



**Number: / 141 /**

**Date: 02/11/2015**

**Your Excellency**

**The Secretary General of the United Nations**

**Mr. Ban Ki-moon,,,**

Russia made the decision to go on its direct military occupation of Syria, and targeting civilians and places of gatherings in areas that went out of control of the ruling authority. Russia is trying to support the illegitimate power of Bashar al-Assad and to complete its plan with Iran for occupying Syrian territory and killing the Syrian people using advanced weapons even forbidden internationally ones such as cluster bombs, ballistic missiles and intercontinental ballistic missiles. Russia brought to Syria its militias and mercenaries in addition to the sectarian militias belonging to Iran, primarily the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, and the Lebanese militia Hezbollah, militias and of different nationalities.

Today, a month after the beginning of the Russian aggression on the Syrian people, we all recognize the real goal of this aggression. 95% of targeted areas are civilian. Russia also targeted the headquarters of the Free Syrian Army. This aggression is aiming to continue killing the Syrian people and to eliminate the revolution. It is aiming to destroy what remains of vital facilities and infrastructure in Syria in completion to Bashar al-Assad's policy. There are hundreds of air strikes by Russian air forces daily. We have been able to document the death of more than 440 civilians, including 103 children, and (59) women, and more than 1,500 wounded. Russia committed (45) massacres. These attacks have caused the displacement of more than 100 thousand civilians from their hometowns, and villages. They targeted vital centers, which led to the destruction of:

(4) Medical centers, (2) schools, (4) mosques, and (3) service institutions, one industrial facility, one camp for displaced people, two bakeries, one archaeological site, and one market. This is occurring in parallel with the entry of Iranian military land forces to participate in the killing of the Syrian people in dual occupation (Russian-Iranian) in Syria. This has been confirmed by many human rights reports issued by International impartial and credible organizations of human rights.



**Your Excellency, The Secretary General:**

The Russian aggression and intervention in Syria is illegitimate and illegal under the Charter of the United Nations and the international law as follows:

1. It violates the fourth paragraph of Article II of the Charter in the inadmissibility the use of force in international relations. The article stipulates, "All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations".
2. Russia, as a permanent member of the Security Council, must help maintain peace and security. However, this aggression contrasts with the first paragraph of Article XXIV of the Charter that stated:  
"In order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations, its Members confer on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and agree that in carrying out its duties under this responsibility the Security Council acts on their behalf".
3. This aggression violates article fifty-one of the Charter, which allowed states to use power in the event of self-defense. However, as it is well known, there is no land border between Syria and Russia and there is no case of any attack on Russian territory by the Syrians. Therefore, Russia does not have the right to military interfere in Syria.
4. This aggression violates the Security Council Resolution (2170) of 2014, which clarified that any military option shall not be apart from the council and all countries want to fight terrorism must back to the council for making such decisions.
5. This aggression violates international law principle of non-interference, which stipulates, "International legitimacy does not always remain beside the existing governments. When it comes to self-determination of the people, legitimacy turns to the peoples rather than governments. Therefore, Russia does not have the right to say that Bashar Assad invited Russia to interfere in Syria because Bashar is an illegal president after the revolution of the Syrian people against his regime on 2011. Since then, the constitutional legitimacy in Syria moved to the Syrian people through their representatives under the United Nations Resolution No. 262/67 in



2013, and the resolutions of the Arab League with numbers / 7572/2013, and the resolution No. / 580 / for the year 2013, and Resolution No. / 600/2014, which considered The National Coalition for the forces of the revolution and the Syrian opposition the legitimate representative of the Syrians and the sole interlocutor on behalf of the Syrian people.

6. The legitimacy in Syria is disputed between the forces of the Syrian revolution on one hand and the ruling power of Assad on the other hand which means, Bashar Al-Assad does not have the legitimacy of calling other governments to intervene for in this conflict.

**Your Excellency, The Secretary General:**

As we mentioned above, there is evidence that the Russian forces committed war crimes and crimes against humanity against the Syrian people. They are holding indiscriminate attacks causing disproportionate harm to civilians, which constitute serious violations of the laws of war. Russia is not fulfilling its obligations under international humanitarian law, including not targeting civilians, to give warning prior to all attacks that may affect civilians, and to allow aid agencies immediate access to the targeted areas bombardment.

Based on the above, the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces, which is the sole representative and intellectual on behalf of the Syrian people demand the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the following steps:

First, call for an emergency meeting of the Security Council to discuss these collective massacres committed by Russian troops by their air force. Call Russia for an immediate cessation of its indiscriminate attacks against civilians and stop its military support to Bashar al-Assad. In addition to withdrawing Russian forces and other militias and foreign fighters from Syria especially those who obey the orders of the Iranian regime. We also demand for issuing all resolutions that ensure the protection of civilians since Russian attacks are considered offensive and disproportionate force and illegal and, as you know that attacks are causing civilian casualties more that military advantages which constitute serious violations of the laws of war.

Second, rapid and prompt intervention of the United Nations through the Security Council, in order to force the ruling authority in Syria to stop these massacres, and to implement the previous resolutions of the security council regarding to the situation of

الأئتلاف الوطنى لقوى  
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Syria, in particular the resolution No. (2139) dated (22/02/2014) and the resolution No. (2042) dated (14/04/2012).

Third, the formation of a fact-finding committee to investigate the Russian violations and the impacts of the military aggression and documenting the illegal practices against the Syrian people.

**Lawyer Haitham Maleh**

**The chairperson of the legal committee**

**Delegated by Dr. Khaled Khojah**

**The president of the National Coalition of**

**The Syrian revolution and opposition forces**