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**Submission by:** Front Line Defenders – the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

**Related to:** United Arab Emirates

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Front Line Defenders ([www.frontlinedefenders.org](http://www.frontlinedefenders.org)) is an international NGO based in Ireland with special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). Founded in 2001, Front Line Defenders has particular expertise on the issue of security and protection of human rights defenders and works to promote the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognised Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders) adopted by General Assembly resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998.

The following submission has been prepared by Front Line Defenders – The International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders based on research carried out by this organisation and information received from independent human rights defenders in the United Arab Emirates from February 2013 to June 2017, as well as from a field mission to the United Arab Emirates undertaken by Front Line Defenders staff in 2015.

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