



## **Profile of Mizan Organization for Legal Studies and Human Rights**



## **+ Mizan for Legal Studies and Human Rights / MHR NGO;**

It is a human rights civil society organization, non-profit, founded by lawyer Yasser Al-Farhan along with a number of experts in international law and human rights activists. The organization began its work in the summer of 2022.

MHR NGO is an officially registered association working within the framework of its stated objectives below. It conducts its activities transparently through its own bank accounts.

It ensures fair participation of women in its structure and strictly avoids discrimination based on race, religion, gender, color, origin, geographical background, or class. MHR NGO aims to protect human rights through its contributions to documentation, working towards justice for victims, preventing impunity for perpetrators, and ensuring non-repetition. It also focuses on spreading knowledge and promoting a culture of human rights and public freedoms across all generations and classifications.

and contributing to efforts, studies, and recommendations aimed at reinforcing the principles of the rule of law, judicial independence, equality, equal citizenship, peaceful coexistence, combating all forms of discrimination, and promoting a culture of dialogue and recognition of the other.

Recognizing that the process of democratic transition in Syria requires applying the concepts of good governance based on justice, equality, and transparency.



 Our vision;

**Justice for all human beings  
to enjoy peace and prosperity**

 Values;

**Defending Victims & Peace with Justice &  
Promotion and Enhancement of Awareness**

 Our methodology;

**Neutrality      Professionalism      Willpower  
Credibility      Transparency      Integration**

 logo;





### Our priorities in our cases;

- Opposing arbitrary detention, opposing enforced disappearance, opposing torture.
- Opposing forced displacement, defending the right to return, advocating against forced return, and advocating for the right to a safe and neutral environment.
- Contributing to the protection of housing rights and private property, and contributing to the protection of cultural heritage by monitoring and documenting attacks on archaeological sites and artifacts in Syria.
- Supporting efforts to hold accountable those involved in war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity by monitoring and documenting violations, contributing to the building of evidence files, and sharing them with relevant international bodies and judicial authorities in jurisdictional states.
- Advocating for victims' rights to truth, justice, reparations for both material and moral damages, accountability, and playing a pivotal role in justice processes and political solution pathways.
- Contributing to ensuring transitional justice, focusing on the pivotal role of victims in its design.
- Supporting equal participation of women in leadership roles and public life, working on capacity building and empowerment of women, especially survivors and families of the missing.
- Defending children's rights in care, health, education, and knowledge, contributing to immunizing and protecting children from drugs, terrorism, recruitment, violence, and hatred tendencies.
- Promoting and enhancing human rights culture.
- Supporting the right to participate in political life and enhancing democracy.
- Working on legal and constitutional studies related to the aforementioned issues.



## Partners and international cooperation bodies;



International, Impartial and **الدولية المستقلة**  
Independent Mechanism **المحايدة والمستقلة**  
للمساعدة في التحقيق واللاحقة القضائية للأشخاص المسؤولين عن الجرائم الأشد خطورة  
وفق تصنيف القانون الدولي للركبة في الجمهورية العربية السورية منذ آذار/مارس 2011



## IIMP / المؤسسة الدولية المعنية بالمفقودين في سوريا



## Syrian partners and cooperation destinations;



ÖZGÜR HUKUKÇULAR  
DERNEĞİ



المركز السوري للإعلام وحرية التعبير  
Navenda Sûriyayî ya Ragihandinê û Azadiya Derbirinê  
Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression



هيئة التفاوض  
لقوى الثورة والمعارضة السورية



## + Our team;

- Our organization is still emerging and relies on volunteer work in its activities. It prioritizes the involvement of women and youth in representation and employment as soon as it begins.
- MHR NGO is preparing an internal regulation, a code of conduct, and recruitment and contracting procedures, each based on non-discrimination standards, prioritizing the appointment of qualified individuals with experience and expertise.
- Currently dedicated to the organization is Lawyer Yasser Al-Farhan, the Executive Director and Co-founder, supported by several volunteers.

- YASER AL-FARHAN

- Co-founder and Executive Director
- Researcher and trainer in international law
- Lawyer ,Human rights defender
- The profile is attached and available on the MHR organization's website.





## Our completed projects;

### 1) Within the framework of activities;

- Organizing and facilitating [a centralized meeting for several families of the missing with the IIMP](#) international organization concerned with the missing persons in Syria, held on April 17, 2024, attended by 20 individuals comprising both men and women from the families.
- [Organizing and facilitating three workshops](#) on transitional justice topics with survivors, victims' families, and Syrian experts, in collaboration with the Syrian Negotiation Commission and supported by the British Foreign Ministry. The workshops were held in Afrin on March 2, 2024, in Azaz on March 3, 2024, and in Gaziantep on April 25, 2024.
- [Supporting earthquake victims](#) in northern Syria with in-kind donations provided by members of the organization.
- Participating in organizing a workshop on the Universal Periodic Review, in collaboration with the Free Syrian Lawyers Association, held in Gaziantep on February 29, 2024. MHR presented a comparative analytical study of decisions and reports of the Human Rights Council and Commission.
- Organizing a focused session with the families of the missing persons in Istanbul in July 2022, during which their testimonies were presented, and updates regarding the search for their loved ones were discussed. The session concluded with recommendations to relevant international parties.



- [A focused session on enforced disappearances](#), organized by MHR in collaboration with the Free Syrian Lawyers Association, attended by several families of the missing persons in Gaziantep on September 4, 2022.
- [Lecture titled "International Action Against Enforced Disappearances in Syria,"](#) prepared and delivered by the director of MHR in Gaziantep on September 4, 2022, attended by 80 participants including Syrian human rights activists, families of the missing persons, and representatives from the international community.
- Organizing a dialogue session with families, victims, and witnesses of the chemical massacre in Istanbul in July 2022, during which international efforts for truth and accountability regarding the use of chemical weapons were reviewed and evaluated.
- Participating in organizing a seminar on the chemical massacre in Ghouta, organized by the Association in Gaziantep on August 22, 2022. The organization joined witnesses and victims in presenting their stories and provided a paper reviewing the work of the investigative committees and evaluating international actions in accordance with legal provisions.
- [Participating in organizing the Syrian Justice Conference](#), titled "Justice through the Eyes of Victims," in collaboration with the Free Syrian Lawyers Association, on July 30-31, 2022. MHR NGO contributed with two papers presented in two sessions: the first titled "International Paths





to Justice in Syria," and the second titled "Developments and Consequences of the Detainees and Missing Persons Issue.

- Participation in international conferences held in [Geneva](#), [Brussels](#), Paris, and Istanbul, where MHR NGO presented papers and contributions.

## 2) In the context of enhancing human rights knowledge and writing articles and studies;

- Creating and publishing a library of international documents that provides researchers and interested parties with all [decisions](#) and [reports](#) related to the Syrian issue, [including key human rights treaties and agreements](#), all in one place.
- [Live testimonies of women survivors from prisons in Syria](#), recounting their stories and stories of those who are still missing, published under the title "[Women in Assad's Holocaust](#)" on the organization's website in a narrative style without compromising the realism of events. We retain the audio and written recordings of these testimonies along with the necessary legal data, in accordance with international standards and the organization's approved documentation model.
- [A proposal paper regarding the procedural elements of the new Missing Persons Institution \(IIMP\)](#), shared by MHR NGO with the Human Rights Commission team, based on ongoing consultations.



- [MHR NGO's commentary on Assad's law criminalizing torture](#), issued shortly after its enactment, distributed on May 11, 2022, includes a focused evaluation of the law from both theoretical and practical perspectives.
- [A Study on the UN's Efforts to Address Enforced Disappearances in Syria, Between Reality and International Law Judgments.](#)
- [Reviewing International Paths Towards Truth and Justice in Syria](#), Session with Victims' Families, Survivors, and Detainees.
- Several published articles on justice issues, such as "[Justice as a Tool for Resolution](#)" and "[An End in Itself](#)."
- Many television interviews on [humanitarian](#) and [human rights](#) issues, such as defining transitional justice, its components, and conditions, discussing how and when it can be achieved in Syria.
- [Report on monitoring and analyzing the court sessions in Paris regarding the case of Patrick and Mazen Dibagh against Ali Mamlouk, Jameel Hassan, and Abdul Salam Mahmoud](#). The Executive Director attended the sessions over four days, and MHR published an analytical report detailing the proceedings, conclusions, and recommendations.
- [Documentation report and investigation into the case of a living man's death recorded as a new form of crimes](#) developed by the regime for retaliation against journalist and researcher Samer Al-Ahmad.



### 3) Documentation, evidence building, and prosecution.

- Signing a memorandum of understanding with IIIM / International Impartial and Independent Mechanism and delivering a set of criminal files and evidence based on receipt memos. IIIM described most of this evidence as highly significant.
- Preparing and sharing five case files with public prosecutors and police authorities in European countries handling trials related to war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- Preparing a file containing a bundle of evidence for a case pending before the German judiciary and delivering it to the public prosecutor in Germany.
- Designing a [model for documenting](#) cases of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, and torture that meets international standards and serves the building of evidence files. Our organization documents violations according to this model and shares them with relevant parties at the United Nations.
- Documenting several serious violations against civilians in Syria, including listening to witnesses, collecting evidence, and submitting it to relevant parties at the United Nations.