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## **Statement at the 49th Session of the Human Rights Council**

### **Agenda item 4 – Interactive Dialogue with the COI on the Syrian Arab Republic**

**18 March 2022**

**H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger**

**Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Liechtenstein would like to thank the Commission of Inquiry for its report. We are greatly concerned by the deterioration of the already dire situation in Syria.

Limited access to essential services and goods leaves about 90% of the population under the poverty line. Our concerns are amplified by the fact that the humanitarian needs are at their highest since the start of the conflict. Children are among the most affected in this situation, with limited access to education and serious risks of being exposed to child marriage and child labor. For the current generation of children, war has become a

normality as the country enters into the 11<sup>th</sup> year of hostilities, leaving a lost generation behind.

We strongly welcome recent court cases under the principle of universal jurisdiction in different European countries, most notably the Koblenz verdict. This is a strong sign for the imperative of accountability for the most serious crimes committed in Syria. We welcome the positive roles the Commission of Inquiry and the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism for Syria have played in relation to the Koblenz case and continue to play with regard to other national investigations.

I would like to reiterate Liechtenstein's firm position that the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic should be referred to the International Criminal Court by the UN Security Council.

Finally, I would like to express our continued strong support for the Commission of Inquiry and its invaluable work.

I thank you, Mr. President.