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## Written statement<sup>\*</sup> submitted by the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[25 August 2014]

\* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting nongovernmental organization(s).





## The Right to be Heard for Victims of Terrorism

Terrorism severely jeopardizes human rights and threatens democracy. Terrorist groups seek for making legitimate governments unstable, weaken the pluralist civil society and challenge the ideals of the people for enjoying a peaceful life. Terrorist groups organize their activities beyond national borders and pose severe threats against human community. Therefore we are facing an increasing dire threat which has left many casualties across the world. The threat of terrorism caused by the terrorist groups of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/ ISIS) and Al-Nusra Front has got great importance in this regard.

Therefore, the global Counterterrorism Strategy must put many concerns in its agenda while conducting measures to fight against terrorist groups. The significance of the issue is due to the fact that terrorism leaves long-term destructive impacts on the people and on the society which required to be controlled.

Although the people affected by terrorism require urgent short-term and long-term assistance, the governments merely suffice to express sympathy with victims.

On this basis, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism (ADVT) calls for the United Nations, the Human Rights Council and Member States to:

- 1. Recognize the sufferings of the victims and their relatives; identify the needs of the victims of terrorism and find solutions to help the affected people and protect their fundamental rights;
- 2. Urge governments and international organizations to provide medical, psychological, social and financial support to victims of terrorism;
- 3. Find some ways to pay the fair, adequate and in due time compensation for the damages and losses they have suffered.