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Arab NGO Network for Development  
شبكة المنظمات العربية غير الحكومية للتنمية

# Statement for the UPR Pre-Session\Iraq

economic and social rights and the situation  
of human right defenders

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# Demonstrations

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**+ 6000 Wounded + 100 Killed + 800 arrested**





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# Recommendations

1-security forces and those have resulted in death and injuries during the recent demonstrations. should be promptly, independently and transparently investigated and hold accountable.

2-Immediately end all acts of arrest campaigns of human rights defenders, Activists , journalists and bloggers and withdraw all criminal charges brought against them.

3- Ensure serious steps to total respect for freedom of expression and participate in peaceful public gatherings and demonstration and stop banding social media.



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- poverty rate is in increase; exceeds 40 % conflict area , 22.5 % the rest of the country
- 6.7 million people (18 % of total population) in need of humanitarian assistance.
- Unemployment remains a vital issue and is in constant increase both for male and female.
- there are 200,000 foreign workers without security or health guarantees and with wages lower than their counterparts



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- the decrease in school enrolment, attendance, the increase in school drop-out and high illiteracy rates, especially among girls, limited availability of schools.
- there are close to 3.2 million school-aged Iraqi children out of school.
- HRDs and activists have been subjected to deliberate attacks and targeted abuse in connection with their activities, including murder, enforced disappearance, arbitrary arrest and detention, intimidation, online harassment and smear campaigns.

# Recommendations

- 1- Prioritize addressing security, humanitarian crises in order to address poverty; take into consideration poverty is multidimensional.
- 2- Ensure the adoption of a comprehensive national development plan that integrates diversification of economy, tackling corruption and high unemployment in the country.
- 3- Adopt and implement an effective employment policy enhancing decent work opportunities.
- 4- Prioritize education sector through an inclusive and comprehensive education strategy that aims at improving the efficiency of the educational system.



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5-Ensure allocation of maximum available resources for increasing the quality of the infrastructure in education through restoration of school building and facilities.

6-Ensure adoption of curricula taking human rights considerations

7-Bring Iraqi laws in line with international conventions on the protection of human rights defenders and officially and publicly recognize the legitimacy of the work of defenders.

8-Conduct prompt, impartial and effective investigations into all cases implicating state and state-affiliated forces of attacks, enforced disappearances, targeted killings, harassment and intimidation against HRDs and bring the perpetrators to justice.