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RIGHTS
RADAR

YEMEN: THE DEADLY BLOCKADE

A REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN YEMEN

MARCH 2018



THE GENERAL CONTEXT

This report is issued on the 3rd anniversary of the civil war in Yemen to shed light on the negative impacts of this war, and the blockade that accompanied it, on the lives of Yemeni civilians, who were directly or indirectly affected by the waves of violence and horrific shelling. The negative effects of the blockade were greater than the impacts of the war itself on civilians in Yemen. The war broke out in Yemen in March 2015 after successive political crises and sporadic military confrontations which lasted about 8 months. Since then, Yemen has witnessed a civil war between the armed group Ansar Allah, known as the Houthi group, supported by the forces of the late President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and the forces of the internationally recognized Yemeni government led by President Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi supported by the Popular Resistance Forces. Houthi and Saleh's forces besieged several Yemeni cities gradually, starting with their siege of the Dammaj district in Saada province, the main stronghold of Houthi group in the summer of 2013. They then moved to Amran province in the summer of 2014 and a few weeks later, they stormed and took over the Yemeni capital Sana'a on September 21, 2014. The military action of the Houthi and Saleh forces continued to sweep the provinces, one after the other towards the south, beginning with the province of Dhamar, next to the province of Sana'a, and continued towards the southern provinces of Ibb, Lahj and Aden until they reached

the borders of the city of Taizz. They then moved west towards the provinces of Mahweet, Hajja and Hodeida, and to the east to the province of Shabwa and north to the province of Al-Jouf. The fall of any of these provinces at the hands of Houthi/Saleh forces means that it is subjected by force to fully comply with the orders of the Houthi group, politically, intellectually and economically. A severe siege is imposed on the people of these provinces to the extent that the residents are living in a kind of house arrest, according to some sources there. The Houthi/Saleh forces also imposed a siege on the internationally recognized government of President Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi and placed him

under house arrest in his palace in Sana'a before

he escaped their grip and moved to Aden.

The Saudi-led Arab coalition forces intervened to support the government of Hadi in Yemen on March 26, 2015, through air strikes that neutralized the Houthi-controlled Yemeni Air Force from the first moment and targeted Yemeni airports and seaports. This move intensified the siege on Yemeni people and created a bigger crisis than the war itself, the magnitude of which has profoundly affected public and private life in Yemen.

The local civil war in Yemen that accompanied the external military intervention of the Saudi-led Arab coalition forces led to a kind of deadly siege by the Houthi militants and by the coalition forces as well, on many cities and vital institutions. This has been a major threat to the lives of the people of Yemen and for three years they have been suffering the worst kind of humanitar-



27,000
Killed Including
15,500
Civilians

ian blockade. The blockade has doubled the human and material losses, with widespread negative repercussions on the lives of Yemenis, resulting in more victims than the direct victims of the war. The war and the blockade in Yemen have posed a grave danger to the lives of Yemeni civilians, exposing them to death, whether through destructive machine-gun attacks from the ground, through air raids or through the deadly siege that has deprived them of essential materials and commodities, including food, medicine and public services, in addition to depriving them of sources of income.



All regional and international diplomatic efforts, have failed over the last three years to bring an end to the war in Yemen, as the warring parties were dominated by the military tendency to control all of the land, and the circle of conflict widened, either directly or indirectly. As a result, new local conflicts and powers have been created on the ground within each of the warring parties, with regional and international support. The local powers have become players in a proxy war, making political solutions to the war in Yemen extremely complex.

The Saudi-led Arab coalition forces intervened to support the Hadi government forces, and Iran intervened with logistical and technical support to the Houthi group, which widened the range of the military conflict in Yemen from a limited local confrontation to a highly complex regional war, resulting in the failed missions of two UN special envoys to Yemen. The external interference has imposed military and political control on the local warring parties. As well as prolonging the war, new armed groups were formed serving the foreign powers with a new agenda against the local warring parties. These groups have their own economic and political interests in Yemen, and this can be seen in the southern provinces of Yemen. The war in Yemen produced armed groups calling for the independence of South Yemen, represented by the Southern Transitional Council (STC), which is followed by non-authorized military forces backed by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) which is a member of the Saudi-led Arab Coalition. These forces are working against the President Hadi's government and opposing its policies in the southern provinces, which are under the control of the government, as the STC is seeking to be the alternative authority for the government in the southern provinces. As a result, the current conflict between local forces in Yemen is divided into three parties: the Houthi group in the north, the Yemeni government in the south and center, and the separatist transitional council in the south. Each of them are backed by regional powers who are funding their military operations and political movements, as it is believed that the Houthi group is backed by Iran, the Yemeni government backed by Saudi Arabia and the South Transitional Council backed by the UAE. After the execution of former Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh by Houthi militants on December 4, 2017 the UAE was active in seeking to produce a fourth party, military and political, in Yemen, from


the remnants of the military forces and political leaders loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh. This was after Saleh had canceled his partnership with the Houthi ally against the government, just two days before they executed him. The pro-Saleh forces from the former Republican Guard and the Special Operation Forces fought against the Houthi militants in the streets of the capital Sana'a for about four days. The four-day fight ended with the Houthi's announcement of the death of Ali Abdullah Saleh, killed by their gunmen on December 4, 2017. Saleh's murder at the hands of Houthi militants triggered a major shake-up among his loyalists, which brought a new shift in the Yemeni conflict

that resulted in the dissolution of the partnership between the Houthis and the General People's Congress (GPC) in their battle against the government forces and against the Arab coalition. This was particularly evident in the large Houthi campaign following Saleh's death to track down the members of his family and his followers including military and political leaders. This also resulted in the beginning of the formation of a fourth warring party in the Yemeni war, which is expected to continue with the ongoing humanitarian siege. The war and its accompanying crises have weakened the state's power in Yemen, as it is in conflict with Houthi militants in the north and with the separatist militants in the south. This con-



tributed to create an appropriate environment to increase the presence of the violent groups, like Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), and the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in many provinces in the north and south Yemen. Out of all the terrorist operations carried out during the three years of war, most of them occurred in the province of Aden. The war in Yemen and the siege that accompanied it have led to major crises in all sectors - economic, health, security, political, media, human rights, etc. The comprehensive siege was one of the most prominent crises that caused the Yemeni citizen to become suffocated by the negative impacts on all aspects of life and the lack of means for a decent life. The blockade has become one of the main reasons, directly or indirectly, for the increase in the number of deaths over the past three years. The three years of the Yemeni war could have caused the total collapse of state institutions or the loss of control over them, after the Houthis carried out the coup on Hadi's government and the takeover of the capital Sana'a on September 21, 2014. This has pushed the government to shift the capital city to Aden temporarily, and to seek to build new state institutions in Aden, despite its weak security control, including shifting the Central Bank of Yemen and the headquarters of the ministries from the capital Sana'a to Aden.

Many local, regional and international human rights organizations, including Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and some United Nations agencies, have accused the Saudi-led coalition and Houthi forces of failing to abide by the laws of war and international humanitarian law. Among these charges are charges relating to the imposition of a siege on the population and the cities in many Yemeni provinces. The Saudi-led coalition that supports the Yemeni government, as well as the Houthi militants and their former ally, Ali Abdullah Saleh forces, have been accused of participating in the imposition of the blockade in one way or another. These organizations explained that since March 26, 2015, the Saudi-led coalition has been carrying out a sporadic blockade on Yemeni seaports and airports and on the movement of maritime and air traffic in general to and from Yemen. The Houthi militants and Saleh forces have besieged the city of Taizz in central Yemen since the summer of 2015, as well as besieging the province of Aden when they invaded it in March 2015 until they were forced to leave in July 2015. This is in addition to their direct and indirect contribution to the siege imposed on many cities and provinces under the Houthi militants control in the north and west of the country.



58,000
Injured Within them

35,000
Civilians

METHODOLOGY OF THIS REPORT

This report is informed by the ongoing monitoring by Rights Radar's local monitors' network deployed in most Yemeni provinces and the use of other local official sources of various parties, including the government and Houthi sources, the Southern Transitional Council (STC), the General People's Congress (GPC) and the Yemeni Islah Party, as well as sources from inter-

national organizations operating inside Yemen. The writers of this report committed themselves to professional standards and objectivity in the preparation and verification of the information and content, to transmit an accurate image of the situation in Yemen during the period covered by this report.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Yemen has a total area of 555,000 square kilometers with a population of 28 million, distributed over 22 provinces, 8 in the south and 14 in the north. About 75% of this area is located in the southern provinces, which are inhabited by about 25% of the population. More than 75% of the population lives in the northern provinces, which make up less than 25% of the total area of Yemen. About 80% of the country of Yemen has been affected by the negative impacts of the current war and its accompanying blockade, as has more than 95% of the population. According to Rights Radar's field sources, the death toll from the 3-year war in Yemen is about 27,000 people, including at least 15,500 civilians, in all Yemeni provinces. This is in addition to 58,000 wounded, including at least 35,000 civilian casualties. The war also left more than 2,980 people with various disabilities, both civilian and military personnel, most of them victims of landmine explosions planted by Houthi militants in several provinces and areas under their control. The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Yemen is more than 3.2 million. The number of

refugees and displaced persons outside Yemen is about 650,000 people. More than 750 people have been forcibly disappeared, most of them politicians, activists, journalists and military personnel. Rights Radar monitored thousands of detainees in the provinces under the control of the Houthi group or under the control of the government and the UAE forces in the southern provinces arrested by the severe political siege over the past 3 years. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has claimed that there are more than 11,000 detainees in Yemen, and this figure does not cover all detainees, only those who were visited by the ICRC during 2017 in the cities of Sana'a and Aden only, the capitals of both warring sides. More than 26,000 houses have been damaged, entirely or partially, and more than 6,800 public and private facilities have been damaged by the war since March 2015. Freedom of expression and freedom of the press faced the worst crackdown in Yemen by the Houthi militants in the northern provinces and by the pro-UAE forces in the southern provinces. More than



60 media outlets were raided, looted, seized and closed, and 24 journalists and media professionals were killed, most of them by Houthi militants. The Houthi group arrested dozens of journalists in the capital Sana'a and in other cities under its control. Sixteen of them are still in detention and some of them have spent nearly three years in their detention centers. At least three journalists were arrested in the southern provinces under government control. More than 1,000 journalists were forced to flee their home cities or to leave Yemen, to avoid abduction, enforced disappearance, detention or murder. The Houthi militants destroyed more than 860 mosques and 48 religious schools that were teaching the Koran, and sentenced to death a Baha'i follower, Hamid Kamal Haidarah, in Sana'a on January 2, 2018, who was arrested along with six other followers of the Baha'i community in Sana'a. Sana'a has been subjected to large-scale arrests of journalists and media professionals by the Houthi militants, while journalists are also being harassed in the southern provinces which are under the control of the government and the influence of UAE forces. Thousands of politicians and activists who opposed the Houthi group have been arbitrarily detained in Sana'a over the past three years, most of them from the Yemeni Islah Party. Moreover, a campaign of arrests recently targeted the leaders of the General People's Congress (GPC) party after the killing of its founder and president Ali Abdullah Saleh, on December 4, 2017 by the Houthi militants. At least 391 non-governmental organizations, foundations and charities have been closed or have been disrupted by harassment and siege, in particular by Houthi militants in the capital Sa-



26,000
Homes and
6800
Public Facilities
Destroyed

na'a and in other provinces under their control. On the other side, in the southern provinces under the control of the government and the influence of the UAE forces, more than 20 clerics were killed in Aden alone and one in the city of Tarim in Hadramout, as well as many media professionals, activists and politicians arrested and media outlets attacked during the past three years. In the health sector, more than 55% hospitals and health centers have been closed and medical services suspended, either because of Houthi bombardments or Saudi-led coalition air raids. This was also due to the blockade, which created tough conditions such as a lack of security, a shortage of banknotes to pay salaries and a lack of drugs and medical supplies in the markets. Education has also collapsed in the last three years, as the educational process has been severely disrupted at all levels. The education system has failed in more than 35% of public and private schools and universities, as a result of the entire or partial destruction of at least 2,231 schools, universities and educational facilities, or as a result of them being stormed by militants and used as posts for fighters or as shelters for civilian IDPs. Political conflict and disputes between the Houthi group and the government also affected the educational process, with education becoming subject to division between the warring parties' policies. The war in Yemen and the blockade that accompanied it have affected and paralyzed people's lives in many ways, following the waves of violence and counter-violence that have threatened Yemeni society and through the direct and indirect blockade on Yemen in the economic, health, media, humanitarian, cultural, and other sectors.

THE MEDICAL BLOCKADE

The war in Yemen and the blockade that accompanied it over the last three years have contributed to the deterioration of the health services in Yemen to the lowest levels in 50 years and even led to its collapse in many cities. It caused the deaths of thousands of Yemeni patients, as their diseases became worse and they were not able to receive medication or travel to save their lives. A lot of patients died before reaching their final destination for treatment, either during internal or international travel. Each journey involves passing through arduous and long-haul roads, sometimes rough and unpaved. Most of the patients pass through conflict areas, putting the lives of the patients and accompanied people in danger, particularly if any of them opposes one of the warring parties. The severity of the travel from one city to another was not only difficult for the patients but also for the doctors and medical teams of internation-

al humanitarian organizations. During the last two months of 2017, the World Health Organization (WHO)'s medical teams had to go through many obstacles and difficulties to reach Yemeni citizens. Medical teams face difficulties getting travel permits as movement restrictions are imposed on them by warring parties, including the Houthi group and the government, particularly with the increasing number of checkpoints on the main roads. The number of checkpoints on the main road between the cities of Sana'a and Aden reached 214 checkpoints from various parties in their efforts to control this important road. The blockade caused a severe shortage of food supplies, reaching to the point of famine cases and the spread of malnutrition in many villages in Hodeida province in 2017. It also caused a shortage of medicines, poor health services and the lack of a healthy environment, which are





leading to a high mortality rate from various diseases including cholera outbreak. According to a statement issued by the WHO Yemen office in February 2018, the Yemeni crisis (including the blockade) resulted in 62,000 dead and wounded, the closure of more than 50% hospitals and health facilities with only 45% of health facilities in operation. 16.4 million people are lacking health care services. The war and accompanied blockade in Yemen have drained the capacity of the health sector. The situation has worsened after the salaries of more than 30,000 health employees have been cut off for more than a year, in addition to the shortage of medicines and medical supplies in the markets, and other field constraints too. “The war launched by the Houthi militia has destroyed about 45% of the health facilities between full and partial destruction and has led to a major deterioration in the health sector in all provinces of Yemen,” Health Minister Nasser Mohsen Baoum said. A source from the Houthi group source said that the Saudi-led coalition air strikes destroyed 262 health facilities in the provinces under Houthi controls during the last three years of the war, killing at least 14,000 civilians and injuring more than 22,000 people. The Minister of Human Rights Mohammed Asker said that “human rights violations committed by Houthi militia against the Yemeni civilians resulted in killing 13,389

among them 1,3553 children and 842 women, while the number of the wounded civilians reached 27,452 and the victims of landmines planted by Houthi militiamen are 439 killed and 1,377 injured from September 2014 until February 2018". The war and accompanied blockade in Yemen also resulted in 17.8 million people suffering from food insecurity and more than 22.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, more than half of whom are in desperate need of life-saving assistance,

according to the reports of the WHO.

The blockade contributed to the outbreak of cholera in Yemen in 2017, with more than 1 million cholera cases, killing more than 2,200 people and more than 1.8 million children and 1.1 million women severely malnourished and at high risk of death, while more than 16.4 million lack access to healthcare services in Yemen, the WHO confirmed.


Yemen has more than 60,000 cancer patients, 12% of whom are children, most of whom cannot receive treatment from the Cancer Oncology Center in Sana'a, which is a public center currently run by the Houthi group. Most of the patients suffer difficulties in getting medication in this center, as they fear putting their life at risk from Houthi group militants. The center also has a severe inability to receive patients following its annual budget shortage. As a result of the blockade on Yemen, the patients who are suffering from chronic diseases, such as kidney failure, diabetes, cancer, etc., are dying on a daily basis, as they are unable to access to life-saving health care.

"We do not have enough medicines and we have no choice but to watch patients lose their lives because of the lack of treatment and medicines" the director of the National Cancer Oncology Center in Sanaa Ali Al-Ashwal, said. Yemeni medical sources estimated the number of people suffering from kidney failure in Yemen at tens of thousands who were receiving hemodialysis services in 28 centers in the large cities

in Yemen, but the majority of these centers are no longer able to provide medical services due to financial difficulties and the lack of medicines.

This blockade on Yemen which targeted the medical facilities is contrary to all domestic and international legislation. Article 55 of the Yemeni Constitution states that "Health care is the right of all citizens and the government guarantees this right by establishing and expanding various hospitals and health facilities".

The destruction or targeting of medical facilities and the prevention of their workers from carrying out their jobs is a crime from the perspective of international humanitarian law, which emphasizes that hospitals and medical personnel have special protection during the armed conflicts. Article No.18 of the Fourth Geneva Convention states "civilian hospitals organized to give care to the wounded and sick, the infirm and maternity cases, may in no circumstances be the object of attack, but shall at all times be respected and protected by the Parties to the conflict".



55%
of Medical Facilities
Shutdown

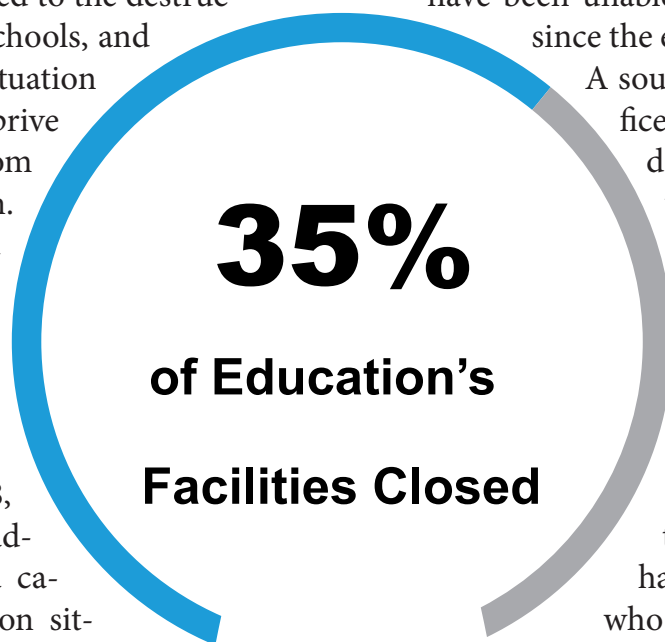
THE EDUCATIONAL BLOCKADE

Education in Yemen is one of the areas' most severely affected by the war and the blockade during the last three years, with education severely restricted at all levels. According to official sources from both sides – the government and the Houthi group - more than 35% of public and private schools and universities were shut down, either as a result of the destruction caused by the bombardments on them or due to being stormed by the militants who converted these facilities into barracks for fighters, or used them as shelters for civilian internally displaced persons (IDPs). The education system was affected by the blockade as were the rest of the public services, such as the suspension of teachers' wages for about two years, the lack of textbooks and school supplies, as well as the security risks that threaten the lives of students while attending schools. Moreover, a security crackdown targeted teachers and hundreds of them were arrested. A professional syndicate source confirmed that 683 teachers were arrested by the Houthi militants in Sana'a and in the provinces under their control, in addition to other arrests and harassment by local authorities in the southern provinc-

es and other cities under government control. The extent of the impacts of the blockade on education varied across different cities, but Taizz was the province most affected by the ongoing siege by the Houthi militants since the summer of 2015 until today. The political conflict between the warring parties has also played a role in the failure of education, with negative repercussions on the education system during the past three years. The political conflict divided the educational policies between the government in Aden and the Houthi group in Sana'a. This resulted in two authorities of educational administration with contradictory policies, especially at the stages that require central exams from the capital Sana'a. This forced the government to conduct parallel exams from the interim capital of Aden. This dispute was accompanied by a problem in the issuance of certificates and the recognition of secondary level finals (high school). Two thirds of public sector schools and 60% of the technical and vocational institutes in Yemen have been severely damaged by the war and siege imposed by the Houthi militia, according to a report released by the Center for Studies and Educational Media, an independent research center, on February 8, 2018.



It revealed that 30% of students have become displaced and 70% of teachers have been without salaries for two years, and that 32% of teachers are also internally displaced or have fled the country. The percentage of schools affected by the war is 43%, while classes were suspended in more than 1,400 schools in 2016 throughout Yemen, as about 78% of these schools were damaged and 22% were used for military purposes or for civilian IDPs shelters, the report confirmed. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) announced on October 19, 2017, that the escalating violence in Yemen in 2017 led to the destruction of more than 1,600 schools, and that the serious security situation in Yemen threatens to deprive 4.5 million children from continuing their education. The Sana'a-based child protection organization Siyaj described the education situation in Yemen as "catastrophic". It said in a statement issued in February 2018, "If this danger is not addressed now, it will be a catastrophe for the education situation, with its negative impacts on the security and development of Yemen and the Arabian Peninsula in the future". "More than 3 million children have lost their right to education and the number is increasing, and hundreds of schools have been totally or partially destroyed as a result of the bombing from the air and from the ground" Siyaj added. The majority of families are no longer able to provide breakfast for their children, which cause them to become drowsy and undernourished, forcing a lot of students to miss class or drop out of school. These schools were also unable to provide full classes to students.



According to official sources in the two ministries of education of both sides, the government and the Houthi group, approximately 2,231 schools, universities and educational facilities in Yemen were physically damaged during the past three years, from partial damage to total destruction, including 1,214 educational facilities destroyed by Houthi militants and 1,017 facilities destroyed by Saudi-led coalition forces. The sources estimate that at least 1.5 million students, representing 33% of the total number of students enrolled in primary and secondary schools have been unable to continue their education since the end of 2014 to the present day.

A source at the United Nations Office in Sana'a told a Rights Radar reporter that the Yemeni war has deprived nearly three million Yemeni children of education. The number of children who did not attend school from March 2015 until the end of 2017 reached 2.9 million. The war, the blockade and the tough economic situation have led thousands of children who are out of school to take part in the fighting between the two sides of the conflict, particularly on the Houthi side, where they have officially engaged in the mandatory recruitment of children in the areas they control. Schools and universities are prohibited objects according to the laws of war in accordance with the protocol of the Geneva Conventions, which states that "civilian objects shall not be the object of attack or of reprisals". This includes homes, schools, universities, hospitals and places of worship, and all places intended to serve civilian purposes and the attack on these facilities is a serious threat to the civilian population.

THE ECONOMIC BLOCKADE

In the last three years, living conditions in Yemen have been extremely difficult and have reached the point of famine, as the Yemeni economy suffered the largest collapse in its history, due to the war and the deadly blockade. The Yemeni economy was one of the sectors most directly affected by the blockade, following the interruption of ways and means of transporting goods to various cities and rural areas due to the high risk and siege imposed on some cities and areas by the Houthi militants and the blockade by the Saudi-led coalition on others. The current war has caused the worst economic siege in Yemen's modern history, with the collapse of the foundations and rules of economic

operation and commercial activity in the country, in addition to security threats on economic establishments and the commercial process in general. The current war has caused great damage to commercial and industrial facilities, housing, public and private buildings and infrastructure, in all Yemeni cities that have been hit by land and aerial bombardments or have been involved in armed confrontations between the local fighting forces on the ground. These forces are represented by the Houthi group and Ali Abdullah Saleh on the one hand and the government forces and the pro-government forces on the other, as well as the external forces supporting the government represented by the Saudi-led coalition. The latest aerial and naval blockade imposed by the Saudi-led coalition forces and the land siege imposed by the Houthi militants have had significant adverse impacts on economic and commercial activity and the travel of civilians. Business people and patients who have to travel to distant cities have been exposed to high security risks as a result of confrontations and military operations on roads and areas they travel through. Many patients are forced to travel to distant cities where hospitals are still open to patients or to travel outside Yemen for treatment through the only two airports still operating during the conflict. These are Aden airport in the south and Sai'un airport in the east, after the closure of the rest of the Yemeni airports for commercial flights. The airports of Sana'a, Mukalla and Socotra, were closed by the Saudi-led coalition, and the airports of Taizz and Hodeida were closed by Houthi militants. The Ministry of Health of the Houthi group in the capital Sana'a estimated the number of patients who are in need of treatment outside of Yemen at more than 95,000 patients. The closure of Yemeni airports leads to the death of about 32 patients every day in all Yemeni provinces.



Many international humanitarian organizations operating in Yemen have repeatedly warned of the dangers of the rapid deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Yemen, and the armed conflict in Yemen was accompanied by a multifaceted siege, perhaps the most severe of which is the economic blockade that has cast a shadow over the lives of more than 22 million Yemeni citizens, representing 80% of Yemen's total population, who became unable to survive without humanitarian assistance. The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that 5.4 million Yemenis are in need of shelter or basic household items, including internally displaced persons, host communities and returnees. The three-year armed conflict has impoverished millions of Yemenis, including over two million IDPs who are still unable to return to their homes. Many economic analysts have estimated the losses of the economic sector in Yemen, with estimates ranging between 25 and 30 billion US Dollars due to damaged infrastructure alone. The Ministry of Planning of the Houthi group in Sana'a estimated the economic losses at about 50 billion US Dollars during the past three years of the war and the multiple blockade of Yemen. Many Yemeni business people and manufacturers told Rights Radar reporters that more than half of the factories had been completely shut down, while the production capacity of the rest of the factories fell to less than half as well, as a result of failing to access raw materials, energy, resources and the difficulty of marketing products, as well as the fuel crisis, high cost of production and high security risks facing workers and marketers of products in domestic markets. Business people are facing heavy pressure from



**30 Billion
US\$ Losses of
Infrastructure's
Destruction**

Houthi militants in all the provinces controlled by the Houthi group, where they receive blackmail under different names, sometimes in the name of customs, sometimes in the name of taxes and sometimes under the name of support for the war effort. On the other hand, business people are facing huge obstacles in receiving their goods that reach Yemen via ports, as a result of the restrictions imposed by the Saudi-led coalition on their commercial activity, exposing traders to large losses and an inability to bear the burdens imposed on them. "We are no longer thinking about profits as much as keeping people's lifeline alive. We are continuing production only to maintain financial resources for workers and employees and provide them with sources of livelihood, as well as to maintain our social responsibility to provide basic materials and food for consumers", one of Yemen's prominent manufacturers told Rights Radar. He pointed out that many of the companies have become bankrupt or have been forced to reduce the number of employees by half or reduce staff salaries by half to maintain the full number of employees, because the commercial operation was greatly affected by the armed conflict and the accompanying deterioration of security, the collapse of state institutions and the blockade on Yemeni cities. In November 2017, the Houthi group announced the closure of 4,278 bank accounts belonging to several mixed-sector institutions, and the cessation of funds of economic entities and economic units of a number of ministries and government agencies and institutions. Economic sources said that the amounts that were confiscated from these accounts were transferred to the assets of the central bank of Yemen in Sana'a, which is under the control of the Houthi militants.

The Saudi ambassador to Yemen, Mohammed al-Jaber, stated via his Twitter account on March 4, 2018 that “Houthi militia are taking taxes on factories, customs and duties on imported materials and creating a black market for oil and gas products. Houthis are getting an income from these activities more than 120 billion Yemeni riyals per month, while salaries of civil servants and military personnel in Yemen for 2014 do not exceed 70 billion Yemeni riyals per month”. According to an official report issued by the government’s Higher Relief Committee, the Houthi and Ali Saleh militants attacked, pirated and looted 65 vessels from the beginning of the war until the end of the summer of 2017, that were carrying humanitarian aid to the port of Hodeida and looted more than 124 humanitarian aid convoys, in addition to the attack on 628 small and medium transport trucks. Human Rights Watch said on December 7, 2017 report that “The Saudi-led coalition’s broad restrictions on aid and essential goods to Yemen’s civilian population are worsening the country’s humanitarian catastrophe”. “The coalition closed all of Yemen’s entry points in response to a missile strike on Saudi’s Riyadh airport on November 4, 2017, by opposing Houthi-Saleh forces” she added. “While the coalition eased some restrictions in late November, it continues to prevent much aid and nearly all commercial imports from reaching Houthi-controlled ports, which has an unlawfully disproportionate impact on civilians’

access to essential goods” HRW explained. The coalition denied imposing a blockade on Yemen as its former spokesman Major General Ahmad Asiri, said in statement on October 25, 2016. “There is no blockade on Yemen. There is surveillance due to the international law, maritime law and air law”. “The observation is different from the blockade, which means that no one can enter or leave” he added. International humanitarian law, or the laws of war, prohibits deliberate and indiscriminate attacks on civilians and attacks that cause disproportionate harm to civilians compared to the expected military benefit. Blockades are permitted during armed conflict that does not cause disproportionate civilian harm. However, parties to the conflict must allow and facilitate the rapid passage of humanitarian aid for civilians in need and not arbitrarily interfere with it. Warring parties are also prohibited from carrying out attacks on objects that are indispensable to the civilian population. These can include food stores, drinking water installations, and port facilities. The article No.54. of protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions said “Starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited. It is prohibited to attack, destroy, remove or render useless objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population”.



THE POLITICAL SIEGE

Since the Houthi and Saleh militants took over the capital Sana'a on September 21, 2014, they have stormed dozens of offices of political parties and civil society organizations, including the headquarters of the Yemeni Islah Party and all its charities, affiliated institutions, houses of senior party leaders, including ministers in the government. The Houthi militants' repression on the political parties and civil society organizations in Yemen has increased since the launching of military operations by the Saudi-led coalition forces through air strikes on March 26, 2015. The Houthi militants arrested dozens of political leaders loyal to the government of President Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi.

The prominent detainee of those politicians is the Islah party's senior member of politburo Mohammad Qahtan, who was arrested on April 2015, and whose fate is unknown to this day. They also arrested hundreds of journalists and political activists loyal to the Islah Party in the capital Sana'a. The storming and arresting continued in many provinces invaded by Houthi militants.

After Houthi gunmen executed the former President Ali Abdullah Saleh on December 4, 2017, they conducted a similar political crackdown campaign against leaders and followers of his party the General People's Congress (GPC), with widespread arrests in the capital Sana'a. Houthi militants also launched a series of raids on the headquarters of the GPC, confiscating its property and shutting down its organizations and institutions, including the media outlets.

There have been thousands of cases of political arrests by the Houthi militants over the past three years. Only a small number have been released through a prisoner swap between the Houthi group and local tribal mediators, while the rest are still in the Houthi prisons. The UN special envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed undertook great efforts to release the detainees in a prisoner swap operation between the government and the Houthi sides during the Yemeni peace talks in Kuwait in 2016, but failed to achieve his goals.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) announced that it had

been able to visit several prisons and detention centers of the Houthi group in Sana'a and the government authorities in Aden during 2017. "The ICRC last year (2017) visited 11,000 detainees in Yemen", it said in statement released on February 11, 2018.

This is the highest figure of detainees in Yemen announced

by an international body. Despite the magnitude of this figure, there are still detainees who have not been

reached, according to the Red Cross statement. "As positive as these visits in Aden and Sana'a are, more needs to be done. We encourage all sides in Yemen to grant access to all those detained in relation to the ongoing conflict" stated Alexandre Faite, ICRC's Head of Delegation in Yemen. Rights Radar received an estimate of the figure of detainees in Yemen over the past three years from various parties, confirming that the number of those arrested by Houthi group as well as by government



1000s
of Politicians
Detained by Houthi
Militants

authorities exceeded 18,000 prisoners, most of them in the Houthi group prisons, very few of whom have been released, while the rest remain in detention. The sources said that about 114 detainees died under torture in the detention centers of the Houthi group, while a small number of detainees died in the government prisons run by UAE forces in the provinces of Aden and Hadramout, southern Yemen. The Houthi group has imposed a severe siege on political parties and civil society organizations in the capital Sana'a and in the other provinces controlled by its militants since September 2014. These parties have been severely harmed and their political activities severely hampered in

campaign in the capital Sana'a against the leaders and followers of the GPC, after December 4, 2017, when Houthi gunmen executed former President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Secretary-General of the GPC party Aref al-Zouka. It is estimated that there are hundreds of detainees from the GPC party, including four from Ali Saleh's family and dozens of high-ranking political leaders in the party. Houthi militants stormed the headquarters of the Yemen Today TV channel of the GPC party on that day and it has been under their control until the present day. Gunmen arrested 41 journalists and employees of the channel for several weeks and forced those who were released to re-operate the Yemen Today



these provinces, because of the harassment and repressive tracking for those who engage in any political activity against the Houthi group. Rights Radar recorded that the Houthi group arrested at least 2,830 leaders and followers of the Yemeni Islah Party (YIP), and displaced more than 20,000 persons internally and externally, in addition to harming more than 100,000 followers of the YIP party from the Houthi political siege imposed on their party in various provinces in Yemen. The Houthi group carried out a large-scale arrest

TV channel for the interest of the Houthi group. In addition, the houses of more than 30 senior leaders of the GPC party were stormed in the capital Sana'a. In the southern provinces, particularly the province of Aden, local forces loyal to the UAE impose a political siege on political parties loyal to President Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi, particularly the Islah Party and the GPC Party, President Hadi's wing. Many of the headquarters of the Islah party in the province of Aden have been subjected to numerous attacks and arrests of many lead-

ers of the Islah party during 2017 by the forces called the Aden Security Belt, which some politicians accused of being involved in the assassination of some political leaders in Aden. Rights Radar monitored at least 26 cases of attacks on the headquarters and institutions of the Islah Party in the province of Aden and in the southern provinces between July 2017 and February 2018, as these headquarters and party institutions were either stormed, bombed or targeted by armed attack, among them 13 cases of attacks on the head-

paired political action and freedom of expression. More than 20 political parties that have been deprived or have difficulty in the exercise of political activity in the capital Sana'a and areas under the control of the Houthi group. Political parties are also subject to considerable harassment in some provinces controlled by the government, particularly where there is strong influence of the UAE forces or forces loyal to them such as in the southern provinces. Tens of thousands of political leaders and members of political parties have been forced to flee from

the capital Sana'a and other areas affected by the armed conflict and the political siege, to other safe areas inside Yemen or to other countries. Many Yemeni political leaders fled to Arab and Western capitals, who were forced by the circumstances of political siege to leave their home country. These restrictions are a clear violation of the Yemen Constitution. Article 57 states that "The freedom of movement from one place to another within the Yemeni territory is guaranteed to every citizen and may not be restricted except in cases specified by law... No citizen should be expelled from Yemeni territory or prevented from returning to it". The laws of armed conflicts criminalize the restriction on civilians'

quarters of the Islah party in Aden province alone. The headquarters of the Islah party in the district of Crater was stormed and set fire to seven times, which has been taken over by the Houthis to the present day. Several cases of assassination, arrest and prosecution of many leaders of the Islah party and its political activists have been reported in Aden and in the rest of the southern provinces, which forced the senior leaders of Islah party in the south to leave Yemen. The atmosphere of armed conflict in Yemen has created a siege on the political activities in most of the Yemeni provinces, especially those under the control of the Houthi group, and to a lesser extent in areas under government control, which has im-

movement or assault and the attack on civilian objects, including political parties. The Geneva Conventions state that the use of violence against life, health or physical or mental integrity of persons is prohibited, in particular murder and torture in all physical and mental forms, including physical punishment, mutilation and violation of personal dignity. Humiliating treatment of a person, taking hostages, collective punishment or threatening to conduct any of the aforementioned acts are prohibited, according to the Geneva Conventions.



THE SIEGE ON FREEDOM

The Yemeni media has been exposed to the worst cases of violence, repression of press freedom and freedom of expression during the past three years. Yemen became, for the first time, one of the worst countries for press freedom in the Arab world after Syria, in terms of murder, detentions and torture of journalists and media professionals. Rights Radar monitored many cases of abuses against media outlets and Yemeni journalists, from the beginning of 2015 until the end of February 2018. At least 59 cases of attacks on media outlets were reported, with the confiscation of media properties and targeting of journalists' houses. In addition, there were 24 murder cases of journalists, 149 arrest cases of journalists, 17 cases of forced disappearance, 61 cases of torture, 59 cases of physical assault, 38 cases of in-

juries, 97 cases of threats and security tracking, 91 cases of blocking news websites, and 921 cases of employment dismissal or denial of work. More than 1,000 journalists and media professionals were displaced from their hometowns, in particular from Sana'a, where the Houthi group is trying to clear the city of journalists who are not loyal to them. There are also a lot of restrictions on journalists and media in the southern provinces, which are under the control of the government and strongly influenced by UAE forces. More than 50 media outlets were severely affected by the siege on media, including office closure, confiscation of property, and destruction and looting of offices in the cities of Sana'a, Aden, Taizz, Hodeida, Hadramout, and others. As a result of the armed conflict, 24 journalists and



media professionals were killed during the current war, including 17 journalists killed by gunmen of the Houthi group, of which 8 were killed in Taizz city. The rest were killed by the Saudi-led coalition. At least 16 journalists are still being detained by Houthi group, some of whom have been in detention for nearly three years. They are Abdul Khaleq Amran, Tawfiq Al-Mansouri, Hareth Humaid, Essam Balghaith, Haitham Al-Shehab, Salah Alqaidi, Hesham Al-Yosoufi, Akram Al-Walidi, Wahid Al-Soufi, Ibrahim Al-Jaadabi, Hasan Annab, Hesham Tarmoum, Abdulelah Obad, Faisal Al-Aswad and Nabil Al-Saadawi. The journalist Awadh Kashmim has been detained in a government prison from February 21, 2018, until March 18, 2018, in the city of Mukalla in Hadramout, which is under the influence of the UAE forces. The fate of journalist Mohammed al-Moqri remains unknown since the AQAP militants abducted him in Mukalla city in the summer of 2015. A court run by the Houthi group in Sana'a sentenced to death the prominent journalist Yahya al-Jubeihi on April 12, 2017, before they released him as a result of the efforts of human rights organizations, while his son Hamza remains in the Houthi prison until today. The siege on media has forced more than a thousand Yemeni journalists and media professionals to flee from the cities controlled by the Houthi militants, and some of them have been displaced from the cities under the control of forces loyal to UAE in the south. Sana'a, Amran, Dhahar, Hajjah, Mahweet, Hodeida, Ibb and Baidah were among the cities most journalists were displaced from during the past three years, forced to flee to other safe cities and

areas inside Yemen, or to leave Yemen for other countries. Many journalists and media professionals have also been forced to flee government-controlled provinces in the south, such as Aden, Lahj, Abyan, Hadramout, Shabwa and Dalea, due to harassment by forces loyal to the UAE. Freedom of expression was also subjected to a large siege in the southern provinces under the control of the government with strong security influence of the UAE forces, in particular the provinces of Aden and Hadramout, where about 21 anti-UAE clerics and imams were assassinated, 20 of them in Aden alone and one in the city of Trim in Hadramout, along with many activists, politicians and journalists who were subjected to physical harassments and detention and many newspaper headquarters were attacked. The headquarters of Al-Shumuh Corporation for printing and publishing, in Aden province, was raided and set on fire on March 1, 2018, and the printing machines, equipment and properties were destroyed. Several journalists and employees were held at the building, putting their lives in danger. This incident was carried out by unidentified militants believed to be linked to the UAE forces, as this press house publishes daily (Akhbar Al-Youm) and weekly (Al-Shumuh) newspapers that are not in favor of the UAE policy in Yemen. Eye witnesses said the perpetrators were in security vehicles. The current siege on freedoms in Yemen has also resulted in the closure or disruption of the work of more than 390 non-governmental organizations, non-profit foundations, charitable societies and professional associations. The majority of them were closed as a result of the siege imposed on them by the Houthi militants, who





do not allow civil society organizations to operate in areas under their control. Dozens of NGOs were subjected to Houthi militant attack, confiscation of their office property, refusal to extend their activity licenses, a freeze on their bank accounts, detention of some of their employees, harassment and exposure to danger. On January 27, 2018, unidentified gunmen kidnapped Zakareyya Ahmed Qasem, the president of Iqraa organization for development, an NGO in the city of Aden, on his way home in Mualla neighborhood. His family said they did not know anything about his fate since the day of his abduction. They were not able to obtain any information from the security agencies relating to the place of his arrest or the identity of the authority that is responsible for his arrest. Opinion and expression are a fundamental human right, as well as other liberties associated with freedom of information and freedom of the press, in which freedom of expression contributes to strengthen other rights. Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers”.

BLOCKADED AREAS

TAIZZ .. DEADLY SIEGE

Taizz was one of the Yemeni provinces that suffered the greatest human and economic losses, as a result of the armed conflict and the ongoing Houthi siege since 2015 until today. The armed conflict between the government forces and the Houthi militants in Taizz province resulted in a severe siege on 18 of the 23

districts in the province imposed by the Houthi and Saleh militants to prevent the passage of food, medicine and commodities to its residents. The districts of Taizz city were most affected by the suffocating economic siege, which pushed the government to declare on August 24, 2016 that Taizz is a “Disaster City”.



The city of Taizz, which has a population of about one million people, suffered the worst state of siege since the summer of 2015 until today, at the hands of Houthi militants and armed followers of Ali Saleh. They took control over all roads and entrances to the city of Taizz, and prevented the entry of goods, food, medicines and commodities. This was an attempt to stifle the city and starve it in order to facilitate their invasion, as the people have resisted the Houthi militants from storming the city since the beginning of the armed conflict. Houthi militants have prevented the movement of travelers to and from the city of Taizz. Its residents were forced to use unpaved treacherous roads through the mountains to bring life-saving materials such as food and medicine, using donkeys and camels as means of transport. Residents of Taizz city were forced to transfer health and food relief items through three stages: the first stage transporting materials by vehicle along a rough road and dropping them off at the Taluk crossing at Al-Mesrakh district, south Taizz city; second, transferring them from the Taluk crossing to Mashra'a and Hadnan villages on camels and donkeys; and finally transferring the materials again by car to the city of Taizz. Yemeni Minister of Local Administration and Chairman of the Higher Committee for Relief Abdulraqib Fatah said that the Houthi militia seized 250 trucks loaded with relief items destined for the province of Taizz, as well as confiscating another 11 trucks loaded with life-saving medical supplies traveling from Hodeida port to Taizz city in the summer of 2016. The victims of Houthi/Saleh militants' shelling on residential areas of Taizz and the siege they imposed

on it during the past three years are made up of 2,831 cases of murder, 17,946 cases of injury, 394 cases of disability, 49 enforced disappearance cases, and 147 abduction cases, according to Rights Radar monitors in the ground. This is in addition to widespread destruction of targeted houses, schools, mosques, public and private facilities and infrastructure. Taizz city also under a medical siege by Houthi/Saleh militants, according to the head of medical personnel syndicate in Taizz province, Dr. Sadeq Al-Shuja'a, who said that "83% of Taizz hospitals were shut down, as 37 out of a total of 45 hospitals were prevented from providing medical services". He attributes the reasons behind the collapse of medical services in Taizz to the severe siege of Houthi/Saleh forces on the city, as well as the devastating bombardment that targeted many hospitals in the city of Taizz, which lead to the departure of many of its medical personnel too. Moreover, the siege also caused a severe shortage of medicines, medical supplies and Oxygen cylinders in Taizz city. More than 10 villages in Jabal Habashi district, northwest of Taizz city, were besieged by the Houthi and Saleh militants in February 2017. The area, known as Belad Al-Wafi, was inhabited by more than 30,000 people and the villages affected were Wahar, Tebishea, Bait Alwafi, Alquboa, Alhabil, Bani Khailah, Alanin, Moleya wal Qahfa, Alsafa and Qashibah. These villages were relying on the materials and goods they brought from the markets of Ramada and Hajda, located on the main road connecting the provinces of Hodeida and Taizz, until Houthi/Saleh militants closed this road, and the villages have come under a severe economic siege.

HODEIDA .. SIEGE AND FAMINE

Many UN agencies operating in Yemen reported that malnutrition was widespread, in addition to the emergence of famine cases in some remote villages during 2016 in the western coastal areas of Hodeida province controlled by the Houthi/Saleh militants, one of the poorest areas of Yemen. Some local residents interviewed by Rights Radar reporters said that more than 70% of the population of the coastal areas in Hodeida province lost their daily source of income - fishing in the waters of the Red Sea.

There are 11 districts on the coastline, out of a total of 26 districts in Hodeida province, with a population of about 1 million; most of them depend on fishing and on the sea as a major source of livelihood. Many fishermen attributed the reason for them stopping to fish to their fears that the fishing boats would be bombed or targeted by Saudi-led coalition war jets, as most of the coastal areas are occupied by Houthi militants and located near to their gatherings. “Houthi militants are forcing some fishermen to use



their fishing boats to transport illegal goods, including weapons, which could make any fishing boat sailing in the red sea a target for the air raids of the Saudi-led coalition”, a fisherman told Rights Radar. Fishermen in the province of Hodeida have become indirect victims of the blockade by this co-

Saudi-led coalition forces on fishermen in Hodeida. One case targeted fishermen on the island of Uqban in October 2015, where more than 150 fishermen were victims of an air strike. Another example was the targeting of more than 20 fishermen in November 2015 on the islands of Zuqar



alition because of their fears to continue fishing. They are also victims of starvation caused by Houthi militants who confiscated their fuel allocations and use their boats to smuggle weapons. As a result, many fishermen have lost their lives to the coalition air strikes, and many others have been blackmailed and exploited by Houthi militants on the ground. Rights Radar monitored several air strikes by

and Hanish and a crackdown by Apache helicopter. Fishermen were also targeted next to the island of Tarfah in February and March 2017, where at least 10 fishermen were killed and 17 others wounded. At least 27 fishermen were abducted from the Al-Salif and Al-Luhayyah districts after their fishing boats were destroyed in March and April 2017, and were taken to Saudi prisons.


SANA'A .. A SUFFOCATING SIEGE

The Saudi-led coalition halted all commercial flights to and from Sana'a International Airport from August 2016 until today. This has created a severe blockade on the aviation and travel operations of Yemeni citizens, in addition to the maritime blockade imposed on the ports of Hodeida province since the beginning of the armed conflict. The Saudi-led coalition interfered in the Yemeni armed conflict on 26 March 2015, tight-

ening restrictions and procedures on maritime transport and aviation, which has affected the importation of foods, medicine, fuel and commodities for civilians in Yemen, in violation of international humanitarian law. Houthi sources said that one year after the closure of Sana'a airport, many Yemenis have died because they can't travel abroad for specialized medical care. "The number of deaths re-



sulting from the closure of Sana'a airport exceeded the number of people killed by air strikes of the Saudi-led coalition", they added. They explained that the restrictions imposed by the coalition forces on Yemeni airspace and halting the commercial flights to and from Sana'a International Airport on August 9, 2016, has left many Yemenis without safe transportation inside or outside the country. According to the Houthi health ministry in Sana'a about 10,000 Yemeni patients died during the first year of the closure of Sana'a airport because of their health conditions, as they were unable to seek medical treatment abroad.



**Coalition
and Houthi
are Partners in
Imposing Deadly
Blockade on
Yemen**

On the other hand, the Houthi group imposed a large economic siege on the residents of the capital Sana'a, through their monopoly of important commodities such as fuel and cooking gas, which they sell on the black market at double the regular price.

Rights Radar recorded some 891 Houthi stations selling cooking gas in Sana'a since the Houthi takeover of the capital Sana'a. The Houthi monopoly over fuel and gas has resulted in a shortage at the formal points of sale. The residents of Sana'a were severely affected by the fuel crisis, which increased transport costs and caused a shortage of gas cylinders for cooking.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- We call upon the United Nations to use its pressure on all warring parties in Yemen to put an end to the deadly blockade imposed on Yemeni residents across the country by various parties.

- We call upon the international community to step up to its ethical and legal responsibilities by working urgently to put an end to the siege on civilians in Yemen and to protect them in accordance with international conventions and international humanitarian law.

- We call on the Houthi armed group to end their siege on Yemeni cities and stop the indiscriminate shelling of populated areas, in particular the city of Taizz, to release the prisoners in their detention centers and to abide by the principles of international laws of armed conflict.

- We call on the Saudi-led coalition to abide by the lifting of the blockade imposed on Yemeni airspace and ports and to avoid military operations on civilian targets in Yemen and abide by the principles of international humanitarian law and the Geneva Conventions related to the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

- We call on the Yemeni government to put an end to its restrictions on the freedom of opinion and expression and press freedoms in the areas under its control, and to avoid human rights violations when exercising its authorities on the ground.

- We call on the UAE forces and their local non-governmental forces in Yemen to stop committing human rights violations in the provinces under their control or influence, and assert that the continuation of these abuses may lead to international prosecutions.

RIGHTS RADAR

WHO WE ARE?

Rights Radar is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that monitors, promotes and defends human rights in the Arab world. It was founded by a group of Arab human rights defenders and activists. We monitor, document and report violations against human rights, as well as provide advocacy and legal support for victims and capacity building for human rights activists. We cover all topics and areas of human rights, including public liberties and freedom of expression, women's rights, children's rights, disability rights, prisoner rights, right to justice, refugee rights and fundamental rights.

Rights Radar works through a wide network of professional reporters and monitors on the ground, using the latest techniques in monitoring and documenting human rights cases.

OUR OBJECTIVES:

- 1- Monitoring and documenting violations against human rights in the Arab World.
- 2- Providing advocacy and legal support for Arab victims of human rights.
- 3- Capacity building and leadership developing for Arab human rights activists.
- 4- Networking and communicating with international human rights organizations.

OUR VISION:

To provide excellence in monitoring and documenting the status of human rights in the Arab world.

OUR MISSION:

Rights Radar monitors and documents human rights abuses in the Arab world in order to reduce violations against human rights and track the perpetrators, advancing the principle of no-impunity. We do this using professional and proven method, providing advocacy and legal support for Arab victims of human rights violations, creating training opportunities for human rights' capacity building and leadership, as well as networking and communicating with international human rights organizations.

OUR VALUES:

- Responsibility.
- Credibility.
- Professionalism.
- Independency.
- Transparency.



YEMEN: THE DEADLY BLOCKADE

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