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## **Statement at the 57<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

### **Agenda item 4: Interactive Dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic**

**20 September 2024**

**H.E. Ambassador Frank Büchel**

**Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein**

Thank you, Mister President

Liechtenstein thanks the Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic for its report. We welcome the operationalization of the *Independent Institution on Missing Persons*.

More than a decade after the eruption of the armed conflict in Syria, the civilian population continues to bear the heaviest burden. We are deeply concerned by the Commission's findings that approximately 13 million people in Syria face acute food insecurity, and over 650'000 children show signs of stunting from severe malnutrition, while nine out of ten Syrians live below the poverty line.

The list of crimes under international law that have been committed in Syria throughout the conflict and continue to be committed by the day is alarming. We are particularly concerned by the killing of civilians during ongoing hostilities, both by State and non-State actors, who exercise their power arbitrarily and commit violations with impunity.

Mr. President,

We stand in solidarity with the Syrian civilians and civil society that continue to demonstrate resilience through advocacy and demonstrations for their rights across the country, and condemn the acts of violent repression used by State and non-State authorities in response, including arbitrary detention, torture, enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings.

We reiterate that the perpetrators of these serious violations and abuses must be brought to justice and call on the Security Council to refer the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court.

I thank you, Mister President.