On the occasion of Nowruz and Mother's Day

Congratulations, love, and peace

Syrian National Day for all Syrian citizens

We, the organizations and bodies defending Syrian women's rights, signed below, extend our sincere greetings and congratulations to all Syrian citizens in general and to the Syrian Kurds on the occasion of Nowruz and the Kurdish New Year, with all the sincere wishes of happiness and with the great hope for peace and security, wishing the spread of the values and culture of human rights and tolerance, and the consolidation of the values of citizenship, so that the Syrian society in all its components enjoy the rights provided for in the International Bill of Human Rights and all international conventions, protocols, and instruments on human rights and freedoms.

Many safe and peaceful returns to all components of the Syrian homeland

We wish to represent all the values of Nowruz with freedom, dignity, and peace, and the inspiration for all great human ideas, and freedoms, for all those who aspire to a secure human future, and that it would be a national occasion for all of us and a genuine breakthrough towards achieving peace and security. We look forward to the celebration of Nowruz as a beacon that will illuminate to all Syrians all the great hopes filled with the features of Nowruz and its glorious attributes that point to the eternal struggle for freedom from all restrictions in the face of all forms of violence, oppression, and terrorism. As this occasion come to Syria of 2017, Syrians are looking forward to those hopes of peace and security that are looming in the horizon with the declared international interest for the sovereignty of peace on Syrian soil, which is associated with the negotiations in Geneva, that it can expand to include all the parties involved in the conflict in order to reach the decisions and results binding on the final peaceful political solution to the Syrian crisis. And that the features of our beloved Syrian nation, which was covered by destruction and is full with the smell of blood and rotting human bodies, would change and to the bright colors of Noruz and wipe the sorrows and blacks
and open a better future to the values and ethics of Norouz of love, tolerance, peace, and freedom.

Since this great feast coincides with the Mother's Day, we should all stand in honor to all the mothers of the whole world and to the Syrian mothers as we greet them all and extend our heartfelt condolences to every mother who lost her son and to greet every mother waiting for her son to leave the detention or return from enforced disappearance or forced asylum.

On the occasion of the glorious day of Nowruz, we hope that it will be a real breakthrough towards achieving the values of peace, security, freedom, democracy, and human rights for all without exception. We call for the gathering and mobilization of all Syrian national efforts and sincere hopes, so that Nowruz would stay a national Syrian day under the banner of peace in Syria.

We condemn all acts of violence, killing, destruction, vandalism, terrorist bombings, assassinations, and enforced disappearances regardless of their sources and justifications, as well as all the violations that have been committed. We call upon all concerned regional and international parties to shoulder their responsibilities towards the people of Syria and the future of the region as a whole and ask them to continue to work hard and speed up its steps in order to reach a peaceful and lasting political solution to the Syrian crisis, but we affirm that the peace process will continue and reach the desired results only in cooperation with the people involved with real interest in peace and security of the community, in the forefront of which are the women bodied and activists, to whom this congratulations are firstly extended. We are located inside Syria and we are active throughout the Syrian territory, as the real civil society institutions composed of the real forces of society, because we are guided by our reality and our agenda is driven by our traditions, hopes, and aspirations for the future, which necessitated that our partners be our local Syrians. Our voices are truly Syrian, and our status is taken from our acceptability in our streets and between our people, and our daily and relentless interaction to expand our role by gaining our local Syrian credibility by not forgetting the views and concepts of our Syrian women from all walks of life. We first grew up in response to the women of our country on the ground, not for any non-local Syrian trends or incentives,
or any other ceremonial forms, and we do not want the globalization of our organizations under the umbrella of women's issues. We will work with all Syrian women to support and strengthen all peacekeeping operations, peacemaking and peace-building, through our role in supporting attitudes, promoting a culture of peace and increasing effectiveness by being able to reach the widest mass of Syrian people and overcome all forms of discrimination.

**Damascus, March 20th, 2017.**

1. Syrian Foundation for the Rights of Widows and Orphans
2. Syrian Women Council
3. Syrians gathered against violence and terrorism
4. Syrians make peace
5. SuryanaWomen Forum
7. The Kurdish Women's Union in Syria - Rhodes
8. Peace Forum for Syrian Women
9. Palmera Foundation for the Rights of Women and Children
10. Sara Organization Against Violence Against Women
11. Jouzour Syrian Foundation
12. Woman Nation Foundation
13. Ebla Center for the Studies of Transitional Justice and Democracy in Syria
15. Peace and Democracy Building Bridge
16. Syrian Center for Human Rights
17. Women's Office of the Syrian Democratic Council
18. Syrian Media Association
19. Lien gathered women
20. Zanobia foundation for development
21. The institution of the electronic journalism in Syria
22. AFAMIA Network of Justice.
23. Democratic Association for Women’s Rights in Syria
24. The center of peace and democracy in Al Hasakah.
25. The female gathering for peace and democracy in Syria.
26. Center for Development and civil activities in Al Qamishli.
27. The Association for the advancement of community participation in Syria.
28. Bringing together for Amudah
29. The Syrian center for the care of trade union rights, labor
30. Ahmed Bounjq Center for the Support of Freedoms and Human Rights
31. Syrian Foundation for Human Rights Consultancy and Training
32. Jian organization for women in Derek
33. Tamkeen Organization for women in Syria
34. Women’s Democratic Network
35. The National Committee for Supporting Human Rights Defenders in Syria
36. Syrian Institute for Development and Democracy
37. Al-Safa center for civil society
38. Syrian Women’s Association for Studies and Training in Human Rights
39. Association for the Freedom of Women in Syria
40. Afrin Association for Kurdish Women
41. Narina Association for Children and Youth
42. Palmera Center for the Protection of Freedoms and Democracy in Syria
43. Organization of the Voice of Detainees
44. Syrian Foundation for the Protection of the Right to Life
45. Shawishka Association of Women
46. Democratic Association for Women’s Rights in Syria
47. The organization of women free Kurdish
48. Women's Institution for care and support of civil society in Syria
49. Radio Media Production.
50. Hefei Radio
51. The Democratic Institute for Women's Rights Awareness in Syria
52. Syrian Women's Foundation for Transitional Justice
53. Evin organization for women and children
54. Solidarity Association for Support Peace and Tolerance in Syria
55. National Democratic Assembly of Syrian Kurds
56. The Syrian Center for Transitional Justice and the Empowerment of Democracy
57. The Syrian Center for Research and Studies on Migration and Asylum Issues
58. Women's Cafe
59. Syrian Center for the Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence and Torture
60. The National Center for Studies of tolerance and combating violence in Syria
61. Center for Peace and Democracy in Hasakah
62. Center for Development and Civil Activities in Al-Kahtaniya
63. Syrian Center for Housing Rights
64. Syrian Center for Women's Issues
65. Syrian Committee for Environmental Rights
66. Peacemaker Movement
67. Syrian Foundation for the Development of Community Participation
68. Syrian Association for the Defense of Workers' Rights
69. Syrian Center for Economic and Social Rights
70. Arab Committee for the Defense of Freedom of Opinion and Expression
71. Syrian Center for Election Observation
72. Palmeira Center Against Discrimination Against Minorities in Syria
73. Syrian National Network for Civil Peace and Community Security
74. Syrian Women's Alliance to activate Security Council Resolution 1325.
75. The Network for the Defense of Women in Syria (Includes 57 Syrian women's bodies and 60 independent Syrian women figures.