



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 12 January 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and further to the hundreds of letters that I have sent to you over the past 10 years regarding the violations committed by the Turkish regime of the principles of international law, the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles governing friendly relations and good-neighbourliness between States, I should like to convey to you the following information.

On instructions from the Turkish regime, which sponsors terrorism and whose forces occupy vast areas of Syrian Arab Republic territory, its affiliated armed terrorist groups, namely, the Sultan Murad Brigade, the Hamzat Division and the Al-Mu'tasim Billah, Ahrar al-Sharqiyah and Hasakah Shield groups, which operate in the area of Ra's al-Ayn and its countryside and as far as Tall Abyad and Ayn Isa in Raqqah Governorate, have committed many crimes and carried out many attacks against Syrian civilians in those areas. Those groups have:

- Forced Syrian citizens in the above-mentioned area to obtain an unofficial identification card, or “kimlik” in the Turkish language, bearing their personal information in Arabic and Turkish. Those cards are emblazoned with the words “Local Council of the City of Ra's al-Ayn” and a flag that is not the official flag of the Syrian Arab Republic;
- Forced all farmers to sell their wheat and barley crops to Turkish merchants, who then transferred those crops to Turkey via the Ra's al-Ayn and Tall Abyad border gates;
- Stolen the people's stocks of wheat, barley and seed and stored them in the industrial area of Ra's al-Ayn in preparation for transport to Turkey;
- Assisted the Turkish regime and its acolytes in trafficking human organs taken from Syrian citizens;
- Engaged in drug trafficking and sold narcotics to area youngsters and adolescents;
- Imposed the Turkish curriculum in area schools.

The aforementioned crimes are a continuation of the Erdoğan regime's flagrant violations of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, which in the past few years have included attacks and occupation by that regime's forces, in



violation of the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of my country. Moreover, the Erdoğan regime has supported extremist and terrorist groups, including the Muslim Brotherhood, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, the Nusra Front and associated entities and groups; exploited terrorists and mercenaries and involved them in several conflicts, in service of its interests; robbed and plundered the wealth and natural resources the Syrian people; spread death and destruction; pursued a policy of forced displacement, demographic change and Turkification; used drinking water as a weapon against civilians; and, along with its terrorist organization proxies, deliberately burned large tracts of land that had been planted with wheat and barley. All of those acts are war crimes and crimes against humanity for which the Erdoğan regime must be held accountable.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, in conveying this alarming information to both the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council, trusts that the Security Council will fulfil its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations by halting the violations of international law and the Charter being committed by the Turkish regime and by obliging it to stop sponsoring and supporting terrorism and threatening peace and security in the region and around the world.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
