

CIVICUS

Dr. Nada Dhaif

Thank you Madam President,

Let me tell you about the situation in many villages and neighbourhoods. The people in the villages are not armed, their weapons are their voices.

There are no men left. Most of them are behind bars. Women are left with no income, they suffer from humiliation, blackmail, harassment and arrest and cannot protect their children. A good example is the recent case of Zainab AlKhawaja who was injured in the leg after State security forces ordered crowd control forces to directly shoot at her. She was alone. She is still detained, heavily injured and without access to her family or proper medical care.

And lastly:

On behalf of the victims and their families we recommend the following:

1. Immediate release of all Prisoners of Conscience. All Political and Human Rights activists should be released from detention or prison as a matter of urgency.
2. A Permanent UN Human Rights Office to be based in Bahrain for the purposes of monitoring and reporting the Human Rights Situation.
3. A Special Rapporteur to be assigned to Bahrain
4. A special hearing on Bahrain in the Human Rights Council.

Mr. Foreign Minister you say you care, I hold you responsible in front of this Council today. Prove to us your commitment. Release all the detainees and prisoners. Activists are not Criminals.

Thank you for your time.