بياني يوضح نسب ارتفاع احصائية الانتهاكات في الحق في الصحة من شهر يونيو وحتى نوفمبر ٢٠١٧

تضرر مئات الأشخاص المرضى من دول الحصار الثلاث ممن كانوا يتعالجون داخل المشافي في دولة قطر، بل ومن القطريين الذين كانوا يتلقون العلاج داخل مشافي تلك الدول، حيث طلبت مغادرة المواطنين دون أي استثناء أو تمييز لحالات مرضية أو فئة كالنساء الحوامل، أو الأطفال وخصوصاً الرضع، أو ذوي الإعاقة، وذلك يظهر دون أدنى شك مدى الاستهتار الصارخ لدول الحصار الثلاث بحق مواطنيها المرضى، واستخفافها العميق بأبسط أساسيات حقوق الإنسان، فأبرز أساسيات حق الصحة هو عدم التمييز، فلا ينبغي لدول الحصار الثلاث أن تطرد المرضى القطريين، بناء على خلاف سياسي، فالحق في الصحة منصوص عليه في عدة مواثيق ومعاهدات دولية، كالإعلان العالمي لحقوق الإنسان المادة ٢٥، والعهد الدولي الخاص بالحقوق الاقتصادية والاجتماعية والثقافية المادة ١٢.

• وادلت السيدة (ن . ع) وهي إمارتية الجنسية وأم لابن واحد ويحمل الجنسية القطرية: "لا أستطيع الذهاب إلى الإمارات بسبب الحصار على دولة قطر، والجواز الخاص بي سينتهي بعد شهرين، ولا أستطيع السفر خوفاً من عدم تمكني من العودة إلى قطر حيث أنني أعاني من المرض وأحتاج للعلاج بالخارج وبسبب انتهاء صلاحية جوازي لم استطع الذهاب للعلاج، لأنني أتلقى العلاج في الوقت الحالي في دولة قطر".

• وذكر الشاب (ر . م) الذي يحمل الجنسية القطرية، مواليد عام ١٩٩٤م للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC: " عملت عملية في قرنية العين اليمنى في مملكة البحرين في شهر يناير من هذه السنة والآن أعاني من الآلام في العين إثر انفتاح في خياطة العين في مكان القرنية، وعند مراجعة إحدى المستشفيات في قطر،

أخبروني بضرورة مراجعة الدكتور الذي قام بالعملية في مملكة البحرين ، وبسبب قرار الحصار على دولة قطر لم أتمكن من ذلك وأنا بحاجة لذلك في أسرع وقت لمضاعفة الألام والالتهابات".

• أعربت السيدة (ر. ط) من مواليد ١٩٨٦م قطرية الجنسية للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC عن خوفها لعدم استكمالها للعلاج في مملكة البحرين: "أجريت عملية مسبقة في يناير في مملكة البحرين وأنا بحاجة إلى استكمال الجزء المتبقي في العملية في نفس السنة ، لكنني لم استطع السفر بسبب قطع العلاقات مع دولة قطر".

راء: الحق في التقاضي:

لا شك أن التقاضي والحق في الوصول إلى القضاء هو الوسيلة الشرعية والقانونية لحماية حقوق الإنسان والوقاية من الانتهاكات وعدم تكرارها ، إلى جانب إنصاف الضحايا وفقاً لمبدأ جبر الضرر المنصوص عليه في اتفاقيات حقوق الإنسان وذلك من خلال حق اللجوء إلى التقاضي ، وتوفير كافة السبل والإجراءات لذلك . ونظراً لتبعات الحصار على دولة قطر لم يستطع المواطنون والمقيمون في دولة قطر اللجوء إلى محاكم دول الحصار .

إن ما حدث جراء الحصار الواقع على دولة قطر سبب الكثير من الانتهاكات و المخالفات التي تستوجب اللجوء إلى القضاء المحلي لتلك الدول لمعالجتها و نذكر منها:-

١ . انتهاك الحق في الملكية: هؤلاء لديهم الحق في التقاضي لأن لهم أملاكاً وأعمالاً تجارية بسبب أعمالهم السابقة أو الميراث ، ومنعوا من إتمام إجراءات التقاضي ، أو استكمال مجريات القضايا السابقة التي كانت مرفوعة .

٢ . الحق في التعليم: هؤلاء كانوا يدرسون في دول الحصار فمنهم من دفع رسوم الدراسة ورسوم البقاء في هذه الدول ولم تسترد حقوقه .

٣ . حجوزات الفنادق والطيران التي تمت سابقاً ولم يتمكن الضحايا من استرداد حقوقهم .

وقد رصدت اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC انتهاكات جسيمة للحق في التقاضي ، ومن أبرز أوجه هذا الانتهاك:-

• إعاقة المواطنين القطريين والمقيمين في دولة قطر من ممارسة حقهم في التقاضي أمام محاكم دول الحصار وتحديدًا بدولتي الإمارات والسعودية .

• عدم السماح للمواطنين القطريين والمقيمين من الحضور أمام المحاكم نتيجة منعهم من دخول دول الحصار بما يمثل انتهاكاً لحقهم في التقاضي وما يرتبط به من حقوق كالحق في الدفاع .

• إعاقة وكلائهم القانونيين ووضع الصعوبات أمامهم لمباشرة الدعاوى نيابة عنهم .

• رفض مكاتب المحاماة في دول الحصار في توكيل المتقاضيين القطريين والمقيمين لهم ، و تقاعسها عن متابعة القضايا الموكلة بها بالفعل .

• عدم تنفيذ الأحكام الصادرة لصالح المواطنين القطريين .

• إلغاء الأحكام الصادرة لصالح المواطنين القطريين والمقيمين نتيجة عدم تمكنهم من مباشرة دعاويهم وممارسة حقهم في التقاضي وفي الدفاع .

• ذكر السيد (إ. ع) الذي يحمل الجنسية القطرية ، مواليد عام ١٩٦٤م للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC: "لدي أملاك من أراض وعقارات وسيارات خاصة بي في دولة الإمارات ، ويترتب علي ضرورة متابعة هذه الأملاك والحصول على عوائد مالية ومتابعة اللجان والتنظيمات الإدارية الخاصة بالعقارات ، ولكن

بسبب الحصار ومنع مواطني دولة قطر من دخول دول الحصار سبب لي الأضرار التالية: غرامات وتأخر الانتفاع بالمرافق، تجميد العقارات مما يسبب أضرار مالية كبيرة، خسارة شهرية بما يقارب ٤٠ الف ريال، خسارة تجارية وتنفوق ١٦ مليون درهم إماراتي".

• السيد (ب. ث. أ. م) قطري الجنسية، تقدموا بشكواهم للجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC، "ورثنا من والدنا المتوفى عدة عقارات في دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة (الشارقة) ومازالت العقارات باسم والدنا المتوفى ولم تنتقل الملكية إلى الآن، وتوجد دعوى تنفيذية، كما توجد أيضاً مبالغ قرابة ١٣٣ مليون درهم، علماً بأن العقارات في منطقة الصناعية وبعضها مؤجرة".

خامساً: الاستنتاجات والتوصيف القانوني:

انتهكت حكومات دول الحصار - ولا تزال - عبر قراراتها التعسفية وإجراءاتها غير القانونية عدة قواعد وقوانين ومبادئ رئيسية في القانون الدولي لحقوق الإنسان، حيث انتهكت على نحو واضح عدة مواد في الإعلان العالمي لحقوق الإنسان، ومواد أخرى في كل من العهد الدولي الخاص بالحقوق الاقتصادية والاجتماعية والثقافية، والعهد الدولي الخاص بالحقوق المدنية والسياسية، إضافة إلى مواد في صكوك أخرى أبرزها:

الميثاق العربي لحقوق الإنسان، وإعلان حقوق الإنسان لمجلس التعاون لدول الخليج العربية، والاتفاقية الاقتصادية بين دول مجلس التعاون الخليجي.

كما انتهكت دول الحصار اتفاقية شيكاغو بحظر حركة الطيران المدني القطري فوق اقاليمها دون أي مسوغ أو ضرورة حربية أو أسباب تتعلق بالأمن العام.

المواد التي قامت الدول الخليجية الثلاث بانتهاكها:

أولاً: الإعلان العالمي لحقوق الإنسان:

(المادة ٢، المادة ٥، المادة ٧، المادة ٨، المادة ٩، المادة ١٠، المادة ١٢، المادة ١٣، المادة ١٩، المادة ٢٣، المادة ٢٥، المادة ٢٦).

ثانياً: العهد الدولي الخاص بالحقوق المدنية والسياسية:

الجزء الثاني (المادة ٢)، الجزء الثالث (المادة ٩، المادة ١٢، المادة ١٣، المادة ١٤، المادة ٢٠، المادة ٢٣، المادة ٢٤)

ثالثاً: العهد الدولي الخاص بالحقوق الاقتصادية والاجتماعية:

الجزء الثالث (المادة ٦، المادة ١٠، المادة ١٢، المادة ١٣).

رابعاً: الاتفاقية الدولية للقضاء على جميع أشكال التمييز العنصري:

(المادة ٤)

خامساً: الميثاق العربي لحقوق الإنسان:

المادة (٣)

١ . تتعهد كل دولة طرف في هذا الميثاق بأن تكفل لكل شخص خاضع لولايتها حقّ التمتع بالحقوق والحريات المنصوص عليها في هذا الميثاق من دون تمييز بسبب العرق أو اللون أو الجنس أو اللغة أو المعتقد الديني أو الرأي أو الفكر أو الأصل الوطني أو الاجتماعي أو الثروة أو الميلاد أو الإعاقة البدنية أو العقلية .

المادة (٨)

١ . يحظر تعذيب أي شخص بدياً أو نفسياً أو معاملته معاملة قاسية أو مُهينة أو حاطة بالكرامة أو غير إنسانية .

المادة (١١)

جميع الأشخاص متساوون أمام القانون ولهم الحق في التمتع بحمايته دون تمييز

المادة (١٢)

جميع الأشخاص متساوون أمام القضاء . وتضمن الدول الأطراف استقلال القضاء وحماية القضاة من أي تدخل أو ضغوط أو تهديدات . كما تضمن حق التقاضي بدرجاته لكل شخص خاضع لولايتها .

المادة (١٣)

١ . لكل شخص الحق في محاكمة عادلة تتوفر فيها ضمانات كافية وتجريها محكمة مختصة ومستقلة ونزيهة ومنشأة سابقاً بحكم القانون ، وذلك في مواجهة أية تهمة جزائية توجه إليه أو للبت في حقوقه أو التزاماته ، وتكفل كل دولة طرف لغير القادرين مالياً الإعانة العادلة للدفاع عن حقوقهم .

٢ . تكون المحاكمة علنية إلا في حالات استثنائية تقتضيها مصلحة العدالة في مجتمع يحترم الحريات وحقوق الإنسان .

المادة (٢٦)

١ . لكل شخص يوجد بشكل قانوني على إقليم دولة طرف حرية التنقل واختيار مكان الإقامة في أية جهة من هذا الإقليم في حدود التشريعات النافذة .

المادة (٣٢)

١ . يضمن هذا الميثاق الحق في الإعلام وحرية الرأي والتعبير وكذلك الحق في استقاء الأنباء والأفكار وتلقيها ونقلها إلى الآخرين بأي وسيلة ودونما اعتبار للحدود الجغرافية .

٢ . تُمارَس هذه الحقوق والحريات في إطار المقومات الأساسية للمجتمع ولا تخضع إلا للقيود التي يفرضها احترام حقوق الآخرين أو سمعتهم أو حماية الأمن الوطني أو النظام العام أو الصحة العامة أو الآداب العامة .

المادة (٣٣)

١ . الأسرة هي الوحدة الطبيعية والأساسية للمجتمع . والزواج بين الرجل والمرأة أساس تكوينها وللرجل والمرأة ابتداء من بلوغ سن الزواج حق التزوج وتأسيس أسرة وفق شروط وأركان الزواج ، ولا ينعقد الزواج إلا برضا الطرفين رضاً كاملاً لا إكراه فيه وينظم التشريع النافذ حقوق وواجبات الرجل والمرأة عند انعقاد الزواج وخلال قيامه ولدى انحلاله .

٢ . تكفل الدولة والمجتمع حماية الأسرة وتقوية أواصرها وحماية الأفراد داخلها وحظر مختلف أشكال العنف وإساءة المعاملة بين أعضائها وخصوصاً ضد المرأة والطفل . كما تكفل للأمومة والطفولة والشيخوخة وذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة الحماية والرعاية اللازمين وتكفل أيضاً للناشئين والشباب أكبر فرص التنمية البدنية والعقلية .

٣. تتخذ الدول الأطراف كل التدابير التشريعية والإدارية والقضائية لضمان حماية الطفل وبقائه ونمائه ورفاهيته في جو من الحرية والكرامة واعتبار مصلحته الفضلى المعيار الأساسي لكل التدابير المتخذة بشأنه في جميع الأحوال وسواء كان معرضاً للانحراف أو جانحاً.

سادساً: إعلان حقوق الإنسان لمجلس التعاون لدول الخليج

العربية:

المادة (٦)

حرية المعتقد وممارسة الشعائر الدينية حق لكل إنسان وفقاً للنظام (القانون) بما لا يخل بالنظام العام والآداب العامة.

المادة (٩)

حرية الرأي والتعبير عنه حق لكل إنسان وممارستها مكفولة بما يتوافق مع الشريعة الإسلامية والنظام العام والأنظمة (القوانين) المنظمة لهذا الشأن.

المادة (١٤)

الأسرة هي الوحدة الطبيعية والأساسية في المجتمع قوامها الرجل والمرأة ويحكمها الدين والأخلاق وحب الوطن، ويحفظ الدين كيانه، ويقوي أو اصرها ويحمي الأمومة والطفولة وأفراد الأسرة من جميع أشكال الإساءة والعنف الأسري وتكفل الدولة والمجتمع حمايتها.

المادة (٢٤)

العمل حق لكل إنسان قادر عليه، وله حرية اختيار نوعه، وفق مقتضيات الكرامة والمصلحة العامة، مع ضمان عدالة شروط العمل وحقوق العمال وأصحاب العمل.

المادة (٢٧)

الملكية الخاصة مصونة، فلا يُمنع أحد من التصرف في ملكه إلا في حدود النظام (القانون)، ولا يُنزع من أحد ملكه إلا بسبب المنفعة العامة مقابل تعويض عادل.

المادة (٣٢)

الناس سواسية أمام القضاء وحق التقاضي مكفول لكل إنسان في ظل استقلالية كاملة للقضاء.

سادساً: توصيات اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان:

حُرية المعتقد وممارسة الشعائر الدينية حق لكل إنسان وفقاً للنظام (القانون) بما لا يخل بالنظام العام والآداب

إلى المجتمع الدولي:

التحرُّك العاجل لرفع الحصار، وبذل كل الجهود الممكنة لتخفيف تداعياته على سكان دولة قطر، و مواطني دول الحصار.

إلى الأمم المتحدة والمفوضية السامية لحقوق الإنسان:

لقد قامت المفوضية السامية لحقوق الإنسان بالأمم المتحدة بإنشاء وإرسال بعثة فنية الى الدوحة خلال الفترة من ١٨ الى ٢٣ نوفمبر ٢٠١٧م للوقوف عن قرب على تداعيات الحصار على أوضاع حقوق الإنسان للمواطنين و المقيمين في دولة قطر و بعض مواطني مجلس التعاون الخليجي و عليه نطالب:

أولاً: مخاطبة دول الحصار للكف ومعالجة الانتهاكات التي سببتها القرارات و الإجراءات التعسفية الأحادية الجانب التي إتخذوها وانصاف الضحايا وتعويضهم عن الأضرار المادية والنفسية التي لحقت بهم .

ثانياً: عرض تقارير وبيانات توثق مختلف أنواع الانتهاكات التي طالت أعداداً هائلة، وبشكل خاص فيما يتعلق بتشرُّد العائلات، بما في ذلك تداعياتها المرعبة على النساء والأطفال إثر تفكك الأسر، ومطالبة الدول باحترام الحريات الأساسية للقائمين على أراضيها.

ثالثاً: رفع تقرير مفصل عن انتهاكات حقوق الإنسان إلى مجلس حقوق الإنسان والمقررين الخواص الدول والآليات التعاقدية لمعالجة الانتهاكات و ضمان عدم تكرارها.

إلى مجلس حقوق الإنسان:

- إستصدار قرار و اتخاذ جميع الإجراءات الممكنة في سبيل رفع الحصار، وما نجم عنه من انتهاكات، والمطالبة بتعويض كافة الأضرار التي لحقت بجميع الأفراد.
- المطالبة بإنشاء لجنة لتقصي الحقائق، ومقابلة الضحايا بشكل مباشر.

إلى المقررين الخواص في مجلس حقوق الإنسان:

أولاً: التجاوب السريع مع تقارير اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC وخطابات الضحايا، واستصدار نداءات عاجلة و نداءات مشتركة في هذا الشأن.

ثانياً: مخاطبة حكومات دول الحصار لرفع الإنتهاكات و إنصاف الضحايا

ثالثاً: القيام بزيارات ميدانية لدولة قطر و دول الحصار للوقوف على إنتهاكات حقوق الإنسان من جراء الحصار

رابعاً: تدوين إنتهاكات دول الحصار في التقارير الدورية التي ترفع لمجلس حقوق الإنسان

إلى الأمانة العامة لمجلس التعاون لدول الخليج العربية :

دعوة قطاع الشؤون القانونية في الأمانة العامة لمجلس التعاون لدول الخليج العربية و خاصة مكتب حقوق الإنسان بالقطاع، مخاطبة دول الحصار لرفع الإنتهاكات و إنصاف الضحايا و الكف عن إية إجراءات تعسفية جديدة.

إلى دول الحصار:

أولاً: الإلتزام بإحترام التعهدات الواردة في إتفاقيات حقوق الإنسان التي صادقت و إنضمت إليها

ثانياً: الكف عن تلك الانتهاكات ووقفها ومعالجتها وإنصاف الضحايا .

ثالثاً: التجاوب مع تقارير اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان NHRC والتقارير الدولية .

رابعاً: السماح للمنظمات الدولية والبعثات الدولية بزيارات ميدانية للاطلاع على الحالات الإنسانية عن قرب وتحديد المسؤوليات وإنصاف الضحايا .

خامساً: تحييد الملف السياسي عن التأثير على الأوضاع الإنسانية والاجتماعية، وعدم استعماله كورقة ضغط وذلك لمخالفته القانون الدولي، والقانون الدولي لحقوق الإنسان .

إلى الحكومة القطرية:

أولاً: اتخاذ جميع الخطوات الممكنة على المستوى الدولي، وعلى صعيد مجلس الأمن، والمحاكم الدولية ولجان التحكيم، لرفع الحصار عن المواطنين والمقيمين في دولة قطر وإنصاف الضحايا .

ثانياً: دعوة لجنة المطالبة بالتعويضات في تسريع إجراءات التقاضي لإنصاف الضحايا .

ثالثاً: تسهيل إجراءات إدماج الطلبة في الجامعات و المنظومة التعليمية القطرية ومعالجة الحالات الإنسانية لبعض المتضررين .

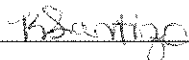


اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
National Human Rights Committee
الدوحة - قطر

STATE OF NEW YORK)
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COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

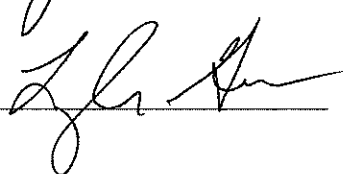
CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the attached translation is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a true and accurate translation from Arabic into English of the attached Fourth General Report on the Violations of Human Rights Arising from the Blockade of the State of Qatar, dated December 5, 2017.



Kristin Santizo, Senior Project Manager
Geotext Translations, Inc.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 7th day of June, 2018.



LYNDA GREEN
NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK
No. 01GR6205401
Qualified in New York County
My Commission Expires 05-11-2021



The official Saudi Press Agency

Joint statement issued by four boycotting States denouncing report of UNHCHR's technical mission on its visit to Qatar

Wednesday 1439/5/14 - 2018/01/31

Geneva, Jumada I 13, 1439, January 30, 2018, SPA -- A joint statement was issued by the missions of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Arab Republic of Egypt accredited to the United Nations in Geneva in response to the content of the report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which visited Doha in November 2017.

The statement reads as follows:

Following the report prepared by the Technical Mission of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on its visit to Qatar from 28 to 6 Rabiul Al Awa 1439H (17 to 24 November 2017), the missions of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Arab Republic of Egypt accredited in Geneva, express their denunciation of the report's methodological failure that included a misleading description of the political crisis, leading to the report's conclusions and observations based on a limited understanding of the general context of the political crisis and historical background as the basis of this crisis goes back to the background of Qatar's support for individuals and entities internationally involved in financing terrorism and supporting its activities, and promoting their extremist ideology, which incites violence and promotes hate speech in the Arab region through Qatari media platforms or funded through Qatari figures.

The boycott of the four countries of Qatar is part of the exercise of their sovereign right to protect and defend their national security. It comes as a natural reaction that is not comparable in size and impact to the support by the Government of Qatar for terrorism in flagrant violation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and International Law, and the resolutions by the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly relevant to the impact of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights.

On the other hand, we affirm that these measures are not aimed at the people of Qatar, with whom we have ties of brotherhood, closeness and conciliation, and even a tribal extension to some of our countries.

The missions of the four countries also express their lack of acceptance of the contents of the report and the results reached by it as it contained many allegations and accusations that are unfounded. It also reflects a clear bias towards one of the parties of the political crisis as it adopted the same Qatar story based on false claims that the government of Qatar is seeking to promote regionally and globally.

The missions of the four countries register their reservation regarding the manner and timing of the leaking of the content of the report by the Qatar National Human Rights Committee during its press conference held in Doha, Qatar, on 8 January 2018. They note that the High Commission did not provide the missions of the four countries with the report until after it was published on Monday 8 January 2018.

They stress that the nature of the technical reports prepared by the High Commissioner for Human Rights at the request of member states aims to transfer experiences to develop the human rights system and address human rights violations in the state itself.

The four countries indicate that it has become clear to them that the main objective of the Qatari government to request a visit by the technical committee of the High Commission of Human Rights comes in the context of the media and political exploitation of the visit and the resulting report, for its lofty objective of transferring the expertise of the commission to the Qatari side.

The four countries deplored the persistence of the Qatari policies based on lack of credibility and lack of goodwill in their use of the United Nations and its specialized international agencies and international reports.

Accordingly, the four States call upon the High Commission to address the methodological and procedural errors of the report which was not in conformity with international standards and the terms of reference of the High Commission for Human Rights, and which is incompatible with the nature of the work of the technical mission which was sent to Qatar in a manner that does not exceed the geographical boundaries of the state requesting technical support.

The four countries emphasize that the government of Qatar's disregard for any serious initiatives to resolve the political crisis and its continued atte

to mislead the international community on the main causes of the crisis through the accusations against the four countries at international organization despite the considerable and valued efforts of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of Kuwait, confirms the lack of genuine and sincere intention in the foreseeable future in Qatar to return relations to their normal course with the countries of the boycott.

--SPA

00:01 LOCAL TIME 21:01 GMT



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PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE STATE OF QATAR TO THE UNITED
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Statement of HE Deputy Prime Minister of Foreign Affairs to the 37th Human Rights Council

25 February 2018



Mr. President,
Mr. High Commissioner,
Excellencies, Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to greet you all and to take part in the current session of the Human Rights Council that we hope will contribute to achieve the expected goals. I am also pleased that my country had the honour of being re-elected to the Human Rights Council and I would like to thank the countries that have placed their confidence in us.

Mr. President,

The world is confronted with serious challenges of proliferation of armed conflicts, growing unrest due to acts of violent extremism, fanaticism and terrorism, and the use of unilateral coercive measures that contravene international law, human rights covenants and violate the principle of peaceful relations among States. All these challenges negatively affect human rights and deprive many individuals and communities of their fundamental rights and freedoms which are stipulated in international human rights instruments.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Despite the growing global interest in the protection and promotion of human rights, it is however regrettable that there are still gross and flagrant violations of these rights in many regions of the world.

I informed the Council at its last session of the violations of human rights caused by the unjust blockade and the unilateral coercive measures imposed on my country that have been confirmed by the recent report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Technical Mission following its visit to the State of Qatar last November. The report objectively and systematically describes the serious human rights violations by the blockading countries against citizens and residents both in the State of Qatar and in the blockading countries. These violations continue to this day.

Based on the State of Qatar's sound legal position and in defense of its legitimate rights, I call from this forum upon the Human Rights Council and all its mechanisms, in particular the Special Procedures Mechanism, to shoulder their responsibilities and mandates in order to put an end to the human rights violations resulting from these unilateral coercive discriminatory measures, to hold those responsible accountable and to work towards compensating the victims.

Mr. President,

It is both very astonishing and surprising that the Quartet that has imposed unilateral coercive measures on my country are members of the main group that introduced the Human Rights Council's resolution on "Human Rights and Unilateral Coercive Measures", and that three of them are currently members of this Council.

This strange conduct in dealing with the Council's resolutions reflects a great contradiction between these States' convictions and policies on the one hand, and between their positions and orientations within the Council on the other hand. This conduct not only calls into question the credibility and seriousness of the Council, but also undermines the council's work and its efforts, which needs to be addressed with all possible measures to preserve the reputation and credibility of this Council.

Excellencies,

The horrific massacres committed by the current Syrian regime targeting the Syrian people in eastern Ghouta in full view of the whole world is a disgrace to humanity. A disgrace that mirrors the depth of gross violations of international law and international humanitarian law and reflects barbaric and brutal practices infringing human rights, at a time when the United Nations mechanisms on international peace and security have shown their inability and laxity in playing their role to protect the Syrians human rights. Therefore, there is a need for *the international community* to take all necessary measures be confront the Syrian regime to implement the Security Council resolutions related to the cease-fire and the protection the Syrian people and to intensify efforts to stop the systematic killing and oppression policy, war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by the Syrian regime and to bring the perpetrators of these heinous crimes to international justice.

We also stress the need for the international community, especially the Security Council, to shoulder its legal and moral responsibilities and to abandon selectivity in order to reach a political settlement of the Syrian crisis in accordance with Geneva Declaration (1) meet the Syrian people's legitimate aspiration for freedom, justice and dignity.

To this end, we call upon the international community to provide all humanitarian assistance to the Syrian people so as to fulfill their urgent needs. The State of Qatar will spare no effort in providing such assistance.

Mr. President,

The Palestinian people have been *languishing under occupation* since the first calamity (Nakba) in 1948. The aggrieved people have been affected by woes and wars under continued occupation. In addition, the occupation violates in itself the values of freedom and peaceful civilized coexistence reached by human civilization. The decades of Israeli occupation have been accompanied by a wide range of illegal practices by the Israeli authorities, which have been in flagrant violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. There is no doubt that these practices constitute a clear violation of international law and relevant resolutions of the Security Council, which obliges Israel to stop these violations and abuses, to use brutal military force against innocent civilians and to lift the siege on

the Gaza Strip.

In this context, we call upon the international community to strive to protect the Palestinian people's right and to achieve the two-state solution agreed upon by the international community in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy, the Arab Peace Initiative and other international reference, thus ending the occupation and establishing a Palestinian State based on the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

With regard to Yemen, we call on all Yemeni parties to engage positively towards achieving genuine national reconciliation to put an end to the conflict, the suffering and the gross violations of the brotherly Yemeni people's rights. We also call upon the international community to exert all efforts to implement the Security Council resolutions relating to Yemen, including resolution 2216 of 2015, to take all measures to address the grave humanitarian humanitarian situation faced by the Yemeni brotherly people, to facilitate the access of humanitarian assistance to various regions in Yemeni and to prevent the use of such humanitarian assistance as a means to achieve political gains by any party.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The protection and promotion of human rights is one of the top priorities for the State of Qatar which continues its efforts in this field at the institutional and legislative levels in accordance with its national Vision 2030 with all its economic, social, political and cultural aspects and dimensions. This Vision aims at achieving a comprehensive and integrated development based on safeguarding human dignity and promoting and protecting human rights in the framework of justice, equality and consolidation of all fundamental freedoms

In this respect, the State of Qatar has taken significant steps and achieved many of the Millennium Development Goals as well as the Sustainable Development Goals. The State of Qatar has also been at the forefront of countries of the region in the human development reports in recent years.

In the context of strengthening popular participation, necessary legislative tools are being prepared for the Shura Council elections (Advisory Council). It is worth mentioning that this session of the Council has seen the participation of Qatari women.

Concerning, workers' rights, legislative and services structure witnessed significant developments to provide a decent life for Qatar's guests who have participated in building its renaissance. According to the statistics of October 2017, about 2.4 million workers have benefited from the unified workers' unified wage protection system. In the area of strategic planning on human rights, the State of Qatar is currently working towards the adoption of the National Human Rights Plan, which will be adopted in accordance with related international standards.

At the regional and international levels, the State of Qatar continues its efforts to promote and protect human rights through its positive engagement with all States and relevant international and regional institutions. Here I point out that the State of Qatar, with all its governmental and non-governmental humanitarian institutions,

continues to provide development and humanitarian assistance to those in need following disasters and conflicts in many part of the world.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, I would like to stress the State of Qatar’s continuing approach based on safeguarding, promoting and protecting human rights, at all domestic, regional and international levels. An approach stemming from its firm belief and conviction in these rights. I would also like to emphasize that the State of Qatar continues its policy aiming at constructive international cooperation, which includes support for this Council to enable it achieve its noble work and it to best discharge its duties.

I thank you for your kind attention.



Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar
27 - 29 avenue du Bouchet
1209 Genève
Genève - Switzerland

+41227988500
geneva@mofa.gov.qa



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Ministry Of Foreign Affairs - Qatar



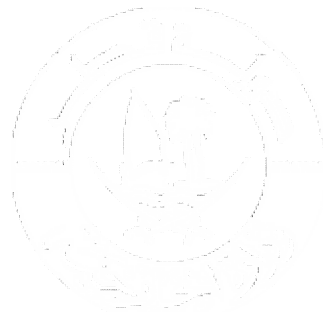
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Diplomatic Institute

PERMANENT MISSION

OF THE STATE OF QATAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE IN GENEVA - SWITZERLAND 



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 Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar
27 - 29 avenue du Bouchet
1209 Genève
Geneva - Switzerland

 +41227988500

 +41227910485

 geneva@mofa.gov.qa

 Twitter

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Arab Quartet responds to Qatar's remarks at the UN Human Rights Council

english.alarabiya.net/en/News/gulf/2018/02/28/Arab-Quartet-responds-to-Qatar-s-remarks-at-the-UN-Human-Rights-Council.html



UAE's Permanent Representative of the to the UN made the right of reply. (Photo courtesy: @UN_HRC)

Staff writer, Al Arabiya English Wednesday, 28 February 2018

Text size [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Egypt issued a joint statement in response to the Foreign Minister of Qatar in his address to the 37th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

The UAE's Permanent Representative of the to the UN, Ambassador Obaid Salem Al Zaabi, delivered a right of reply on behalf of his country, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Egypt in response to remarks made by Qatari FM Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani.

The statement read as follow:

Mr. President,

The Permanent Delegations of the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Kingdom of Bahrain would like to use the right of reply to the statement made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar, who for the second time sought to occupy your esteemed council in the case of a diplomatic crisis they initiated. Their efforts to market this

secondary crisis a major international crisis worthy of attention by the international community should not be ignored. We believe that this small political crisis between our countries must be resolved within the framework of the existing Kuwaiti mediation efforts led by His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. His efforts have received the full support and appreciation of the leadership of our countries and continue to be the best channel for addressing the causes and consequences of this political crisis.

Mr. president,

A report prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at the invitation of Qatar was answered by our countries in a detailed statement to UNHCR. We also expressed the views of our countries on the report in a joint press statement on behalf of the permanent delegations of the four boycotting countries of Qatar. Qataris must choose between being a state that believes in the principle of positive international relations and seeks to engage in a positive relationship with its neighbors, like the rest of the civilized world, or continue to violate international law and international and regional conventions and instruments related to the fight against terrorism, its financing and its supporters. Qatar cannot do the same while acting in another way.

Mr. president,

The four countries would like to emphasize Qatar's role in supporting radical ideologies and terrorist ideas and spreading hate speech and incitement to violence through the media. What our countries want from Qatar is to change their behavior of supporting terrorist organizations and to stop funding them immediately. We also demand that this international forum not make Doha a place where people who justify acts of terrorism are hosted.

Mr. president,

Qatar, which has always spoken of respect for human dignity and the rights of peoples to self-determination, is itself the one that embraces the leaders of the international organization of the Muslim Brotherhood, for whom the world has only seen a dark ideology that has provided humanity nothing more than terrorist organizations such as al-Qaeda, which then resulted in other terrorist groups no less criminal and shadowy like ISIS and Jabhat al-Nusra.

Our States will therefore continue to exercise their sovereign right to boycott the Government of Qatar, guaranteed by international law, in defense of the deliberate harm and damage to our security, interference in our internal affairs and Qatar's lack of respect for the principles of positive international relations.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Last Update: Wednesday, 28 February 2018 KSA 18:20 - GMT 15:20

Permanent Delegation of
The State of Qatar to the
United Nations

Geneva



2018/0075469/9

Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar, Geneva



Permanent Delegation of The State of
Qatar to the United Nations
Geneva

Date: 08/16/1439 AH

Corresponding to: 05/02/2018 CE

Confidential

**H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Mohammed Al Hammadi,
Chief of Staff of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Doha**

Peace be upon you and the mercy of God and His blessings.

**Re: Transmission of the letter from H.E. the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the
Emirati Minister of State for Foreign Affairs**

In reference to your letter No. 71073 (confidential) dated April 25, 2018 CE with respect to the letter of H.E. the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the Emirati Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, I am pleased to inform you that the Permanent Delegation sent the aforementioned letter to the Permanent Mission of the State of The United Arab Emirates to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva on April 27, 2018 by registered mail. According to the Swiss postal system's tracking, the letter was received by the Emirati mission on May 1, 2018. The letter was also sent by fax on May 1, 2018, and confirmation of receipt was received by the fax machine.

**Kindly be informed of the above and act as you deem fit.
Please accept our highest regards,**

[signature]

**Ali Khalfan Al Mansouri
Permanent Delegate**

Attachments:

- Cover letter of the Permanent Mission to the Emirati Mission in Geneva
- A copy of the Swiss postal tracking form
- A copy of fax confirmation of receipt of the letter from the Permanent Delegation by the Emirati mission

C.C: Office of H.E. the Secretary-General

Diplomat in charge: Talal Al Neamah

A.Sh.

**Permanent Delegation of The State of
Qatar to the United Nations
Geneva**



**Permanent Delegation of The State of
Qatar to the United Nations
Geneva**



2018/0030668/5

Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar, Geneva

Date: 08/12/1439 AH

Corresponding to: 04/27/2018 CE

The Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva extends its cordial greetings to the Permanent Mission of the State of United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva.

Kindly find attached the letter addressed on 8/9/1439 AH, corresponding to 04/25/2018 CE, by **H.E. Mr. Soltan Bin Saad Al-Muraikhi**, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar to **H.E. Mr. Anwar Mohammed Gargash**, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of the United Arab Emirates, with respect to:

An invitation to negotiate with respect to the human rights violations arising from the actions taken by the Government of the State of the United Arab Emirates against the State of Qatar and its citizens on June 5, 2017.

The Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva would like to take this opportunity to express its highest regard and respect to the Permanent Mission of the State of United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva.

[stamp:]

Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar, Geneva

[signature]

To the Permanent Mission of the State of United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

Attachments: As stated above

Minister of State For Foreign Affairs



وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية

H.E. Mr. Anwar Gargash,
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs,
The United Arab Emirates,
Abu Dhabi

Date: 08/09/1439 AH

Corresponding to: 04/25/2018 CE

Greetings.

We refer you to the “**Report on the Impact of the Gulf Crisis on Human Rights**” issued by the Technical Mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in December 2017 (the “**OHCHR Report**”) which documents, among other things, human rights violations suffered by nationals of Qatar as a result of coercive measures adopted by the State of the United Arab Emirates on June 5, 2017 and which constitute a breach of its obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which went into effect on January 4, 1969, and to which the State of the United Arab Emirates is a party.

As an example of these coercive measures, the State of the United Arab Emirates has enacted and implemented discriminatory statutes and policies directed at Qatari citizens and companies on the sole basis of their nationality. These actions included, but were not limited to, expelling all Qatari nationals within the borders of the State of the United Arab Emirates, demanding the return of UAE nationals living in Qatar, closing all borders and prohibiting inter-state transport between the UAE and Qatar, criminalizing speech perceived to be in support of Qatar, sponsoring a defamatory media campaign against Qatar and inciting hatred towards Qatar and Qatari nationals, and otherwise endeavoring to sever all personal and professional relationships between Qatari nationals and nationals of the UAE. The UAE’s coercive measures remain in effect to this day.

Minister of State For Foreign Affairs



وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية

Needless to say, the selective measures carried out by the State of the United Arab Emirates as part of these coercive measures against Qatari nationals are irreversible in many cases. There is no doubt that such measures violate the obligations of the UAE under the CERD and its underlying moral principles and the internationally recognized customary principle of nondiscrimination on arbitrary grounds. In particular, the following:

- the prohibition on collective expulsion pursuant to the provisions of Article 2;
- the obligation not to discriminate in the enjoyment of protected fundamental human rights pursuant to Article 5, including the rights to marriage and choice of spouse, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to access public health and medical services, the right to education, ownership, and equal treatment before tribunals;
- the obligation to condemn racial hatred pursuant to Article 4; and
- the obligation to assure effective protection and remedies against acts of racial discrimination pursuant to Article 6.

The UAE took these actions, which unlawfully and without precedent target Qatari nationals and not others on the basis of their nationality, in violation of international law and human rights charters. This requires the State of the United Arab Emirates to eliminate these violations which are in explicit breach of the aforementioned International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

In conclusion, in the event that these violations are not eliminated and given Qatar's concern to protect the interests of Qatari nationals and defend their rights, it is necessary to enter into negotiations in order to resolve these violations and the effects thereof within no more than two weeks from the date of receiving this letter, in accordance with the principles of international law and the principles governing relationships between countries.

Please accept our highest regards,

[signature]

Soltan Bin Saad Al-Muraikhi

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

5/1/2018

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**Permanent Delegation of The State of
 Qatar to the United Nations
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201800306885

Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar, Geneva

**Date: 08/12/1439 AH
 Corresponding to: 04/27/2018 CE**

The Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva extends its cordial greetings to the Permanent Mission of the State of United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva.

Kindly find attached the letter addressed on 8/9/1439 AH, corresponding to 04/25/2018 CE, by H.E. **Mr. Soltan Bin Saad Al-Muraikhi**, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar to H.E. **Mr. Anwar Mohammed Gargash**, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of the United Arab Emirates, with respect to:

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The Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva would like to take this opportunity to express its highest regard and respect to the Permanent Mission of the State of United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva.

[stamp:]

Permanent Delegation of the State of Qatar, Geneva

[signature]

To the Permanent Mission of the State of United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

Attachments: As stated above

27-29, avenue du Boucher – 1209 Geneva
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مدير مكتب وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية
وزارة الخارجية
الدوحة.

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته ،،،

**الموضوع: إرسال رسالة سعادة وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية الموجهة الى وزير الدولة
للشؤون الخارجية الإماراتي**

بالإشارة الى كتابكم رقم 71073 (سري)، المؤرخ 25 ابريل 2018م، بخصوص رسالة سعادة وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية الموجهة الى وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية الإماراتي، يسرني إفادة سعادتكم بأن الوفد الدائم قد قام بإرسال الرسالة المذكورة اعلاه الى البعثة الدائمة لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة والمنظمات الدولية الأخرى بجنيف بتاريخ 27 ابريل 2018م، عن طريق البريد المسجل، حيث تم استلامه من قبل بعثة الامارات بتاريخ 1 مايو 2018م، وذلك بناءً على سجل التعقب البريدي السويسري. بالإضافة الى ذلك تم إرساله ايضا عن طريق الفاكس بتاريخ 1 مايو 2018م، وتم الحصول على تأكيد الاستلام عن طريق جهاز الفاكس.

للتكرم بالاطلاع واتخاذ ما ترونه مناسباً .
وتفضلوا بقبول فائق التقدير والاحترام.


علي خلفان المنصوري
المندوب الدائم

المرفقات :

- كتاب تغطية الوفد الدائم الى بعثة الامارات بجنيف
- نسخة من التعقب البريدي السويسري.
- نسخة من تأكيد جهاز الفاكس باستلام بعثة الامارات رسالة الوفد الدائم.

نسخة: مكتب سعادة الأمين العام

الدبلوماسي المسؤول: طلال النعمه

أش



2018/0030668/5

الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر / جنيف

التاريخ: ١٤٣٩/٠٨/١٢ هـ

الموافق: ٢٠١٨/٠٤/٢٧ م

يهدي الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة والمنظمات الدولية بجنيف
أطيب تحياته إلى البعثة الدائمة لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة
والمنظمات الدولية الأخرى في جنيف،

ويتشرف أن يرفق طيه، الرسالة الموجهة بتاريخ ١٤٣٩/٨/٩ هـ، الموافق
٢٠١٨/٤/٢٥ م، من **سعادة السيد / سلطان بن سعد المريخي**، وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية
بدولة قطر، إلى **سعادة السيد / أنور قرقاش**، وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية، بدولة الإمارات
العربية المتحدة، بشأن:

الدعوة للتفاوض بشأن انتهاكات حقوق الإنسان المترتبة على الاجراءات التي
اتخذتها حكومة دولة الامارات العربية المتحدة ضد دولة قطر ومواطنيها بتاريخ ٥ يونيو
٢٠١٧م.

ويغتنم الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة والمنظمات الدولية
بجنيف هذه المناسبة ليعرب للبعثة الدائمة لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة
والمنظمات الدولية الأخرى في جنيف عن فائق تقديره واحترامه.



إلى للبعثة الدائمة لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة والمنظمات
الدولية الأخرى في جنيف

مرفقات: كما مذكور أعلاه.

Minister of State For Foreign Affairs



وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية

التاريخ: 1439/08/09 هـ

الموافق: 2018/04/25 م

المحترم

سعادة السيد / أنور قرقاش
وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية
الامارات العربية المتحدة
أبو ظبي.

تحية طيبة وبعد ،،،

نود الإشارة إلى "التقرير المعني بتأثير أزمة الخليج على حقوق الإنسان" والصادر عن البعثة الفنية للمفوضية السامية لحقوق الإنسان بالأمم المتحدة، في ديسمبر 2017 ("تقرير المفوضية السامية لحقوق الإنسان"). والذي يوثق انتهاكات حقوق الإنسان التي تعرض لها مواطنو دولة قطر، وضمن أمور أخرى، نتيجة للتدابير القسرية التي اتخذتها دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة، في الخامس من يونيو 2017، والتي تشكل إخلالاً بالتزاماتها بموجب الاتفاقية الدولية للقضاء على جميع أشكال التمييز العنصري والتي دخلت حيز التنفيذ في الرابع من يناير 1969، والتي تُعتبر دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة طرفاً فيها.

وكمثال على التدابير القسرية، قامت دولة الإمارات بسن تشريعات، وتنفيذ سياسات تمييزية موجهة ضد المواطنين والشركات القطرية بسبب جنسيتهم فقط. وشملت هذه الإجراءات، على سبيل المثال لا الحصر، طرد جميع المواطنين القطريين الموجودين داخل حدود دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة، والمطالبة بعودة مواطني الإمارات الذين يعيشون في قطر، وإغلاق جميع الحدود، ومنع وسائل النقل من التحرك بين الإمارات وقطر، وتجريم الخطاب الذي يعتقد أنه يشكل دعماً لقطر، وتبني حملة إعلامية لتشويه صورة قطر والتحريض على الكراهية ضد قطر والمواطنين القطريين، والعمل على قطع كل العلاقات الشخصية والمهنية بين المواطنين القطريين ومواطني الإمارات. ولا تزال التدابير القسرية المفروضة من قبل الإمارات سارية حتى يومنا هذا.

وغني عن البيان أن الإجراءات الانتقائية التي اتخذتها دولة الإمارات العربية كجزء من هذه الإجراءات القسرية ضد المواطنين القطريين يتعذر في حالات عديدة معالجتها، ولا شك أن هذه الإجراءات تخالف التزامات دولة الإمارات وفقاً للاتفاقية الدولية للقضاء على جميع أشكال التمييز العنصري، والمبادئ الأخلاقية التي تستند إليها، والعرف الدولي الذي يقضي بعدم التمييز المبني على أسس تعسفية، وعلى وجه الخصوص:-

- منع الطرد الجماعي وفقاً لأحكام المادة 2 من الاتفاقية.
- الالتزام بعدم التمييز في التمتع بحقوق الإنسان الأساسية وفقاً لأحكام المادة 5 من الاتفاقية، بما في ذلك حقوق الزواج واختيار الزوج أو الزوجة، وحرية الرأي والتعبير، والحق في الحصول على الخدمات الصحية والطبية العامة، والحق في التعليم، والحق في التملك، والمساواة أمام المحاكم.
- الالتزام بإدانة الكراهية العنصرية وفقاً لأحكام المادة 4 من الاتفاقية.
- الالتزام، على نحو فعال، بضمان معالجة أعمال التمييز العنصري وفقاً لأحكام المادة 6 من الاتفاقية.

وقد استهدفت دولة الإمارات بتملك الإجراءات المواطنين القطريين دون غيرهم وبناء على جنسيتهم، بشكل غير مسبوق، وبالمخالفة لأحكام القانون الدولي ومواثيق حقوق الإنسان؛ الأمر الذي يتعين معه على دولة الإمارات المتحددة إزالة هذه الانتهاكات التي تخالف بشكل صريح أحكام الاتفاقية الدولية للقضاء على جميع أشكال التمييز العنصري، سالفه البيان.

وفي الختام وفي حال عدم إزالة هذه الانتهاكات، وحرصاً من دولة قطر على حماية مصالح مواطنيها والدفاع عن حقوقهم؛ فإنه ينبغي الدخول في مفاوضات لإزالة هذه الانتهاكات وآثارها في موعد لا يتجاوز أسبوعين من تاريخ استلام هذه الرسالة، استناداً إلى مبادئ القانون الدولي والأسس الحاكمة للعلاقات بين الدول.

وتفضلوا سعادتكم بقبول فائق الاحترام ،،،



وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية

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des Nations-Unies à Genève



الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر
لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة
جنيف



2018/0030668/5

الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر / جنيف

التاريخ: ١٤٣٩/٠٨/١٢ هـ
الموافق: ٢٠١٨/٠٤/٢٧ م

يهدى الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة والمنظمات الدولية بجنيف
أطيب تحياته إلى البعثة الدائمة لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة
والمنظمات الدولية الأخرى في جنيف،

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٢٠١٨/٤/٢٥ م، من **سعادة السيد/ سلطان بن سعد المريخي**، وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية
بدولة قطر، إلى **سعادة السيد/ أنور قرقاش**، وزير الدولة للشؤون الخارجية، بدولة الإمارات
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الدعوة للتفاوض بشأن انتهاكات حقوق الإنسان المترتبة على الإجراءات التي
اتخذتها حكومة دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة ضد دولة قطر ومواطنيها بتاريخ ٥ يونيو
٢٠١٧ م.

ويقتّم الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة والمنظمات الدولية
بجنيف هذه المناسبة ليعرب للبعثة الدائمة لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة
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إلى البعثة الدائمة لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة لدى الأمم المتحدة والمنظمات
الدولية الأخرى في جنيف

مرفقات: كما مذكور أعلاه

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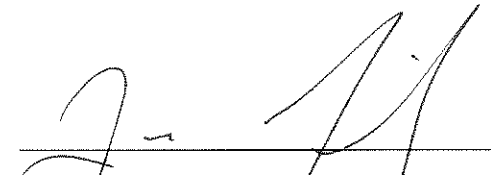
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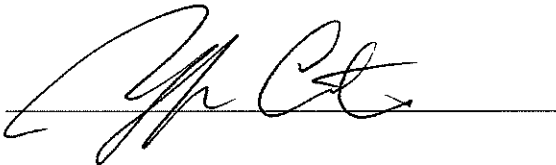
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اللجنة الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان
National Human Rights Committee

A nighttime photograph of a modern cityscape in Doha, Qatar. The image shows several tall, illuminated skyscrapers with glass facades reflecting the city lights. In the foreground, there are palm trees and a road with cars, all lit up by streetlights. The sky is a deep blue, suggesting dusk or dawn.

Fifth General Report Continuation of human rights violations

**A year of the blockade
imposed on Qatar**

Doha - Qatar, June 2018

Fifth General Report
Continuation of human rights violations

A year of the blockade imposed on Qatar

Doha - Qatar 2018

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First: The NHRC, An Overview

The National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) in Qatar is one of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) established in accordance with the Paris Principles adopted by the UN General Assembly. These institutions become members of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) after being accredited by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) of the GANHRI, under the supervision of the National Institutions, Regional Mechanisms and Civil Society Division (NRCS) of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The NHRC was established in 2002 and was



mandated to protect and promote human rights as defined by the Paris Principles. The Committee has held status (A) accreditation since 2010, which is the top rating accredited to a national institution, demonstrating a high level of credibility, independence and compliance with the Paris Principles.

Second: Introduction

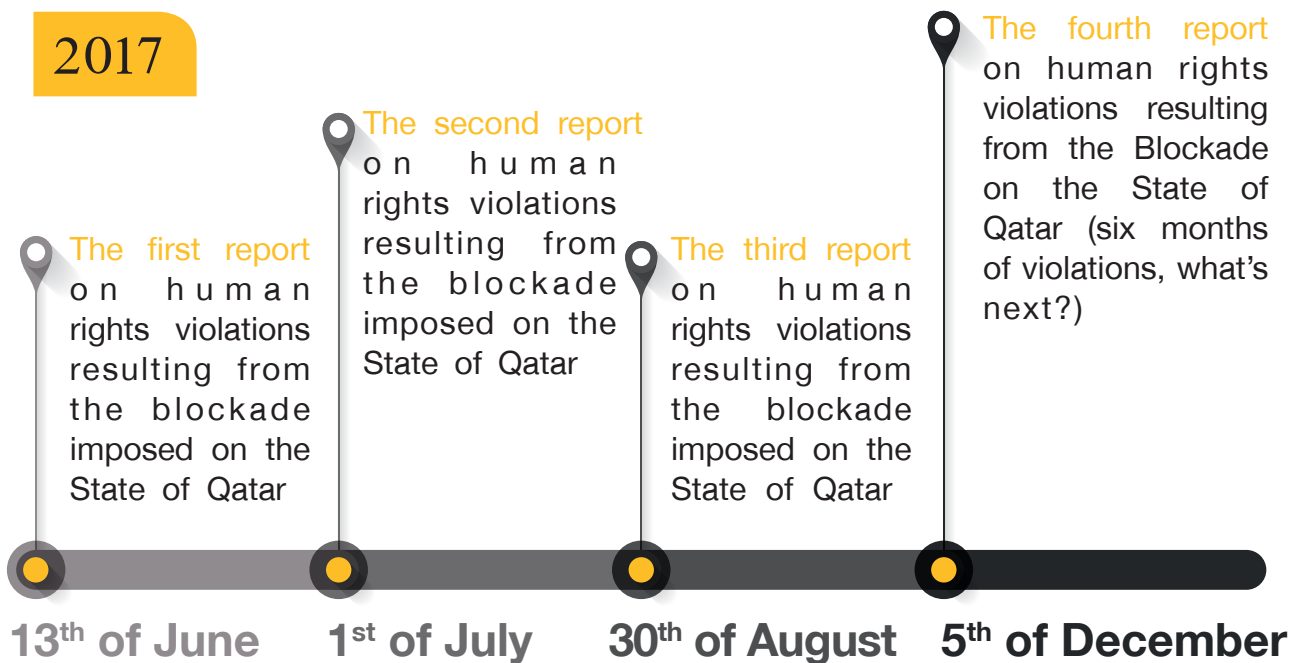
On June 5th, 2017, three Gulf countries - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the Kingdom of Bahrain - in addition to the Arab Republic of Egypt cut diplomatic relations with the State of Qatar. Their joint action occurred without any legal or factual justifications, and without producing evidence of proof of their allegations against the State of Qatar. Their decisions however, did not suffice at the political and diplomatic level, but rather continued to adopt a series of arbitrary measures by the three Gulf States (hereafter referred to as blockading countries). Their decisions included the closure of sea, land and air routes to trade and residents of Qatar. Moreover, they demanded Qatari citizens and residents leave their territories within fourteen days, and for their citizens to leave Qatar within the same deadline. That decision was undertaken with complete disregard of all the repercussions and legal, human rights and humanitarian consequences, constituting a series of grave violations to human rights. In its turn, the Government of Qatar has not taken any reciprocal measures against citizens of KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt working in Qatar. These violations have continued for the entirety of the year, and have advanced into arbitrary detention and forced disappearances of some Qataris.

This report includes cases of violations received by the NHRC, and those documented by the Committee, bringing the total number of documented violations to the tens of thousands, and increasing. To date, complaints are still being received by the NHRC and the Compensation Claims Committee (CCC).

This marks the fifth report issued by the NHRC to document these violations on the occasion of the passage of a full year of the blockade. As per its mandate, the NHRC prepared routine reports on violations to human rights in Qatar as a result of the blockade, which are as follows:

After a year of
the blockade, the
NHRC reported
4105 violations

2017



24th of August, 2017
Report on violation of the right to perform religious



30th of August, 2017
Report on violation of the right to private property



3rd of September, 2017
Report on violation of the right to have access to food and medicine



5th of September, 2017
Report on violation of the right to education

The Committee has worked since the beginning of the blockade to counter the violations to the rights of individuals, reduce their negative impact on human rights, and seek redress and compensation for victims of these violations. We have both hosted and been received by several international organizations and human rights bodies such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and UN missions, as well as parliamentary delegations - including the Greek, British, Italian, Canadian, German and European parliament, and the Tom Lantos Committee in the U.S. Congress.

The report addresses testimonies made by victims whose basic rights have been violated by the authorities of the three Blockading countries, and includes outlines and details of the violations to which they are exposed to. We also refer to urgent appeals from six United Nations Special Rapporteurs to the KSA, the UAE and Bahrain regarding the human rights violations towards Qatari nationals in the blockading countries as well as the citizens of these States residing in Qatar, that have resulted from the severing of diplomatic ties with Qatar - in particular, the right to family reunification, education, employment, movement and residence, private property, freedom of expression and health care. This is in addition to the urgent appeal by the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief directed at the KSA to ensure Qatari citizens and residents are able exercise their right to religious practice without discrimination ⁽¹⁾.

The NHRC will continue to update this basic report as long as the blockade continues, and the flow of complaints from victims continue to be submitted.

(1) Mr. Felipe González Morales. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Mr. David Kay - the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Dainius P. Pranas. The Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. M. Mutuma Rutere, Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Ms. Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism, Mme Koumbou Boly Barry, Special Rapporteur on the right to education. Mr. Ahmed Shahid, Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief.



Third: Executive Summary

This report is issued on the occasion of the first anniversary of the blockade on the State of Qatar. It documents the human rights violations that have been committed following the decision of the three Gulf States of Saudi Arabia, the Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates, as well as Egypt, to sever diplomatic ties with the State of Qatar on the 5th of June 2017. The report describes the relevant legal aspects, conclusions and recommendations to all parties concerned.

Thousands of families have been exposed to dispersal due to the closure of crossings and borders and banning direct flights and preventing Qataris from entering these countries and their citizens from entering Qatar. Part IV of the present report includes violations relating to dispersion of families, especially women, children and persons with disabilities. This is in addition to violations of the right to education, work, health and property, movement, and litigation and the right to perform religious rites, and incitement to violence, hatred and violation of freedom of opinion and expression.

These arbitrary decisions soon resulted in the denial of students from completing their education from universities in the blockading countries, preventing individuals from completing and receiving their treatment in hospitals there, in addition to material losses incurred by owners of property, which resulted from their inability to access and dispose of their property. This is in addition to the use of religious and media discourse to disseminate a culture of hatred and violence, which led to that Qatari citizens being assaulted. They have been subjected to cruel and degrading treatment by authorities in the blockading countries, and recently these violations have escalated into arbitrary detention and enforced disappearances since Saudi authorities arrested Qataris in violation of all international covenants and norms of international human rights instruments.

This report documents information referred to in testimonies of victims and those affected by the blockade. It further points to recognition by the blockading countries of the occurrence of these violations through the formation of committees to address the humanitarian cases of mixed families and other statements - however according to international organisations and reports despite the formation of these alleged committees and the allocation of telephone numbers to receive communications, this procedure has been deemed highly ineffective.

The report of the technical mission of the OHCHR on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights concludes that the unilateral measures, consisting of severe restrictions of movement, termination and disruption of trade, financial and investment flows, as well as suspension of social and cultural exchanges imposed on the State of Qatar, immediately translated into actions applying to nationals and residents of Qatar, including citizens of KSA, UAE and Bahrain. Their report also examines the considerable economic impact of the crisis deeming it equitable to that of economic warfare with the erosion of investor confidence and significant financial losses for the State, companies and individuals.

Several reports by Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have highlighted the negative effects on families, the right to education, the right to health care, the right to freedom of worship and exercising of religious rites, and the impact of the blockade on non-Gulf migrant workers, particularly those coming from South Asia. Amnesty International describes the conditions imposed on people as in total disregard for human dignity.

Part V of the present report constitutes the legal description of the violations committed in accordance to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, as well as the Arab Charter on Human Rights Human rights, the Declaration on the Human Rights of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the economic agreement amongst GCC countries and other international human rights conventions. This is in addition to the violation of the Chicago Convention of Qatari civil aviation without any military necessity or reasons related to public security.

Part VI refers to the findings of the report, the most prominent of which is the continued suffering of individuals, that the measures taken constitute as discriminatory collective punishment against individuals, and describes the failure of the blockading countries to stop violations and damages suffered by those affected.

The technical mission report of the OHCHR reveals the volume of violations of human rights caused by the blockade, as well as the necessity of the responsiveness of international mechanisms and organizations and their engagement to protect and promote human rights. This is while noting the disappointing failure of all regional mechanisms meant to protect human rights, including the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf and the Arab Parliament from carrying out their role in lifting violations.

The report concludes in Part VII with recommendations to all parties concerned, primarily to the International Community, demanding urgent action to lift the blockade and exert all possible efforts to mitigate its repercussions on the people of Qatar, citizens of the blockading countries and all those impacted. It demands that the Kuwaiti mediation works to alleviate the suffering of the victims and resolve the human rights situation, and from the civil society organizations in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries to intensify efforts and joint cooperation to resolve the repercussions of the crisis on the humanitarian situation. Eight recommendations are presented to the United Nations to take serious steps that would obligate the blockading countries to reverse their arbitrary decisions. Furthermore, four recommendations are outlined for the Human Rights Council, including the establishment of a fact-finding commission, direct interviews with victims and mechanism for compensation. In the same context, the report presents recommendations to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the blockading countries urging that they stop leveraging the humanitarian and social situation to advance their political objectives, in violation of international human rights law. This is in addition to allowing access to the technical mission of the OHCHR and visits by special rapporteurs and international human rights organizations, to examine the effects of the measures taken on the citizens of those States and on the citizens and residents Qatar.

The last recommendations in this report are made to the Qatari government, including continuing to call for recourse to the International Court of Justice, arbitration committees and national and international specialized courts, and the need to bring to justice some of the perpetrators of incitement, hate speech and calls for violence and racial discrimination. In addition to inviting the Compensation Claims Committee to continue litigation and international arbitration procedures in order to redress, compensate and indemnify victims.

A close-up photograph of a hand where the skin is painted with the colors of the Qatari flag: maroon, white, and green. The hand is making a peace sign gesture with the index and middle fingers extended. The background is a solid maroon color.

Qatar has not reciprocated with any measures or actions against the countries of the blockade

Fourth: The most serious violations

The following table shows the violations reported by the National Human Rights Committee, amounting to (4105) cases, distributed according to violating country and type of violation. The table includes violations against the citizens of the blockading countries in addition to the Qatari citizens and residents:


Violating State	Education	Property	Family reunion	Movement	Health Care	The practice of religious rites	Work	Residence	Degrading / Derogatory treatment	arbitrary arrest, detention	The extraction of official documents	Enforced disappearance	Total
	66	697	346	770	19	165	67	57	1	1	4	1	2194
	148	458	82	348	4	-	6	4	-	2	-	-	1052
	28	55	218	129	14	-	37	32	-	-	1	-	514
	271	24	-	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	337
diverse	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Total	513	1234	646	1297	37	165	110	93	1	3	5	1	4105

Table (1) All Violations

Violations reported by the National Human Rights Committee, amounting to (4105) cases

Table number (1) shows the latest statistics for violations made against the State of Qatar since the beginning of the blockade, on the 5th of June 2017 until 23 May 2018. The violations include 513 cases of violation of the right to education, 1234 cases violation of the right to property, 646 cases violation of the right to family reunification, 1297 violation of the right to movement. This is in addition to 37 violations of the right to health care, 165 violations of the right to practice religious rites, 110 violations of the right to work, 93 violations of the right to residence, 1 case of degrading treatment, 3 violations of arbitrary detention, 5 violations of the right to obtain official documents, 1 violation of Enforced Disappearances, which totals to (4105) violations.



A: Violation of the right to family reunification

Table (2) shows the number of violations of the right to family reunification since the beginning of the blockade, 5th of June 2017 until 23rd of May 2018, stands at 646 violations (346 from the KSA, 82 from the UAE, 218 from Bahrain).

Measures taken by the blockading countries have not been confined to diplomatic, legal and economic levels, but rather gone beyond that to the severing of relations by preventing the movement of mixed families through placing obstacles to the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar. The demand by the blockading countries that Qatari citizens leave their territories, as well as their citizens leave Qatar created inhumane conditions in flagrant violation of international human rights conventions. This occurred through the forced deportation of families and their dispersion, not stopping at separating children from their parents. The violation of this right has upset the lives of thousands of family members, especially women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and the denial of mothers and fathers to stay with their children.

This violation is one of the most atrocious because it affects and threatens the family unit, disperses it, and threatens the most vulnerable groups in society (women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly) in a alarming manner, causing serious psychological and social implications on broad segments of society.

The formation of committees to handle the humanitarian situations of the mixed families, is in itself a recognition by the authorities of the blocking countries that there are violations that have already affected these families. Despite the formation of these alleged committees and allocation of phone numbers to receive communications, according to the many complaints of the victims and of the statement of the OHCHR on 14 June 2017, this procedure has not been effective enough to deal with all cases.





Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
						
May 23, 2018	The right to family reunification	346	82	218	---	646

Table (2) Violation of the Right to Family Reunification

The high commissioner, prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein, commenting on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on Human Rights on the 14th of June 2017 assured that, «The majority of the measures were broad and non-targeted, making no distinction between the Government of Qatar and its population,” and that the directives issued to address the humanitarian needs of families with joint nationalities, appear “not sufficiently effective to address all cases.” Pursuantly the OHCHR technical mission on the Gulf Crisis’ report on January 8th 2018, noted that according to information received by the team, individuals from Qatar working in KSA, UAE and Bahrain, and / or with business interests in these countries, were forced to return to Qatar, reportedly with no access to their companies and other sources of activity and income since the outbreak of the crisis ⁽²⁾.

On June 9, 2017, Amnesty International condemned the violations resulting from the Blockade imposed on the State of Qatar, and stated that The organization’s researchers have interviewed dozens of people whose human rights have been affected by a series of sweeping measures imposed in an arbitrary manner by the three Gulf countries in their dispute with Qatar”, and that “For potentially thousands of people across the Gulf, the effect of the steps imposed in the wake of this political dispute is suffering, heartbreak and fear,” Stressing that the conditions imposed on people across the Gulf reveal an absolute contempt for human dignity. The Organization described these states as manipulating the lives of thousands of residents in the Gulf, dispersing families, destroying the livelihood of the people and their educational future. Moreover, the effects of the steps which are imposed in the wake of the outbreak of the political conflict have reached heart-rending and shocking limits ⁽³⁾.

In June 12, 2017, Amnesty International confirmed that the measures taken by the three countries (Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain) were vague, inadequate, lacked mechanisms and did not address the human rights situation.

Moreover, Amnesty International confirmed on June 19, 2017 that “Amnesty International has spoken to a number of people who tried to call these hot lines. Their experiences raise serious questions about whether these hot lines are providing effective advice or information. Several people said they had tried in vain for hours or days to get through to the hot lines. Those who got through said officials asked them for minimal details about their cases and told them they would receive a call back, but there had been no follow-up. Amnesty International has rung the hot lines and asked how cases registered were being dealt with,

(2) <http://www.ohchr.org/AR/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21739&LangID=A>

(3) <https://www.amnesty.org/ar/latest/news/2017/06/families-ripped-apart-freedom-of-expression-under-attack-amid-political-dispute-in-gulf>

but officials were not able to provide any information. Some affected families have told Amnesty International that they are too scared to call hot lines and register their presence, or their family's presence, in a "rival" country for fear of reprisal ⁽⁴⁾.

In July 13, 2017, Human Rights Watch reported that "in response to reports of family separations, the countries of the blockade, including Bahrain announced that they would grant exceptions for "humanitarian cases of mixed families" for travel back and forth from Qatar and each country established hotlines. Yet, of the 12 Gulf nationals who said they tried to contact these hotlines, only two managed to get permission to go back and forth. Others said that they did not call because they worried that the three countries would use the hotlines to discover the identities of citizens who remained in Qatar ⁽⁵⁾.

Saudi authorities have opened the border crossing between the State of Qatar at the beginning of the crisis in a narrow and limited manner to humanitarian situations, and without clear criteria. Saudi authorities, however, have later closed the crossing completely as of 19/12/2017 until now, and have not allowed any entry or exit of humanitarian cases. It should be noted that road travel is of priority for low-income families and the elderly who constitute the most affected categories by the closure of the crossing.



(4) <https://www.amnesty.org/ar/latest/news/2017/06/gulf-qatar-dispute-human-dignity-trampled-and-families-facing-uncertainty-as-sinister-deadline-passes>

(5) <https://www.hrw.org/ar/news/2017/07/13/306595>

In the same context, the report of the technical mission of the OHCHR in Qatar (17-24 November 2017) on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 8/1/2018 confirms the gross violations towards mixed families and that most of the cases affected by the current situation remain unresolved. It is likely that the impact of the current crisis will continue for those victims, in particular those who suffer from the family separation and division.

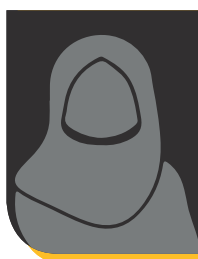
The AFD International Organization has considered that the blockade violates international law and regional and international conventions, charters and the Charter of the United Nations. The report issued on July 25 by the organization pointed out that the step of the blockade is not devoid of humanitarian consequences in the region that is characterized by historical, geographical, cultural, familial ties and links, which have reflected negatively on the citizens. The organization emphasized its concern about those practices in reports condemning what citizens and residents of Qatar have been exposed to whether physically or psychologically, which have affected all the citizens of the countries of the Blockade.

The NHRC has documented complaints of violations of the right to family reunification, and the prohibition of their reunification. These include:



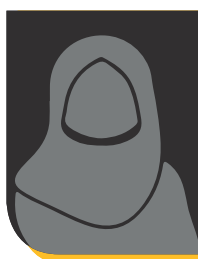
Ms. (T. A.), a Qatari:

Divorced from a citizen of Saudi nationality and have children of Saudi nationality in her custody. He is a resident of the State of Qatar, and since the beginning of the blockade and the closure of the land border by Saudi authorities, the father visits have been cut off to his sons living with their mother. This is in addition to the psychological effects of depriving the children from their father.



Ms. (R. K.), a Qatari:

Married to a citizen of the UAE nationality (R. M.) and have an Emirati daughter born in the State of Qatar. She resides permanently in Qatar while her husband works in the UAE. Since the beginning of the blockade, the father has been prevented from visiting his family. She added that she has not been able to send her daughter to see her father in the UAE because she cannot guarantee her return to the State of Qatar.



Ms. (D. S.), a Qatari:

Is married to a Bahraini citizen (S. A.) and has 3 children. Since the start of the blockade on the state of Qatar, the father's visits to his sons have ceased as well as all ways of communicating with him. She added that she has found it difficult to renew her children's travel documents after the closure of the Bahraini Embassy in the State of Qatar. Furthermore, she has been banned from entering the Kingdom of Bahrain by the Bahraini authorities which hinders her children from continuing their education as well as exposed them to psychological effects due to depriving them of their father.



B: Violation of the right to education

Table (3) shows the number of violations of the right to education since the beginning of the blockade on the 5th of June 2017 until 23rd of May 2018. 513 violations have occurred (66 by the KSA, 148 by the UAE, 28 by the Kingdom of Bahrain, 271 by the Arab Republic of Egypt). The NHRC received complaints from Qatari students studying in the blockading countries. Following the imposition of the Blockade on the state of Qatar, authorities in these states forced the students to leave their territories and they found themselves suddenly deprived of their studies. They have been prevented from attending their final exams, although some of them have only one month remaining until graduation. Moreover, the blockading countries forced their students who are studying in Qatar University to return to their country within 14 days from the date of the announcement of the severing of relations. They also prevented these students from the completion of their studies. Universities in the blockading countries also refused to cooperate with expelled Qatari students according to testimonies documented by the NHRC. There have been no response to any requirement that would facilitate for Qatari students to complete their studies or to even be reimbursed the fees they have paid or to recover their academic documents and transcripts.

Qatari students studying in the Arab republic of Egypt faced difficulties at the beginning of the school year 2017/2018 in obtaining the necessary security clearance to obtain the necessary visa to complete their studies. This resulted in their failure to attend regularly and as such those constraints caused these students to miss the term's examination during the months of September and October 2017. Building on the efforts of the NHRC, through its communication with the head of the Egyptian National Council for Human Rights in this regard, it has urged the Egyptian authorities to lift the procedures that hindered the regularity of students attending their classes. The Egyptian authorities have issued new instructions to grant Qatari students a visa and cancel the previously requested security clearance.





Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
						
May 23, 2018	The right to education	66	148	28	271	513

Table (3) Violation of the Right to Education

The report of the Technical Mission of the OHCHR issued on 8/1/2018 states that the expulsion of Qatari students studying in the UAE, KSA, Bahrain and Egypt have a negative effect on their right to education as Qatari students who are prevented from continuing their studies or passing their examinations.

Amnesty International confirmed in its previous reports that it has met with several Qatari students who are concerned that they will not be able to complete their education in the blockading countries. In the same context, Human Rights Watch's report mentions the violations to the right to education as a result of the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar by the countries of the Blockade.

Orders have been issued to Qatari students in the blockading countries to return immediately to the State of Qatar. The report of the technical mission of the OHCHR states that in most cases these orders have been issued by the university administration. The report of the technical mission reviewed the efforts of Qatar University and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in seeking quick and proper solutions by providing alternatives to the affected students in order to ensure their future.



The NHRC has documented complaints of violations of the right to education by the countries of the Blockade, including:



Ms. (B. M.), a Qatari:

Receives her education at King Faisal University in Al Ahsa in the KSA. She has successfully passed 85 out of 132 credit hours earned according to the study plan approved by the University according to specialization. She has also paid the outstanding tuition fees. Only 47 credit hours are remaining for graduation, After the Saudi authorities have cut ties with the State of Qatar and closed the land port, she has been unable to complete her education.



Mr. (G. H), a Qatari:

Expressed his disappointment to the NHRC for the violation to which he was subjected: «I receive education at my own expenses at the University of Al-Jazira in the UAE in law. I have passed 99 credit hours of study, equivalent to three university years. At the beginning of the blockade, I have been able to return to Qatar and only one year is left for me to complete my studies. I have not been able to accredit the list of subjects that have been received from the university due to the prohibition of dealing with Qataris because of the Blockade and preventing them from entering the UAE. I have also sent an e-mail on 9/8/2017 to the university about the possibility of completing my studies and requesting solutions so that I can continue to receive my education but without a response, which caused me psychological and material damage».



Mr. (H. P.), a Qatari:

Is an M.A. student at the University of Applied Sciences in the Kingdom of Bahrain and has only two subjects left to graduate and submit a research message. Following the Bahraini authorities' decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, he was unable to complete the exams and attend lectures scheduled for the remaining subjects, which badly affected his educational process.

المعلومات الشخصية

بحث

الرجوع إلى القائمة خريطة الموقع المساعدة الخروج

U000 عرض الإيقافات

11 يوليو , 2017 12:13 م

الرجاء ملاحظة وجود بعض الإيقافات السرية و لا يتم عرض الإيقافات السرية ان وجدت.

الإيقافات الإدارية

نوع الإيقاف	من تاريخ	إلى تاريخ	القيمة السبب	المنشئ العمليات المتأثرة
Contact Registration Office	06 يونيو , 2017	31 ديسمبر, 2009	Qatari	التسجيل



C: Violation of the right to work

Table (4) shows the number of violations of the right to education since the beginning of the blockade on the 5th of June 2017 until 23rd of May 2018. 110 violations have been reported (67 by KSA, 6 by the UAE and 37 by Bahrain).

The violations committed by the countries of the Blockade have further extended to deprivation of the right to work, which is one of the most important and fundamental economic and social rights. The business sector has been badly affected by the intertwining of commercial interests and employment. Arbitrary decisions made by the blockading countries resulted in hundreds of unemployed people losing their jobs and businesses. The damage to their livelihoods and their families has been alarming, and the repercussions on the sector continue to fall. There has been serious disruption to the lives of those living off the transport profession between the Gulf States, since none of the blockading countries attempted to compensate or find alternatives for them.

Additionally, a significant number of citizens employed in public, private or government companies in the blockading countries were cut off their source of income, rendering many unemployed without any compensation. Furthermore, a large number of citizens of the blockading countries, the owners of companies in Qatar as well as Qatari investors in the Blockading countries has been forced to close their companies and return to their homeland due to the fear of arbitrary punitive measures imposed by the authorities of the blockading countries against everyone. This caused these investors, traders and businessmen immense losses and physical and psychological damage, and the displacement of labor that has been working in their companies and cutting off of their livelihoods.

The report of the Technical Mission of the OHCHR in the State of Qatar (17-24 November 2017) on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 8/1/2018 indicates that the measures and restrictions imposed by the authorities of the blockading countries constitutes collective punishment against Qatari nationals and residents of the State of Qatar or the countries of the blockade and have permanent effects and consequences of denial of the right to work and to those who have business interests.

Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
						
May 23, 2018	Right to Work	67	6	37	---	110

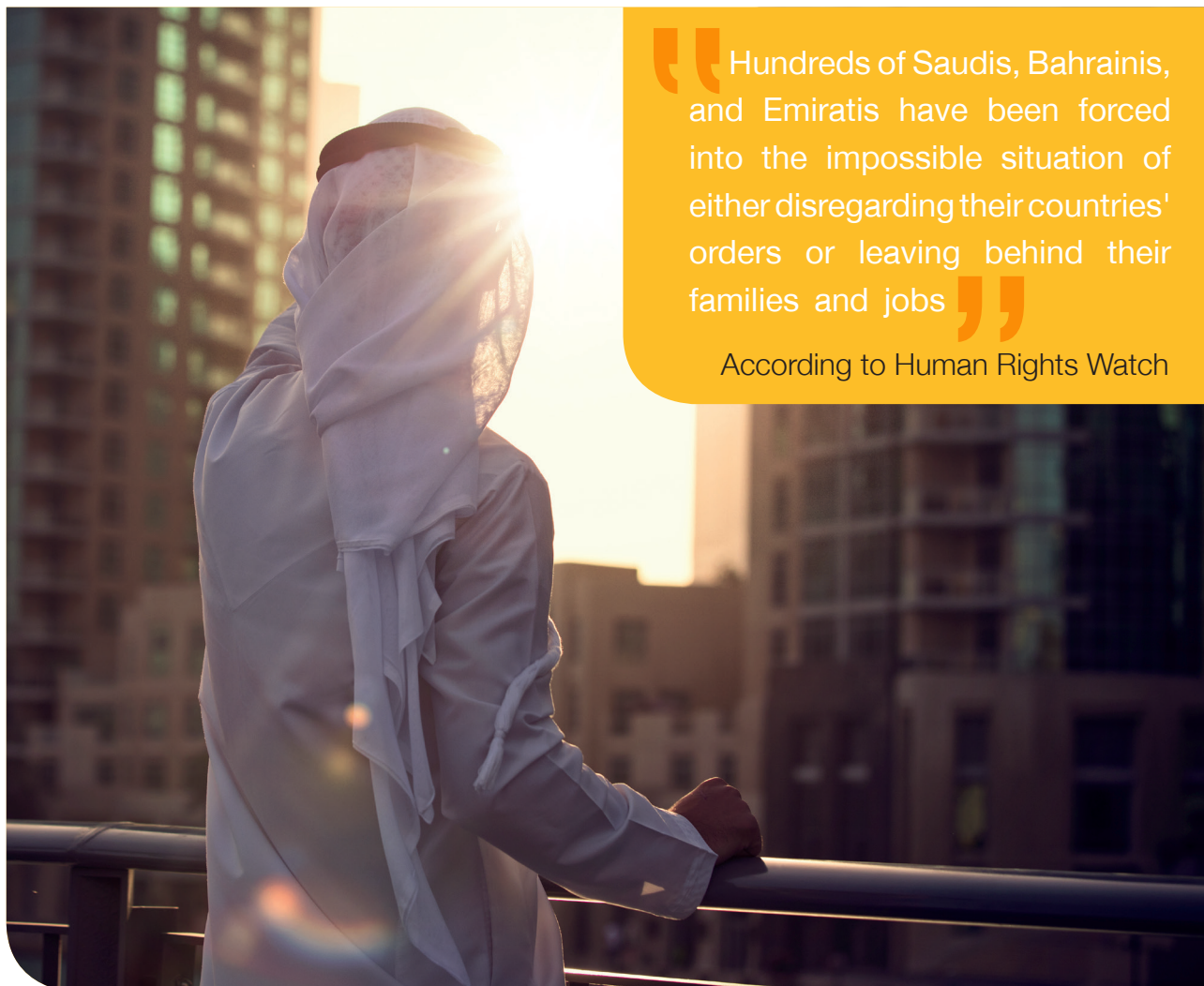
Table (4) Violation of the Right to Work

The report also confirms that most of the cases affected by the current situation remain unresolved. The impact of the current crisis is likely to continue for these victims, in particular those who have suffered loss of their jobs, family separation or those who cannot have access to their assets and property.

Since the beginning of the Gulf crisis, authorities of the blockading countries have issued explicit instructions to their nationals, residents in the State of Qatar to leave their jobs and return to their countries, or be subjected to arbitrary punitive measures, which led many of them to submit to the NHRC of Qatar petitions requesting assistance.

Human Rights Watch pointed out in its previous report that «Hundreds of Saudis, Bahrainis, and Emiratis have been forced into the impossible situation of either disregarding their countries' orders or leaving behind their families and jobs.»

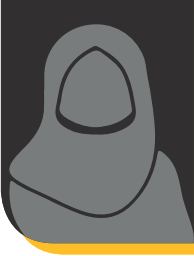
In the same context, the report of Amnesty International on its second visit to the State of Qatar on 28 November 2017, stresses that the sudden restrictions imposed by the countries of the Blockade on the State of Qatar since 5 June 2017 led to serious negative effects on human rights, including the threat directed to maintaining jobs.



“ Hundreds of Saudis, Bahrainis, and Emiratis have been forced into the impossible situation of either disregarding their countries' orders or leaving behind their families and jobs ”

According to Human Rights Watch

The NHRC documented complaints of violations of the right to work committed by the countries of the Blockade. These include:



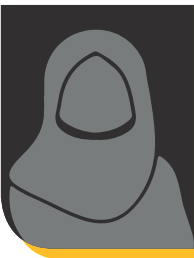
Ms. (F. A.), a Saudi:

Residing and working in the State of Qatar since 2007 as an assistant football coach of Qatari Womens Sport Committee. She received instructions from the Saudi authorities to leave her job and return to the KSA or otherwise be exposed to punitive procedures.



Mr. (Y. A.), a Bahraini:

Residing in the State of Qatar for 10 years with his family and his wife, who works in the Ministry of Health in Qatar. He has a daughter who was born in Qatar and he is unable to get a traffic ticket due to the fact that the Bahraini embassy is closed in Doha and he cannot return to Bahrain because of the Gulf crisis and decisions issued from his country leaving his family, wife and job.



Ms. (H. A.) an Emirati:

Resident of the State of Qatar and her mother and father are of Qatari and Emirati nationalities respectively. She is studying in Qatar and due to the Gulf crisis a decision was taken to instruct all UAE citizens to return to their country. She however, have not done so which would cause her and her mother much harm.



D: the violation of the right to property

Table (5) shows the number of violations of the right to property since the beginning of the blockade on the 5th of June 2017 until 23rd of May 2018. There have been 1234 violations (697 violations by KSA, 458 by UAE, 55 by Bahrain and 24 by Egypt).

It is well known that there is a great deal of overlapping and intertwining between the Gulf States because of tribal and familial ties between, and the many reciprocal concessions granted to the citizens of these States in the field of private property and commercial and economic activities within the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council. Thousands of citizens of Gulf States have homes, factories, commercial companies and other properties in each other's countries. The extent of the damage inflicted on Qataris and other citizens of the Gulf countries is a result of arbitrary measures and decisions that violated all human rights norms and charters.

The sudden blockade resulted in heavy losses of property for thousands of people. Their livelihoods were cut off, destroyed, and their money/property lost because they were unable to travel to them. All those who have been prevented from traveling have been unable to use or dispose of their property.

For example, according to the NHRC complaints:

Hundreds of Qataris have been prevented from traveling to the KSA to retrieve their camels and livestock, many of which have been lost or passed away.

Another example, especially from the UAE, is the loss of real-estate property purchased by instalments in the form of land, buildings or apartments, because Qataris have been prevented from traveling to the territory of the blockading countries or from transferring money. This is in addition to freezing their assets which have led to the cessation of the process of withdrawal of cheques. If this continues, it may cause the loss of the property in full, and the loss of money paid, and may lead to legal proceeding being brought against the owner for failure to pay the monthly instalments.





Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
						
May 23, 2018	Right to Property	697	458	55	24	1234

Table (5) Violation of the Right to Property

In addition to the above, the financial and postal remittances of any citizen or residents of Qatar have been blocked, closing the door on cases of recovery of material losses.

Moreover, forcing the citizens of the blockading countries to leave the State of Qatar - or else they would be subjected to harsh punitive measures from their countries – caused many to close their companies and leave their private property in the State of Qatar, exposing them and their workers and clients to financial losses.

All these violations indicate that the blockading countries deliberately violated fundamental rights and freedoms, including the right to private property, and intended to do so since the very first moment. This is further reinforced by the fact that no action has been taken to alleviate those grave consequences to which its citizens, and the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar are exposed.

Furthermore, the right to litigation has also been violated through denying Qataris access to legal ramifications for the denial of accessing and tending to their property. All those who own property and businesses because of their previous businesses or inheritance have been prevented from completing litigation proceedings or completing the proceedings of previous cases that were raised.

In a comment made by the high commissioner on the impact of the blockade on human rights on 14 June 2017, he confirmed that the measures taken by the quartet against Qatar are too broad in its scale. He also noted that the OHCHR received reports that individuals have already received brief instructions to leave the country in which they reside or their governments have directed orders to them to return to their homeland. Among those affected are persons who have businesses or companies based in countries different from those they come from ⁽⁶⁾.



(6) <http://www.ohchr.org/AR/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21739&LangID=A>

The report of the Technical Mission of the OHCHR in the State of Qatar 17-24 November 2017 on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 8/1/2018 confirms that the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar by the Saudi and other authorities has a negative impact on economic rights and the right to property. It also mentions that Qataris who have commercial interests in the blockading countries have been forced to return to Qatar and have reportedly not been able to have access to their companies and activities since the start of the current Gulf crisis. Furthermore, the suspension of remittances between the State of Qatar and the countries of the Blockade has prevented the transfer of salaries, rents and the amounts resulting from outstanding invoices. This is as well as the absence of any formal mechanism available to move forward to claim their entitlements or their money and managing their assets. As a logical consequence of what has happened all means of legal cooperation has been suspended such as, for example, concluding and executing official agencies. The report stressed that the team conducted interviews with some of the claimants, mostly Qatari nationals who have property in the countries of the blockade, particularly commercial entities. They confirmed that financial transactions between Qatar and the countries of the blockade, had been suspended. They also highlighted the absence of any formal and available litigation mechanism to claim and/or manage their assets. Indeed, legal cooperation has been suspended, including power of attorney. The report also concluded that the team found that the unilateral measures, consisting of severe restrictions of movement, termination and disruption of trade, financial and investment flows, as well as suspension of social and cultural exchanges imposed on the State of Qatar, had immediately translated into actions applying to nationals and residents of Qatar, including citizens of the countries of the blockade. Many of these measures have a potentially durable effect on the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of those affected. As there is no evidence of any legal decisions motivating these various measures and due to the lack of any legal recourse for most individuals concerned, these measures can be considered as arbitrary, and stating that the economic impact of the current crisis is similar to that of economic wars.

“ The considerable economic impact of the crisis takes over the dimension of an economic warfare ”

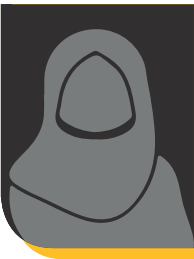
Report of the substantive mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The NHRC has documented complaints of violations of the right to property by the countries of the Blockade, including:



Mr. (F. S), a Qatari:

Has a license from the KSA to import 16 horses exported from Doha from the Qatari Equestrian Club. He accompanied these horses to the stable set in the area of Al Ahsa. He was, blindsided by the blockade and closure of transport via all venues - land, air and sea. This led to the loss of his horses amounting to the value of approximately 28,000,000 (Twenty eight million Qatari riyals) due to his failure to secure their needs.



Ms. (F. Z), a Qatari:

Has purchased 2 apartments in Dubai in the UAE, in instalments for each apartment. Due to the Gulf crisis and the blockade on the State of Qatar however, the companies have demanded from her to waive the amounts paid to retrieve the apartments in order to be able to sell them again.



Mr. (S. M.) a Qatari:

Has 3 commercial companies with their branches in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Due to the Gulf crisis and the political situation between both States he was prevented from entering the Kingdom of Bahrain in order to dispose of his property due to his Qatari Nationality which he retrieved since the 2013. This caused him significant financial losses due to not tending to his property in Bahrain, and he is still suffering from those losses because of the arbitrariness of the Bahraini government towards him.



C: Violation of the right to perform religious rituals

Table (6) shows the number of violations of the right to practice religious rituals since the beginning of the blockade, from 5 June 2017 to 23 May 2018. They amount to 165 violations (all by Saudi Arabia).

Indeed, the arbitrary decisions and measures taken by the Saudi authorities, resulted in the deprivation of the right to worship by some 1.5 million Muslims residing in the State of Qatar, in gross violation of the right to worship. The Saudi authorities have not exempted those who wish to practice their right to perform the rituals of Hajj and Umrah from the measures of the unjust blockade on the State of Qatar. Instead, they have involved religious rituals in political and diplomatic differences and manipulated these rituals as a tool for political pressure in flagrant violation of international conventions on human rights. This is done through:

- ① Preventing Qatari pilgrims in Ramadan last month from entering Saudi territory to perform Umrah.
- ② Forcing those in the Kingdom to leave Saudi Arabia without completing the rituals, and expelling some of them from the hotels where they have been staying from the moment the blockade was imposed.
- ③ Suspension of dealing in Qatari currency and debit cards.
- ④ Degrading and humiliating treatment to Qataris at land and air entry and exit points.
- ⑤ Preventing Qatar Airways from landing at Saudi airports, making it impossible for Qatari pilgrims to return to Doha directly. They have been forced instead to return using alternative routes through the State of Kuwait and the Sultanate of Oman without regard to humanitarian cases of patients, women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities.





Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
						
May 23, 2018	Right to Engage in Religious Rituals	165	---	---	---	165

Table (6) Violation of Right to Engage in Religious Rituals

With the beginning of the pilgrimage season in 2017, the Saudi authorities put obstacles and impediments to those who wish to perform the «fifth pillar of Islam» from Qatari citizens and residents, up to the point of prevention. The authorities refused to deal or coordinate with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Qatar in order to enable those wishing to perform this duty. While Saudi authorities that they would open the land port and the direct air route to the pilgrims of Qatar it soon became clear that that was simply a deflection mechanism and just a manoeuvre.

In light of the continued blockade, air embargo and closure of land borders, as well as the arbitrary measures taken by the Saudi authorities on the right to freedom of worship and religious practice, the Saudi authorities continue to put more obstacles and impediments to the organizers and service providers of Hajj and Umrah campaigns. With the arrival of the Umrah season for the month of Ramadan 2018 and the Hajj season of 2018, and complaints have been submitted by Hajj and Umrah campaigners in the State of Qatar about the harassment and difficulties in performing Umrah rituals faced by residents of the state of Qatar. These include:

- Closure of the electronic registration for Hajj and Umrah to all pilgrims from the State of Qatar.
- Prevention of financial transfers by Saudi authorities between Qatari campaigns and Umrah agents authorized to grant Saudi Umrah permits.
- Saudi authorities continued refusal to deal or coordinate with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Qatar.



All this confirms unequivocally the continuation of the Saudi authorities in the policy of politicizing religious rites. A delegation from the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Qatar visited the KSA to attend the annual meeting to discuss arrangements for the 2018 Hajj season on Thursday 22 March 2018. The delegation discussed during the meetings obstacles and impediments imposed on Qatari pilgrims and those who are residents in Qatar, including the problem of obtaining the visa required for the performance of Umrah and pilgrimage through the electronic portal which is currently blocked for the State of Qatar. This is in addition to ignorance of the vulnerable groups, especially the elderly and persons with disabilities who wish to perform Hajj and Umrah. However, the Qatar delegation did not find any solutions to these obstacles and impediments with the concerned Saudi authorities. They merely responded to the Qatari delegation by saying that the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Qatar should send official communications through the Sultanate of Oman's embassy to the higher authorities in the KSA to decide whether or not to respond.

Therefore, the NHRC remains deeply concerned at the continued obstacles and impediments, considering that the Saudi authorities have not taken positive steps to enable Qataris and residents of the State of Qatar to exercise their right to perform their religious rituals by continuously banning direct flights from Qatar to Saudi Arabia. This is in addition to the continued closure of the land border crossing point between the two countries and the non-admission of pilgrims and the closure of the electronic portal for registration. This is as well as the prevention of remittances by the Saudi authorities between the campaigns and agents of Hajj and Umrah and the prohibition of circulation of the Qatari currency. This is besides the failure of the Saudi authorities to take account of the damage and financial losses suffered by the Qatari Hajj and Umrah campaigns as a result of the aforementioned arbitrary measures in 2017.

The NHRC considers the concerns related to Umrah and Hajj as procrastination and an attempt by the Saudi authorities to stop any actions that can be taken by the OHCHR or the UN Special Procedures mechanism.

The report of the Technical Mission of the OHCHR in Qatar (17-24 November 2017) on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 8/1/2018 states that measures and restrictions taken by Saudi authorities led to the infringement of the freedom of exercise of religious practice.

The Amnesty International report on its second visit to the State of Qatar on 28 November 2017 also points to the violation of the right to freedom of worship and practice of religious rituals by the Saudi authorities. They call on the Saudi authorities to ensure transparent and operational mechanisms to enable Qataris and residents in the State of Qatar to have access to the holy sites in Saudi Arabia ⁽⁷⁾.

(7) <https://www.amnesty.org/ar/documents/document/?indexNumber=mde22%2f7604%2f2017&language=en>

The NHRC documented complaints of violations of the right to freedom of worship and practice of religious rites, including:



Mr. (J.P), a Qatari:

Went, accompanied by his colleagues on 27/12/2017, to the KSA to perform Umrah via air through the State of Kuwait. However, on their arrival to Jeddah airport, they were harassed by security personnel working in the passports department there for being Qataris. They were seized at the airport's lounge and not allowed to enter Saudi territories for a full day until the night of 12/28/2017. They were then forced to go back from the Jeddah airport to the Kuwait international airport despite the fact that all the requirements claimed by the authorities in Saudi Arabia have been met. Two days after their return, they were contacted by telephone and informed of the possibility of entering the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which resulted in physical and psychological losses due to flight bookings and non-refundable residence as well as the violation of their right to worship and practice their religious rituals.



Mr. (A. H.), a Qatari:

Accompanied by his wife, made reservation at The Fairmont Hotel in the city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia and booked Umrah travelling tickets. Yet following the decision taken by the Saudi authorities to cut ties with the State of Qatar and the closure of the land crossing point, they were not able to go to Mecca for Umrah. He has not been able to refund the ticket despite his repeated communication with the hotel.



Mr. (M. M.), a Qatari:

Made reservation at Hilton Sweet Mecca in the city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah. However, following the decision taken by the Saudi authorities to cut ties with the State of Qatar and the closure of the land crossing point he was not able to go to Mecca for Umrah nor recover the value of the ticket nor the accommodation fees, which were paid. An apology was directed to him and he was informed that in case of cancellation of the reservation the amount he paid will be confiscated.



Mr. (F. P.), a Qatari:

Was in Mecca in Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah when the Saudi authorities issued a decision obliging Qataris to leave the country due to the Blockade on the State of Qatar. He was expelled arbitrarily from the hotel in which he was staying, on the instructions he had received.



H: Violation of freedom of opinion and expression

Citizens of the countries of the Blockade have been exposed to violations of laws and punitive measures on the background of severing of the political relations and imposing blockade on the State of Qatar. This has reached unprecedented limits even for merely showing sympathy towards Qatar through the social media. It has gone beyond blocking and banning Qatari media, including sports channels which certainly do not broadcast news bulletins or programs of political nature. This is an indicator of the extent of deterioration of the freedom of opinion and expression.

Saudi authorities have imposed a penalty of imprisonment of up to five years, the fine of up to three million Saudi riyals, while the UAE have imposed a penalty of three to five years, and a fine of up to 500 thousand dirhams simply for showing sympathy towards the State of Qatar. The NHRC has reported in the field of media alone that nearly 103 media persons from the citizens of the countries of the Blockade, who were working in a number of visual media in the State of Qatar, have all been subjected to different types of violations, including putting pressure on them to resign. Many eventually did thus losing their source of livelihood.

Moreover, pressures are still exercised on all who have not yet submitted their resignations. Such an act is a flagrant violation of the freedom of press, work, residence and opinion.

Amnesty International in its report published on June 9, 2017 stated that “The statements from governments of the countries of the blockade with a record of repressing peaceful expression are a flagrant attempt to silence criticism of these arbitrary policies. Prosecuting anyone on this basis would be a clear violation of the right to freedom of expression. No one should be punished for peacefully expressing their views or criticizing a government decision.”

Furthermore, Amnesty International in its report published on June 19, 2017, stated that “It is unthinkable that states can so blatantly infringe on the right to freedom of expression. Citizens have the right to express views and concerns about their governments, as well as feelings of sympathy towards others.”

A report prepared by the Doha Center for Media Freedom entitled «Media of the Gulf Crisis - Violation of Freedom of Opinion and Expression and International Covenants covering the period from 23rd to 25th August 2017 « on the indicators of the media discourse of the Gulf crisis States (media offensive practices towards freedom of opinion and expression), outline the following cases have been documented as non-exclusive samples:

First case: The criminalization of showing sympathy towards the State of Qatar

 **(As for the Saudi Arabia) non-exclusive samples**

Amnesty International - as indicated in its previous report on 9 June, 2017-has denounced the acts done and measures taken by the Blockading countries , including the KSA, that seriously violate the freedom of opinion and expression emphasizing the fact that these declarations issued by governments repressing the peaceful expression are not more than a flagrant attempt to silence critical voices on these arbitrary policies. If anyone is prosecuted on this basis, it would constitute a clear violation of the right to freedom of expression; as no one should be sanctioned for peacefully expressing his points of view or for criticizing a government decision. It also mentions in its report issued on 19 June, 2017 that it is not possible to believe that these States could reach such a level of flagrant violation of the right to freedom of expression. Furthermore, the Saudi authorities have already applied the punitive measures following their arrest of a group of Saudi citizens, among them: the famous Islamic preacher “Salman Al-Ouda” upon posting a Tweet on «Twitter».

 **(As for the United Arab Emirates) as non-exclusive samples:**

In the UAE, on 7 June 2017, the UAE Attorney General banned the expression of sympathy towards Qatar, according to the declaration of Counselor/ Hamad Saif Al-Shamsi, in which he warns that any contravention of the laws in force shall be met with the imposition of prison sentences and pecuniary fines.

The declaration also includes a warning by the Attorney General «of any participation in speech or in writing on social media or any other form of sympathy with the State of Qatar or an objection to the stance of the UAE and other countries that took firm stances against the Government of Qatar». Violators of these warnings «may be subjected to imprisonment for a period of 3 to 15 years and a fine of not less than 500 thousand dirhams, equivalent to 137 thousand dollars”.



In addition to that, the mentioned report issued by Human Rights Watch on July 13, 2017, also highlights that the United Arab Emirates has threatened to impose sanctions on their citizens in case they «have sympathy» towards Qatar on the Internet.

In implementation of these threats, UAE authorities has arrested Mr./ Ghanem Abdullah Matar, a UAE citizen, upon publishing a series of videos on social media in the month of June, 2017 expressing his sympathy towards Qatar.

Therefore, Amnesty International has asked for the immediate release of the citizen as a prisoner of opinion.



د. وسيم يوسف
@waseem_yousef

Suivre

قرار [#قطع_العلاقات_مع_قطر](#) هو قرار لصالح الشعب القطري أولاً.. ثم للأمة العربية.. حتى لا تصبح قطر ذات سيادة إيرانية أو إخوانية أو داعشية..

Traduire le Tweet

14:54 - 5 juin 2017

تابع

منظمة العفو الدولية

@AmnestyAR



إذا كان اعتقال غانم مطر في [#الامارات](#) سببه تعليقاته السلمية حول الأزمة مع [#قطر](#)، فإنه سجين رأي ونطالب بالافراج عنه فوراً.



٢٠١٤ ص - ١٠ يوليو ٢٠١٧



٢,٠٦٢ إعادة تغريد | ١,٦٧٨ إعجابات

1.7 ألف 2.1 ألف 216

The UAE authorities has also dismissed Mr. Youssef Al-Sarkal, Chairman of the UAE General Authority for Sports, by reason of shaking hands with the President of the Qatar Football Association, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al-Thani, on the sidelines of the Asian Football Confederation's (AFC) meetings in Bangkok, Thailand.

The UAE and the countries of the Blockade 's media have launched a major offensive on this famous figure in the Gulf sport world, which led to that he has been relieved of his duties being the head of the authority after about a month of his appointment.

Furthermore, it was expressed in the UAE newspapers that Al-Sarkal «suffered from his warm embrace with the Qatari official» in their first meeting since the eruption of the Gulf crisis on 5 June, 2017. It also described what Al-Sarkal had done as a «sin» according to the website of Al-Bayan newspaper ⁽⁸⁾.



حمد المزروعى
@hamed_3G

Suivre

وين اعلامنا الرياضي عن هذه الصورة وعن القدر المسافل السركال اللي لا يحترم الامارات ولا عنده غيره عليها...

Traduire le Tweet



22:50 - 28 nov. 2017

231 Retweets 253 J'aime

488 231 253



(8) <https://www.albayan.ae/across-the-uae/news-and-reports/2017-11-30-1.3115850>

[...]

In addition to that, the mentioned report issued by Human Rights Watch on July 13, 2017, also highlights that the United Arab Emirates has threatened to impose sanctions on their citizens in case they «have sympathy» towards Qatar on the Internet.

In implementation of these threats, UAE authorities has arrested Mr./ Ghanem Abdullah Matar, a UAE citizen, upon publishing a series of videos on social media in the month of June, 2017 expressing his sympathy towards Qatar. Therefore, Amnesty International has asked for the immediate release of the citizen as a prisoner of opinion.

Amnesty International Organization Follow

If the arrest of Ghanim Matar in #UAE is due to his peaceful comments about the crisis with #Qatar, then he is a prisoner of opinion and we demand his immediate release.



2:14 a.m. – July 10, 2017
2,062 Retweets 1,678 Likes

Dr. Waseem Yousef Follow
@waseem_yousef

The decision to #cut_relations_with_Qatar is a decision that benefits the Qatari people first, then the Arab Nation, so Qatar does not come under Iranian, Muslim Brotherhood, or ISIL sovereignty...

Translate Tweet 2:54 p.m.
June 5, 2017

The UAE authorities has also dismissed Mr. Youssef Al-Sarkal, Chairman of the UAE General Authority for Sports, by reason of shaking hands with the President of the Qatar Football Association, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al-Thani, on the sidelines of the Asian Football Confederation's (AFC) meetings in Bangkok, Thailand.

The UAE and the countries of the Blockade 's media have launched a major offensive on this famous figure in the Gulf sport world, which led to that he has been relieved of his duties being the head of the authority after about a month of his appointment.

Furthermore, it was expressed in the UAE newspapers that Al-Sarkal «suffered from his warm embrace with the Qatari official» in their first meeting since the eruption of the Gulf crisis on 5 June, 2017. It also described what Al-Sarkal had done as a «sin» according to the website of Al-Bayan newspaper ⁽⁸⁾.

Hamad Al-Mazroui Follow
@uae_3G

Where is our sports media to respond to this lowlife, dirty Al-Serkal, who does not respect the UAE or care about it?



10:50 a.m. – Nov. 28, 2017
231 Retweets 253 Likes

Urgent: Private sources: H.E. Youssef Al-Serkal, Head of the Sports Authority, is relieved from his post

[illegible]

(8) <https://www.albayan.ae/across-the-uae/news-and-reports/2017-11-30-1.3115850>



[...]



(As for Kingdom of Bahrain) non-exclusive

Samples:

On June 11 2017, the Bahraini international lawyer, Issa Faraj Arhamah Al-Burshid, filed a lawsuit against the government of Bahrain and demanded lifting the blockade on Qatar. This case is the first of its kind as he was arrested due to showing sympathy towards the state of Qatar. The case was mentioned in Amnesty International's report of 19 June 2017. The decision by the Bahraini authorities to block Qatari newspaper websites followed the fabricated statements published on the website of Qatar News Agency and attributed to the Emir of the State of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, as an unjustified step and a flagrant violation of freedom of opinion and expression.

Human Rights Watch in its report published on July 13, 2017 also confirmed that Bahrain had threatened to punish their citizens if they show «sympathy» with Qatar on the Internet.


On June 9, 2017, the Tourism and Exhibition Authority of the Kingdom of Bahrain issued a formal circular warning all the tourist facilities and hotels in the Kingdom about the operation of Al Jazeera Media Channel. The Authority stressed the necessity of deleting all the channels related to Al Jazeera Network to avoid penalties for imprisonment and fines, as well as the cancellation of tourist licenses.

The Bahraini authorities have explicitly demanded the closure of Al-Jazeera, and this demand contradicts Article 1 and Article 3 of the Journalism Code of Ethics of the Bahrain Journalists Association, as well the Code of Principles of the International Federation of journalists in its first clause . (Confiscation, idling or revocation of the license shall be allowed only by a ruling of the court. Free and responsible journalism is the very essence of sound and democratic society and an integral and indivisible part of basic human rights and freedoms. It targets illumination of the public opinion, realization of the interests of the nation, defense of the nation's unity, security and stability and avoidance of secular division or prejudice to the established Islamic Shariah dictates. The right to get the correct and true information, including statements, images and documents through legitimate means in order to unearth the truth without infringement or violation of intellectual property rights. Respect for truth and for the right of the public to truth is the first duty of the journalist).

There is also a stark violation of the text of article III of the Charter of the Bahraini Journalists' Association, which provides for «the right to obtain information from the data, photographs and documents by legitimate means to reach the truth and without infringement of intellectual property».



Second Case: Warning of the General Commission for Tourism and National Heritage in Saudi Arabia and kingdom of Bahrain against watching Al-Jazeera channel in hotels and resorts


 In an official circular issued on the 9th of June 2017, the General Commission for Tourism and National Heritage in Saudi Arabia warned against broadcasting Al-Jazeera channels in hotels and resorts. It further banned watching Al-Jazeera network channels in tourist facilities. The Commission also accentuated on deleting all channels of Al-Jazeera network from the list of satellite broadcasts in rooms and all tourist accommodation facilities, in order to avoid a fine that may amount to 100 thousand Saudi riyals (about 27 thousand dollars), in addition to the cancellation of the license. This has been stated in an official circular by the Tourism Authority to owners and operators of tourist facilities. This circular emphasized as well «the obligation to comply with choosing the appropriate channels along with the official Saudi channels». Furthermore, the Commission demanded «not to place receivers inside rooms and residential units and that receivers should be centralized and supervised by the management of the facility».

As a result of this ban, it is clear that the circulars - issued by Saudi Arabia are classified as practices that restrict the freedom of opinion and expression and are contrary to the general principles of freedoms set forth in various international covenants, which constitutes a blatant violation of the citizens' right to know and access information.

It is also worth mentioning that the issuance of a circular prohibiting watching Al-Jazeera channel and setting all receivers for the deletion of satellite channels of Al-Jazeera network is groundless and contrary to the provisions of the international covenants on rights to freedom of expression and information, which is considered as a restriction on the freedoms.

The circulars issued by the General Commission for Tourism does not provide any legal basis to support its request for the ban. On the other hand, they have not reinforced their circulars with judicial requests or court orders which essentially examine the fulfilment of the said request.

In accordance with Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the above-mentioned circulars are contrary to the most fundamental principles of individual freedoms and the right to access information.

 The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority

The circular stated that: «The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority mandates that all television receivers available in tourism facilities must be reprogrammed to remove all channels related to Al Jazeera Network. Facilities include hotels, restaurants or other tourist establishments. The violation of this circular is punishable by law either by imprisonment, fine or both. Facilities who fail to comply with the circular will face closure and their tourism license will be revoked immediately.

According to article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as Article 3 of the Journalism Code of Ethics of the Bahrain Journalists Association, the aforementioned prohibitions are contrary to the most basic principles of individual freedoms, and access to information. The decision to block Qatari websites contradicts Article 2 of the Journalism Code of Ethics of the Bahrain Journalists Association. (Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. "The right to get the correct and true information, including statements, images and documents through legitimate means in order to unearth the truth without infringement or violation of intellectual property rights".

Third concern: blocking Qatari newspaper websites by the countries of the blockade:

The UAE, KSA and Bahrain, announced on 24 May 2017, blocking the site of «Al-Jazeera» and a number of Qatari newspapers. It was confirmed by the «Al-Jazeera» through its official website that those states banned entry to the website of Al-Jazeera TV.

Saudi, UAE and Bahrain authorities' decision to block Qatari web sites and newspapers following the fabricated statements attributed to the Emir of the State of Qatar, which was published on the website of the Qatar News Agency (QNA), has raised wide reactions among analysts and media workers of Arab and Gulf states. These considered this unjustified step as a flagrant violation of freedom of opinion and expression deliberately withholding truth the expression of others of their opinions.

Fourth concern: Demand of the countries of the blockade to close of Al-Jazeera

In the framework of clear violation of freedom of speech and the confiscation of opinions, the countries of the Blockade has requested from Qatar the closure of Aljazeera Channel. The requirement of the closure of Al-Jazeera satellite Channel and other media constitutes a violation of the sovereignty of the State. It further constitutes a serious violation of the fundamental right to freedom of expression and freedom of opinion provided for in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which is a total disregard of article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



This requirement has been met with strong denunciation by international bodies and organizations. The countries of the Blockade 's demand to close Al-Jazeera Channel had wide repercussions and was received with criticism from human rights organizations and the competent United Nations offices. Mr. David Kay, the United Nations special rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression, has described demands for the closure of Al-Jazeera channel as «a strong blow to the pluralism of the media and that this request represents a serious threat to the freedom of the media.» The Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression mentioned that reports that a number of governments submitted demands to Qatar to close Al-Jazeera media network in exchange for the lifting of the sanctions would be a major blow against the pluralism of the media in a region that suffers severe constraints in the preparation of reports and media of all kinds. Mr. Kay added «This demand constitutes a serious threat to the freedom of media if the States, under the pretext of a diplomatic crisis, take measures to compel Qatar to close Al-Jazeera.»

Mr. Kay said «Every person is now seriously threatened in relation to his right to have access to information when the guarantee of safety and freedom of the media has been compromised.» He added that «I call upon the international community to urge those Governments not to insist on their demand against Qatar and resist taking steps to control the media in their territory and in the region and encourage support for independent media in the Middle East»⁽⁹⁾.

In the same context, the OHCHR has expressed its deep concern about the demand made to close Al Jazeera Network, and other media. The Organization emphasized that the demand is an unacceptable attack on the right to freedom of expression and opinion, and if such a demand were put into effect, it would open the way for individual States or groups of powerful states to seriously undermine the right to freedom of opinion and expression within its borders and in other countries⁽¹⁰⁾.

Furthermore, Human Rights Watch confirmed that Governments have no right to close media outlets and criminalization of expression in order to extinguish the criticisms that it considers troubling» and called to protect the media from political interference. The Organization affirmed that, «The offending Governments have to show respect to and understanding of the role of the media, even if it disagrees with them».

The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) stated that “journalist is being used as a pawn in a dangerous political game in the crisis in Qatar, where hundreds of media workers face expulsion, and television channels, newspapers and websites are at risk of closure”.

The National Union of Journalists has called for an end to the attack on Al Jazeera, hundreds of jobs are at risk. Furthermore, the National Union of Journalists and the International Federation of Journalists called on the countries of the blockade to withdraw its demand to the Qatari authorities to close the channel.

Representatives of international, regional and national organizations for journalists and human rights and freedom of expression who attended the international conference on “Freedom of Expression: Facing Up to the Threat”, in its final communique condemned unequivocally the threats by the governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of Yemen demanding the closing down of Al Jazeera and other media outlets and expressed our total solidarity with journalists and other media and ancillary workers at Al Jazeera and other targeted media.

It is worth mentioning that this demand is contrary to international norms and charters, yet the KSA and other States of the Blockade still insist on demanding it to date.

(9) <http://ohchr.org/ar/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21808&LangID=A>

(10) <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21818&LangID=E>

Fifth: Banning «beIN Sports» channels and imposed a penalty of imprisonment for anyone wearing Barcelona shirt

The fifth case is the banning of beIN Sports Channels and the criminalization of wearing Barcelona football shirt having Qatar Airways' logo is one of the strangest and most controversial matters in the current crisis. The current Gulf crisis has cast a political shadow over sport after the three Blockading countries (KSA, UAE and Bahrain) prohibited wearing Barcelona's shirt on its territory, due to the contract that was concluded between the aforementioned club and Qatar Airways.

Sixth: withdraw the license of «Al Jazeera» and to close its offices constitutes an arbitrary political decision, rather than proper judiciary procedures.

Since the beginning of the crisis, on 5 June 2017, the Blockading countries hastened to close the offices of «Al Jazeera» Channel as a part of its steps to sever diplomatic relations with Qatar. These resolutions indicate that the Blockading countries do not discriminate between the political issues and the press work guaranteed by the basic principles of human rights and the rules that guarantee freedom of information dissemination and reception within the framework of the law. The decision to withdraw the license of «Al Jazeera» and to close its offices constitutes an arbitrary violation of an arbitrary political decision, while the judiciary is the competent authority in such cases.

In addition, the NHRC has documented hundreds of hate and racism speeches through the media and social networking sites, some of which amounted to incitement to terrorist acts in the State of Qatar, such as bombing the media facilities and using songs, serials and documentaries in this incitement. The committee also noted a speech of racial discrimination aimed at disrespecting and insulting the Qatari citizen, insulting the Qatari people and circumventing the symbols of the State of Qatar.

These speeches escalated violently because of the involvement of some officials from the Blockading countries and some celebrities of the media and famous social media persons are known openly.





G: Incitement of violence and hatred

In a report prepared by the Doha Center for Media Freedom entitled «Gulf Crisis Media - Hate Speech», the report highlighted the issues that were repeated in the media during the first months of the crisis in six key issues:

1. Indictment of treason and treachery: Where most of the media of the Blockading countries, whether print, electronic or audiovisual, have devoted a considerable space to place the indictment of treason and treachery to Qatar since the beginning of the crisis.

2. Instigating the overthrow of the regime in Qatar: This incitement against the regime in Qatar is a violation of the ethics of press work and international conventions, especially Article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and it is contrary to Article 10 of the Charter of Honor of Arab Media and Article 8 of the same Charter.

3. The demonization of the State of Qatar locally and regionally: The accusations which the media of the blockading countries have not found any evidence for it and which seek to demonize Qatar and portray it as a rogue and aggressive state, are in conformity with article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, as well as the provisions of Article 10 of the Charter of Honor of Arab Media.

4. Incitement to Gulf fabric differentiation: The ongoing Gulf crisis has affected the demographic fabric of this region, in which the social relations between the different tribes living in the Arabian Peninsula are intertwined and overlap in a striking way that makes it difficult to separate or discriminate.

The crisis has shown the desire of some Gulf governments to disrupt this fabric, and to create a division among the members of one tribe, which extends in more than one country, through the use of populist rhetoric and hate speech, and to break up a centuries-long relations.

Several websites, either by writing or analyzing, dealt with the campaign launched by the Gulf crisis countries on Qatar, which concluded that there is a rising trend towards the demonization of the State of Qatar, and abuse in various forms and ways.

5. The indictment of terrorism: The decision to criminalize sympathy with Qatar was included in other measures taken by Gulf states, preceded by indictment of terrorism, along with making a terrorism list that includes Qatari personalities and charitable and media organizations.

There is no doubt that such a media discourse would inculcate the hate speech among broad segments of the public, away from the distances that would end the crisis and achieve reconciliation. Since the first day of the crisis, the media machine has worked with the blockading countries in order to paint a distorted image of the State of Qatar and its role in the international arena. The media of the countries of the Gulf crisis have also united their discourse on Qatar's accusation of harboring terrorist individuals and entities. This was rejected by Doha and rejected by international and international organizations With those charities classified by the Gulf states as «terrorist».

A number of media channels in the blockading countries have broadcasted programs and coverings in news bulletins exposed to well-known figures in the Arab and Islamic arena, exceeding the limits of linguistic and moral decency, and labeling them with descriptions that the law criminalizes.



12 كيان

السعودية ومصر و الإمارات و البحرين تصدر بياناً مشتركاً بشأن تصنيف أفراد و كيانات بقوائم الإرهاب مرتبطة بقطر

قائمة الكيانات

قطر الخيرية - قطر.

شركة دوحة أبل /شركة إنترنت ودعم تكنولوجي/ - قطر.

مركز قطر للعمل التطوعي - قطر.

سرايا الدفاع عن بنغازي.

مؤسسة الشيخ ثاني بن عبدالله للخدمات الإنسانية - قطر.

مؤسسة الشيخ عيد آل ثاني الخيرية - قطر.

سرايا المقاومة - البحرين.

ائتلاف 14 فبراير - البحرين.

سرايا الأشتري - البحرين.

حركة أحرار البحرين - البحرين.

سرايا المختار - البحرين.

حزب الله البحريني - البحرين.

قائمة الإرهاب

6. Using religious discourse to spread hate speech.

The religious discourse of the Blockading countries was used during the Gulf crisis as a platform to justify some of the political decisions of the blockading countries. A number of fatwas were issued by major bodies and scholars in order to justify the blockade of Qatar and to reverse the facts and repercussions of the crisis.

The media, as well as the social media, have been instrumental in promoting these fatwas and expanding their circulation in order to give the decisions of the political actor acceptable to the public opinion.

Moreover, the press did not stand neutral in this crisis through the transfer of different views, but it used all its efforts to promote these fatwas in a manner contrary to the values of the profession of journalism.



It is no secret that all this media and technical pumping to incite hatred and violence will be reflected in the various segments of the society of intellectuals and illiterate extremist



reactions may reach the commission of criminal acts against the Qataris.

Qatari citizens have already been exposed to the destruction of their cars, and they were treated harshly and humiliatingly by some of the authorities of the Blockading countries. It does not suffice there, but developed into hatred, hostility and discrimination against the Qatari citizens from some citizens of the blockading countries. We fear that such

reactions would threaten peace, security and stability in the entire region.

The report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights dated 08 January 2018 confirmed the numerous violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression as well as the various forms of media defamation and hate campaigns against the State of Qatar and its leaders and people. Further, it calls for an overthrow of a regime and the removal of symbols of leadership in Qatar, in addition to incitement to attack or kill the Qataris.

The report confirmed that media from the blockading countries launched a campaign of hatred and widespread distortion, including through social networking sites and the decision of the blockading countries' governments to impose sanctions on anyone who sympathizes with Qatar.



The report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights indicated that between June and October 2017, media workers and the NHRC in Qatar documented more than 1,120 articles and nearly 600 caricature of the State of Qatar in KSA, the UAE and Bahrain. The media included explicit accusations of Qatar's involvement in supporting terrorism, calls for an overthrow of a regime and the removal of leading figures in Qatar, as well as incitement to attack or kill Qataris.

For example, the Saudi singer followed by a million and a half followers on Twitter has made a post that includes fatwa to kill the Emir of Qatar, while another Saudi tweet warned of the possibility of sending a million Yemeni suicide bombers to Qatar.

Entertainment programmes have also been used to air anti- Qatar messages. For example, Rotana media company produced songs by popular artists stigmatizing Qatar ("Qulo la Qatar"- "Tell Qatar", and "Sanoalem Qatar"- "We will teach Qatar") and well-known television series on MBC and Rotana channels ("Selfie" and "Garabeb Sood") conveyed negative messages on Qatar, which have been regularly and widely broadcast.

The report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) also noted that the KSA, UAE and Bahraini governments have sought to stop broadcasting all Qatari media or the other media related to Qatar. Since satellite broadcasting cannot be controlled, these countries have prevented businesses entities (such as hotels) from displaying the Qatari media (especially the Al Jazeera, beIN-Sports and other channels).



The report also points out that all these campaigns cast a shadow to the extent of incitement and contributed to creating a general feeling of concern among people in KSA, UAE and Bahrain of those who have family, fraternal or commercial ties with Qatari citizens. Most of the journalists interviewed with the mission noted that their friends and associates in KSA, UAE and Bahrain were deeply fearful. Many have also noted that they cannot communicate with their families and friends in the blockading countries except through numbers other than the numbers of the Blockading countries as they fear to be tracked.

The report issued by the US Department of State on Human Rights in 2017 indicated that the governments of the blockading countries have blocked Qatari websites such as Al-Jazeera because of a dispute between them and Qatar, and that Al-Jazeera remained closed.

In addition to what the NHRC has documented from a full file containing all aspects and manifestations of violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression as well as the discourse of hatred, discrimination and racism, the Doha Center for Media Freedom documented several reports of violations by the Blockading countries through incitement, racism, incitement and hate speech.

“Entertainment programmes have also been used to air anti-Qatar messages. For example, Rotana media company produced songs by popular artists stigmatizing Qatar (“Qulo la Qatar”-“Tell Qatar”, and “Sanoalem Qatar”-“We will teach Qatar”) and well-known television series on MBC and Rotana channels (“Selfie” and “Garabeb Sood”) conveyed negative messages on Qatar, which have been regularly and widely broadcast.”

Report of the substantive mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights



H: Violation of the right to movement and residence

Table (7) shows the number of violations of the right to movement and thus residence since the beginning of the blockade, corresponding to June 5, 2017 and until May 23, 2018. There were 1297 violations (770 violations from KSA, 348 violations from UAE, 129 violations from Kingdom of Bahrain, 41 violations from the Arab Republic of Egypt and 9 different violations from other states).

Statistics Date	Violation	State					Total
						Other	
May 23, 2018	The right of movement and thus residence	770	348	129	41	9	1297

Table (7) Violation of the right to movement and residence

All citizens and residents of the State of Qatar and the Blockading countries have been affected by the violation of this right since the beginning of the blockade crisis on the State of Qatar, as the blockading countries have adopted arbitrary measures and decisions in contravention of all international and regional instruments, the Arab Charter on Human Rights and the Declaration on the Human Rights of the Gulf Cooperation Council concerning the right to freedom of movement and residence; these measures were represented in the fact that the authorities of the blockading countries prevented Qatari people from entering their territories and deporting those who are there. Moreover, residents of Qatar were forced to leave Qatar within 14 days or they were going to be subjected to arbitrary punishment. All those forced to return to their homes were affected in various ways.

The blockading countries also closed all the airlines offices of the State of Qatar, as soon as the blockade was announced, and without warning to those working in these offices, without enabling any of them to take private property in their offices.

Salwa land port located on the Saudi-Qatari border was closed, and sea and air ports were closed to Qatari shipping and goods from Qatar. Although the Saudi authorities have opened Salwa border crossing in part and individually at intervals, they have returned and closed it completely even in the face of humanitarian cases, including patients, mixed families, persons with disabilities and the elderly. The crossing remains closed until the date of this report.

The Bahraini Minister of the Interior issued a ministerial decree No. (88) for the year 2017 in which Article 1 states that: a visa to the Kingdom of Bahrain shall be imposed on citizens of Qatar and its residents.

And in article 2 that: The Undersecretary of the Ministry of the Interior for Nationality, Passports and Residency Affairs shall implement this decision and shall come into force on 10 November 2017.



Amnesty International's report on its second visit to the State of Qatar during the period from 28 November 2017 confirmed that the sudden restrictions imposed on the State of Qatar since 5 June 2017 have affected thousands of families and individuals (especially vulnerable groups) in the region who constitute a cohesive social fabric across national borders, dividing families, halting student education, threatening jobs and raising basic food prices in Qatar, making the region's population face an uncertain future. Amnesty International urged the Kingdom of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to lift all arbitrary travel restrictions that impede the free movement of Gulf residents and residents ⁽¹¹⁾.

(11) <https://www.amnesty.org/ar/documents/document/?indexNumber=mde22%2f7604%2f2017&language=en>

The report of the Technical Mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the State of Qatar (17-24 November 2017) which was issued on 08/01/2018 confirmed that the closure of borders (air, sea and land) causes clear implications and effects on the freedom of movement to and from the State of Qatar. On June 5, the authorities of the blockading countries issued instructions to their ports and shipping authorities to refrain from receiving Qatari ships or any other vessels owned by any Qatari companies or individuals. The Saudi General Authority for Civil Aviation also banned the landing of any Qatari aircraft at airports in Saudi Arabia.

The report added that restrictions on the movement of passengers and goods had consequences that directly affected various human rights, but the effects of those consequences have not all come at the same pace, some of which have had limited impact, while others have had a continuing impact to date. Such measures and restrictions initially constituted a direct violation of the right to freedom of movement, especially since they were not officially announced and there were no legal motives behind them.

The absence of freedom of movement between Qatar and other countries is a punishment for Qatari citizens and residents, as well as for residents of the blockading countries. The effects of the restrictions on the right to freedom of movement have varied effects between what is temporary and what is permanent. The temporary effect is the violation of the freedom to practice religious rituals as they were imposed during Ramadan and the Hajj season, as well as family separation, which we should pay due attention to because of the ties between the population in the countries concerned, and the effect on students who had to cut off their studies for inability to take the exams that were scheduled for them. Persistent effects and consequences have been the denial of the right to work and the right of access to property and personal assets of those residents or employees in Qatar or those with commercial interests in Qatar.

The suspension of passenger and cargo traffic between Qatar and the three Gulf States in the Quartet Group has had a major impact on the Qatari economy, which hindered trade movements and financial flows as well as significantly increased the costs of transport and commodity as the government and individuals have had to resort to alternative options.

The report of the Technical Mission emphasizes that such measures are targeting individuals depending on their Qatar nationality, connection or relationship with Qatar, shall be considered as «unequal and discriminatory measures».

The reports of Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch “previously mentioned”, have also highlighted the violations, which was committed against this right by the blockading countries. In addition to the negative effects on families, the right to education, the right to health



Nawaf Talal al-Rasheed

and the right to freedom of worship and the practice of religious rites, the negative impact of the blockade on foreign migrant workers - especially from South Asia.

And in continuation of the series of violations against human rights of the blockading countries towards the State of Qatar, which the authorities of the blockading countries have persisted on harming and harassing them, amounting to cases of arbitrary detention in violation of international conventions and instruments and norms of human rights.

Saudi Arabia has arrested Mr. Muhsen Saleh Sa’adoun Al-Karbi, a Qatari citizen, on his way to visit his family and relatives in the Republic of Yemen. He was arrested in the Republic of Yemen by Allied Coalition Forces that was led by Saudi Arabia in “Shahan Border Port“, which is located between the Republic of Yemen and Sultanate of Oman, on 2018, without any known legal charges. Moreover, they prevented him from contacting his family or his lawyer since 21 April and until the publishing of this report. In addition to the inability of his family and his relatives to determine the place of his imprisonment, or what he is accused of. He remains at risk of torture and other ill-treatment in violation of international human rights conventions. The NHRC also received a complaint from the family of Qatar national “Nawaf Talal Al-Rasheed” about the arbitrary arrest of the Qatari citizen by the Saudi authorities, which is considered an enforced disappearance under article 2 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, it is also a crime against humanity under article 7 (i) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court adopted in Rome on 17 July 1998, which is also a flagrant violation of human rights and international law, without any formal charges or



Mohsen Saleh Saadoun al-Karbi

legal justification for his arrest. His family also expressed to the NHRC the deep concern and shock it feels over the lack of knowledge of his place of detention, his enforced disappearance and his denial of contact with him or his lawyer, according to the complaint. Furthermore, the OHCHR called on the Saudi Authorities in May 29, 2018 to provide information about Nawaf Talal Al Rasheed. The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance called for clarifying the fate and whereabouts of him.

The National Human Rights Commission has documented complaints of violations of the right to freedom of movement and residence by the countries of the blockade, including:



Mr. (H. G) Saudi national:

Has a license from the KSA to import 16 horses exported from Doha from the his father, who lives in the State of Qatar, died. When he asked the Saudi authorities at the Saudi land port “Salwa” to go to the State of Qatar to receive his father’s body, his request was denied and prevented from leaving, the matter that forced him to communicate with the NHRC.



Mr. (H. Y) Qatari national:

He booked three tickets for his family from Doha to America. Their trip was on Emirates Airlines, where they traveled through Dubai. However, when the Gulf crisis broke out, he was unable to return on the same flight. Upon returning, he was notified by Emirates Airlines after he had contacted them, to return through the State of Oman noting that he have three month old child and a sick wife, so he was forced to buy new tickets to return him and his family and suffered greater financial losses Three months old and his wife sick, So he had to buy new tickets to return with his family, resulting in greater financial losses.



Mrs. (H. S) Bahraini national:

Resident of the State of Qatar and married to a Bahraini citizen residing and working in the State of Qatar and has a family residing in the Kingdom of Bahrain; she demands the right to travel and stay between the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Bahrain. But after severing relations between the two countries, she cannot go to Bahrain to meet with her family and requests the Bahraini authorities to apply for a permit Although she is a Bahraini citizen and is resident in the State of Qatar.





I: Violation of the right to health

Table (8) shows the number of violations of the right to health since the beginning of the blockade of 5 June 2017 until 23 May 2018. There were 37 violations (19 violations by the KSA, 4 by the UAE, 14 by Bahrain).

In its report issued in June 19, 2017, Amnesty International confirmed that those receiving medical treatment were given the option of continuing to treat them or to comply with the extensive and harsh measures declared by the Blockading countries ⁽¹²⁾.

In addition, the impact on the right to health has had more than one effect in terms of affecting the access of the State of Qatar to medicines (including life-saving items) and medical supplies as a result of the cessation of trade. Qatar relies on 50% to 60% of the Pharmaceutical stocks are from 20 GCC-based suppliers; also the repercussions and consequences of the blockade were also reflected in the delay in the opening of new hospitals in Qatar, as confirmed by the report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the State of Qatar (17-24 November 2017) on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 08/01/2018.

Human Rights Watch also stated in its report issued on 13 July 2017 that the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar caused serious human rights violations, including the suspension of medical care. The organization noted that its researchers documented the cases of Qatari, Gulf and expatriate citizens living in Qatar, whose rights were violated due to restrictive policies imposed on the State of Qatar since 5 June 2017 ⁽¹³⁾.





Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
						
May 23, 2018	The right to health	14	4	19	---	37

Table (8) Violation of the right to health

(12) <https://www.amnesty.org/ar/latest/news/2017/06/gulf-qatar-dispute-human-dignity-trampled-and-families-facing-uncertainty-as-sinister-deadline-passes/>

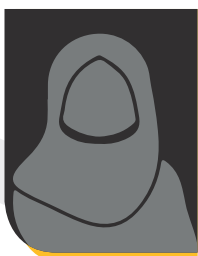
(13) <https://www.hrw.org/ar/news/2017/07/13/306595>

The NHRC has documented complaints of violations of the right to health by the countries of the blockade, including:



The disabled child (G. S) Qatari national:

Was subjected to the violation of his right to complete treatment at Dallah Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, which began since 2016 through the implantation of metal plate to correct his spine, and had to enter the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with the beginning of the Gulf crisis to the hospital to prolong these plates, but could not entered Saudi Arabia because of the decision to prevent the entry of Qataris. The delay in the operation led to the disintegration of the metal platelets and the re-operation of the operation in another hospital in the Republic of Turkey. Resulting in health complications and severe moral and material damage. The victim sent a communication to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in full details.



Mrs. (N. A) UAE national:

She is married to Mr. (A. A) Qatari national, resident in the State of Qatar, suffers from health problems and wishes to travel abroad for medical treatment. However, her UAE travel document expired on 06/01/2018 and cannot be renewed due to arbitrary procedures taken by the UAE authorities, the matter that forced her to take treatment at Hamad General Hospital in Qatar.



Mr. (K. K) Bahraini national:

In his visit to the NHRC, saying: «I suffer from chronic diabetes, which led to amputation of my left foot at Hamad General Hospital in Qatar, where I am currently receiving treatment in the same hospital regularly, and after imposing the blockade on the State of Qatar, the authorities in the Kingdom of Bahrain have asked me to leave the State of Qatar and return to the Kingdom of Bahrain. I am a resident of Doha and I am married to a Qatari woman. I have children born in the State of Qatar and are educated there, which makes it difficult for me to return to my country and leave my treatment and education of my children.



J: Violation of the right to litigation

Due to the consequences of the blockade on the State of Qatar, citizens and residents of the State of Qatar have not been able to resort to the courts of the Blockading countries and exercise the right to litigation and their right to defense, through the following:

1. Not being allowed to appear before the courts as a result of preventing them from entering blockading countries in violation of their right to litigation and the associated rights such as the right to defense.
2. Hindering the work of their attorneys and creating difficulties for them to initiate proceedings on their behalf.
3. The law-firms in the blockade countries refused to delegate Qatari and resident litigants to the courts and failed to follow up the cases already entrusted to them.
4. Non-implementation of court orders issued in favor of Qataris.
5. Cancellation of judgments issued in favor of Qataris and residents as a result of their inability to initiate their cases and exercise their right to litigation and defense.

The NHRC documented complaints of violation of the right to litigation by the countries of the blockade, including:



Complaint submitted by: Mr. (G. A) Qatari National:

The complainant submitted a complaint to the committee about the damage he suffered due to the Gulf crisis and the blockade on the State of Qatar, as he had a lawsuit in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia about renting a truck to a Saudi national, and was unable to obtain any financial benefits for the leases entered into with the lessee from the date of conclusion of the contract and until now could not because of the events to follow up his case, which number (364031068) did not find any solutions; the trucks were stolen and hidden by the lessee and could not return the trucks again. The value of each truck is estimated at QR100,000 to be the total loss and damage caused by more than QR2,000,000.



Complaint submitted by: Mr. (A. A) Qatari National:

He bought a house in the Emirate of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, a villa of AED 1,700,000 and a payment of AED 1,200,000 was made by sending payments; to date and after the blockade, they are communicating with him in order to complete the financial payments and replace the property with another property owned by the company in the State of Qatar with a commitment to pay the difference between the value of the two properties QR 1,000,000 million, causing him significant financial losses and does not wish to do so.



Complaint submitted by: Mr. (A. M) Qatari National:

Where he claims that he concluded a contract for the purchase of 2 apartments for him and his wife and is committed to pay the monthly installments to the owner; he tried to find a solution to be able to exercise his right to his property, but he finds it very difficult in light of the lack of tolerance of the Bahraini authorities, which expose him to falling in fines imposed on him due to delay in payment Premiums.

Fifth: Legal description

The governments of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain have violated several resolutions they are a party to and rules and laws of international human rights law. They are in clear violation of many articles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced disappearance; as well as articles in the Arab Charter for Human Rights, the Declaration on the Human Rights of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Economic Agreement between the Gulf Cooperation Council States. Consequently, these countries have the responsibility to protect and preserve the rights and interests of individuals residing in their territories.

The countries of the blockade also blatantly violated the Chicago Convention and have banned the movement of Qatari civil aviation over its territory without any military or public security reasons.

Articles violated by in the 3 states of blockade:



Firstly: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 2

“Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind” it means that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has guaranteed all rights stated therein to everyone, especially right to litigation.

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

Article 25

1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.
2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.
3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.



Secondly: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Article 2

Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 20

1. Any propaganda for war shall be prohibited by law.
2. Any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law.



Thirdly: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Article 6

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his living by work which he freely chooses or accepts, and will take appropriate steps to safeguard this right.

Article 10

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize that:

1. The widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family, which is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, particularly for its establishment and while it is responsible for the care and education of dependent children. Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses.

2. Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. During such period working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.

3. Special measures of protection and assistance should be taken on behalf of all children and young persons without any discrimination for reasons of parentage or other conditions. Children and young persons should be protected from economic and social exploitation. Their employment in work harmful to their morals or health or dangerous to life or likely to hamper their normal development should be punishable by law. States should also set age limits below which the paid employment of child labour should be prohibited and punishable by law.

Article 12

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

2. The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for:

(a) The provision for the reduction of the stillbirth-rate and of infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child;

(b) The improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene;

(c) The prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases;

(d) The creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness.

Article 13

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to education. They agree that education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity, and shall strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. They further agree that education shall enable all persons to participate effectively in a free society, promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations and all racial, ethnic or religious groups, and further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.



Fourthly: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Article 2

1. States Parties condemn racial discrimination and undertake to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating racial discrimination in all its forms and promoting understanding among all races, and, to this end: (a) Each State Party undertakes

to engage in no act or practice of racial discrimination against persons, groups of persons or institutions and to ensure that all public authorities and public institutions, national and local, shall act in conformity with this obligation;

(b) Each State Party undertakes not to sponsor, defend or support racial discrimination by any persons or organizations;

(c) Each State Party shall take effective measures to review governmental, national and local policies, and to amend, rescind or nullify any laws and regulations which have the effect of creating or perpetuating racial discrimination wherever it exists;

(d) Each State Party shall prohibit and bring to an end, by all appropriate means, including legislation as required by circumstances, racial discrimination by any persons, group or organization;

(e) Each State Party undertakes to encourage, where appropriate, integrationist multiracial organizations and movements and other means of eliminating barriers between races, and to discourage anything which tends to strengthen racial division.

2. States Parties shall, when the circumstances so warrant, take, in the social, economic, cultural and other fields, special and concrete measures to ensure the adequate development and protection of certain racial groups or individuals belonging to them, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. These measures shall in no case entail as a consequence the maintenance of unequal or separate rights for different racial groups after the objectives for which they were taken have been achieved.

Article 4

The States Parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one color or ethnic origin, or which attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to this end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of this Convention, inter alia:

(a) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(b) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and also organized and all other propaganda activities, which promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(c) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination.

Article 6

States Parties shall assure to everyone within their jurisdiction effective protection and remedies, through the competent national tribunals and other State institutions, against any acts of racial discrimination which violate his human rights and fundamental freedoms contrary to this Convention, as well as the right to seek from such tribunals just and adequate reparation or satisfaction for any damage suffered as a result of such discrimination.

Article 7

States Parties undertake to adopt immediate and effective measures, particularly in the fields of teaching, education, culture and information, with a view to combating prejudices which lead to racial discrimination and to promoting understanding, tolerance and friendship among nations and racial or ethnical groups, as well as to propagating the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and this Convention.



Fifthly: International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Article 2

For the purposes of this Convention, «enforced disappearance» is considered to be the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law.



Sixth: Arab Charter on Human rights

Article 3

1. Each State Party to the present Charter undertakes to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the right to enjoy all the rights and freedoms recognized herein, without any distinction on grounds of race, color, sex, language, religion, opinion, thought, national or social origin, property, birth or physical or mental disability

Article 8

1. No one shall be subjected to physical or mental torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 26

1. Every person lawfully within the territory of a State Party shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence in accordance with applicable regulations.

Article 32

1. The present Charter shall ensure the right to information, freedom of opinion and freedom of expression, freedom to seek, receive and impart information by all means, regardless of frontiers.

2. Such rights and freedoms are exercised in the framework of society's fundamental principles and shall only be subjected to restrictions necessary for the respect of the rights or reputation of others and for the protection of national security or of public order, health or morals.

Article 33

1. The family is the natural and fundamental unit of society, founded by the marriage of a man and a woman. The right of men and women of marriageable age to marry and to found a family shall be recognized. No marriage shall be entered without the full consent of the intending spouses. The law in force shall regulate the rights and responsibilities of spouses as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

2. The State and society provide for the protection of the family and its members, for the strengthening of its bonds. All forms of violence and abusive treatment in the relations between family members, especially towards women and children, shall be prohibited. The State and society undertake to provide outstanding care and special protection for mothers, children and the elderly. Young persons have the right to be ensured maximum opportunities for physical and mental development.

3. The State Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative and judicial provisions to ensure the protection, survival and well-being of children in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity. The best interest of the child, in all circumstances, serves as the basis for all measures taken, whether the child is a juvenile delinquent or a child "at risk".



Seventh: GCC Human Rights Declaration

Article 6

The Freedom of belief and the practice of religious rites is a right of every person according to the regulation (law) without disruption of the public order and public morals.

Article 9

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and exercising such freedom is guaranteed insofar as it accords with Islamic Sharia law, public order and the regulations (laws) regulating this area.

Article 14

The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, originally composed of a man and a woman, governed by religion, morals and patriotism; its entity and bonds are maintained and reinforced by religion. Motherhood, childhood and members of the family are protected by religion as well as the State and society against all forms of abuse and domestic violence.

Article 24

Every person, who has the capacity of doing so, has the right to work and has the right to free choice of employment according to the requirements of dignity and public interest, while just and favorable employment conditions, as well as employees' and employers' rights, are ensured.

Article 27

Private property is inviolable and no one shall be prevented from the disposition of his property except by the regulation (law), and it may not be expropriated unless for public interest with fair compensation.

The countries of the blockade have violated various International conventions, including:

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- International Covenant on economic and social and cultural Rights;
- The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD);
- The international Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED)

Sixth: Conclusions

NHRC confirms its previous conclusions, as well as the conclusions stated in international reports and the United Nations Technical Mission on the consequences of the blockade in Qatar. Further NHRC stresses on the following:

- ★ Unilateral arbitrary measures and procedures taken by the blockading countries have resulted in a number of violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.
- ★ The measures taken by states of blockade to punish citizens and residents of Qatar and citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries were used as a tool for political pressure and a mean of managing political disputes. The said measures escalated to collective punishments affecting individuals and property.
- ★ The discriminatory measures taken by the countries of the blockade amount to racial discrimination, and incitement and hatred attitude towards Qatari people aims to offend and contempt the Qatari citizen, as well as insulting symbols of the State of Qatar.
- ★ The purpose of the measures taken by the countries of the blockade in the economic, commercial and investment fields is to target and strike the infrastructure of the national economy of the State of Qatar, in addition to damaging the economic rights of individuals and communities, is a dangerous precedent which may amount to the crime of aggression.
- ★ The countries of the blockade did not take into account the minimum conditions and terms of trade, economic and investment transactions, which confirms the absence of a safe investment environment in those states.
- ★ The countries of the blockade did not take into account the rights of the most vulnerable groups (women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly). Further, these arbitrary measures have resulted in deprivation of education, denial of employment and violation of the right to health, especially for those groups.
- ★ Prolongation of the crisis and tragedy of the victims while neither redressing the victims nor restoration their rights, threatens international security and peace and undermines mediation efforts.
- ★ The ongoing tragedy of separated families may lead to destroying social fabric and exacerbating the suffering of women and children in a flagrant violation of the international convention of the rights of the child and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

★ The victims have not been granted access to justice in the countries of the blockade. Moreover, they have been deprived their rights to exercise litigation and the associated rights, such as the right to defense, which constitute an impediment to redress, compensation and restitution of victims.

★ There is no response by the countries of the blockade to remove the violations and lift the harm from those affected, and the measures taken by them were merely a maneuver to improve their image or to delay the current situation. The mysterious mechanisms that lack of credibility in which the countries of the Blockade claim that they have developed in order to address the situation of the victims, failed to remedy the victims' jurist and humanitarian situation and failed to communicate with NHRC the Committee's relentless efforts to do so.

★ Since the commencement of the blockade and up till now, NHRC did not receive any reply to any of its correspondences sent to national institutions and some relevant civil society organizations in the countries of the blockade, and the said organizations did not provide any cooperation whatsoever.

★ Qatari authorities have not taken reciprocal arbitrary measures to those taken by the countries of the blockade. The Qatari government has also strived to contain the crisis and its negative impact on citizens and residents, including residents of the countries of the Blockade.

★ There has been a response by international mechanisms for the protection of human rights, led by the OHCHR and the United Nations Office of Special Procedures, as well as the Subcommittee for Human Rights in the European Parliament. There has also been remarkable engagement by international human rights organizations such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and others, which conducted field visits and prepared reports. These reports clearly reflect the magnitude of human suffering resulting from the blockade.

★ The report of the OHCHR Technical Mission revealed the extent of human rights violations caused by the blockade which not only affected the Qataris, but extended to residents and migrant workers in addition to citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

★ Despite the official correspondences by NHRC on this regard, none of the regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights in the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf or the Arab Parliament have played an effective role in lifting the violations and remedy of victims. Therefore, these mechanisms are still unable to do their part.

★ The Saudi, UAE and Bahraini authorities have not allowed international organizations to investigate the facts of the negative repercussions of the blockade on human rights, including the rights of their citizens.

★ No action has been taken by the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights despite the fact that the NHRC has repeatedly called upon him to intervene quickly to counter the negative effects of arbitrary measures taken by the countries of the blockade and to mitigate their consequences on human rights, in contrast to the many UN Special Rapporteurs who issued urgent appeals and official questions to the countries of the blockade on the size and type of violations and how to compensate the victims.

★ Despite the statements of the NHRC, the assertions of international reports and organizations, and the urgent appeal of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief to Saudi Arabia, the Saudi authorities continue to politicize religious feelings, put obstacles and hindrances in the way of Qatari people and citizens, and prevent them from exercising their right to worship. The NHRC will work to prosecute KSA locally, regionally and internationally as a result of the psychological damage to the Qatari pilgrims and material losses to the offices of Hajj and Umrah campaigns. Moreover, continue to address the issue of politicizing religious rites in all international human rights forums, and to begin with regional and international partners in organizing awareness campaigns about the seriousness of Saudi Arabia's actions in relation politicizing religious rites.

★ The presence of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates as members of the Human Rights Council raises questions and doubts about the credibility of the Human Rights Council in light of the grave violations committed by these two countries.

★ Recently, the Saudi authorities have been targeting Qatari citizens while traveling outside the State of Qatar by kidnapping or making illegal arrest warrants and then arbitrarily detaining them and forcibly disappearing.

★ Most of the cases of victims and parties affected by the blockade, especially the mixed families, remain unresolved and the impact of the current crisis and its negative effects will remain for a long period of time.

Seventh: Recommendations to the Competent Authorities

Recommendations to Civil Society

Take urgent actions to lift the blockade, and make every possible effort to mitigate its repercussions on the people of Qatar, and citizens of the countries of the Blockade, in isolation from the efforts of political mediation to resolve the crisis.

Recommendations to the Kuwaiti Mediator

Calling on the Kuwaiti mediation - in the light of the welcome efforts of the Kuwaiti mediation to resolve the humanitarian repercussions resulting from the crisis - to work to alleviate the suffering of the victims and resolve the humanitarian situation for them, especially for the mixed families even if the political solution is long.

Recommendations to Civil Society Organizations based in GCC Countries

Intensify efforts and joint cooperation to resolve the repercussions of the crisis on the humanitarian situation and carry out awareness campaigns to alleviate the suffering of the victims, in addition to fighting hatred and violence speech, as well as holding coordination meetings with NHRC for this purpose.

Recommendations to OHCHR and UN

1. Take further steps to force the countries of the blockade to reverse from the unilateral arbitrary decisions they have taken.
2. Continue to urge the countries of the blockade to stop the violations caused by the inhumane blockade measures, address these violations, redress the victims and compensate them for the physical and psychological damage caused to them by the blockade.
3. The OHCHR should present reports and data documenting the various types of violations that have affected a large number of individuals, in particular with regard to the displacement of families, including their dire consequences on women and children following the break-up of families, in addition to demanding the states to respect the fundamental freedoms of those in their territories.
4. Submit a detailed report on human rights violations to the Human Rights Council, special rapporteurs and contractual mechanisms to address violations and ensure that they are not repeated, and that a dangerous precedence is not set.
5. Call on the OHCHR for further action at all levels of international human rights mechanisms and to raise the issue of the repercussions of the blockade in the report of the OHCHR at the next session of the UN Human Rights Council.
6. Call on the OHCHR to contact specialized international agencies such as the International Labor Organization, UNESCO, WTO and ICAO to share information and support complaints against the countries of the Blockade.

7. Call on the United Nations Special Rapporteurs to act swiftly to address the issues of victims of the blockade violations and to visit the countries of the blockade, as well as to include the repercussions of the blockade in their reports to the Human Rights Council.
8. Call on the Special Rapporteur on the unilateral coercive measures to intervene immediately, approach the countries of the blockade, as well as visiting the State of Qatar and the countries of the blockade.
9. Call on the special rapporteur on independence of judges and lawyers to move swiftly to enable victims to obtain their right to litigation, and urge the countries of the blockade to allow them to access the national courts to address their legal status.
10. Invite the Technical Mission of the OHCHR to visit the countries of the blockade and to recognize the negative impact on the countries of the blockade citizen's and citizen's of Qatar, and include its implications in a report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
11. Call on the General Assembly of UN to issue a global declaration against the blockade of the peoples and neutralize civilians from any political strife.

Recommendations to Human Rights Council

1. Take all possible measures to lift the blockade and the resulting violations, as well as demand compensation for all damages to all individuals.
2. Demanding the establishment of a fact-finding committee and conduct direct interviews with victims.
3. Call on the countries of the blockade to allow field visits by special rapporteurs and international human rights organizations, allow victims to resort to national justice, and pursue proceedings for the restoration of their rights. Additionally, immediately stop defamatory campaigns, hate speech and incitement, and hold those responsible accountable.
4. Demands the countries of the blockade abolish all unilateral arbitrary measures, to respect their obligations under international human rights law, to immediately lift violations and to redress victims.

Recommendation to General Secretary of GCC

1. Exert all efforts through The Settlement of Disputes Committee of the Supreme Council for to persuade the governments of countries to begin to resolve the situation of families, citizens, social, economic, civil and cultural.
2. Work to lift the blockade on the State of Qatar and neutralize civilians from any political strife.

Recommendations to the blockading countries

1. Immediately lifting the blockade on the State of Qatar.
2. Consider positively and immediately the foundations of the report of the OHCHR Technical Mission.
3. Cancel all unilateral arbitrary measures, respect their obligations under international human rights law, and immediately lift violations and redress victims.
4. Neutralizing the political file from influencing the humanitarian and social situation and not using it as a pretext for violating international law and international human rights law.
5. Establish effective mechanisms to address cases of violations and redress victims.
6. Allow the visits of the OHCHR Technical Mission and special rapporteurs and international human rights organizations to examine the effects of the actions taken on the citizens of these countries and the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar. For close humanitarian situations and for determining responsibilities and redress for victims.
7. Allow victims to resort to national justice and litigation procedures to restore their rights.
8. The immediate cessation of defamation campaigns, hate speech, inflammatory propaganda and accountability of those responsible.
9. Stop fabricating arguments and lies to arrest and detain Qataris or residents of the State of Qatar arbitrarily and to limit the racist measures against Qatari citizens.

Recommendation to the Qatari Government

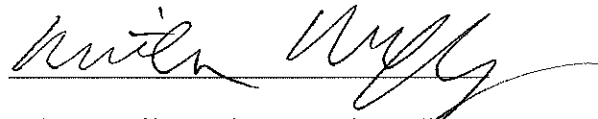
1. Continue to take all possible steps at the international level by the General Assembly of the United Nations, the Security Council, the Human Rights Council and the international tribunals to lift the unjust blockade on the population of Qatar and defend their rights in the face of violations against them, as well as holding the perpetrators accountable.
2. Seeking resort to the International Court of Justice, arbitration committees and specialized national and international courts, as well as holding the perpetrators of incitement campaigns, hate speech and calls for violence and racial discrimination from the countries of the Blockade accountable.
3. Taking urgent action at the level of the Human Rights Council to present a draft resolution on the repercussions of the blockade on the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar. Furthermore, the repercussions of the blockade to be discussed before the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Security Council.
4. Referring to international reports, led by the Technical Mission report in supporting complaints submitted before the World Trade Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization and UNESCO.
5. Inviting the Compensation Claims Committee to continue litigation and international arbitration procedures, relying on the rationales contained in the national and international reports on the blockade, in order to redress and compensate the victims.
6. Taking due actions to bring the perpetrators of incitement campaigns, hate speech, calls for violence and racial discrimination from the countries of the Blockade to justice.



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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the attached translation is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a true and accurate translation from Arabic into English of the attached excerpt.



Kristen Duffy, Senior Managing Editor
Geotext Translations, Inc.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 6 day of JUNE, 2018.



JEFFREY AARON CURETON
NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK
No. 01CU6169789
Qualified In New York County
My Commission Expires September 23, 2019