



Syrian Crisis **United Nations Response**



**A Weekly Update from the
UN Department of Public Information**

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Displacement in Syria likely to rise if hostilities do not stop warns UNHCR Chief

Speaking to reporters at end of a three-day visit to Jordan, High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi said that displacement inside Syria is likely to rise further.

"The borders of Syria are more or less closed or very difficult to cross, and the neighbouring countries feel that they are saturated with almost five million Syrian refugees. That means that the Syrians are trapped inside Syria in this impossible situation," Grandi said. "This means that displacement inside Syria will grow and grow. We estimate 6.57 million people are not in their homes any more, and this number I'm sure is destined to become bigger if hostilities do not cease," he added.

During his visit, Mr. Grandi met with Syrian families living in Azraq camp in Jordan's northeastern desert, currently home to some 35,000 refugees.

<http://www.unhcr.org/580e2cc84.html>

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs deplores that no evacuation could take place during lull in eastern Aleppo

In a statement on 24 October, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Stephen O'Brien voiced deep frustration and sadness that the UN and relief partners had been forced to abort plans to evacuate injured and sick people from eastern Aleppo during a three-day lull. "It is deeply regrettable that no patients or accompanying family members could be moved. The evacuations were obstructed by various factors, including delays in receiving the necessary approvals from local authorities, conditions placed by non-State armed groups and the Government of Syria's objection to allowing medical supplies into eastern Aleppo", he said, noting that the humanitarian catastrophe in Aleppo was unparalleled. Mr. O'Brien reiterated his call on all parties and Member States with influence to work towards a permanent ceasefire to allow humanitarian aid in.

https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/20161024_USG_ERC_statement_on_Syria%20-%20eastern%20Aleppo.pdf

Syria investigative panel on aid convoy incident set to start its work

UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric announced on 21 October that the independent Board of Inquiry into the incident that involved a UN-Syrian Arab Red Crescent convoy will be led by Lieutenant General Mr. Abhijit Guha. The panel, which will begin this week, will ascertain the facts of the incident which occurred in Urum al-Kubra (Big Orem) and report to the Secretary-General. Upon review of the report, the Secretary-General will decide of further steps to take.

<https://www.un.org/sq/en/content/sq/statement/2016-10-21/statement-attributable-spokesman-secretary-general-syria-board>

Human rights violations in Aleppo may constitute crimes against humanity- warns High Commissioner for Human Rights

Briefing a special session of the Human Rights Council on the deterioration of human rights in Syria on 21 October, High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al

Hussein said that the violations and abuses suffered by Syrian people, including the siege and bombardment of eastern Aleppo, "constitute crimes of historic proportions". He noted that his staff and the Human Rights Commission have documented violations of international humanitarian law by all parties in Aleppo. "If knowingly committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against civilians, these violations constitute crimes against humanity", Mr. Zeid warned.

<http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20723&LangID=E>

Over 1.7 million Syrian children remain out of school- UNICEF report

In a report published on 21 October, the UN Children's Funds (UNICEF) said that over 1.7 million children remain out of school and some 1.3 million are at a risk of dropping out. "In Syria children are risking death to go to school. In the past two weeks, nine school-children, aged as young as five, lost their lives in two separate attacks on or near schools," says Hanaa Singer UNICEF's Representative in Syria. "School should not be a death trap. It should be a place where children are protected and able to learn, grow, and develop their skills." The report also found that there have been more than 4,000 across Syria since 2011. Last month, UNICEF and partners launched a back-to-learning campaign to reach 2.5 million children with school supplies and text books, including 200,000 children in besieged and hard-to-reach areas.

http://www.unicef.org/media/media_92943.html

Credible political transition remains central issue says Secretary-General

The Secretary-General and his Special Envoy, Staffan de Mistura, on 20 October both addressed an informal meeting of the General Assembly on the situation in Syria. "As the conflict continues to reach new and awful depths, the Secretary-General said, the offensive carried out by the Syrian Government in eastern Aleppo since 23 September has been the most sustained and intensive airstrikes since the conflict began". He stressed that no convoy had entered eastern Aleppo in the past three months and urged once again full humanitarian access. Welcoming renewed diplomatic efforts in Lausanne and Geneva, Mr. Ban called for the reinstatement of a nationwide cessation of hostilities, noting that "the central issue is and must remain a credible political transition".

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2016-10-20/secretary-generals-remarks-informal-meeting-general-assembly>

UNRWA condemns killing of four Palestine refugees in Khan Eshieh camp, calls for full humanitarian access

Four Palestine refugees were killed on the night of 18 October as they attempted to leave the Khan Eshieh Palestine refugee camp, south of the Syrian capital, Damascus, to which access has been highly restricted. Nofeh Mohammed Jarad, who was in her 60's, her daughter Ibaa Saeed al-Nader, 22, their driver and a one-year old baby were all killed when their vehicle was shelled around 10 p.m. The mother of the baby, a Syrian citizen, also died in the incident.

<http://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/official-statements/unrwa-condemns-killing-four-palestine-refugees-khan-eshieh-camp-syria>

UN Radio in Arabic

United Nations expresses regret at the lack of implementation of the medical evacuation plan in eastern Aleppo

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/219736/#.WA9rkPkrKUK>

حلب شرق في الطيبي الإجلاء خططت ن فيذ ل عدم الأ سف ت بدى الم تحدة الأمم

24/10/2016

High Commissioner for Human Rights: "The ancient city of Aleppo is today a locus of fear and pain"

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/219484/#.WA4sbfkrKUK>

الألم من منبج اليوم هي والجمال، الألفية الحضارة مدينة القديمة، حلب مدينة: الإنسان حقوق مفض

21/10/2016

Human Rights Council adopts a resolution on the deteriorating human rights situation in Aleppo

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/219505/#.WA4sSfkrKUK>

حلب في الإنسان حقوق حالة تدهور بشأن قرار يمتد الإنسان حقوق مجلس

21/10/2016

Board of Inquiry in aid convoy incident to begin its work next week

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/219590/#.WA4r4fkrKUK>

المقبل الأسبوع عمله يبدأ الكبرى أورم حادثه في التحقيق مجلس

21/10/2016

Special Envoy de Mistura briefs the General Assembly on the situation in Aleppo

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/219410/#.WA4q6PkrKUK>

حلب بشأن مبادرته العامة الجمعية أمام يمد تعرض مس تورا دي

20/10/2016

Secretary-General says the unilateral truce declared by Russia is not enough

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/219390/#.WA4rDPkrKUK>

كافية غير روسيا أعلنتها التي الأحادية الهدنة: العام الأمين

20/10/2016

UN General Assembly meets to discuss the situation in Syria

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/219365/#.WA4rOfkrKUK>

سوريا في الوضع حول العامة الجمعية اجتماع

20/10/2016

UN ready to proceed with medical evacuation from eastern of Aleppo

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/219287/#.WA4rjfkrKUK>

مس تورا دي خطة على لموافقة وترقب حلب، شرق من طبي إجلاء لعمالية اس تعداد

20/10/2016

Twitter

OCHA Syria @OCHA_Syria- 26 October

Inter-agency convoy entered besieged #AlWaer neighborhood #Homs #Syria to deliver humanitarian aid for 70,000 people with @UN @SYRedCrescent

United Nations Retweeted- 25 October

OCHA Syria ✓ @OCHA_Syria

READ @UNReliefChief statement: UN & partners forced to abort plans for medical evacuations from east #Aleppo #Syria <http://ow.ly/vUK8305vvoV>

OCHA Syria @OCHA_Syria- 25 October

Humanitarian convoy is delivering food, health and other supplies for 14,200 families in #Houla #Homs #Syria w/ @UN @ICRC_sy @SYRedCrescent

Stephen O'Brien @UNReliefChief - 24 October

#Aleppo is an unparalleled humanitarian catastrophe. NEED a ceasefire so life-saving activities can resume

[https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/20161024_USG_ERC_statement_on_Syria%20-%20eastern%20Aleppo.pdf ...](https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/20161024_USG_ERC_statement_on_Syria%20-%20eastern%20Aleppo.pdf...)

Stephen O'Brien @UNReliefChief -24 October

Deeply frustrated, sad @UN & partners forced to abort plans to evacuate critically injured & sick from E #Aleppo

[https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/20161024_USG_ERC_statement_on_Syria%20-%20eastern%20Aleppo.pdf ...](https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/20161024_USG_ERC_statement_on_Syria%20-%20eastern%20Aleppo.pdf...)

OCHA Syria @OCHA_Syria-21 October

With over 4,000 attacks on schools in #Syria since 2011, children risk their lives to go to school said @UNICEF <http://ow.ly/4f5C305pqYu>

United Nations @UN -21 October

Human Rights Council (@UN_HRC) calls on #COISyria to conduct a special inquiry into the events in Aleppo. #HRC34

Social media campaigns

@ShareTheMeal: In April 2016, the World Food Programme launched its phone application to support fundraising efforts for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. ShareTheMeal's fundraising aims to support 1,400 refugee children. Through the app, smartphone users can join thousands of other people in making donations and support a selected community and monitor progress. Since the launch of the campaign, nearly 7.5 million meals have been shared.

www.sharethemeal.org

#RememberUs - #Syria5Years is an advocacy and fundraising campaign to tell the story of Palestine refugees in Syria after five years of armed conflict. In the last five years, the Palestine refugees of Syria have been experiencing tremendous hardship with over 60 per cent of the 560,000 registered with UNRWA displaced throughout Syria and further afield. Through the campaign, UNRWA remembers the victims to the Syrian conflict, in particular the Palestine refugees, many of whom have lost their communities, family members, houses and livelihoods.

<http://www.unrwa.org/syria5years>

Arabic: <http://goo.gl/vVRZRw>

#MyVoiceMySchool- #Myvoicemyschool, running for a second year, is an educational project linking Palestine refugee youth in Syria with their peers in England and Belgium. Through live video conversations and customized teaching materials, students and teachers explore how education can help them meet their future aspirations.

<https://www.facebook.com/unrwa/photos/a.995861277127106.1073741879.105171192862790/995861320460435/?type=3&theater>

#IamSyrian is a global engagement campaign on social media launched by the World Food Programme (WFP) at the London Syria conference in February 2016. It offers global citizens the opportunity to show solidarity with the Syrian people by sharing their stories, sending messages of support and demonstrating how the world continues to care

about their plight. The campaign will culminate in an exhibition at the UN General Assembly in September 2016.

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldFoodProgramme/photos/a.59121880177.81015.28312410177/10153310768060178/?type=3&theater>

#Unite4Heritage is a global movement run by UNESCO that aims to celebrate and safeguard cultural heritage and diversity around the world. Launched in response to the unprecedented attacks on world heritage sites, the campaign calls on everyone to stand up against extremism and radicalization by celebrating the places, objects and cultural traditions that make the world such a rich and vibrant place.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1254/>

Relevant links to UN Secretariat, Agencies, Funds and Programmes on Syria

DPI Focus Page on Syria:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=146&Body=Syria&Body1=>

UN System agencies :

UNICEF: <http://www.unicef.org/media/index.html>

WFP: <http://www.wfp.org/countries/syria>

OCHA: <http://unocha.org/syria>, twitter.com/ocha_syria, [facebook.com/UNOCHA.Syria](https://www.facebook.com/UNOCHA.Syria)

WHO: <http://www.who.int/countries/syr/en/>

UNHCR: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4f86c2426.html>

OHCHR: <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/NewsSearch.aspx?CID=SY>

UNRWA: <http://www.unrwa.org/>

UNESCO: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/syria-crisis-response/>

UNESCO Emergency Safeguarding of the Syrian Cultural Heritage Project:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/beirut/areas-of-action/culture/syria/emergency-safeguarding-of-the-syrian-heritage/>

UNESCO Observatory of Syrian Cultural Heritage <https://en.unesco.org/syrian-observatory/>

UNESCO Bridging Learning Gaps for Youth: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/syria-crisis-response/bridging-learning-gaps/>

UN on social media:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/UN>

Flickr: http://www.flickr.com/photos/un_photo/

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/unitednations>

Tumblr: <http://united-nations.tumblr.com/>

Photo galleries:

UNHCR: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c25d.html>

UNRWA: <http://www.unrwa.org/photogallery.php>

OCHA: <http://www.unocha.org/media-resources/photo-gallery>

UNICEF: http://www.unicef.org/photography/photo_2013.php#UNI82253