

Statement of the National Human Rights Committee in Qatar No. (08/2018)**On****the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the United Arab Emirates on 5 July 2018**

The National Human Rights Committee of the State of Qatar reviewed the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in the United Arab Emirates, in which the UAE authorities claim that they have not taken any administrative or legal measures to deport Qatari citizens from the UAE since 5 June 2017. This statement is misleading and has many obvious fallacies with the aim to avoid the legal and human responsibilities resulting from the violations carried out by the UAE authorities since the beginning of the blockade. It is also considered a desperate attempt to improve their image before international public opinion and international and regional human rights organizations which have clearly and explicitly condemned the actions taken by the United Arab Emirates and the arbitrary measures that resulted in serious violations of human rights. On 5 June 2017, The Emirati authorities have taken its arbitrary decision to expel Qatari citizens from its territory and demanded departure of its citizens from Qatar within 14 days, and imposed a sudden ban on travel for all without any consideration to humanitarian cases, as confirmed by reports of international organizations and Parliamentary delegations that visited the State of Qatar after the blockade and according to the successive reports of the National Human Rights Committee in the State of Qatar that documented the cases that were expelled by the UAE authorities without taking into account the humanitarian aspects of the mixed families, Qatari students, property owners, persons with disabilities, and patients in a flagrant violation of international human rights instruments.

The National Human Rights Committee of the State of Qatar also reaffirms what has been mentioned in its previous statements, including its statement issued on 11 June 2017 on the consideration of humanitarian cases of mixed families, its statement of 26 June 2017 on the violation of the right of Qatari students enrolled at the UAE universities, its statement of 20 July 2017 on the violation of the right to private property of Qatari nationals in the United Arab Emirates, as well as its communications issued on 15 and 23 October 2017 to the competent authorities of the UAE, in which the NHRC called for the cooperation for purpose of reparation and providing assistance to victims, yet without receiving any response from those bodies. The statement issued by the UAE foreign ministry confirms the continuation of the UAE authorities to mislead the international community instead of finding urgent solutions to the humanitarian tragedies caused by the blockade.

The National Human Rights Committee also expresses its concern about the continuation of the UAE authorities to prevent the entry of Qatari citizens and residents of the state Qatar to the UAE territories, deny their right to access their private property, prevent joint families from visiting, and deny the right of Qatari citizens to complete their education and receive treatment without any justification or legal reason, this is in addition to the denial Of the rights of citizens to litigation and recourse to national courts in the UAE.

Many students have addressed the relevant UAE universities in order to resume their studies or obtain their administrative and academic documents. The owners of the properties can not access their property and live in fear of losing their properties and investments or bankruptcy if The international community has not acted promptly. In addition, a lot of people lost their jobs, and many common families are dispersed, while exacerbating the tragedy of children and women.

The National Human Rights Committee notes that it will spare no effort to address the issue of the responsibility and accountability of the UAE authorities in all international forums, while noting that international bodies and organizations - including the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the European Parliament, Amnesty International and Human Rights - And their statements and decisions

confirmed the racist violations and discriminatory practices of the UAE authorities against Qatari nationals and residents of the State of Qatar.

The NHRC calls on the international community to take decisive and deterrent punitive measures against the UAE authorities and to take urgent moves to lift the injustice and ensure redress for the victims.

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