United Nations A/HRC/51/NGO/224



Distr.: General 9 September 2022

English only

Human Rights Council

Fifty-first session

12 September–7 October 2022

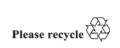
Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Written statement* submitted by Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, 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.

[22 August 2022]





^{*} Issued as received, in the language of submission only.

Violations of Iraqi Journalists in Kurdistan Region are at the Forefront

Al-Baraem Association for charitable work & Journalist support committee have recorded violations of the current year 2022 of Iraqi journalists and media institutions, noting that the Kurdistan Region has taken the top spot.130 violations throughout Iraq from the beginning of 2022 to date.

Kurdistan Region, 75 violations against 57 journalists & media institutions during their coverage of recent protests. During which 23 journalists were arrested in Sulaymaniyah, Dohuk, Irbil, Clare and other areas of the region s Voice in Sulaymaniyah Snor Karim.

Piam, Weststeh News, Politik News, Char Press, Lat Media, Roj News, KNN, Nrt). All Kurdistan. Kirkuk Tifi. Badinan Sat. pukmedia and the Voice of the Kurdistan People's Radio, being affiliated with the National Union Party, from covering a conference held by the Chief Minister of the Territory in Erbil, and the ASAISH prevents channel teams (Rodao, KNN, GK TV, Kurdistan 24, Kurdistan tv, NRT, President's Agency) The site of the explosion of the bomb drone that exploded in the city, seized press crew equipment and security agents in Erbil detains the reporter of the channel "KNN" Ayub Ali, without an arrest warrant after a warrant issued by the police station, following the registration of a lawsuit against him.

In Sulaymaniyah, Assayish force detained NRT correspondent Karzan Tariq and photographer Jeans Ahmed and the security forces arrested the correspondents of NRT also four journalists from the Westge News Foundation, Serwan Gharib, Arkan Jabbar, Zanyar Marwan, Hevarhoya) and the director of the Kurdish News website of MP Sarwat Abdul Wahid.

In Dohuk recorded seven violations, namely the arrest of the NRT reporter and photographer(Taif Goran, Ahmed Markazi) by the Isaish forces, and the attack on the reporter by beating during his journalistic duty in a special coverage of the fire incident of a tourist hotel near a market in Glei locality in Dohuk governorate Radio and Television Dahuk local radio station in Zakho was also subjected to unidentified rocket bombardment that severely damaged the building, and arrests the director of the NRT office in Dohuk Taif Goran and its correspondent fellow Briar Neroy and their press equipment was confiscated, and a security force in Dohuk raided the office of the media foundation "rast media" in Dohuk and closed it, as well as the arrest of an NRT reporter in Dohuk Sabah Sophie by Asayesh hours earlier s office in Dohuk Ta 'if Goran and correspondent Briar Neroy were arrested by security forces in the Territory in front of the Canal office.

Two violations were recorded in Zakho, detained the correspondent of the Sabida Parzan Hassan channel, and the photographer Mushir Ahmed, in connection with their coverage of the opening of one of the religious centres for the Quran's education in Mahalah.

Basra, 18 violations against journalists

There were 17 violations in Karbala that were distributed to elements of the Karbala Police Command preventing the Iraqi Channel's correspondent in Karbala Hassan al-Muhanna from covering privately, To open the hub of one of the main streets in Husseiniyah district in the governorate, Karbala emergency police detained the Channel for Change reporter Jassim al-Hamim inside the Indian Hospital, During his coverage of a fire at the Taurig District Hospital, he seized the media teams' equipment to prevent them from covering the fire and sidelined parts of the camera of the photographer of the Tigris channel Ahmed al-Jabouri and severely beat the correspondent of the Sumerian channel Anwar Malik while he was near the incident to perform his work. (One News, Iraq, Zagros, Rashid, Tigris and Orientale) from the coverage of the incident, and also a correspondent for the "one news" channel in Karbala, colleague Ali Khalid and fellow photographer Hatem Karim, were beaten with electric sticks by the riot forces during the break-up of a demonstration of a number of contract employees of the KarBbala Education Directorate, while the Federal Police Chief in Karbala The Director of the Branch of the Journalists' Union in Karbala, Director of the Iraqi Channel Office Hussein Al-Shammari, during the coverage of pilgrim convoys by road through the Arar border outlet, and finally Assistant Police Commander of Karbala Brigadier General

Ahmed Abd Al-Zahra prevents both reporters (Provincial Radio, Journal, Al-Nida ', Al-Baghdadi) from the coverage of the outbreak of a fire, at An & Co restaurant in Sinatar Street and verbally overtakes the correspondent of Al-Baghdadi Channel Fadel Al-Ghazi.

It also recorded 13 violations in Mosul that gathered in blocking news and change channels and news and freedom of Iraq and utv from covering the visit of Kadhimi to Mosul, in addition to the banning of cadres of channels by elements of the protection of Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi (INEWS, Direction, Zacros, Tigris, Change, Utv, Free Iraq) from the coverage of the opening of Al-Kadhimi and his accompanying delegation the building of Al-Batul Hospital on the right side of Mosul.

In the governorate of Najaf, 11 violations took place, where elements belonging to the companies of peace prevented the channels of change, Iraq, One News, Djilah, Fallujah, Zacros, Iraqi News Agency and Reuters from covering a fire in one of their headquarters and detained the photographer of the channel of change "Mustafa Loya" inside the headquarters. The seizure of his camera, and the protection elements of an investment company in the district of Koufa also prevented the correspondent of the Tigris Tahir al-Assaf channel and his fellow photographer Haider al-Khafaji from covering the reasons for the slowdown of the Ambassador's residential complex; An unidentified gunman, wearing leprosy, set fire to journalist Majid al-Sudani's car in Najaf al-Ashraf without knowing why.

Kirkuk recorded nine violations. On the first day of the beginning of 2022, security forces attacked NRT's correspondent Diyar Mohammed during his coverage of the New Year celebrations. The reporter's phone was smashed, and elements of the protection of oil facilities in Kirkuk prevented KNN correspondent Dozin Jolla from covering a fire in oil pipes in the Darwaza area of Kirkuk and the police seized his mobile and equipment of Rodao correspondent Hardi Mohammed, They deleted all the images of the fire when they were in special coverage of the incident. and a security force in Kirkuk arrested Kurdistan Channel correspondent Hlu Jabbari while covering the burning of agricultural crops in the Dakok district of Kirkuk governorate, The Director of Internal Departments of the Kirkuk Technical Institute prevented KNN correspondent Eugene Ramadan from photographing the buildings adjacent to the Institute and the Director of the Azadi Hospital in Kirkuk blocked the reporter of the news site "Bass News" from entering the hospital building to perform his journalistic duty. and the Commander of Kirkuk Operations, Major General "Ali Al-Faraiji", blocked the correspondent of the Roodhaw Hardy Mohammed Channel and fellow photographer Mohammed Shakur from covering a demonstration organized by the people of the Sar area of the Shuan district of Kirkuk, Security agents in Kirkuk prevented Iraqi News Agency correspondent Mahdi al-Rabhawi from covering the Kirkuk municipal fuel station to reveal the causes of the worsening fuel crisis in recent days of the province.

Violations against journalists also included Baghdad, where seven violations were recorded The Media and Communications Authority discontinued the program "With Mullah Talal", which is shown on the Utv Channel screen, After the Iraqi judiciary issued two arrest warrants and investigated the presenter Ahmed al-Mullah Talal and the artist Ayad al-Tai against the background of broadcasting content that revealed corruption in the military system Al-Baghdadi Channel presenter Ali al-Dhabhahawi was arrested by a security force. He was taken inside the intelligence headquarters to investigate him, and the Iraqi media network suspended the "neutral" programme offered by colleague D. Saadoun Mohsen Dammad hosted journalist Sarmad Al-Tai against the backdrop of political objections to the program guest and launched an opinion against the Supreme Judicial Council Al-Mayadeen Channel correspondent in Baghdad Abdullah Badran and his fellow photographer Zeid Khalid were hit by shrapnel at the moment the main doors of the Green Zone were broken into by the pectoral stream, Security forces fired stun grenades to disperse protesters and a number of protesters from the coordinating framework block preventing Iraqi Channel correspondent Ahmed Aram and fellow photographer Ahmed Majid.

Six violations in Babylon, (Tigris, Furat, Baghdadi, Al-Ahad and I News, Al-Jazeera Agency) , while one violation was recorded in Dhi Qar after riot forces detained the photographer of "Southern" Abbas Razak

Journalist Support Committee (JSC), NGO(s) without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.