**Universal Periodic Review, 40th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of the Syrian Arabic Republic, 24th of January 2021**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr./Mdm. President,

The human rights situation in Syria is deeply concerning. It is imperative that concrete steps are taken to improve compliance with obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law.

*Denmark recommends* the following:

1. Release all political prisoners and stop targeting – amongst many others – civil society and political opponents through inter alia enforced disappearances and arbitrary detention.
2. End the targeting of civilians and ensure unhindered humanitarian access through all modalities, in accordance with its obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law.
3. End the use of sexual violence, torture and ill-treatment in detention centres, and ensure accountability and redress for the victims.

I thank you.