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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by The Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection "Manshour-e Parseh", 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.

[31 May 2021]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



The place of urban diplomacy in the world today

By increasing the role of cities in today's human society, metropolises in the world can take positive steps to improve their economic, political, technological, cultural and infrastructural status and have sufficient power, influence and credibility to carry out diplomatic activities. And in line with their activities, to show a new form of diplomacy, which in the world of modern diplomacy is called urban diplomacy.

In addition, with the multiplication of societies, formal diplomacy alone is not able to identify, manage and meet all the needs of its citizens in international interactions, because the interdependence of citizenship between nations has become widespread and societies need specialized representatives, especially They are in urban areas so that they can not only overcome the many problems that are common to all nations, but also take advantage of these indigenous opportunities.

On the other hand, formal diplomacy serves the general and political goals, which is a kind of foreign policy of national governments, so urban diplomacy as a tool in the service of representatives of institutions and civil society organizations in managing the needs of citizens that can help formal diplomacy.

With the change of global structures, diplomacy is also evolving. With the development of information and communication technology, the growth of non-governmental actors and the growing awareness of the world are the main factors that play a role in the evolution of diplomacy.

New diplomacy is emerging as a global civil society phenomenon in which NGOs, ordinary people, professional associations, and the like seek to participate in international affairs.

Environmental issues, economic inequalities in the international arena, conflict prevention, human rights issues and humanitarian aid, infectious diseases such as coronary and population pressure, prevention of indigenous and ethnic conflicts, migration phenomenon, paradox Globalization and other challenges, crises across the international community are so intertwined that governments and traditional diplomacy and its methods alone cannot deal with it.

Thus, in modern diplomacy, a major movement called "public diplomacy" is taking shape.

In fact, public diplomacy is considered as a process of establishing relations with the people of other countries, in which efforts are made to establish a favorable understanding of ideals and ideals, cultural exchange, world peace and security, and to achieve a dynamic economy in The format of national goals is defined for those people.

More specifically, public diplomacy emphasizes the integration of government and non-government actors and the private sector, and the private sector encompasses a wide range of companies, from NGOs to world-class experts.

Accordingly, actors in the field of public diplomacy can be considered as ministers, ambassadors, companies and business groups, academics and think tanks and civil and non-governmental organizations.

Actors in the field of urban diplomacy depending on the social and political structure of any society, there are different actors in the field of urban diplomacy in that society, but prominent activists in this field include mayors, urban associations, NGOs, representatives of local governments and citizens and representatives of organizations Internationals non-governmental organizations are that take on different tasks depending on the environment in which they have to operate.

What causes the presence of these actors in the field of urban diplomacy is a sense of cooperation with other sectors. Of course, the presence of individuals and their role in international political issues and therefore participation in development are other important reasons that make participation in urban diplomacy activities significant. What makes the attention to urban diplomacy more prominent is the role and influence of these actors in the field of international and global activities.