

# When the judiciary is used as a tool of revenge in Bahrain

When a regime exercises excessive powers discretion of the ruling junta that considand bypass laws and ethical standards, it ceases to be a legitimate representative of the people. Governance must be exercised with consensus and a popular mandate. It must abide by the rules and laws and must avoid being motivated by the sensations of the rulers; their urge for revenge and absolutism. Perhaps the most significant indicator of civility of any country is its legal system. Justice is the essence of good governance. This is why a a modern statehood separates the three main powers including the judiciary. Courts and judges must not become tools in the hands of the politicians. Conflict of interests is among the most devastating factors in the erosion of justice. This is why under modern democratic systems, people are not persecuted for their political opinions or stands. Freedom goes hand in hand with justice. Public liberties are guaranteed by the modern laws and constitutions. On the contrary, regimes that persecute their opponents for their political views and peaceful agendas are considered an outcast and may not be treated as representative of the people under their jurisdiction.

Serious questions are thus raised about the nature of the judicial system in Bahrain in light of the many outrageous verdicts and rulings. When a judge passes a prison sentence of one year on a youth who protests peacefully in the streets demanding jobs, political change, women rights, religious freedom or any other legitimate demand, his decisions loose their validity and legitimacy. They are considered arbitrary and are condemned by human rights bodies and institutions. In the absence of working oversight bodies in the country and, indeed, in the world, such regimes often flourish and expand their areas of jurisdiction. This explains why a small country like Bahrain has disproportionate number of political prisoners, some of whom are subject to life incarceration for their political views and activism. Elderly citizens have remained almost incommunicado for 14 years like Mr Hassan Mushaima and Dr Abdul Jalil Al Singace. They were sent to jail by "judges" acting within a legal system designed to stifle any criticism of the antiquated tribal rule. Every right of these prisoners of conscience is subject to the

ers itself at war with the natives.

Recent "court" sessions resulted in imposing stiff prison sentences on native Bahrainis from all age groups. Children as young as 12 are languishing behind bars and denied the freedom to live their childhood or pursue their studies. Family visits are often disrupted while families are subjected to stringent rules to be allowed to visit their sons. Medical care is often denied to the sick prisoners. When this is provided, it is often late and insufficient. Medicines are not properly dispensed, leaving many to suffer with their pain especially those suffering serious illnesses that they had developed in prison. This medical negligence is part of the punishment which also included, in the past, denial of food and drinking water. No international human right bodies, like Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and others are not allowed to visit the country. The Red Cross was given limited access on the condition that they may not issue press releases with detailed description of the prison conditions or treatment of the inmates. The prisons have thus become a way of imposing more punishment to those opposing the khalifi hereditary dictatorship. Political prisoners have died behin bars from diseases that are treatable If addressed properly. Those who left prison were left with serious psvchological conditions and many continue to feel loneliness and avoid attending public places. Their families are feeling the consequences of the long and painful incarceration of their loved ones and, in some cases, their lives have been turned upside down.

Within this description, it is clear that criminal behaviour by the prison authorities has been proven. The domestic mechanisms have failed to deal with the situation and are banned from taking seriously the complaints of the political prisoners. At the same time the international bodies are reluctant to take more workload as their policies, budgets and decisions are subject to brutal scrutiny by the financiers. The US has not kept its position secret in this regard, especially with regards to the International Criminal Court (ICC). Washington has not only rejected its juris-

diction but has also cut its financial contribution to the world's human rights court. President Donald Trump has not kept his feelings towards the international jurisdiction a secret and he is on a collision course with those bodies, and indeed with the international public opinion. The world is thus left to its moral free fall. Only the strong may survive, while the rights of the weak are trumped over. Horrific regimes that administer torture as a central policy of its "law enforcement" bodies have escaped punishment as the West gradually abandons its commitments to human rights and civil society institutions

In a world that is gradually becoming more morally insecure, polarised and materialistic what future awaits those working to achieve good governance, the upholding of rule of law and the establishment of justice to all? Who will carry the torch on the path to achieve these noble goals? It has been widely accepted that the world policies towards Palestine may be taken as an indicator of the commitment to justice, peace and the rule of law. So, with the new US policy that supports Israel even in the most criminal behaviour; the displacement of over two million Palestinians from the Gaza strip and the beginning of annexation of the West Bank the future of the region seems bleaker than ever. However, the endeavour to achieve a degree of democratisation and change continues to upset the pro-Isarel Western alliance. The Arab regimes continue to deny democratic transformation to safeguard the positions of the dictators, but they do this at their own perils. The mass movement towards change in the Middle East is continuing with a strong rigour. The future of the region cannot be left in the hands of dictators, despots and occupiers. The people's march to selfrealisation and freedom will continue with vigour. The hope is that the political elite will not attempt to impede the process of change and that they will work to achieve it. Those who attempted to stop the wind of change in the past were shoved off to the dustbin of history. Freedom is what awaits the Arab people and this will happen, by the will of God and the endurance of the people's struggle.

#### ICRC visits Bahrain notorious jail, Saudi PIF whitewashes HR abuses

On 17th February a delegation of two men dan, Muqtada Riyadh Al Makhlouq and suddenly became swollen with severe and one woman from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) visited the notorious Jau prison amid the hunger strike by the inmates. They met several political prisoners in their cells including Mohammed Abdul Hadi Al Baqqali, Hussain arrested at his hometown of Sanabis. He Hilal, Faisal Al Shahrakkani, Mohammed Abdulla, Ahmed Abbas Al Ghasrah and Sayed Mohammed Al Abbar. The delegation expressed indignation at the level of violations. They also visited several prisoners in isolation cells: Mohammed Sarhan, Mohammed Fakhrawi and Ali Fakhrawi. Mohammed Fakhrawi told them that he had spent two years in illegal isolation. They heard horrifying testimonies from the other attack on a planned march in the town. political prisoners.

Regime's courts have issued several prison detained. On Sunday 23rd February four sentences against native Bahrainis who oppose the tribal dictatorship. Yesterday (25th February), three youths were given one year prison sentence for taking part in a peaceful protest. Sadeq Hassan Marhoon, Mohammed Jassim Marhoon and Abdulla Hassan The health conditions of several Bahraini were arrested in September and October after being summoned by the CID officers. Also, two political prisoners from Karzakkan town were given one year prison sentence. Abdulla Abbas Darwish and Mohammed Shawqi Salman were detained in Sep- his chest and stomach, vomiting blood and tember. Another political prisoner was given one year prison sentence and a fine of letter he said: The coming days may wit-500 Bahraini Dinars (\$1326). Ali Abd Ali ness the removal of corpses from prison Baqqali, 18 (from Sanabis town) was detained on 1st September upon his return from a religious journey to Iraq via the Bahrain-Saudi causeway. Sayed Hussain Sayed maniya Hospital after he suddenly lost Mohammed and Jawad Hussain, 14 from sight in both eyes. For the past four days, Sanabis were also detained. Five youths political prisoner, Hussain Ali Ahmed from Salmabad town were sentenced to one year. Sayed Qassim Ali AlAlawi, Sayed Hadi Al Ghuraifi, Faisal Mohammed Rama-

Yasser Saeed Al Sahhaf were accused of pain, but has not received medical attentaking part in a peaceful protest.

Several native Bahrainis were detained in the past few days. On 22nd February under -aged Mohammed Ali Salman, 14, was was among a group of youths who were preparing to march to commemorate the fallen martyrs. Ahmad Abdulla, NasrAllah Shakir, 13, Sayed Mohsin Hashem and Ali Zaaki from Abu Saiba were arrested in a raid on the town to stop a planned march. In Sanabis, Sayed Hussain Sayed Mohammed was also detained. Sayed Hashem Mahmood from Jidhafs was arrested in an From the town of Daih Ali Al Saggai was young Bahrainis were arrested by heavily armed officers at Nuwaidrat town. Mohammed Abdulla Taher, Mohammed Taher, Mohammed Abdul Sajjad and Mohammed Hamza were taken away.

political prisoners have deteriorated in recent days. Abdul Aziz Abdul Redha has spent ten days on hunger strike for being denied medical treatment. He has been suffering several ailments: Acute pain in sharp fall of blood sugar level to 2.7. In a (as a result of medical neglect). Another prisoner, Abbas Nooh who had been in isolation cell has been transferred to Sal-(from Sanabis town) has been on strike after the prison officials refused to provide him with adequate medical care. His eyes

tion.

At a press briefing on 20th February in Miami, human rights activist Sarah Leah Whitson, Executive Director at DAWN (a Saudi human rights body) exposed how Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund (PIF) whitewashes the kingdom's human rights abuses, as the PIF held an investment summit in the city. The briefing was organized with the participation of Human Rights Watch and Adrienne Arsht Center. "Businesses attending the Summit have a responsibility to ensure that their investments with the PIF do not contribute to human rights abuses, and that starts with serious due diligence about the PIF's own record in human rights abuses against Saudi citizens," said Sarah Leah Whitson. "From providing the planes that were used to transport Jamal Khashoggi's murderers to torture and kill him, to arbitrarily confiscating the assets of 20 Saudi companies, the PIF is deeply intertwined with the Saudi government's horrendous human rights record."

The Saudi authorities have arrested Salamah al-Huwaiti, mother of the detained child Abdullah al-Huwaiti, for previously posting on X about her son's case and the conditions of his arrest. The authorities have also detained Yousef al-Huwaiti for opposing forced displacement from their homeland in Northwestern Arabia.

On Thursday 20th February the Saudi authorities beheaded one of the citizens; Thawab bin Nasser Al Subai'ei. He was accused of killing another Saudi national using a firearm. The death sentence came in an unfair trial.

> **Bahrain Freedom Movement** 26th February 2025

### More Bahrainis incarcerated, three Saudis beheaded

On 11th February regime's courts issued a one-year prison sentence on Jassim Mohammed Jassim (from Abu Quwa town). He was accused of taking part in a protest and unauthorised assembly. Meanwhile, two young native Bahrainis have been detained by regime forces. Sajjad Al Jawhar and Sayed Hussain Al Mahafda were remanded in custody for one week. Regime's prosecutors have extended the detention of four native Bahrainis. Ahmed Mahmood, Yasser Darwish (both from Sanabis town), Yousuf Ahmed (from Karbabad town) and Ali Al Sheikh (from Al Daih town) were given one more month in detention for taking part in a peaceful protest. The detention of political prisoner, Mahmood Al Usfoor from Duraz town was extended for one more week. He was detained on Friday for taking part in marking the anniversary of the 14th February Revolution.

The hunger strike by political prisoners of Bloc 3 at Jau Prison has continued for the past three days. Another prisoner, Mun-

tadar Fawzi has joined them. The prisoners reason or justification. are protesting the banning of religious gatherings after they had held a celebration to mark the birth anniversary or one of the prophet's grandsons on Thursday 13th February. Later, they issued a statement setting out their demands: To be allowed to practice their religious duties especially the mass prayers, the return of those currently in isolation and to improve the living conditions in the jail. These demands were reiterated by other prisoners. Saleh Mohammed from Bloc 3 said they are on strike to demand their freedom, dignity and the right to exercise their religious duties.

On Sunday 16th February the jailers at Jau Prison transferred political prisoner Ahmed Shaker Al Shawk from his cell at Bloc 3 to an isolation cell. Three weeks ago he was forced to spend two weeks in isolation. On Saturday 15th February the officers at Jau Prison transferred political prisoner, Ibrahim Al Mu'min from his cell at Bloc 5 of the to an isolation cell without giving a

Yesterday the officers at the Exhibition Road police station called several native Bahrainis asking them to come for interrogation. Among them were Abdul Majid Abdulla (Hajji Sumood), Hajji Ali Hamman, Hajji Munir Mushaima, Hajji Ali Nasser and Mr Ali Muhanna.

The khalifi regime has deported 700 Pakistanis who had been naturalised and granted Bahraini nationality. Why? Because the khalifi rulers discovered that they belong to the Shia Muslim faith. This does not conform with their policy of demographic engineering in the country.

On 15th February the General Secretariat of the Arab Parties issued a statement in support of the people of Bahrain on the 14th anniversary of their Revolution. It called for the release of the political prisoners, the convening of a national dialogue to create national participation, safeguarding civil rights and discussing.

## Bahraini citizens challenge their dictators, More Saudis beheaded

Ghadiri (from Al Markh town in Bahrain) was arrested as he was crossing the causeway. No reason was given for his arrest. Yesterday, Tuesday 11th February, Hajji Mohammed Yousuf was arrested as he raised two loafs of bread to protest his unfair dismissal. He was taken to AlHoora Police station. He worked for 23 years before his immoral dismissal for protesting outside the ministry of works. He had spent 11 years of his 15 years sentence imposed on him in May 2013.

Yesterday (Tuesday 11th February) Bahraini court imposed new sentences against four people from Karranah town. Hussain Ali Hassan Mahdi, 16, Ali Hussain Nasser Al Matrook, 16, Abdul Aziz Hussain Jaffar Al Hamadi, 15 and Ali Khalil Abu Jassam, 22 were given one year prison sentence for taking part in peaceful protest and assembly. This is the second sentence. On 13th January the same court had imposed a sixmonth sentence against them. These underaged citizens will spend 18 months for participating in a peaceful protest.

Medical negligence is threatening the sight of political prisoner, Mohammed Al Mahroos. His family said that the management of the notorious Jau Prison refuses to transfer him to the prison clinic despite his critical condition. He may lose his evesight. He has fatty cysts in both eyes. His case is part of a pattern of medical negligence by the regime to punish the political detainees. On 11th February the management of the Jau Prison transferred a political prisoner to isolation. Mohammed Abdul Hadi Al Baqqali (from Jidhafs town) was isolated from the rest of the prisoners without giving reasons. He is serving a 15 years prison term and was arrested on 6th November 2019. Six political prisoners at Jau Prison have been transferred to isolation cells.

On Friday 7th February, Hussain Al Three of them: Hussain Nooh, Abbas Nooh rights defenders in Bahrain to demand their and Ibrahim Kuwaitan were moved to isolation at the beginning of the month for exercising religious rights. The other three: Mohammed Al Ujaimi, Ali Al Mutawwa and Ahmed Sakir have spent more than 15 days in isolation. On 4th February thee political prisoners at Jau Prison were transferred to isolation. Mohammed Ahmed Fakhrawi, his brother Ali (from Manama) and Mohammed Sarhan (from Nuwaidrat) were moved from Bloc 5 to Bloc 3 for isolation.

On Thursday 6th February political prisoner Mohammed Ibrahim Yahya Ali Hussain, 30, began hunger strike at Jau Prison. He is protesting the denial of medical care and treatment for his severe epilepsy and coma episodes. He is serving a 19 year prison sentence since his arrest in 2018. He has asked to be seen by specialists after the serious deterioration of his health and repeated attacks. His requests have been ignored. Political prisoner Abdul Jabbar Esa Abdulla Hassan is suffering the consequences of medical neglect. His family said that his health has been deteriorating in recent months. Before his arrest he was suffering pains following surgery in his stomach. Since then, he has not received appropriate care or medication.

On Friday 7th February political prisoner Younis Abdul Aziz Al Nassiri was assaulted by a policeman. An eyewitness said that Al Nassiri asked to be taken to the clinic for treatment. But the non-Bahraini policeman refused, using harsh and abusive language. He then attacked the prisoner who was hit on his eye.

The EU High Representative Kaja Kallas has reaffirmed the EU's call for the unconditional release of Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja. In a written question submitted by Danish MEP Villy Søvndal he said: "The EU has consistently and actively raised the case of Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja, alongside other human

unconditional release. In May 2021, the former EU Special Representative for Human Rights addressed a letter to the Foreign Affairs Minister of Bahrain, urging the release of Mr Al-Khawaja and other political prisoners on humanitarian grounds. The EU has raised Mr Al-Khawaja's and other cases in its annual EU-Bahrain Human Rights Dialogues, including the eighth dialogue held in Manama on 8 December 2024.

The trial of five other political prisoners (from Salmabad town) has been adjourned. Sayed Qassim Ali Al Alawi, Sayed Hassan Hadi Al Ghuraifi, Faisal Mohammed Ramadan, Muqtada Riyadh Al Makhlouq and Yasser Saeed Al Sahhaf will be sentenced on 25th February.

On Wednesday 5th February the Saudi authorities executed two citizens for committing what the regime media called "betrayal of the country" and "supporting terrorism". The ministry of the interior accused the two who were beheaded of "adopting a terrorist mentality that allows blood-letting and plundering wealth and supports terrorism". They were also accused of communicating with terrorist elements to endanger the social peace.

Saudi human rights defender Waleed Abu al-Khair received the Anna Dahlbäck Foundation Memorial Fund bursary for 2024 for his courageous work for human rights in Saudi Arabia. Here is the founder and board member of the Monitor of Human Rights in Saudi Arabia (MHRSA).

On 8th February a group of human rights activists gathered outside the Consulate on the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in London to demand the immediate release of Egyptian-Turkish poet Abdulrahman Yusuf al-Qaradawi. He was extradited from Lebanon to the UAE on 8th January.

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the political crisis engulfing the country. It also called for the continuation of the peaceful protests and condemned the regime for the suppression of the protests. It also hailed the rejection by the Bahraini people of the regime's policy of normalisation with the occupiers of Palestine. It considered the Israeli presence in Bahrain

"an illegal occupation that threatens the peace of the whole region". On 14th February thirty-one human rights organisations, including FIDH and OMCT within the framework of the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, called on the European Union to urgently engage with Bahraini authorities to secure the release of Danish-Bahraini Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja and Swedish-Bahraini Sheikh Mohammed Habib Al-Muqdad. Both have been arbitrarily detained for nearly 14 years, enduring torture and denial of medical care.

Today, the Saudi Interior Ministry confirmed that it had executed two citizens for allegedly "betraying their country and adopting a terrorist ideology that allows shedding people's blood, plundering their wealth and adopting terrorism". The victims: Sa'ad ibn Saud Al Ju'aid and Abdul Rahman ibn Saleh Al Zahrani, both have

Saudi nationality, were beheaded in Riyadh today. Another citizen, Ra'id bin Awad Al Amri was beheaded for hitting a woman with his car. She died as a result.

"The Dark Side of Neom: Expropriation, expulsion and prosecution of the region's inhabitants" is a report produced by Alqst (a Saudi human rights body) on 16th February.

> It details the vicious campaign against members of the Huwaitat tribe who objected to their forcible eviction in 2020 for construction of a futuristic megacity, Neom. It is the flagship project of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's Vision 2030, an ambitious programme to diversify Saudi Arabia's economy and reduce its dependence on oil revenues. In order to proceed with the construction of Neom, the Saudi authorities have committed a wide range of serious human rights abuses.

> > **Bahrain Freedom Movement** 19th February 2025



## **Bahrain: Joint Letter to the European Union**

Re: Urgent, high-level outreach to the King of Bahrain to release EU nationals Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja and Mohammed Habib Al-Muqdad

Dear President von der Leyen, Dear President Costa,

Dear High Representative / Vice-President Kallas,

We, the undersigned human rights groups, are writing to request your urgent and robust intervention with the Bahraini authorities to secure the release of two arbitrarily detained EU nationals, Danish-Bahraini Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja and Swedish-Bahraini Sheikh Mohammed Habib Al-Muqdad.

Mr Al-Khawaja and Mr Al-Muqdad were arrested in the aftermath of the 2011 uprising in Bahrain, which occurred between 14 February and 18 March 2011 and was crushed by the Bahraini authorities, who unlawfully killed and beat protesters, and arrested, tortured, and prosecuted opposition activists, human rights defenders, lawyers and journalists.

The EU has repeatedly raised these cases privately during human rights dialogues with Bahrain, and encouraged Bahrain to uphold its human rights obligations in two recent short statements at the UN Human Rights Council. In February, theHigh Representative reiterated the EU's commitment to "call for the release of Mr Al-Khawaja and other human rights defenders in Bahrain through available diplomatic channels". But these efforts have ostensibly been insufficient, with the two remaining in jail for nearly 14 years at the time of writing.

We are also concerned that the EU's latest Annual Report on Human Rights and Democracy 2023 paints a misleading and one-sided picture of the human rights and democracy situation in Bahrain. The report claims that 'Bahrain has continued to improve its human rights record, notably in the area of social and economic rights and women's rights', but the report fails to mention the torture and denial of medical care for members of Bahrain's political opposition.

We also note that the EU and Bahrain signed a cooperation arrangement in 2021 to enhance bilateral relations. The agreement was signed despite the continued unjust imprisonment of two EU nationals, Mr Al-Khawaja and Mr Al-Muqdad. Both Mr Al-Khawaja and Mr Al-Muqdad have been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment, including by the Bahraini military, as documented by the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, and they have been deprived of their fair trial rights such as attending court hearings, legal representation, and access to health care, in violation of both international human rights law and Bahrain's constitutional obligations to uphold and respect human rights. Furthermore, in 2012, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention concluded that Mr Al-Khawaja's detention was arbitrary and in contravention of international law and called for his 'immediate release' and 'enforceable right to compensation'.

Bahrain continues to unjustly detain others

for politically motivated reasons – amongst them those advocating for human rights, including Dr Abduljalil Al-Singace, Hassan Mushaima and Sheikh Ali Salman. According to documentation by Human Rights Watch, there are also 26 people on death row facing imminent execution, many of whom allege torture and unfair trials. These include Mohammed Ramadan and Hussain Moosa, who have now spent over a decade in arbitrary detention and were sentenced to death in 2014 in an unfair trial marred by allegations of torture.

In 2024, Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa issued four royal pardons, resulting in the unconditional and immediate release of an estimated 810 political prisoners, according to the Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy. Regrettably, 2024 also saw the deaths in custody of two prisoners held for political reasons, Hussain Khalil and Hussain Aman, in March and December 2024 respectively, who died of cardiac arrest, raising deep concerns about the adequacy of healthcare in the prison. The deaths triggered prisoner strikes, which were met with disproportionate and unlawful response by prison authorities, including the use of force and collective punishment, according to the Gulf Centre for Human Rights (GCHR). The undersigned remain concerned over conditions in Jau Prison, amid reports from the Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy (BIRD) of prolonged confinement, unhygienic conditions, lack of adequate health care, and punishment for congregational prayers and rituals.

Following the first EU-GCC summit in October 2024, both parties committed to respecting, protecting, and promoting universal human rights and international law. As such, it is vital for the EU to emphasize these aspects of the relationship with Bahrain.

In the light of the above, we respectfully call on the EU to do the following:

Make urgent high-level outreach to the King of Bahrain to secure the immediate and unconditional release of EU nationals Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja and Mohammed Habib Al-Muqdad;

In line with the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders, the EU should meet with Mr Al-Khawaja and Mr Al- Muqdad during country visits to Bahrain and, if this is not possible, consider meeting with the family of Mr Al-Khawaja and Mr Al-Muqdad instead;

Work closely with the governments of Denmark and Sweden to coordinate joint efforts in the case of Abdulhadi Al- Khawaja and Mohammed Habib Al-Muqdad, a Danish-Bahraini and a Swedish-Bahraini national, respectively;

Ensure more accurate and balanced reporting on the human rights and democracy situation in Bahrain in the EU Annual Report on Human Rights and Democracy, including by increasing consultation with civil society, including those in exile, and international human rights organisations; and guaranteeing that human rights defenders can carry

out their peaceful work without fear of reprisals against them and their families; Publicly urge the Bahraini authorities to end the use of the death penalty in Bahrain, calling on Bahrain to commute all outstanding death sentences, and to establish an official moratorium on executions;

Carry out independent human rights impact assessments before signing any future agreements with Bahrain, and use the ongoing negotiations for partnership agreements to secure concrete and measurable human rights progress through reforms and the release of unjustly jailed individuals.

We trust that the EU will show the solidarity and determination necessary to secure the release of two EU nationals and allow them to finally reunite with their families after 14 years of unjust imprisonment, and we hope that these releases can be secured well before Denmark takes over the EU Presidency in July 2025.

Thank you for your attention and we remain ready to discuss this urgent matter with you at any time.

Sincerely,

Signatories

Access Now

ALQST For Human Rights Amnesty International

ARTICLE 19

Bahrain Center for Human Rights (BCHR)

Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)

**ČIVICÚS** 

DAWN

FairSquare

Front Line Defenders

Gulf Centre for Human Rights (GCHR)

Human Rights First

Human Rights Monitor (HRM)

Human Rights Watch

HuMENA for Human Rights and Civic Engagement

IFEX International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), within the framework of

the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

International Media Support

International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT)

International Service for Human Rights (ISHR)

Martin Ennals Foundation

Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke / ActionAid Denmark

**MENA Rights Group** 

Middle East Democracy Center (MEDC) REDRESS

Reprieve

Sentinel for Human Rights

The Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy (BIRD)

The FreeAlKhawaja Campaign

The Rafto Foundation for Human Rights World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT), within the framework of the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders