



Permanent Mission of Italy  
UN - Geneva

**54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**  
**Interactive Dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Syria**  
*September 22, 2023*

**Statement delivered by Ambassador Vincenzo Grassi,  
Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva**

*Chair,*

Italy aligns itself with the EU statement and thanks the Commission of Inquiry for its latest comprehensive report, shedding light on persisting practices of arbitrary detention, torture, enforced disappearances and denial of consent for humanitarian access based on political differences.

Twelve years into the conflict, the status quo in Syria remains unacceptable, as all actors on the ground continue to violate systematically their obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law.

We urge all parties to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance to those in need and call on the Syrian authorities to create the conditions for voluntary, safe and dignified return of refugees.

We welcome the recent establishment of the Independent Institution on Missing Persons (IIMP) and demand a prompt implementation of its terms of reference, to assist families in the search of their missing relatives.

Italy believes that failure to reach a political solution to the Syrian crisis should not come at the expense of the fundamental rights of the Syrian people and reiterates its full support to the essential work of the Commission of Inquiry and the IIIM in the fight against impunity.

*I thank you*