
*a Syrian civil society appraisal of progress and challenges of accountability campaigning and lessons learned*

18-19 December 2018
Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Istanbul

**Agenda**

**Monday 17 December 2018**

*Arrival of participants*

**Tuesday 18 December 2018**

08:30-09:00  *Coffee and Registration*

09:00-09:30  **Opening session**

Introduction by the organisers

09:30-10:00  Conference Methodology, Thematic Sessions, Context and Objectives

How will society sustain the campaign for impunity in the long run?

10:00-11.30  Thematic Session I: **Narrating the past to build the future**

Chair: Hanna Ziadeh

Topics: How to counter negationist narratives and inform new generations. Accountability beyond Criminal Justice; Memorialisation, Oral Histories, Archives, Repositories; Untold stories: the Dom, the Ajanib and Maktumeen; Preserving Memory: a shared history for future generations; How do you deal with past violations and new types of violations; Who “owns” the information / evidence? Evidentiary standards and probative value. **Questions:** What Lessons have been learned from the past efforts? How might things develop in the future? How are things challenges? How should they be addressed?

11:30-11:45  *Coffee Break*
11:45-13:15 Thematic Session II: **Property Rights and the Right of Return**  
Chair: Khalil Idrissi  
Topics: Forced displacement and ethnic cleansing; Rights of returnees and real impact of so-called Law No. 10 and other restrictive measures; addressing deliberate demographic change. How will affected communities respond to attempts to normalization by the regime (elections, reforms, amnesties, etc). **Questions: What Lessons have been learned from the past efforts? How might things develop in the future? How are things challenges? How should they be addressed?**

13:15-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00 Thematic Session III: **Combating Sexual and Gender Based Violence**  
Chair: Hanan Rabani  
Topics: How has Sexual and Gender Based Violence evolved over the conflict? How will SGBV evolve in the next years? Victims’ empowerment and extractive practices / objectification? Who speaks for whom? Documentation, self representation and empowerment. **Questions: What Lessons have been learned from the past efforts? How might things develop in the future? How are things challenges? How should they be addressed?**

16:30-16:45 Tea Break

16:45-18:00 Thematic Session IV: **Children and Accountability**  
Chair: Hatem Kotrane  
Topics: Crimes against children; Dealing with Children perpetrators; Agency and self representation; Intergenerational trauma and post conflict narratives. **Questions: What Lessons have been learned from the past efforts? How might things develop in the future? How are things challenges? How should they be addressed?**

19:30 Conference Dinner

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**Wednesday 19 December 2018**

09:00-10:30 Thematic Session V: **Detainees and Disappeared**  
Chair: Mohammed Al-Tajer  
Topics: Preparing for long term advocacy; Lessons learned from the Save the Rest campaign; How do we create advocacy space for families of disappeared. **Questions: What Lessons have been learned from the past efforts? How might things develop in the future? How are things challenges? How should they be addressed?**
10:30-12.00  Thematic Session VI: **Gender Dimensions in Accountability**  
Chair: Dalila Ben Mbarek  
Topics: The Myth of a gender-neutral approach; Gender dynamics and justice processes; Meaningful participation in shaping the narrative and the solutions; Who speaks for whom? Holistic and representative approaches; Intersectionality of Gender and other factors (social status/education, religion, geography). **Questions:** What Lessons have been learned from the past efforts? How might things develop in the future? How are things challenges? How should they be addressed?

12.00-12:15  **Coffee break**

12:15-13:45  Thematic Session VII: **Interaction with the international community**  
Chair: Frej Fenniche  
Topics: What focus for international advocacy, how will it change? Countering normalisation narratives; Exposing the human rights cost of non-conflict sensitive humanitarian aid; Long term engagement with international human rights and accountability processes. **Questions:** What Lessons have been learned from the past efforts? How might things develop in the future? How are things challenges? How should they be addressed?

13:45-15:00  **Lunch**

15:00-16:30  Closing Session: **Mobilising for long term societal resistance to impunity**  
Reports from Thematic Sessions  
Discussion and conclusions

**Languages**  
Simultaneous interpretation will be available for all conference sessions in Arabic and English.

**Venue**  
Courtyard Marriott at IST Airport, Fatih Cd. Dereboyu Sk. No.2, 34303 Halkali, Istanbul, Turkey  

**Airport Shuttle**  
the Marriott has a frequent and efficient shuttle service operating from Istanbul (IST) airport from 05h30 in the morning to 00h30 at night. Please call +90 212 6920000 on arrival.