

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING

FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS Registration No.

2795/2012
OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

Stop the silent diplomacy on Yemen Genocide!



Four years in to Saudi-led and western and GCC countries backed invasion of Yemen, we are witnessing war crimes, collective punishment, and humanitarian catastrophe on the Yemeni people. Despite the whitewashing UK and USA media effort to create a narrative of reform and emancipation regarding Saudi Arabia, the new prince has managed to secure multi-billion arms deals with his western allies that will be used to kill innocent Yemenis' including women and children. Saudi-led coalition's disproportionate or indiscriminate air strikes continue to claim the lives of thousands of Yemenis' with complete impunity.

The coalition airstrikes which have struck civilian infrastructure including health facilities, schools, factories, power facilities, bridges and roads is a clear violation of the Law of the War. More often than not such strikes have been and in many cases they appear to have directly target civilians and, or civilian objects.

As well Saudi imposed full blockage on Yemen's ports is pushing the country to brink of famine. An estimated 17.8 million are food insecure, 16 million lack access to safe water and sanitation, and 16.4



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million lack access to adequate healthcare in Yemen, of which women and children are disproportionately worse off. Yemeni children continue to be affected by grave child rights violations committed by the Saudi-led coalition.

Every 10 minutes, a child in <u>#Yemen</u> dies of preventable causes, according to UNICEF. Since 2014, the mortality rate for children under five has increased by nearly 20%

Yemeni children are under attack and suffering - no family, no shelter, no food – in front of the world paying for the ugly petrol-dollar business dealing mentality that has become the norm between Saudi and its allies. This is a violation of the convention on the rights of the child Articles 6, 38, 39, and Optional Protocol on Children in Armed Conflict, Article 4.2.

The international community has failed to take the action needed to end this man-made catastrophe. Millions of Yemeni women, men and children feel abandoned by global leaders who seem to put profit and politics above human lives. The silent diplomacy has failed to halt violation after violation by the Saudi –led coalition.

ICSFT deeply concerned by this man-made catastrophe demands the following measures to be taken immediately by relevant international, regional and national stakeholders including the UN HRC and SC.

- Saudi-led coalition needs to immediately stop its military invasion, an end to all blockages on access for food, fuel and medical supplies
- The international community must stop the silent diplomacy at the expense of innocent Yemeni civilians, and invest in a new, Yemeni led inclusive peace process in which women, youth and diverse civil society meaningfully participate.
- ICSFT urges the international community, in particular the UN human Rights Council to
 establish an international, independent body to carry out comprehensive investigations in
 Yemen and refer the perpetrators of these violations to International Criminal Court there
 is no excuse not to stand for human rights now.
- The time to act is now!