



Syrian Crisis

United Nations Response



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

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Human Rights Chief speaks out against lack of cooperation

Addressing the 35th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva on 6 June, High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein decried several States for their lack of cooperation with UN human rights bodies. In the case of Syria, he said, there had long been no access either for his Office or for the Syria Commission of Inquiry. "This notwithstanding the continued horrific suffering of the Syrian people, particularly in besieged communities. I repeat my call for the release of all detainees wrongfully imprisoned in Syria", Mr. Zeid stated.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21687&LangID=E>

Assistance to Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Jordan critically underfunded

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) warned on 6 June that urgent funding is needed to avoid the disruption of cash assistance to about 60,000 Syrian refugee families in Jordan and Lebanon in July. A spokesperson for the agency, Andrej Mahecic, told reporters that vital parts of UNHCR's response to the needs of Syrian refugees were critically underfunded. The current funding gap for the Syria crisis in 2017 is more than US\$1 billion, of which US\$187 million is urgently needed. "Despite generous pledges, humanitarian programmes in support of Syrian refugees and communities hosting them were quickly running out of resources", he said

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/latest/2017/6/59368c574/funding-gap-spells-uncertainty-desperate-syrian-refugees.html>

UN alarmed by humanitarian situation in Raqqa amid continued fighting

The United Nations voiced deep concern on 6 June for the safety and protection of more than 400,000 civilians in the Raqqa governorate exposed to daily fighting and airstrikes. Alessandra Vellucci, Director of the United Nations Information Service in Geneva, speaking on behalf of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said that the humanitarian situation in Raqqa Governorate remained dire for the majority of the population. Since March 2017, UN agencies through their local partners have continued to provide multi sectoral humanitarian assistance. However, increased shortage of food and medical supplies is reported in Raqqa City. The UN reiterated its call for unconditional and unimpeded access to those affected by the fighting in Raqqa, and more broadly to the 4.5 million in hard-to-reach areas across Syria.

[http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/\(httpBriefingsLatest_en\)/1A12711D5775BB6EC12581370036EE07?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/(httpBriefingsLatest_en)/1A12711D5775BB6EC12581370036EE07?OpenDocument)

UN migration agency delivers medical equipment at Turkish-Syrian border

The UN Migration Agency (IOM) on 6 May handed over equipment to provide medical services to about 5,600 migrants to Saraykent Migrant Health Training Centre in Hatay

province, on the Turkish-Syrian border. The medical equipment worth a quarter of a million Euros was funded by the European Union. About 380,000 Syrians live in Hatay province. "Health is a fundamental right for every person and is one of the building blocks needed for a productive society," said Lado Gvilava, the IOM Turkey Chief of Mission. "A healthy population means children can be in school and adults are able to earn a living." Turkey offers the right to access basic services, such as health and education for Syrians registered under temporary protection.

<http://reliefweb.int/report/turkey/un-migration-agency-eu-boost-access-health-centres-along-turkish-syrian-border>

UNRWA provides aid to Palestinian refugees in Syria during Ramadan

During the holy month of Ramadan, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is providing the most vulnerable Palestine refugees some respite from Syria's conflict by distributing *suhour* baskets. Since the beginning of June, over 2,000 displaced persons accommodated in nine UNRWA-run shelters have been receiving food supplements to help those fasting. "While people are celebrating the holy month of Ramadan in the comfort of their homes sharing a meal with their loved ones, Palestine refugees in Syria continue to seek normalcy and peace of mind," said Mohammad Abdi Adar, Director of UNRWA Affairs in Syria. UNRWA remains the sole provider of services to 438,000 Palestine refugees in Syria, out of whom 95 per cent are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

<https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/providing-comfort-palestine-refugees-syria-during-ramadan-0>

UN Radio in Arabic

الأمم المتحدة تبدي القلق بشأن أوضاع 400 ألف شخص في الرقة

The United Nations is concerned about the situation of 400,000 people in Raqqa

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/244178>

2017/06/06

حكاية نوجين: شابة سورية تحدث ظروفها وألهمت الكثيرين في أوروبا

Nugeen's Story: A young Syrian woman who overcame challenges and inspired many people in Europe

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/244175>

2017/06/06

نقص التمويل يهدد بوقف المساعدات النقدية الضرورية لعشرات آلاف السوريين بالأردن ولبنان

Lack of funding threatens cash aid programmes for tens of thousands of Syrians in Jordan and Lebanon.

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/244139>

2017/06/06

Twitter

UNRWA @UNRWA - 7 June

With the support of #Japan, #UNRWA medical teams deliver vaccines to #Palestine refugee children across #Syria. #forPalestinerefugees

UN Human Rights@UNHumanRights- 6 June

See the full text of @UNHumanRights Chief #Zeid's opening statement to the @UN_HRC: <http://ow.ly/JgRP30clMAp> #HRC35 @UNGeneva

OCHA Syria@OCHA_Syria – 5 June

8.2 million people in #Syria reached with aid in March through different means including 4.2 million women & girls <http://ow.ly/79Z430cjZtB>

UN Refugee @Refugees – 5 June

How we are tackling compassion fatigue and fear in our partnership with @Google, #SearchingforSyria <http://trib.al/30aqBfr> @scoop_reardon

UN Refugee @Refugees- 5 June

Where are Syria's refugees? 80k are in @ZaatariCamp, a bustling hub of life + business #SearchingforSyria [http://www.searchingforsyria.org/en/where-are-syrian-refugees-going/ ...](http://www.searchingforsyria.org/en/where-are-syrian-refugees-going/)

OCHA Syria@OCHA_Syria - 4 June

More than 6 million people in #Syria are internally displaced, including thousands of people in #Raqqa <http://ow.ly/oIFG30ciFvK>

OCHA Syria@OCHA_Syria- 1 June

Convoy with @UN aid reaches displaced families in isolated town of #Jayrud #Syria @UNHCRinSYRIA <http://ow.ly/pGsu30cdqyE>

Social media campaigns

#My Voice-My School is an UNRWA project launched in 2015 and implemented by Digital Explorer to connect schools in Gaza, Syria, Lebanon with schools in Europe and USA through Skype exchanges. Through live video conversations and customized teaching materials, students and teachers explore how education can help them meet their future aspirations. www.unrwa.org/myvoicemyschool

@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

#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/>

#NoLostGeneration: The initiative was launched by UNICEF and partners in 2013 to focus attention on the plight of children affected by the Syrian crisis. By articulating real concerns about the possible 'loss' of a generation of children to the effects of violence and displacement, the initiative put education and child protection at the centre of the

response inside Syria and across the refugee hosting countries (Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt).

<http://nolostgeneration.org/about>

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

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

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

UNFPA: <https://www.unfpa.org/emergencies/crisis-syria>

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/>