

اليوم التالي  
لدعم الانتقال الديمقراطي في سوريا



THE DAY AFTER

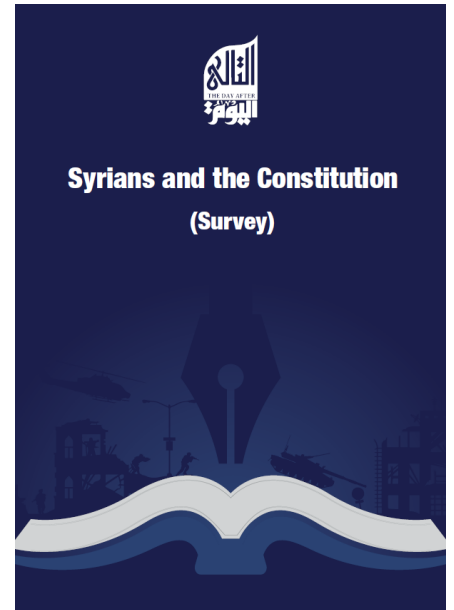
Supporting Democratic Transition In Syria

Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2020

## DRAFTING A NEW CONSTITUTION: LOW HOPE , LOW PRIORITY AMONG SYRIANS

Despite efforts on the international stage to draft a new Syrian constitution, this issue remains a low priority for Syrians themselves, according to "Syrians and the Constitution," a new report by The Day After. Only 7% of respondents felt that drafting a new constitution should be a top priority, while 43% chose establishing an official ceasefire and 24% chose releasing detainees as top priorities. Also, less than one in three respondents (29%) voiced high or moderate hope for the Constitutional Committee, with the remaining 70% reporting low or no hope. However, respondents showed strong support for democratic values such as equality for ethnic and religious minorities, women's rights, and the protection of workers' rights. For more results, [read the report](#).



*"I found those outside prison worse than those in it. I did not expect my community to reject me to this degree."*

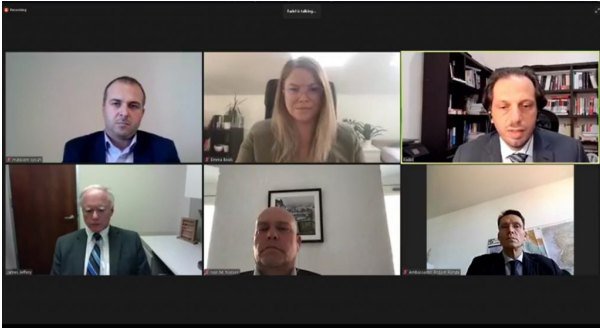
- Female former detainee and SGBV survivor, age 28

## STIGMA AND SUFFERING FOLLOW SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN SYRIA

For survivors of sexual and gender-based violence during detainment in Syria - a common feature of regime prisons - their release does not mark the end of their suffering. According to a new TDA survey, "Sexual and Gender-based Violence: Shared Experiences among Syrian Detainees," 92% suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) following their release. Among married respondents, around 40% of women and 50% of men suffered from marital problems due to their detainment. Social stigma also affected them strongly, with 41% of women and 20% of men reporting that their communities made it difficult for them to reintegrate into society. [Read the report](#).

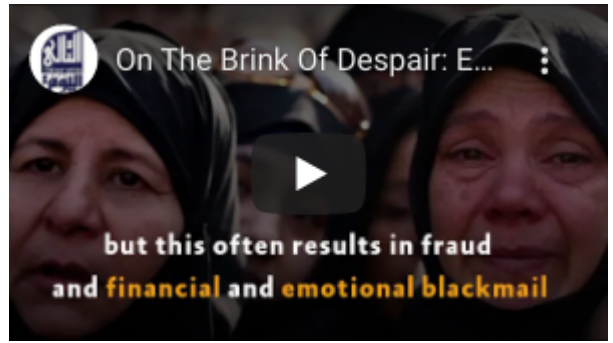


An animated video brings to life the findings of the report "Sexual and Gender-based Violence: Shared Experience among Syrian Detainees". [Watch the video](#) and share on social media.



### JUSTICE FOR SYRIAN DETAINEES ADDRESSED AT UN SIDE EVENT

In a side event for a UN General Assembly meeting, high level participants including U.S. Ambassador James F. Jeffrey, German Ambassador Robert Rohde, and Danish Special Envoy Ivan M. Nielsen came together to discuss the plight of Syrians detained by the Assad regime and avenues for accountability. The event was co-organized by TDA and Syrian Network for Human Rights. [Watch the webinar.](#)



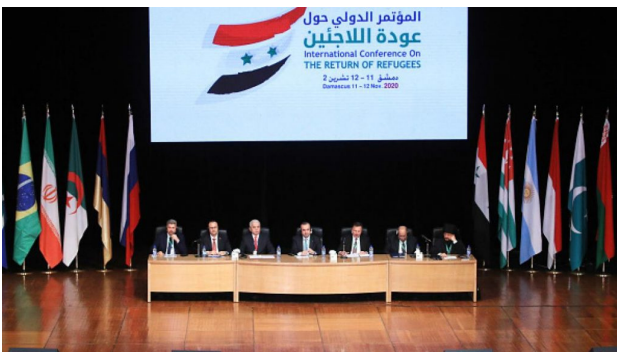
### FOR FAMILIES OF THE FORCIBLY DISAPPEARED, NOT KNOWING HAS NO END

Since 2011, more than 98,000 Syrians have been forcibly disappeared - 85% at the hands of the Syrian regime. A new TDA report examines the experiences of 344 families of the disappeared, including the circumstances of their disappearance and their family's efforts to locate them. Despite their efforts, the vast majority of families are left wondering - are they still alive? [Read the report](#) and [watch the video.](#)



### SURVIVORS' EXPERIENCES IN REGIME PRISONS

Torture, coerced confessions, sham trials, physical and sexual abuse... common experiences for Syrians kept in detention centers and regime prisons. TDA uncovered their experiences in a new report. [Read more](#) and [watch the video.](#)



### OPINION: THE FAILURE OF THE DAMASCUS REFUGEE CONFERENCE

The International Refugee Conference, held in Damascus in November by Russia and the Syrian regime, failed to produce meaningful outcomes or even address the real issues surrounding the return of refugees. In an opinion piece, TDA program coordinator Ahmed Murad reviews the failures of the conference and how the Assad regime itself is preventing the safe return of refugees. [Read the article.](#)



### SYRIAN WOMEN ADDRESS BARRIERS TO POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

A unique initiative, led by Watad Center with the support of TDA, engaged women in Al-Bab city in several trainings on political science and women's roles in politics. In a video, participants spoke about the impact of the trainings as well as the obstacles that keep women from political life, including cultural norms and traditions, the burden of domestic work, and misinterpretations of religious doctrine. [Watch the video.](#)