

Universal Periodic Review of Lebanon 23rd session of the Working Group on the UPR, November 2015

Joint NGOs Submission

Human Rights violations for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon

Jointly submitted by:

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Introduction

1. This report was prepared in collaboration with a coalition of organizations of civil society working within Palestinian refugees-PR communities in Lebanon by collecting and formulating data then reviewing it by members of the coalition. The coalition of NGOs is active in: Human Rights-HR, Human Rights for Women-HRW, children, disabled people, social services and health care. The coalition aims, through this report, to review HR status of PRL. Furthermore it seeks to play a leading role in advocating for the HR of the marginalized PRL.
2. Palestinian HR Organization "PHRO" organized trainings for youth activists of PRL and from Syria, who are volunteering or working in NGOs in Palestinian communities. Subsequently, from September 2014 until January 2015, "PHRO" held a series of workshops, teaching participants mechanisms and tools of international conventions, in order to create a first draft for "UPR" report.
3. This report focuses on documenting the main and dire HR violations against PRL within the UPR. Thus it highlights the Lebanese government's-LG commitments toward "UPR" 2010 recommendations. Also Lebanon has to respond to its commitments concerning the HR national plan to better the HR situation of PR and its fulfillment of the international HR conventions Lebanon ratified. Noteworthy that paragraph B of the preamble of its constitution mentions "Lebanon as a founding and active member of the United Nations Organization Committed to its covenants and the Universal Declaration of HR".
4. Even though the Palestinians refuge to Lebanon for 67 years, Lebanese legislation did not give a clear definition for PR's legal status. PR are divided administratively into three categories: refugees registered in "The Ministry of Interior and Municipalities - MIM" within "Department of Political Affairs and Refugees - DPAR" and "The Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East UNRWA"; Refugees registered in the "DPAR" and not registered in "UNRWA"; refugees not registered in both; a fourth category was added because of the Syrian civil war forcing Palestinian refugees to flee from Syria to Lebanon - PRFSL.
5. Despite the LG has shown good will to improve the socio-economic rights of PR and initiated the amendment of the "labour law" 129 /2010 article 59 and social security law 128/2010 article 9, it did not publish any Council of Ministers'- COM Decisions for the amended laws till now. Thus the implementation of the laws stayed subjected to consecutive ministers of labour decisions. In addition to the attempt to improve the situation of PRL belonging to the third category (non IDs), but kept holding on the rest of the rights in particular the civil and political rights. As a result, HR for PR are divided, which even hinders the full enjoyments of HR, that Lebanon wanted to guarantee through amending laws responding to Lebanon commitments, due to lack of civil dimension and double standards in the treatment of PR sometimes as foreigners and sometimes as refugees.
6. The four categories of PR suffer from many forms of discrimination in the Lebanese laws. These violations keep the PR legal status devoid of any definition or obligatory legal frame to provide them protection, thus creating violations against their civil and socio-economic rights. PRL suffer from: ambiguous legal status and absence of protection; right to work; own property; adequate housing; health; fair trial; freedom of association; opinion and expression; freedom of movement, accommodation and travel. For its extent over 67 years in particular the first category, these legally binding restrictions are direly affecting PR' civil and socio-economic rights, as well as their wellbeing.

7. Despite accepting the recommendations 80(1-2-3-4-5-6-11), listed in "the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Lebanon - WGUPRL" A/HRC/16/18 report dated in 17 March 2011, the LG did not commit itself to the recommendations and there is notangible progress. Therefore the LG contradicts its commitments¹
8. Similar applies for the recommendations listed in the, "WGUPRL" A / HRC / 16/18 on 17 March 2011, which the LG claims to have implemented. However, the only recommendation 81(6) implementation's progress was 164/2011 "criminalizing human trafficking", whereas recommendations 81(1-2-10-14-15-17-25-26) remained unimplemented and recommendations 81(4-7-8-9-13-16 -21) left without any significant progress.²

9. The right to legal personality

9.1 The lack of clarity in the legal personality of the PRL

Lebanese legislations have not legally defined PR' status and have mentioned neither their rights nor their duties. Their status is limited by identification documents, which are issued by The "MIM" within "DPAR". However, the "General Security- GS", which is part of the "MIM", consider PR as a special category, thus removing the nationality Column in the special travel documents for PR. Furthermore, occasionally a stamp is put in a rectangle stating: "Nationality: Palestinian" on some travel documents. The 296/2001 Law deprives "PR" from owning a property by considering them carrying the nationality of a non-recognized country, which makes them actually stateless. Later on, the 129/2010 Labor Law, in which PR were first included in a law, recognizes them as foreigners severing them their civil rights as refugees.

9.2 Unsustainable solution for NON IDs crisis

The LG begun issuing identification documents valid for one year, which allowed NON-IDs to move within Lebanon only, a fraction of Non-IDs benefited from this unsustainable process in 2008. Lebanon had confirmed that one of its achievements was issuing identification documents for NON-IDs during the ninth session of the UPR 2010. However, the LG did not provide a response to recommendation 84 (11). Up till now more than 5,000³ people from this category are still deprived of basic HR such as the right to health, education in particular higher education and work. It is also impossible to register marriages, if one of the couples has no identification documents, their children would be deprived from being officially registered.

9.3 Depriving the PRW in Lebanon from giving their children their legal status:

The Lebanese law discriminates against women in general, and deprives Lebanese women from giving citizenship to their children. In spite "UNRWA" is an agency of the UN and PR under its mandate should be subjected to HR standards, since the Lebanese legal situation reflects itself on "UNRWA" the registered PRW are deprived from registering their children under their name, as a result, registered PRW, married to Non-ID, her children are deprived from being registered at all. PRW registered in the DPAR and married to a foreigner, are also deprived from the right to give free residency permits to their children, as Lebanese women do. PRW can't give their husband an annual foreign residence permit (for fee), as PR husbands who are registered in the DPAR do.

9.4 The LG denied the right of PRFSL to have the legal status of refugees in Lebanon.

The LG does not sensitize the PRFSL as refugees, and treat them as tourists having them to comply with the legal procedures to enter or remain in Lebanon through extracting residency permits until August 2014. Afterwards the LG performed a no stay policy toward the PRFSL, through hindering the renewal of residency permits

and entry procedures, which make PRFSL' stay illegal, exposing them to arrest and prosecution. The LG does not consider PRFSL as refugees escaping the civil war, but treats them different from Syrian refugees, who are stated as displaced in Lebanon.

9.5 LG Deprive newborn children, from PRFSL parents, from registering and extracting documents.

The LG evades registering and completing the issuing of identification documents for newborns, instead of facilitating the normal procedures bearing in mind their status as refugees coming from a country dominated by civil war, it complicates the situation under the excuse of residence permit expiration for one of the parents, which deprives newborns from having legal personality.

9.6 The LG hinders the procedures of granting citizenship to a PRW married to a Lebanese:

Lebanese law does not sensitize PRW married to a Lebanese, even-though women born in Lebanon, she is treated as foreigner in terms of hindering procedures against the law, the Lebanese nationality law article 5 amended in 1960 "the foreign women married to a Lebanese become Lebanese a year after registration of the marriage in the civil registration system upon her request".

9.7 Even-though the LG in the ninth session 2010 accept the recommendation but did not commit itself to take proper procedures to end all kinds of discrimination against women and that contradicts with Lebanon commitments in front of international community.

9.8 Recommendation 1

The LG must issue a law that gives a clear legal definition for the PR status that guarantees civil, socio-economic rights and living in dignity.

9.9 Recommendation 2

LG must Issue official identification documents, in a sustainable manner, to Non-IDs to ensure their legal personality, dignity and equality with the rest of the PRL

9.10 Recommendation 3

LG must respond to the international conventions and remove the reservation on article 9 of "CEDAW" and adjust all relevant laws.

9.11 Recommendation 4

LG should recognize the legal status of the PRFSL as refugees in Lebanon.

9.12 Recommendation 5

LG must register and complete the issue of identification documents for newborns of PR from Syria, in response to the international Child convention ratified by Lebanon.

9.13 Recommendation 6

LG must sensitize the situation of PRW who are married to Lebanese and stop hindering the procedures of acquiring Lebanese nationality.

10. The right to freedom of movement, travel and residence.

10.1 The PR camps and gatherings isolation

The refugee camps and gatherings in southern Lebanon are fenced with barbed wire and military checkpoints, hindering the freedom of movement of PR living inside the camps and gatherings, thus applying massive psychological pressure on them. Checkpoints newly made around the southern suburbs of Beirut camps and at camps' entrance on the northern of Lebanon.

10.2 Discrimination between the Lebanese passports and the travel documents, for PR, which are not in conformity to the international standards.

The LG grants the PR travel documents which is not machine-readable and does not match the international standards as compared to the Lebanese passports. Therefore these documents aren't recognized by most countries, what results in difficulties for the acquiring of visa.

10.3 Discrimination by travel documents' validities for different PR categories

The LG grants travel documents to PR valid for five years for refugees registered with UNRWA, while giving one year to those not registered with UNRWA. This limits their chances of having long term visa and thus negatively affects their chances to live, work and learn outside Lebanon.

10.4 Restrictions on the right to freedom of movement for PR from and to the camps

Security procedures limit the number of camps' entrances and exits. Army checkpoints restrict the right to freedom of movement; all of these exert high pressure on the inhabitants of the camps, in particularly when they need to register their entry and exit at night, and sometimes at daytime. Inhabitants are forced to wait for a long time, thus hindering their mobility and reaching work at time. These restrictions risk people's lives in times of internal military tension or clashes.

10.5 Restrictions on the right of movement for PRFSL

Since Syrian civil war began, LG obstructed the refuge of PRFSL by applying the following measures: humiliating human dignity; physical and verbal violence, intimidation, and forcing them to return to dangerous zone; breaking family unit by allowing some of its members to enter and prevent others. The announcement of MIM dated 31/12/2014, ignores the suffering PRFSL by not recognizing them as war refugees, and left them subjected to the mood of responsible personal on border control.

10.6 Discrimination against PRW in Lebanon that are wives of PRFSL.

The regulatory measures stipulated in the declaration of MIM dated 31/12/2014 did not sensitize PRW in Lebanon that are wives of PRFSL the right to allow her husband and kids, who are PR in Syria, to enter Lebanon, similar to PR husband registered in Lebanon.

10.7 Exile and deportation of PRFSL back to a country of civil war

A procedure was taken against 49 refugees, mostly PRFSL, who were arrested in Rafik Al Hariri airport and exiled to Syria 4/5/2014, in spite of the war in Syria, thus exposing them to danger since their destiny in Syria was unknown.

10.8 Preventing PRFSL who lost their identification documents due to civil war to enter Lebanon.

The LG did not declare any regulation concerning PRFSL, who lost their official documents in the war and prevent their entry to Lebanon and chase those who entered illegally.

10.9 LG is violating the right to freedom of movement for PRFSL through absence of protection inhuman and degrading treatment at the Lebanese army checkpoints.

PRFSL are suffering for verbal and physical violence and arbitrary detention at checkpoints of LG agencies, by some political parties and even individuals, these atrocities are taking place in particular in areas where municipal announcements of curfew at night were issued. PRFSL are also exposed to insults and arbitrary detention on the Lebanese army checkpoints at camps' entrances.

10.10 Despite the LG accepted recommendation 80(16-17-29) it didn't take any measurable procedure in order to prevent torture and mistreatment by creating mechanisms and criminate these actions that are against the recommendations that Lebanon supported in front of the international community.

10.11 Recommendation 7:

Replace futile security measures isolating the camps by new measures based on human security concept.

10.12 Recommendation 8:

Issue machine-readable travel documents for PR in compliance with international Standards of travel documents.

10.13 Recommendation 9:

LG must Issue Identification Documents for Non-ID PR in a sustainable manner.

10.14 Recommendation 10:

LG must treat all PR equally with no deference between not registered in UNRWA (NR) and the registered in MIM.

10.15 Recommendation 11:

Protect PRFSL from discrimination, humiliation, degrading treatment and arbitrary detention.

10.16 Recommendation 12:

LG must not deport or exile PRFSLs.

10.17 Recommendation 13

Give PRFSL the right to refuge in Lebanon without imposing any restrictions, similar to the PR, who are living in Lebanon.

11. Right to work

11.1 LG is creating obstacles that prevent PR from accessing labour market

Lebanese labour law distinguishes between Lebanese and non-Lebanese. The law does not sensitize the status of PRL, thus they are still subjected to the provisions of the laws that govern the work of foreigners even though they are refugees in Lebanon since 67 years. The amendment of the Labour Law 129/2010, specifically Article 59, exempted them from reciprocity and work permit fees, while the requirement of permits to access work keeps them under the weight of instability, especially as it needs to be renewed annually, even if they pay no fees. Worth note in the ninth session of UPR 2010 the recommendation 84(10) urged LG to take better procedures improving working conditions and situations for PR and Lebanon didn't respond.

11.2 Depriving PR of working in "Liberal professions"

PR are deprived from working in so-called "Liberal professions", which require syndicate affiliation, due to laws regulation. Some of these professions require Lebanese nationality. For example, bar association law no. 8/70 mentions that anyone who wants to work as a lawyer in Lebanon must be Lebanese for more than ten years. In other Syndicates and unions laws impose reciprocity and the right to practice the profession in one's own country, such as Doctors' Syndicate that applies (COM Decree No. 1659 of 1979). Same goes for Syndicates of Pharmacy and Engineering. In spite of labour law amendment 129/2010 however it did not reflect itself on syndicates by laws, thus PR are being deprived from syndicates affiliation to practice these professions.

11.3 Depriving the PR workers of benefiting from social security services

Article 9 of the social security law 128/2010 was amended and canceled the condition of reciprocity. However, the current law still deprives PR workers from social security services and familial benefits in particular maternity benefits, what affects working PRW. Despite stated in the social security service that every worker is subject to the payment of all fees (23.5% of the value of salary)⁴, they do not benefit except from the end of service indemnity (equivalent to only 8.5% of the paid value)⁵. This enforces private health insurance, what causes an additional financial burden on the PR workers and employers, thus reducing the willingness to hire them. Therefore a lot of workers are forced to accept harsh working conditions, low wages and no legal protection.

11.4 In 2010, the LG approved, the ninth session on the recommendation of 80(25-32), but the laws still discriminate against refugee women and PR in terms of labor law and social security law.

11.5 Recommendation 14:

Amend 129/2010 law in terms of terminating the working permits and grant the PR the right to practice so-called "Liberal professions". Along with this, issue COM decrees to insure implementation of the law.

11.6 Recommendation 15:

Amend laws and change by laws that regulate syndicate professions to be in harmony with labor law and in terms of completing abolition of reciprocity as well as abolish conditions of practicing the profession in country of origin.

11.7 Recommendation 16:

Amend the law 128/2010 allowing PR workers to enjoy their full rights in social security, and guaranteeing maternity benefits to the PRW workers and issue COM decrees to insure implementation of the law.

12. Right to owning property

12.1 Depriving PR of owning real estate

Lebanese legislations deprive PR from owning a property, because they do not have a recognized nationality and under the pretext of naturalization according to the law 296/2001.

12.2 Expropriation of PR who have owned a property before 2001 and did not complete the registration in the responsible departments

Properties that were purchased by Surveyed sales contracts and paid off, but owners didn't complete registration entirely before the amendment of the law 296/2001(which doesn't contain retroactive effect) to obtain title deeds, became unable to register at

the Directorate of Cadastre and Real Estate. This deliberate misinterpretation of the law exposing ownership to risk, as Surveyed sale contracts have a limited (customary) duration of ten years. The transfer of inherited real estate, acquired through religious courts orders, to PR inheritors are being obstructed by Lebanese Directorate of Cadastre and Real Estate, despite the law 296/2001 doesn't put any restrictions on that. This obstruction forces some affected persons to resort judicial measures, which poses additional financial burdens. It is worth mentioning that the Lebanese notary rejects similar cases since 2014.

12.3 Restrictive procedures in registering property for foreigners married to a PR woman.

The procedures of registering a real state for foreigners need "statement of non-ownership" for foreigners and this procedure includes the family as a unity (husband, wife, and kids under 18). If the wife is a PR, the registration will be shelved.

12.4 Recommendation 17:

LG must end discrimination against PR by amending law 296/2001 and allow them to own real estates.

12.5 Recommendation 18:

Stop the arbitrary actions that prevent the registration of property purchased before amending the law 296/2010, and complications when transferring the ownership of inherited real-estate, and stop time limitation for Surveyed sale contracts.

12.6 Recommendation 19:

Stop the discriminatory actions hindering foreigners married to PRW to own property.

13. The rights of adequate housing and shelter

13.1 Depriving PR from adequate housing

PR suffer from bad housing conditions inside the camps, since the camp areas hadn't changed since 1950⁶, which led to overpopulation and overcrowding inside the camps, as well as random constructions vertically expanding and very close to one another. As a matter of fact, sunlight can't enter and doesn't leave enough space for ventilation, which results in high humidity indoors. The narrow alley structure, the non-existence of public green areas or spaces for entertainment and the deteriorated infrastructure subject the social and security environment in the camps to breakdown. Furthermore it fosters the spread of diseases, escalation of social problems, humiliation of human dignity and violating family privacy.

13.2 Restrictions on entry of construction materials, tools and sanitation supplies to the camps

The LG dealt with the PR only on security level undersigning the camp, not allowing the entry of building materials for sewage system without permission from the Army intelligence. These procedures hindered if not prevented PR from repairing their houses, which are endangered to collapse and can lead to lives and financial losses, as well as preventing them from improving the infrastructure of the camps, Leaving them in isolation with the lack of facilities and living in dignity elements while the absence of the role and support of neighboring municipalities to strengthen the infrastructure lead to weakening the water and sanitation services and electricity.

13.3 Incomplete reconstruction of Nahr Al-Bared camp and its consequences

It has been eight years since the destruction of Nahr Al-Bared camp and the displacement of 4867⁷ Palestinian inhabiting families. The reconstruction has not ended yet, despite the promises of rebuilding and the right to return for families. Whereas the finished constructions shelter only 1321⁸ persons, most of them still live in containers used as temporary homes that provide devastating conditions, freezing cold in winter and high temperatures in summer.

13.4 Depriving PRFSL from shelter

The LG didn't recognize the refuge of PRFSL escaping the danger and persecution caused by the civil war. Most of the refugees are settling in random gatherings without any protection. Thus they are subjected to the mood of land owners, municipalities' random announcements and racist behavior of some residents of the area. Others in turn, are living in Palestinian camps, which already suffer from overpopulation, poor infrastructure, and absence of procedural justice exposing some to abuse.

13.5 Recommendation 20

LG must address a plan that sensitizes the right of adequate housing inside the camps and fulfills the promises of Lebanon.

13.6 Recommendation 21

LG must terminate restrictions on entry of construction materials, within clear announced procedures, to the PR camps to maintain renovation and rebuild their houses and infrastructure.

13.7 Recommendation 22

LG must accelerate its efforts to reconstruct Nahr Al – Bared camp guaranteeing the return of its residents.

13.8 Recommendation 23

LG must work on providing legal protection and provide secure shelter that maintains human dignity for PRFSL.

14. The right to health

14.1 Depriving PR from Ministry of Public Health services

The LG deprives PR from Ministry of Public Health services, example free hospitalization, and chronic diseases drugs and even in case of emergencies escaping its responsibilities as a host country.

14.2 Depriving PR with disabilities from their rights

Disabled PR do not enjoy the right equally as disabled Lebanese do, although the law 220/2000 does not exclude the PR from these rights as it mentioned "Disabled person" not disabled Lebanese.

14.3 Depriving PR from healthy environment

PR camps suffer poor inadequate infrastructure where interference between drinking water and sewage. Besides high humidity, leakage, poor ventilation, and thrown waste is collected in points close to the houses, which leads to an unhealthy environment and serious thoracic and chronic diseases, in addition to poor medical health, aid provided unsustainably.

14.4 In 2010, the LG accepted recommendations 80(1-2-3-4-5), but Lebanon did not ratify on the international convention concerning People with disabilities. Lebanon also accepted recommendation 80(21) but it's worth mentioning that the national machinery discriminates and deprive the disabled PR.

- 14.5 **Recommendation 24**
LG must allow the PR to enjoy free health services and hospitalization that Ministry of Public Health provide
- 14.6 **Recommendation 25**
Improve the law 220/200 and issuing cards for disabled PR equally to disabled Lebanese persons.
- 14.7 **Recommendation 26**
Control the epidemic and chronic diseases and improve the health environment in Palestinian camps and gathering in Lebanon

15. Right to fair trial.

15.1 Depriving PR from the minimum conditions of fair trial

LG does not differentiate in the type of crime, and deal with PR through intelligence security measures during suspicion, arrest and prosecution. Despite the due process of law in Lebanon, in which informing and suspicion leads to arrest by the intelligence security agency in contrary to regulations, instead of conducting investigations and calling-in, they treat the suspect as convicted until proven innocent, taking his/her freedom arbitrarily and prevent communication with the outside world. Worth mentioning the assault, coercion and intimidation during interrogation in-combination failing to ensure facilitation to adequate defense. After being interrogated in a “security intelligence way” the suspect will be transferred to the competent authority. As for the detention duration without trial, they do not commit to legal timeframe, for example, Lebanese authorities are still detaining arbitrary Nahr -Al-Bared detainees since 2007 without a fair trial.

15.2 The exile of PR from Syria without a fair trial

In a step that disagree all international norms, and humanitarian laws also violates the conventions that Lebanon agreed upon or subjected to its provisions, the security authorities have arrested 49⁹ refugees from Syria, at Rafik Hariri International Airport in Beirut on Saturday 3/5/2014, mostly Palestinians, among them women and children, while trying to travel using fake visas heading to an Arab country, and after referring to Public Prosecution Discriminatory, they were referred to the relevant court to follow legal procedures, upon GS announcement. It is the Lebanese government’s right to arrest anyone carrying a fake visa, but surprisingly and rapidly referred to the Public Prosecution during the weekend. In addition the detainees were exiled to Syria within 24 hours, note that such a procedure is not possible under normal circumstances, since the transfer of detainees to a detention center should hold until Monday morning, so they can be brought before a public prosecutor, who can refer them to an investigating judge and then to the court for a trial, which did not happen with the detained group, taking in consideration that it is difficult to confirm the truth within few hours between arrest and exile. Even if the visas were faked, they probably were victims of a scam, which would imply an investigation to uncover the perpetrator of the fraud, instead of punishing the victims, who were victims again – through arbitrary exile and through depriving them from fair humanitarian trial.

15.3 In UPR 2010 the LG accepted recommendations 80(13-14-15-16-17), containing the prevention of all forms of torture and cruel, inhuman, humiliating, degrading treatment or punishment as stated in the CAT. The LG claims that recommendation number 81(4) has been either implemented or carried out, but the procedures against PR are still the same and against the due process of law.

15.4 Recommendation 27:

LG must end all inhumane intelligence and security treatments against PR and respect the due process of law.

15.5 Recommendation 28:

Accelerate the subjection for the detainees of Nahr Al-Bared to a fair trial and release and compensate those proven innocent.

15.6 Recommendation 29:

Stop the exile of PRFSL, especially to Syria and subject them to a fair trial in case of any violation against law upon the due process of law.

16. The right to protection

16.1 Difficulties for women to access justice

The law 293/2014 "for women protection and all family members from domestic violence" ensures protection for women in their families, but the weakness of procedural justice in Lebanon and its absence in the camps, where unqualified popular and security committees in the camps, which is acting on behalf of procedural justice, and not regulated by laws sensitive to HR laws and HRW, beside the lack of any official agreements with the Lebanese government, especially after the termination of the Cairo Agreement, in addition to norms and traditions, which controls the Palestinian communities, prevented refugees women from seeking access to justice depriving them from protection and full enjoyment of their HR.

16.2 Early marriages and sexual abuse

The LG does not protect children against early marriage since it hasn't specified in Lebanese laws an age for marriage. Paying respect to Lebanese sectarianism and the absence of a unified Personal Status Law, this lack of law leads to early childbearing as well as to deterioration of physical and psychological health for underage girls and their children, and in some cases lead to death. The underage girls are subjected to religious status law which discriminates against women, while granting them insufficient protection; whereas underage girls married outside the religious courts have no protection at all. This applies particularly on refugee women from Syria escaping the civil war, suffering from extreme poverty and the absence of LG role in shelter, and steady fear of rape, in case of exile to Syria. Since the LG did not sensitize their refuge and protect the vulnerable marginalized groups especially women and children, exposing them to sexual abuse based on the exploitation of a vulnerable position, resulting from systematic and repeated refuge.

16.3 The involvement of PR children in armed conflict

The status of recruitment and use of PR children in Lebanon, formed by Palestinian, Lebanese and more recently by radical extremist parties, provoked military unrests inside and outside Lebanon. This phenomenon has arisen parallel to the number of PRFSL, since the children need for protection and their poor socio-economic situation is abused flagrantly. This can be seen as consequences for the lack of awareness, the absence of human security and legal protection in Lebanon.

16.4 Human trafficking specially women and children

The law 164/2011 that criminalize human trafficking doesn't protect victims from penal responsibility, while limiting the responsibility by compelled Article 586 (8) "shall be exempted from punishment victim who proves that he was forced to commit crime punished by law or against the conditions of residence or work ", which is against the international standards in this domain. The absence of human security and depriving PR from legal protection and LG no stay policy through arbitrary procedures against PRFSL, and the exploitation the status of vulnerability caused by refuge led to the

appearance of new patterns of women and children trafficking, such as working long hours without payment in reverse shelter for the family, or giving payments or benefits to achieve the satisfaction of persons in control of PRFSL for the purpose of begging or exploiting in prostitution or domestic working, or practices similar to slavery.

16.5 Death march

PRL and lately PRFSL are subjected to crimes against humanity, this raise concerns about extermination crimes against them, and being exposed to the worst kind of exploitation and trafficking by fraud and displacement brokers, thus subjecting them to inhuman treatment and risk of death due to natural disaster during death march seeking safe countries overland and by sea. In addition to brokers intend, despite their promises, to kill them on purpose through leaving them in deserts or trying to drown their boats and shooting them, while in some cases kidnapping them and in other cases stealing human organs. And the carelessness of coast guards aggravated the situation due to their direct mission to protect the boarders against smugglers and not saving people (September 15, 2014¹⁰ dated October 22, 2013¹¹ dated September 11, 2012¹²) the most vulnerable groups are women and children.

16.6 In UPR 2010 the LG accepted recommendations 80(18-19-20), and shown its commitment to issue a law 164/2011, beside that the LG claimed that recommendation 81(8-6) has been either implemented or carried out, and there is a significant improve in this domain, but the recommendation 81(7-13) is not applied yet contradicting its' promises in front of international community.

16.7 Recommendation 30:

LG must strengthen the Lebanese state procedural justice, including the camps to be able to protect PRW.

16.8 Recommendation 31:

LG must define a minimum age for marriage and care about underage children adjusting protection and guidance necessary to ensure no deterioration of health and psychological status and reduction of underage and their children mortality.

16.9 Recommendation 32:

LG must pass a law criminalizing early marriages outside the spiritual courts and deterrent penalties to punish those responsible and take actions and measures to protect underage PRW from Syria from early marriages.

16.10 Recommendation 33:

LG must take all legal measures to prohibit and criminalize the abuse and recruitment of PR children and prevent their involvement in military missions inside and outside Lebanon.

16.11 Recommendation 34:

LG must provide protection, care and rehabilitation for veteran recruited PR children and integrate them in society, and protect them in-particularly from trials before military courts.

16.12 Recommendation 35:

LG must amend the law 164/2011 to protect PR in their four categories who are victims of human trafficking without discrimination, especially children and women, and drop the penal responsibility, according to international standards in this issue.

16.13 Recommendation 36

Investigate all crimes concerning death march and deal with it as crimes against humanity raising concerns around genocides against PR.

16.14 Recommendation 37

Motivate and accelerate the international cooperation to stop all kind of human trafficking, and rehabilitate coast guards to deal, rescue, and protect human trafficking victims.

17. The Right to free Opinion and expression

17.1 Restricted freedom of expression through demonstrations to Lebanese only and depriving PR from it.

The decree 352 dated 20/2/2006 issued by the MIM restricts the right to self expression through organizing demonstrations for Lebanese only and denies Palestinians this right. Paragraph 3 of the first article of the decree states that "... the organizers of the demonstration have to be Lebanese..." This implies that PRFSL suffer from the same violation.

17.2 Depriving PR the right of publishing leaflets

PR are deprived of officially publishing informational leaflets due to the Publications Law of 1948 Article 4 that requires "the owner of the periodic printed (1) to be Lebanese. If a foreigner conditions shall be met for clearance approval of foreign and interior ministers and reciprocity between Lebanon and the state to which foreigner belongs".

17.3 Recommendation 38:

Pass a resolution allowing the PR to express their opinion through demonstrations and peaceful assembly without any hindrance

17.4 Recommendation 39:

Treat PR similar to Lebanese citizens in the production of informational leaflets within organizing Publications law.

18. The right to freedom of associations

18.1 Depriving PRL from the right to form associations and restrictions imposed on their participation in the association.

The fact that PR are classified as special categories at times and at other times foreigners; they are deprived of association and impose restrictions on their participation because of the lack of sensitivity, operational procedures of the law, the special status of PR. Considering all the Society: "already run by foreigners; or have either members of the foreign administration; or be at least a quarter of the members of the foreigners," foreign Association subject to a special law is Resolution No. 369 LR- Issued on 21/12/1939 as stated in Article III of this Act. It also requires creating a special decree from COM.

18.2 Recommendation 40:

Legalizing the establishment of associations for PRL, instead of "Turning a blind eye", thus contribute in developing institutionalization and democratization of the existing Palestinian societies.

¹ <https://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/arabic/AR-HRC/AHRC16-58.pdf>

² <https://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/arabic/AR-HRC/AHRC16-58.pdf>

³ <http://www.palhumanrights.org/rep/ARB/non-id-report-ar.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.lpd.gov.lb/Networks/UNRWA.aspx?lang=ar-lb>

مع الإشارة الى ان هذه الاشتراكات يتم تحديدها بموجب مراسيم تصدر عن الحكومة. والارقام الواردة اعلاه، هي تلك التي تم تحديدها بموجب تاريخ 24 آذار 2001 الخاص بتعويضات 5101 المرسوم رقم 5102 تاريخ 24 آذار 2001 الخاص بالتعويضات العائلية. والمرسوم رقم المرض والامومة

⁵ <http://www.lpd.gov.lb/getattachment/Rights/Areas-of-Work/Right-To-Work/Round-table,-a-photo-exhibition,-and-a-concert-by-/%D9%85%D8%B0%D9%83%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D8%B9%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A9--%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85-437--%D8%B9%D8%A7%D9%85-2011.pdf.aspx>

⁶ <http://www.unrwa.org/palestine-refugees>

⁷ <http://www.unrwa.org/where-we-work/lebanon/camp-profiles?field=15> Reconstruction

⁸ <http://www.unrwa.org/where-we-work/lebanon/camp-profiles?field=15> Reconstruction

⁹ <http://palhumanrights.org/Position%20Paper.pdf>

¹⁰ <http://mashable.com/2014/09/15/500-migrant-workers-feared-dead/>

¹¹ <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/10/palestine-migrants-syria-sinking-malta-resentment-plo.html>

¹² <http://www.salem-news.com/articles/september112012/little-girl-green-rb.php>

UPR Palestinian refugees Coalition Eng. – Acrimony

UPR: Universal Periodic Review

WGUPRL: the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Lebanon

PR: Palestinian Refugee

PRW: Palestinian Refugee Women

HR: Human Rights

HRW: Human Rights for Women

PRL: Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon

LG: Lebanese Government

DPAR: Department of Political Affairs and Refugees

MIM: The Ministry of Interior and Municipalities -

PRFSL: Palestinian Refugees force to flee from Syria to Lebanon

COM: Council of Ministers

NON-IDs: refugees not registered in Department of Political Affairs and UNRWA

GS: General Security-

CAT: Conventions against Torture

CEDAW: Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women