

# “FAILURE OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS IN PROVIDING ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR WOMEN”

*CSW60 Parallel Event Co-organized by Kafa (enough) Violence & Exploitation, Syrian Women League, Iraqi Al-Amal Association, and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counseling (WCLAC-Palestine)*



**DATE:** March 16, 2016



**TIME:** 8:30AM – 10:00AM



**LOCATION:** Church Center for the United Nations (CCUN),  
777 UN Plaza (E. 44th at 1st Ave), Hardin Room, 11th floor



## LIST OF INTERVENTIONS:

- Insights on the Failure of International Mechanisms to Protect Women in the MENA Region; Zoya Rouhana- Lebanon
- Activating the Mechanisms of Women's Rights Protection is the effective way to fight terrorism; Sawsan Zakzak- Syria
- Justice for Victims of Sexual Violence of ISIS; Hanaa Edward- Iraq
- Palestinian Women in The Front Lines: Confronting Israeli Occupational Policies and State-Sponsored Grave Breaches of International Law; Randa Senioura, Palestine

## CONTEXT

The MENA region witnessed rapid transformations as a result of the popular uprisings which have not yet achieved their goals in most countries. Instead, they have been transformed into internal or regional armed conflicts sponsored by powers that provide local clients with armaments and financial support.

As usual, women have paid – and continue to pay – the highest price for these developments. They have been repressed, killed, dispossessed, raped and subjected to all forms of violence including being sold on the auctioneer's block.

The events uncovered the fragility of national, regional and international political structures and the significant failure of legal mechanisms including constitutions, legal provisions, treaties and declarations at the national, regional and international levels. Both these mechanisms and the political systems have together failed to provide a modicum of protection for the most vulnerable sectors of society. The events have also been a major blow to the great efforts of civil society actors committed to human rights and demanding their implementation.

In this context, we want to highlight the need for starting to search for new mechanisms and tools, or to develop existing ones, that may enhance the prevention of women's human rights violations, regardless of who commits them.

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