

CSSR REGIONAL OUTREACH

- Amman

Mission Summary Report

CSSR Amman

06, 07 November 2022

MISSION SUMMARY

After two-years of remote engagement with Syrian CSSR interlocutors based in Jordan, the UN Office of the Special Envoy for Syria (OSE-Syria) conducted a first regional outreach mission to Amman on 6 and 7 November 2022. The team was led by the Deputy Special Envoy (DSE) Ms. Najat Rochdi. The team met with a group of six Civil society organizations and had some bilateral meetings with interlocutors. The DSE also held meetings with the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UN agencies.

DSE Rochdi opened the meeting and noted her presence in Amman was a testimony to the importance of engaging directly with a wide range of Syrians. The CSSR is a space that represents all Syrians, where interlocutors can raise issues of concerns, developments, demands, and recommendations. The insights and recommendations coming from CSSR interlocutors were reflected in the Special Envoy (SE) and DSE discussions with stakeholders. CSSR participants also had the responsibility to brief their communities/constituency following their meeting with OSE-Syria. DSE Rochdi briefed on the political process, including the temporary suspension of the Constitutional Committee. The Special Envoy pursued his efforts to advance the broader political process as per SCR2254, the detainees and missing file, and his efforts to build trust and confidence via a step-for-step process between the Government of Syria and international stakeholders. DSE Rochdi briefed on the CSSR activities, including the thematic working groups aiming at leveraging Syrian civil society's broad range of experience and expertise and providing relevant policy recommendations to OSE-Syria.

Participants shared their concern regarding the lack of progress on the political process and the situation on the ground in Syria and of Syrians, in particular women, living in refugee camps. Participants demanded more representation of Jordan-based CSOs in the CSSR and in thematic working groups. One interlocutor suggested that the CSSR could become a sort of "shadow civic parliament", that would play a more active role in monitoring, networking, and contributing to the political process. It could be a credible entity if it strengthened its networks and reached both inside and outside Syria. This proposed group would build on the outcomes of regional outreach missions and TWG outputs.

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CSSR, 2022

The Civil Society Support Room (CSSR) was established in January 2016 by the Office of the Special Envoy for Syria as a mechanism to consult with a broad and diverse range of civil society actors. Through the CSSR, civil society actors can meet, interact and provide their insights and ideas to the Office of the Special Envoy, relevant United Nations actors, as well as international stakeholders.

This mechanism aims at rendering the UN mediation process more inclusive.

The overall supervision and guidance of the CSSR rests with the OSE-Syria.

NOREF Norwegian Centre for Conflict Resolution and Swiss Peace foundation have been mandated by the OSE to provide methodological expertise, operational and technical support to the process.

The views expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the UN standpoint.

CONTACT