

Republic Of Yemen

House Of Representatives



**The Yemeni parliament's Speech**

**Second session of the United Nations Forum on Human Rights,  
Democracy and the Rule of Law**

**"Parliaments as promoters of human rights, democracy and the rule  
of law"**

**23 -22November 2018**

**Palais des Nations – Geneva**

**Khaled Majour Al-Saadi - Chairman of the Committee on Public  
Liberties and Human Rights in the House**

**(Improved participation of parliaments in international human rights  
mechanisms)**

**Mr. Secretary-General of the United Nations**

**Mr. High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**President and Members of the Human Rights Council**

**Secretary-General of the IPU, Chairman of the Second Session of the  
United Nations Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of  
Law**

**All attendees,**

I am pleased to participate with the Yemeni parliament's speech in the Second Session of the United Nations Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law: "Parliaments as Promoters of Human  
."rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law

First, the Yemeni Parliament hails the Human Rights Council Resolution 28/14 of 9 April 2015 to establish a forum on human rights, democracy

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and the rule of law. It also hails all initiatives that contribute effectively to  
.the promotion of human rights in the world and between peoples

According to item (2) of the Forum agenda and as representatives in the House of the Yemeni people, we would like to inform your forum about the injustice that the Yemeni people faced and still facing since March 2015 including the unjust war and the total blockade that have destroyed the foundations of Yemen survival. Due to this forgotten war, which is on the threshold of entering its fifth year, we call upon these international mechanisms, especially the UN Security Council and the Human Rights Council, to establish an international commission of inquiry to conduct a comprehensive and independent investigation to punish the perpetrators of violations in Yemen and the war crimes committed against its people since  
.2015 as well as to do justice to the victims

We note that the Republic of Yemen has ratified more than 60 international conventions and a protocol on the protection of human rights and freedoms. It has also prepared a number of national laws in support of  
.those ratified international conventions

The Yemeni Parliament established, since the Yemeni Unity in 1990 and the establishment of multi-party and peaceful transfer of power, a permanent committee on the protection of human rights and freedoms which has contributed to the achievement of many international and  
.national human rights obligations

In 2014, this committee, made up of all the parties represented in the Yemeni parliament, was about to adopt a draft law establishing an independent national human rights mechanism in accordance with the Paris Principles if the military intervention of the war-allied countries led by Saudi Arabia had not hindered the achievement of the democratic maturity of the Yemeni people. Also, this blatant interference in the Yemeni affairs and the continued attempts to attract members of Parliament prevented the existence of political consensus between representatives of political parties in order to complete the study and  
.approval of that draft law

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In order to improve the participation of parliaments in the international human rights mechanisms, we in the House of Representatives propose the following:

- We urge participants to adopt the necessary measures to ensure an organized and systematic participation of national parliaments in the work of the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms.
- We confirm the observations and recommendations made by the panel discussion held on 11 June 2013 in the summary report of the discussions (A / HRC / 35/16), which this discussion was formed by Human Rights Council resolution No. 30/14 on the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Council Parliaments in the work of the Council and its universal periodic review, and to identify ways of further enhancing that contribution.
- We confirm the conclusions of the recent study prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2012 (A / HRC / 38/25).
- To increase cooperation between parliaments and human rights bodies in order to implement the recommendations of those bodies, we urge States, including the Government of our country to accelerate the establishment of national reporting and follow-up mechanisms such as the National Observatory for Human Rights and Children as critical to the promotion of human and child rights and the fulfillment of the obligations included in many international conventions and protocols on the protection of human rights.
- Effective human rights coordination mechanisms should also be established between national parliaments, in particular Human Rights Committees and their counterparts in the international and regional parliaments to benefit from the successful experiences and initiatives taken by these organizations with a view to enhancing the attention given by national parliaments to human rights issues.

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- The Yemeni Parliament calls on states, including our government, to involve parliamentarians, together with government representatives, in negotiating international human rights instruments and to involve parliamentarians in all stages of drafting comprehensive periodic reports to the Human Rights Council.
- We call on the Human Rights Council to enhance the participation of parliamentarians in discussing these reports and in establishing clear and effective mechanisms in following up the implementation of the recommendations driven from them.

**November 19, 2018**

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