

Item 4: General Debate

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence

Human Rights Situation in Bahrain



Mr. President,

Restrictions on political freedom and freedom of speech, arbitrary detentions, political executions, revoking of citizenship and overall crackdowns on human rights defenders, have all turned into the official policy of the kingdom of Bahrain.¹ Issuing death sentences on the pretext of actions against national security and spying have escalated since 2011 and some of these sentences have been carried out and some are on death row.²

The conditions of human rights activists are deteriorating due to unfair and show trials without the presence of lawyers and disproportionate punishments. Human rights activists such as Abdulhadi Al-hawaja and Nabeel Rajab were sentenced to lengthy prison sentences in such unfair trials and before the end of a lengthy sentence they are faced with new imprisonment sentences.³ Religious, political, social and economic restrictions in Bahrain against the Shia majority is publicly and formally followed. The responsibility of the revoking the citizenship of Sheikh Ali Salman and violation of his most basic citizen's rights is that of the kingdom's government.⁴

Mr. President,

The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence calls upon the Human Rights Council to set up an independent investigations committee to review the conditions of human rights in Bahrain.

ODVV invites the Bahraini government to reform its discriminatory judicial system, remove unfair laws such as revoking of citizenship which is a blatant example of violation of fundamental citizenship rights.

¹<https://www.gc4hr.org/news/indexcfa/yes/country/9/page/12>

²<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-bahrain-security/bahrain-commutes-death-sentences-handed-down-by-military-court-idUSKBN1HX1Z0>

³<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-bahrain-security/bahrain-commutes-death-sentences-handed-down-by-military-court-idUSKBN1HX1Z0>

⁴<https://www.amnesty.org/ar/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/bahrain/report-bahrain>

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