



**INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING  
FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS**

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**OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION**  
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**General debate Item 4**

**Mr. President,**

ICSFT remains to be deeply concerned by the ongoing human rights crisis in Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Kuwait. Human rights defenders, Journalists, and lawyers are arrested solely for peaceful expression of ideas; civil society continues to face unprecedented pressure through repressive laws, detentions, interrogations, travel bans, and digital intimidation.

ICSFT is alarmed by the silent international diplomacy towards the Saudi-led coalition war crimes in Yemen. In the prevailing climate of impunity, the Saudi led and USA, UK, and France backed coalition war has killed and wounded thousands of innocent Yemenis. We urge the council to end impunity by ensuring effective investigation in to the war crimes committed by Saudi led coalition. We call up on the Saudi led coalition and its allies to immediately stop this war on Yemen.

Bahrain and Saudi Arabia continue to commit a wide range of human rights violations against their population, including arbitrary detentions, torture and other ill-treatment, unlawful killings, abusive use of force, enforced disappearances, lack of an independent judiciary. Rather these countries try civilians in military and specialized criminal courts. As such, Dr Abdulhameed Dashti's, ICSFT president, sentence in absentia has reached over 50 years on a series of charges stemming solely from legitimate exercise of his right to freedom of expression. Nabeel Rajab and Sheikh Salman continue to languish in prison for exercising their right to freedom of expression, and women's rights activists in Saudi Arabia are arrested and arbitrarily detained despite country's PR campaign of reform.

In Kuwait more than hundred thousand bidoons remain stateless stripped of fundamental human rights, including the right to education, employment, healthcare, housing, and ultimately citizenship.

We call on this council to openly condemn these violations based solely on human rights standards, not divisive politics, and focus on the human rights and needs of those suffering under ongoing repression.

We urge these countries authorities to implement long overdue reforms, and end crackdown, starting with the immediate and unconditional release of those arrested solely for exercising their rights to freedom of expression.

**Thank you, Mr. President**

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