SYRIA: THE UPR PROCESS AND CIVIL SOCIETY’S ROLE IN PROMOTING JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

21 September 2016 15:30 – 17:00
Room XXV, Palais des Nations

Welcome remarks:
H.E. Amb. Peter Matt, Liechtenstein Permanent Representative to the UN
H.E. Amb. Julian Braithwaite, UK Permanent Representative to the UN
H.E. Amb. Maurizio Enrico Serra, Italy Permanent Representative to the UN

Panelists:
Riyad Al-Najem - Hurras, Syrian child protection network
Husam Alkatlaby - The Violations Documentation Center in Syria
Ola Aljounde, Women Now for Development
Diab Serrih – The Day After

Conclusions:
H.E. Amb. Keith Harper, US Permanent Representative to the UN

By focusing on the situation of children, young people and women, the efforts to document the widespread violations committed in the last five years and on how achieve justice and accountability for the victims of these crimes, this side event aims at reinforcing the role that the Syrian civil society community can play in the pursuit of a political solution to the war in Syria. The meeting serves as a reminder that the urgent priority of reaching a lasting political solution requires an inclusive and participatory process capable to ensure that the root causes of the conflict be addressed. It aims to articulate the request from Syrian civil society for freedom, democracy and accountability for violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, irrespective of their ethnic, religious and political affiliation, which must be met to foster national reconciliation and a political solution.