

SPHER International, Company limited by guarantee, Company number: 8510651

SPHER International, Ltd. presents these guidelines and initial ideas for a peace initiative in Syria. At the moment, work is underway to prepare the initiative, mobilize support for it, and develop objective factors for establishing and monitoring its success.

SPHER International is an international organization registered in the United Kingdom, with its headquarters in London. The organization is concerned about global human and environment rights. It is independent from any government or political party. Since it was initiated in 2013, it has primarily focused its activity on the Syrian humanitarian crisis. SPHER International has reached out to several governments in an attempt to help achieve peace. Achieving peace and safety for Syrian civilians, regardless of ethnicity, is one of SPHER's main concerns.

This initiative is inspired by the peace processes led by Nelson Mandela in South Africa. In particular, SPHER International invokes Mandela's core values of forgiveness, tolerance, and reconciliation between the different components of the Syrian population.

The most fundamental items and elements of the initiative, which is currently taking shape through research, dialogue, and communication with multiple parties in Syria, are as follows:

First: Syria and the international community must give academia and science a chance to solve the crisis. A military solution is untenable. The armed forces on both sides of the conflict have shown a disregard for civilian lives and mass casualties continue. The failure of the Geneva II Conference, as well as subsequent disappointments in Geneva, demonstrate that political and diplomatic solutions have also fallen short of solving the crisis. Thus, the solution must come from the minds of scientists and academics, trained in scientific reasoning, non-partisanship, and motivated by altruism.

Second: The supreme aim of this initiative is to save Syrian lives and the Syrian land itself. A further aim is to assist with the preservation and reconstruction of Syria's economy and culture, providing peace, security and prosperity in Syria.

Third: The drafters of this initiative do not seek to achieve any personal gain from it. SPHER International's motive is solely to achieve peace and to restore security for the Syrian people.

Fourth: SPHER International is entirely neutral and approaches the crisis without prejudice or discrimination.

Fifth: We hope to apply Nelson Mandela's philosophy in Syria by starting peace negotiations between Syrian civil groups, as was done in South Africa back in 1994. The hope is to encourage the groups to reach a compromise that will benefit everyone.

Sixth: This initiative aims to produce a peaceful and rational dialogue between Syrian scientists and academics. Through such dialogue, we hope to find positive and meaningful solutions for new and old conflicts. Additionally, we aim to lay the foundations for strengthening the links between various Syrian groups, in order to protect national unity, promote coexistence, secure civil peace, and prevent further civil, religious, and ethnic conflict.

Seventh: We proceed in our initiative with the firm conviction that all parties in Syria have a common interest in establishing and maintaining peace.

Eighth: It goes without saying that true peace must be accompanied by justice. It is necessary to respect the will of the Syrian people, and to establish peaceful and democratic change. It is necessary to establish a modern rule of law, based on a modern and refined constitution, reflecting a separation of powers and other modern ideas of representative government.

The mechanics of achieving this methodology are as follows:

First: open lines of communication and begin consultations with Syrian academics, intellectuals, activists, and dissidents, gathering support from all parties for this initiative.

Second: hold a symposium with the participation of academics, intellectuals, and activists, addressing various aspects of the crisis, with an aim towards finding solutions based on non-partisan and well-reasoned methodologies. We will then develop a specific formula for this initiative and announce the fruits of the symposium.

Third: reach out to Arab countries, such as the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait, as well as Turkey and Iran, plus key Western governments and organizations, especially the United States, Russia and the European Commission, with the aim of gaining their support for the initiative and their assistance in implementing its goals.

Fourth: call for a conference of Syrians at home and abroad, in order to develop a national unity, eventually putting forth a national charter, which represents all components of Syrian society, and embodies a modern democratic system. The national unity process will solidify reconciliation and promote diverse representation.

Fifth: This plan includes the basic principles of the peace process, which will require gradual stages of change. The plan calls for general elections under strict and comprehensive international supervision. Additionally, it will introduce practical

measures for creating an atmosphere that will allow for a smooth and flexible transition into a peaceful new democratic system.

Sixth: pay compensation to all victims affected by this war.

Seventh: put forward an international plan for the reconstruction of Syria. As a prize for achieving peace, the international community will help Syria rebuild and recover as a society.