



Justice4Yemen Pact
ميثاق العدالة لليمن

HUMAN RIGHTS IN YEMEN

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- Delivered by: DT Institute & Justice4Yemen Pact Coalition

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Justice4Yemen Pact Coalition

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 - **Mission:** Promotion and protection of human rights in Yemen
 - **Coalition Partners:**
 1. [Abductees' Mothers Association \(AMA\)](#)
 2. [Al-Amal Women's and Sociocultural Foundation \(AWSF\)](#)
 3. [Center for Strategic Studies to Support Women and Children \(CSWC\)](#)
 4. [Free Media Center for Investigative Journalism](#)
 5. [Marib Dam Foundation for Social Development \(MDF\)](#)
 6. [Musaala Organization](#)
 7. [SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties](#)
 8. [Studies and Economic Media Center \(SEMC\)](#)
 9. [Watch for Human Rights](#)
 10. [Yemeni Coalition to Monitor Human Rights Violations \(YCMHRV\)](#)
- **DT Institute:** is a non-profit organization that partners with communities and leaders to help build and preserve resilient, equitable, and inclusive democratic societies. DT Institute is an organization committed to “doing development differently.” We implement complex global development programs in conflict, fragile, and closed environments. We also fund thought leadership initiatives that drive innovation and improve lives through evidence-based programming.

Key Focus Areas

This statement addresses the following issues:

1. The Rights of Children
2. Arbitrary Detention, Enforced Disappearance, and Torture

Overarching Recommendations

1. Conduct impartial and transparent investigations into alleged violations of international humanitarian and human rights law by all parties involved in the conflict. Publicize the findings and ensure accountability by holding perpetrators accountable for all violations and abuses.
2. Ensure that any peace agreement or political settlement in Yemen includes provisions for transitional justice, accountability, and reparations, in consultation with victims, survivors, and civil society.

Situation in Yemen – Children Right

- From the third UPR:
 - Yemen received 252 recommendations from 97 countries addressing various issues, including armed conflict, humanitarian crisis, accountability, justice, and women's and children's rights.
 - Yemen accepted 65 recommendations focused on the protections for children's rights.
- Children's rights, constituting 26.7% of recommendations in the second UPR cycle and 25.8% in the third, have gained prominence.
- Noteworthy challenges include the recruitment and exploitation of child soldiers despite commitments to end the practice.

Rights of Children – Development

- According to the UN, in 2022, the UN verified 1,596 grave violations against 637 children (522 boys, 115 girls), , perpetrated by all conflict parties.
- In 2023, coalition members identified and investigated 309 grave children's rights violations.
- Constructive collaboration with Ansar Allah led to an Action Plan in 2022 to eradicate child recruitment.
- Despite commitments, the Houthis persist in recruiting children, with evidence suggesting an escalating trend.
- J4YP coalition members documented extensive use of landmines by Ansar Allah in Marib, posing risks to children's safety.
- Conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence cases, including against children, have been documented.

Rights of Children - Recommendations

1. Fully implement all relevant agreements to end child recruitment. Immediately release from duty of all children who are under 18 and ensure providing protection and reintegration to affected children.
2. Identify and remove landmines and unexploded remnants of war. Avoid using educational facilities as military barracks or weapons depots, and ensure these spaces are dedicated to education.
3. Facilitate immediate, safe, and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid to children and other civilians in need.

Situation in Yemen – Arbitrary Detention

- During the third UPR cycle, Yemen accepted 40 recommendations related to arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, and torture.
- Recommendations included investigating and prosecuting cases, providing reparations, ratifying international conventions, and ensuring proper control and monitoring of detention facilities.
- Despite acceptance, these violations persist, with the J4YP coalition documenting hundreds of incidents since 2019.

Arbitrary Detention – Development

- The recent UNSC Panel of Experts report reveals arbitrary detention and forced disappearance by all conflict parties.
- J4YP coalition investigates arbitrarily detention and torture by Southern Transitional Council-affiliated forces, citing the case of journalist Ahmed Maher.
- Members (SAM, AMA, Free Media, SEMC, Al Amal) report widespread arbitrary detention, disappearance, and torture under all conflict parties.
- AMA alone documented 2,725 cases of arbitrary detention, 761 enforced disappearances, and 974 cases of torture from 2019 to 2022.
- Systematic violations of liberty and dignity persist in Ansar Allah-controlled areas.
- An extensive network of undocumented prisons operates, where inhumane practices such as torture, medical neglect, and forced nudity occur frequently.
- All parties resist acknowledging the problem, with no genuine efforts to prevent, investigate, or hold perpetrators accountable.
- In April 2023, IRG-Y and Houthis agreed to a large prisoner swap involving nearly 900 detainees.
- Despite the swap, enforced disappearances continue, exemplified by the arbitrary arrest of 18 Baha'i religious minority members in May 2023.

Arbitrary Detention - Recommendations

1. Yemen should ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.
2. Conflict parties and governing authorities must immediately cease arbitrary arrest, detention, enforced disappearance, torture, and ill-treatment, and immediately release all persons arbitrarily detained.
3. Authorities overseeing prisons or detention centers, formal or informal, should publish official lists of all individuals in detention and those who have died in detention.
4. Investigate all reported incidents of torture in accordance with international standards. Take immediate measures to hold those responsible accountable and provide remedies to victims.

Thank you



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Vision

A Yemen where every individual's inherent human rights are respected, protected, and upheld, including for the most vulnerable, and a society free of violence and discrimination, where justice, accountability and no impunity prevail.

Our Objectives



Advocacy for All

We unwaveringly and tirelessly advocate for the rights of every Yemeni individual, irrespective of their circumstances, with a particular emphasis on the most vulnerable groups in society.



Collaboration for Change

Our coalition thrives on collaboration, our aim is to foster collaborative relationships with all our partners, encompassing local communities, civil society, international institutions, donors, and other stakeholders.



Values

Our actions are guided by unwavering values of respect for human dignity, justice, equality, and non-discrimination. We strive to uphold these values in all our endeavors, fostering a culture of integrity, transparency, and ethical conduct.



Empowerment and Awareness

We make every effort to empower the Yemeni people to be active participants in claiming their rights by raising awareness of human rights violations.



Addressing Systemic Violations

Acknowledging the seriousness of the systematic and gross violations of human rights in Yemen.



Ending Impunity and Ensuring Redress

The coalition members strive to end impunity for human rights violations in Yemen.



Local to Global Impact

Guided by principles of human dignity, equality, and non-discrimination, we work tirelessly to amplify our advocacy efforts from local to international platforms.

The members of the Justice 4 Yemen Pact Coalition, comprising human rights organizations and civil society actors committed to promoting and safeguarding human rights in Yemen.

Mission

The Justice 4 Yemen Pact is a dedicated coalition of human rights organizations and civil society actors working tirelessly to promote and safeguard the human rights of all Yemeni people. Our mission is rooted in advocating for the rights of those who are affected by conflict in Yemen, striving to create lasting positive change in Yemen's human rights landscape.

Thematic Coverage

- ▶ Freedom of Expression
- ▶ Abductions, Illegal Detention, and Ill-treatment of Prisoners
- ▶ Attacks on Civilian Infrastructure and Indiscriminate Attacks
- ▶ Violence against Children
- ▶ Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)
- ▶ Internally Displaced Persons
- ▶ Landmines and Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)

Members of the Justice4Yemen Pact

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- ▶ Free Media Center for Investigative Journalism
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For more information

Visit the [Justice4Yemen Website](https://justice4yemenpact.org)
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Contact
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