



# INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

## **FRANCE SHOULD NOT ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET FOR AUTHORITARIAN PRINCE MOHAMMED BIN SALMAN**



Prince Mohammed Bin Salman of Saudi Arabia is on a world tour with the intention of rebuilding his country's image and securing business deals with allied countries like USA, UK, and France. Currently he is in France, he is set to meet with President Emmanuel Macron tomorrow.

**ICSFT URGES MACRON TO RAISE THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN SAUDI ARABIA AND TARGETTED BOMBING OF CIVILIANS AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN YEMEN DURING HIS MEETING WITH THE PRINCE TOMORROW.**

Prince Bin Salman is the man behind Saudi's airstrikes and blockade in Yemen, funding terrorist groups in the Syria, and in the eight months since he became crown prince he has doubled the number of executions in Saudi Araba.

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***U.N. estimates, more than 10,000 people have been killed and more than 3 million people have been displaced, and 80 percent of the population is in need of humanitarian aid in Yemen.***

***Saudi's terrible human rights track record persists, authorities unrelenting arbitrary arrests, unfair trials, capital punishments and convictions of peaceful dissidents is still the norm. Human rights defenders and activists are serving long prison sentences for criticizing authorities and demanding for political and human rights reforms. As well discrimination against women and religious minorities is a common practice.***

Therefore countries like France, UK and USA should stop their cozy embrace of authoritarian regimes like Saudi Arabia and its prince if they are trying to make us believe that their priority is unconditional human rights protection across the globe.

The arms sales agreements entered with the prince during his world tour are going to be an integral part of the ongoing genocidal war in Yemen and repression in Saudi Arabia.

Military industry and diplomacy should not compromise human rights which seems to be the case as the prince is making his rounds forging partnerships and closing business deals.

We are urging president Macron to end arms sales to Saudi Arabia, and to pressure Saudi to lift the blockade that is aggravating the humanitarian crisis and to stop indiscriminate airstrikes in Yemen. The shameful silence towards the grave human rights violations and war crimes in Yemen by the Saudi-led war should stop now.

ICSFT echoes the voices of several human rights activists and organizations protesting the prince's visit by chanting ""Hands off Yemen. Stop the bombing now""