

Tuesday 07.01.2025

To the people of Syria, and to all those who live on the land of Syria or whose fate is linked to its fate

Syria is witnessing a historic milestone that requires all the people of Syria to work to achieve a transition from tyranny and oppression to a new era of freedom, dignity, and justice. Since the beginning of the revolution in 2011, demands for freedom and equality have been the cornerstone, despite being confronted with systematic violence that has led to untold suffering. Today, we stand on the threshold of a new phase in which we believe that the future we aspire to is in our hands.

We, the members of the Change for Syria Network, based on our belief in a civil, democratic Syria, based on the foundations of equal citizenship that guarantees the human rights of all people of Syria, whether inside or outside Syria, and our belief in the values of freedom, dignity, and justice, declare this document as a reference for the constitutional principles and humanitarian values that form the basis for building a future Syria.

We are committed to cherishing the enormous sacrifices made by our people for the sake of freedom and dignity. We pledge to them to continuously strive to achieve their noble goals by building a homeland worthy of their sacrifices and guaranteeing the rights of all citizens without exception. We are committed to standing by the people of Syria to achieve the demands of the Syrian revolution of political freedom, freedom of belonging to any religion or ethnicity, and to achieve full justice and a decent life for all. We seek to criminalize the glorification of the symbols and actions of the former regime and support efforts to document and recall war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Assad regime, as a step on the road to sustainable justice.

We affirm our commitment to the following political, civic and cultural principles, which guide our work and express our vision for a nation that embraces all:

National Unity:

We reject any attempts to divide Syria or tamper with its unity. We work to strengthen national ties between all components of the diverse Syrian society with their cultural, religious, political and ethnic differences, and we emphasize the importance of national unity in facing challenges, whether external interventions or internal divisions, to build the state with the participation of all components without any discrimination or exclusion.

Justice and Equality:

We believe that justice and equality are fundamental pillars for building any stable society. Therefore, we urge the drafting of a civil constitution that guarantees equal citizenship. We will work hard to be active in ensuring equal rights for all Syrians and other components of society inside Syria and in the diaspora, regardless of their religious, ethnic, or political affiliations, and we emphasize the need to respect cultural, religious, and gender diversity.

Rejection of hatred, division, and racism:

We reject all forms of discrimination and hatred and seek to build a just and integrated society based on equality and respect for diversity. We believe that justice begins when rights are respected regardless of religion or nationality, and we work to promote the spirit of national unity and coexistence.

Women's participation in political decision-making and public affairs to achieve change:

We believe that women are key to achieving the desired change and they are equal in all rights and duties with men. We will support all opportunities that allow them to actively contribute to building a future Syria, such as fair political and social participation.



Empowering Youth and Children:

We believe that youth and children are the cornerstone of Syria's future. Therefore, we are committed to supporting them by providing education, training, and development opportunities that enable them to hone their skills and enhance their active participation in the political, civic and cultural fields and to build a society based on justice and equality.

Supporting those affected by war:

We seek to support people who have been directly affected by the war, including survivors of detention or those who have gone through traumatic experience, In addition to the dignified and safe return of all forcibly displaced persons. We launch initiatives aimed at improving their living conditions and providing psychosocial support, while working to promote their integration into society and enable them to live independently and with dignity. We also focus on supporting efforts to provide psychosocial support to children to ensure they grow up in a safe and stable environment.

Advancement of civil society:

We are keen to strengthen the role of civil society through initiatives that promote awareness of rights and duties and consolidate the values of democracy and active citizenship. We are implementing projects aimed at consolidating the concept of citizenship, supporting community cooperation, and aiming for an independent civil society capable of facing challenges by supporting NGOs and promoting an environment that stimulates justice and equality.

Preserving Syria's National Identity and Cultural Heritage:

We work to protect Syria's cultural and historical heritage and promote an inclusive national identity that embodies our belonging and unity as a people, with a focus on issues of identity and culture in Syria and the diaspora. We are committed to creating a platform that brings together the arts, culture, and public sphere, to ensure the presence of Syrian cultural affairs in regional and international debates related to Syria's present and future. We also emphasize the importance of the protective role of culture in preserving national identity, and its developmental role in achieving social justice.

Development and construction:

We seek to support efforts to build a modern state based on science, innovation, and sustainable development, which benefits its citizens.

Partnership with the international community and commitment to international conventions:

We affirm the need to cooperate with regional and international organizations to support the reconstruction process and achieve a just and sustainable peace that guarantees the stability of Syria, while preserving its sovereignty and independence of decision away from any dependency, and in a way that guarantees a key role for Syrians at home and in the diaspora. In this context, we call for Syria's accession to the Rome Statute in affirmation of its commitment to international justice. We are also committed to applying the principles of the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, which guarantees the cultural rights of individuals and groups to access, participate in and contribute to the development of culture, while respecting freedom of creativity and cultural expression. Culture is not just a reflection of society, it is an effective tool for change, communication and peacebuilding, making it a key pillar for achieving sustainable stability in Syria and strengthening its role at the national and international levels.

In conclusion:

Through this statement, we affirm our firm determination to continue working for a better Syria, a Syria that achieves freedom, dignity and justice for all its inhabitants, a Syria that is a model of national unity, equal citizenship, and sustainable peace globally.

Freedom, dignity and justice for the people of Syria and mercy for its martyrs