

The First Year Harvest – Human Rights in the Arab spring: present situation and opportunities for the future

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Sponsored by MP Dr. Ali Deqbasi, Chairman of the Arab Parliament, the Amman Center for Human Rights Studies (ACHRS) and the Gulf Forum for Civil Society Institutions. Organized in cooperation with The Egyptian Center for Women's Rights, the Arab Committee for Human Rights and the Palestinian Council for Human Rights Organizations.

A worksheet can be submitted in one or more of the following areas:

I: Turmoils in the Arab World: causes, characteristics, paths

- Arab uprisings – introductions and backgrounds: causes and factors.
- Common features and differences of the Arab revolutions.
- The new dynamics in the Arab world to build a path of democracy.
- International intervention and its impact on the present situation in the Arab World.
- Trends and paths of Arab revolutions.
- Religious movements and their role in the Arab revolutions.
- Human rights movement and the Arab revolutions.

II: Human rights concepts and the Arab Spring

- New rights, new social era, and constitutional state.
- The concept of citizenship and the presence of human rights in the Arab revolutions.
- Human rights worker and political activists in the Arab revolutions.
- The role of minorities, youth, and civil society in deepening the social concept of Arab revolutions.
- What is new in mechanisms for raising awareness, advocacy, & lobbying, networking, and coordination between civil society institutions: current priorities.
- Social justice or political participation as title of Arab revolutions.
- The development dimension in the Arab revolutions.
- The Academic Freedoms in the Arab Spring.

III: Truth, justice, and community reconciliation: prosecution of the past or tolerance to build for the future

- International models in addressing the legacy of the past after the success of

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revolutions.

- Transitional justice and opportunities for application after the Arab Spring.
- Rebuilding the judiciary and parliamentary systems as guarantees of good governance.
- Security doctrine for the military institutions and the Arab revolutions.
- Reform of security institutions.
- Fair Trials / issues of compensation and reparation.

IV: The role of civil society organizations in the Arab regional order after the revolutions

- What Arab League do we want?
- Arab regional order and the protection of human rights and people.
- Development of the Arab Charter on Human Rights and its implementation.
- The need for an Arab Court of Human Rights.
- The role of the National institutions for human rights.
- Freedom of movement and employment among the Arab countries.

V: The participation of Arab women in the revolutions and their future

- Arab women's participation in the spring of revolutions.
- The impact of revolutions on strengthening women's political participation
- Risks of marginalization for women after the success of the revolutions.
- Existing political parties: supporting or suppressing women's access to decision-making positions?
- Violence against women during and after the Arab revolutions.

VI: Rights of the Palestinian people in the frame of Arab revolutions

- The impact of revolutions on the Arab international position on Palestinian people's rights.
- The role of human rights organizations to activate international humanitarian law and international human rights laws to protect the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.
- The Rights of the Palestinian refugees in the Arab countries.

VII: Media and the Arab revolutions: reciprocal relationships

- Impact of media on the Arab revolutions.
- The role of Arab satellite channels in mobilizing the masses.

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- The future of media freedom in light of revolutions.
- The role of new media and virtual world during the revolutions.

VIII: Ambitions and prospects

- Do we get out of the era of dictators to the era of democratic institutions?
- Do revolutions allow the construction of modern parties, unions, and civil society organizations?
- Do revolutions build a society of donation and volunteering?
- Do revolutions re-write the rules of international human rights?
- Do revolutions open the prospects for sustainable development?

- Do revolutions achieve the priorities of administration of justice, legal equality, and non-discrimination?