

**From:** [Reuter, Gayle](#) on behalf of [Moran, James](#)  
**To:** [fred\\_tumer@menendez.senate.gov](mailto:fred_tumer@menendez.senate.gov)  
**Cc:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**Subject:** Follow up Regarding Qatar Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 11, 2018 12:21:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [Qatar Saudi GCC Letter.docx](#)

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Hi Fred,

Attached is a draft of a letter that might be sent to the Saudi Ambassador with regard to binational families adversely affected by the current GCC blockade.

Please feel free to edit as needed and let us know if you need any other information. If Senator Menendez does agree to send it, we would appreciate you sending a copy of the final letter.

Thanks so much for your help.

Yours truly,

Jim

**James P. Moran**  
Senior Legislative Advisor  
US Congressman  
1991-2015

**McDermott  
Will & Emery**

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H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

I am writing to inquire about the families impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. I am concerned that, because of the GCC blockade on Qatar, families of mixed nationalities are not being allowed to reunite, and that Saudi citizens currently in Qatar with their Qatari family members are at risk of losing Saudi citizenship.

Many people in Saudi Arabia over the last few decades immigrated to their neighbors for employment and educational opportunities, often starting multi-national families and placing down roots outside of Saudi Arabia. Because of increasing tensions in the region, some governments, including your own, suspended travel and ordered all Saudi citizens in Qatar to return home. Understandably, many Saudis in Qatar who did not abandon their duty to care for their families now fear they face a choice of losing citizenship or being present in the lives of their children.

Similarly, people sometimes work away from their children, leaving the children with their spouse to pursue job opportunities in other GCC countries and visiting home when they can. Separated families, with one spouse in Saudi Arabia and another in Qatar, face a future where it is uncertain if they will be able to see their children again.

As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one-year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the impact upon binational families.

Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

**From:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**To:** [jason.taylor@congress.gov](#)  
**Subject:** Follow up from Qatar Foreign Minister  
**Date:** Monday, July 09, 2018 4:42:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [Qatar Saudi RFA Letter.docx](#)

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Hi Jason

The Foreign Minister and Ambassador from Qatar wanted to express their thanks to Congressman Taylor for attending the lunch on June 27<sup>th</sup> and for the productive and positive conversation that took place.

They have asked that we follow up with your boss to ask if he would consider sending a letter to the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia regarding the very unfortunate separation of families that is happening due to the blockade.

Attached is a copy of the language of a letter sent by another Member of Congress to the Saudi Ambassador. Please feel free to edit as needed and let us know if you need any other information. If Congressman Taylor does agree to send it, if you could send a copy of the final letter, that would be appreciated.

Thanks so much for your help.

With regards,  
Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1991-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017

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Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

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I am writing to inquire about the families impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. I am concerned that, because of the GCC blockade on Qatar, families of mixed nationalities are not being allowed to reunite, and that Saudi citizens currently in Qatar with their Qatari family members are at risk of losing Saudi citizenship.

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As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one-year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the impact upon binational families.

Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

**From:** Gayle, Gayle  
**To:** [Suzanne Kinnel](#), [Linda Linder](#)  
**Subject:** Follow up from Qatar Foreign Minister  
**Date:** Monday, July 09, 2018 4:48:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [Qatar Saudi GCC Letter.docx](#)

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Hi Taylor,

The Foreign Minister and Ambassador from Qatar wanted to express their thanks to Congressman Wilson for attending the lunch on June 27<sup>th</sup> and for the productive and positive conversation that took place.

They have asked that we follow up with your boss to ask if he would consider sending a letter to the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia regarding the very unfortunate separation of families that is happening due to the blockade.

Attached is a copy of the language of a letter sent by another Member of Congress to the Saudi Ambassador. Please feel free to edit as needed and let us know if you need any other information. If Congressman Wilson does agree to send it, if you could send a copy of the final letter, that would be appreciated.

Thanks so much for your help.

With regards,  
Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1991-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017,

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Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

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I am writing to inquire about the families impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. I am concerned that, because of the GCC blockade on Qatar, families of mixed nationalities are not being allowed to reunite, and that Saudi citizens currently in Qatar with their Qatari family members are at risk of losing Saudi citizenship.

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I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

**From:** [Gayle Reuter](mailto:reuter.gayle)  
**To:** [Rep. James Moran](mailto:Rep.James.Moran@house.gov)  
**Subject:** Follow up from Qatar Foreign Minister  
**Date:** Monday, July 09, 2018 4:52:03 PM  
**Attachments:** Qatar Sept 2018 Letter.docx

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Hi James

The Foreign Minister and Ambassador from Qatar wanted to express their thanks to Congressman Yoho for attending the lunch on June 27<sup>th</sup> and for the productive and positive conversation that took place.

They have asked that we follow up with your boss to ask if he would consider sending a letter to the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia regarding the very unfortunate separation of families that is happening due to the blockade.

Attached is a copy of the language of a letter sent by another Member of Congress to the Saudi Ambassador. Please feel free to edit as needed and let us know if you need any other information. If Congressman Yoho does agree to send it, if you could send a copy of the final letter that would be appreciated.

Thanks so much for your help.

With regards,  
Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1981-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017

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I am writing to inquire about the families impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. I am concerned that, because of the GCC blockade on Qatar, families of mixed nationalities are not being allowed to reunite, and that Saudi citizens currently in Qatar with their Qatari family members are at risk of losing Saudi citizenship.

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As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one-year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the impact upon binational families.

Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.



**From:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**To:** [Calfina, Zach](#)  
**Subject:** Qatar Letter  
**Date:** Thursday, July 05, 2018 1:45:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [Qatar Letter.docx](#)

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Hi Zach,

Congressman Moran asked that I forward you this sample draft letter that is to the Saudi Ambassador and has any specific examples removed which should make it more comfortable for sending.

Can you confirm if Congressman Beyer is able to send this out and forward us a copy of the final letter.

Also, the Foreign Minister would like to send a personal note of thanks to the Congressman for attending last week's luncheon and requested personal emails for the Members who attended. Would you be able to share your boss's email.

Thanks so much,  
Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1991-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017

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I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

**From:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**To:** [Christopher Gaspar](#)  
**Subject:** Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Monday, July 02, 2018 4:01:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [Saudi GCC Letter.docx](#)

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Chris,

Sorry – you should have gotten this on Friday afternoon.

Let me know if you have any questions & you confirm you got this.

Thanks.

Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1991-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017

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I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

**From:** Gayle Reuter  
**To:** paul.leberstein@state.gov  
**Subject:** Draft of Letter to Saudi Ambassador  
**Date:** Friday, June 29, 2018 3:08:59 PM  
**Attachments:** Saudi GCC Letter.docx

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Hi Paul,

In follow up to your conversation with Congressman Moran and his conversation with your boss, I've attached a copy of the draft letter that I understand your office has offered to send.

Please feel free to edit as needed and let us know if you need any other information. If you wouldn't mind, if you could send a copy of the final letter you send, that would be appreciated.

Thanks so much for your support with this letter.

With regards,  
Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1991-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017

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601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

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I am writing to inquire about the families impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. I am concerned that, because of the GCC blockade on Qatar, families of mixed nationalities are not being allowed to reunite, and that Saudi citizens currently in Qatar with their Qatari family members are at risk of losing Saudi citizenship.

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I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

**From:** Reuter, Gayle  
**To:** Peter Karafotas<mail.house.gov>  
**Cc:** Trister, Sarah  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Friday, June 29, 2018 3:08:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [SCL Letter from C. Clinton.docx](#)

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Hi Peter

Thank you for your follow up email and my apologies for not getting right back to you. Wanted to confirm it is absolutely fine to edit and remove the two cases from the letter.

Attached is a draft with those references removed. And please feel free to edit as need and let us know if you need any other information. If you wouldn't mind if you could send a copy of the final letter you send, that would be appreciated

Thank you so much for your support with this letter.

With regards  
Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1001-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017

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**From:** Karafotas, Peter <Peter.Karafotas@mail.house.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2018 11:49 AM  
**To:** Yarovitz, Rebecca L. <Ryarvitz@mwe.com>  
**Cc:** Trister, Sarah <Sarah.Trister@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Saudi Letter

Hi Rebecca,

I wanted to get back to Congressman Moran about the letter. We spoke to Congressman Cline and he said he would be willing to do the letter if we remove the specific references to the two cases in the letter since he isn't familiar with those particular situations. If you could please make those changes and send us back the letter, I can run it by the Congressman. I have looped in Sarah Trister, our Deputy Chief of Staff who handles foreign policy for the Congressman.

Thank you  
Peter

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**From:** Yarovitz, Rebecca L. [<mailto:Ryarvitz@mwe.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 18, 2018 5:28 PM  
**To:** Karafotas, Peter  
**Subject:** Updated Saudi Letter

Hi Peter,

Attached please find an updated version of the letter to the Saudi Ambassador.

Thank you,

**Rebecca Yarovitz**  
Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP The McDermott Building 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8385 Fax +1 202 756 8087

[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

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.....

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June 15, 2018

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

I am writing to inquire about families who have been impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all of their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the impact upon binational families.

I understand there are many families adversely affected by the blockade of the State of Qatar and while there is supposed to be an exception for families to this ban, it has yet to be implemented.

Thank you in advance for clarifying the situation as it currently stands and perhaps suggesting ways in which it can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,

David Cicilline  
US Representative

**From:** Gayle Reuter  
**To:** John McCarthy  
**Subject:** Copy of letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 26, 2018 4:54:53 PM  
**Attachments:** [GCR\\_Emerly\\_LunchInvite.pdf](#)

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Hi John,

Congressman Moran asked that I forward to you the attached letter. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions

Best regards  
Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1991-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
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**From:** Reuter, Gayle  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2018 4:24 PM  
**To:** 'McCarthy, John'  
**Subject:** RE: Lunch Invite on June 27th

Hi John,

Wanted to confirm that we were able to secure room H-139 in the Capitol for tomorrow's noon lunch with the PM of Qatar. I know you had mentioned it was unlikely that the Congressman would be attending but just wanted to make sure you had the correct room in case.

Thanks,  
Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
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&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
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**From:** McCarthy, John [<mailto:John.McCarthy@mail.house.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 25, 2018 7:11 PM  
**To:** Reuter, Gayle  
**Subject:** RE: Lunch Invite on June 27th

Gayle—

I know the Congressman is going to TRY and stop by (but realistically, he has to be in and out of his current 12pm lunch, so I don't know how realistic that is). That said, he will be seeing the Foreign minister at a dinner the evening before I know (it just worked better schedule wise), and I know he looks forward to seeing Congressman Moran and the Ambassador soon.

Does that all work, alright?  
John

—  
John McCarthy | *Chief of Staff*  
U.S. Congressman Brendan Boyle (PA-13)  
133 Longworth House Office Building  
202-225-0111

---

**From:** Reuter, Gayle [<mailto:Greuter@mwe.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 22, 2018 11:57 AM  
**To:** McCarthy, John <[John.McCarthy@mail.house.gov](mailto:John.McCarthy@mail.house.gov)>; Maher, Daniel <[Daniel.Maher@mail.house.gov](mailto:Daniel.Maher@mail.house.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Lunch Invite on June 27th

Thanks for the quick reply and we understand full calendars. If he is able to even stop by briefly and meet the Foreign Minister, I know Congressman Moran would appreciate it.

Thanks again.

---

**From:** McCarthy, John [<mailto:John.McCarthy@mail.house.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 22, 2018 11:41 AM

To: Reuter, Gayle; Maher, Daniel  
Subject: RE: Lunch Invite on June 27th

Hey Gayle!

Sorry if he called, and I missed it. Let me check to see if we can make it work. I will say, he has a lunch meeting already with a guest from Ireland that's been on the books for a while, but let me see if we can move something around.

John McCarthy | Chief of Staff  
U.S. Congressman Brendan Boyle (PA-13)  
1133 Longworth House Office Building  
202-225-6111

From: Reuter, Gayle [mailto:GReuter@mwe.com]  
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2018 11:22 AM  
To: McCarthy, John <John.McCarthy@mail.house.gov>; Maher, Daniel <Daniel.Maher@mail.house.gov>  
Subject: Lunch Invite on June 27th

Hi John,

I wanted to follow up. I believe Congressman Moran may have tried to call you but in case not, here are the details. He would like to invite Congressman Boyle to have lunch with the Foreign Minister of Qatar and few other Members on Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at noon. We currently have Rayburn 2255 reserved but may be moving it to a room in the Capitol. Could you let me know if by chance Congressman Boyle is available?

Thanks so much

Gayle

Gayle Reuter  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1981-2015  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017

McDermott Will & Emery LLP The McDermott Building 500 North Capitol Street, NW Washington, DC 20001-1531  
Tel +1 202 756 8746 Fax +1 202 756 8087

Website | vCard | Email | Twitter | LinkedIn | Blog

"This material is distributed by McDermott Will & Emery LLP on behalf of the State of Qatar. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC."

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.....

Please visit <http://www.mwe.com/> for more information about our Firm.

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13TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

www.crist.house.gov

327 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5961

686 1ST AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 203  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701  
(727) 318-6770

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0913

June 20, 2018

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

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SUBCOMMITTEES

SPACE

ENVIRONMENT

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

I am writing to inquire about the families impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. I am concerned that, because of the GCC blockade on Qatar, families of mixed nationalities are not being allowed to reunite, and that Saudi citizens currently in Qatar with their Qatari family members are at risk of losing Saudi citizenship.

Many people in Saudi Arabia over the last few decades immigrated to their neighbors for employment and educational opportunities, often starting multi-national families and placing down roots outside of Saudi Arabia. Because of increasing tensions in the region, some governments, including your own, suspended travel and ordered all Saudi citizens in Qatar to return home. Understandably, many Saudis in Qatar who did not abandon their duty to care for their families now fear they face a choice of losing citizenship or being present in the lives of their children.

Similarly, people sometimes work away from their children, leaving the children with their spouse to pursue job opportunities in other GCC countries and visiting home when they can. Separated families, with one spouse in Saudi Arabia and another in Qatar, face a future where it is uncertain if they will be able to see their children again.

As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one-year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the impact upon binational families.

Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,



Charlie Crist  
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

**From:** [Gayle Reuter](mailto:Gayle.Reuter@mcdermottwill.com)  
**To:** [glenn@china.gov](mailto:glenn@china.gov)  
**Subject:** Follow up from Congressman Moran  
**Date:** Friday, June 22, 2018 5:13:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [GUY\\_FARITL11030001.pdf](#)

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Hi Glenn

Congressman Moran asked that I follow up and send you details on next week's lunch. He is hoping that the Congresswoman will be able to have lunch with the Foreign Minister of Qatar and few other Members on Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at noon. We currently have Rayburn 2255 reserved but may be moving it to a room in the Capitol.

He also asked that I forward to you a letter that Congressman Crist sent out to use as a possible sample on what your office could send out.

Please let me know if you need any additional information and if you could you let me know if Congresswomen Sheila Jackson Lee will be able to attend the luncheon?

Thanks so much.

Gayle

**Gayle Reuter**  
Legislative Assistant to  
Congressman James P. Moran  
1981-2018  
&  
Congressman Jeff Miller  
2001-2017

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CHARLIE CRIST

13TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

www.crist.house.gov

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(202) 225-5961

696 1ST AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 203  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701  
(727) 318-6770

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0913

June 20, 2018

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND  
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SCIENCE, SPACE, AND  
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

SPACE

ENVIRONMENT

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

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Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,



Charlie Crist  
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

**From:** [Yarvitz, Rebecca L.](#)  
**To:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:29 AM  
**Attachments:** [Saudi Letter from C. Crist.docx](#)

---

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP The McDermott Building 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8365 : Fax +1 202 756 8087

[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Monday, June 18, 2018 5:32 PM  
**To:** [austin.durrer@mail.house.gov](mailto:austin.durrer@mail.house.gov)  
**Subject:** Updated Saudi Letter

Hi Austin,

Just one small edit to the Saudi letter- please see the highlighted word in the attached document.

Thank you,

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP The McDermott Building 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8365 : Fax +1 202 756 8087

[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

June 15, 2018

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

I am writing to inquire about two families who have been impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all of their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the impact upon binational families.

For example, I have been informed that Abdul-Aziz Saud Qassem Al-Junaid (NHRC file no. 18003, dated 6/14/2017) is a Saudi citizen in Qatar, where he lives with his Qatari wife and children. My understanding is that he could potentially lose his Saudi citizenship because he did not leave Doha last year.

Similarly, I was recently advised that Tiha Awili Qa'dan (NHRC file no. 17656, dated 6/12/2017) is a Qatari mother divorced from a Saudi citizen. But because their children live with the mother in Qatar, the father has been unable to visit the children since last year.

These are but two examples of what I understand are many families adversely affected by the blockade of the State of Qatar. I do understand that there is supposed to be an exception for families to this ban that has yet to be implemented.

Thank you in advance for clarifying the situation as it currently stands and perhaps suggesting ways in which it can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,



Charlie Crist  
US Representative

**From:** [Yarvitz, Rebecca L.](#)  
**To:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:55 AM  
**Attachments:** [Updated Saudi Letter from Meeks.docx](#)

---

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP · The McDermott Building · 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. · Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8365 · Fax +1 202 756 8087

[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Monday, June 18, 2018 5:46 PM  
**To:** [sophia.lafarge@mail.house.gov](mailto:sophia.lafarge@mail.house.gov)  
**Subject:** Updated Saudi Letter

Hi Sophia,

Attached please find an updated version of the letter to the Saudi Ambassador.

Thank you,

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP · The McDermott Building · 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. · Washington, DC 20001  
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June 15, 2018

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

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These are but two examples of what I understand are many families adversely affected by the blockade of the State of Qatar. I do understand that there is supposed to be an exception for families to this ban that has yet to be implemented.

Thank you in advance for clarifying the situation as it currently stands and perhaps suggesting ways in which it can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,

Gregory Meeks  
US Representative

**From:** [Yarvitz, Rebecca L.](#)  
**To:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [Saudi Letter from C. Crist.docx](#)

---

**Rebecca Yarvitz**  
Client Services Assistant

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[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Monday, June 18, 2018 3:09 PM  
**To:** [austin.durrer@mail.house.gov](mailto:austin.durrer@mail.house.gov)  
**Subject:** Updated Saudi Letter

Hi Austin,

Attached please find an updated version of the letter to the Saudi Ambassador.

Thank you,

**Rebecca Yarvitz**  
Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP · The McDermott Building · 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. · Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8365 · Fax +1 202 756 8087

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June 15, 2018

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

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I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist  
US Representative

**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**To:** Reuter, Gayle  
**Subject:** FW: Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:26 AM  
**Attachments:** Saudi Letter from C. Crist.docx

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**Rebecca Yarvitz**  
Client Services Assistant

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**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Friday, June 15, 2018 12:08 PM  
**To:** austin.durrer@mail.house.gov  
**Subject:** Saudi Letter

Good Afternoon Austin,

Attached please find a copy of the letter to the Saudi Ambassador. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you, and have a great weekend!

**Rebecca Yarvitz**  
Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP The McDermott Building 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8365 Fax +1 202 756 8087

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June 15, 2018

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

I am writing to inquire about two families who have been impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all of their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the impact upon binational families.

For example, I have been informed that Abdul-Aziz Saud Qassem Al-Junaid (NHRC file no. 18003, dated 6/14/2017) is a Saudi citizen in Qatar, where he lives with his Qatari wife and children. My understanding is that he could potentially lose his Saudi citizenship because he did not leave Doha last year.

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Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist  
US Representative

**From:** [Yarvitz, Rebecca L.](#)  
**To:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bahrain Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:30 AM  
**Attachments:** [Bahrain Letter from Connolly.docx](#)

---

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

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Tel +1 202 756 8365 Fax +1 202 756 8087

[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Friday, June 15, 2018 12:06 PM  
**To:** [molly.claire.cole@mail.house.gov](mailto:molly.claire.cole@mail.house.gov)  
**Subject:** Bahrain Letter

Good Afternoon Molly,

Attached please find a copy of the letter to the Bahraini Ambassador. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you, and have a great weekend!

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP The McDermott Building 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001  
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June 15, 2018

H.E. Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa  
Ambassador  
Bahrain Embassy  
3502 International Drive NW  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

I am writing to inquire about two families who have been impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all of their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the adverse impact upon binational families.

For example, an individual who has been identified in an international human rights report as Mrs. H.S. (she prefers that only her initials be used out of concern for her safety), is a resident of the State of Qatar but is married to a Bahraini citizen with a family in the Kingdom of Bahrain. After the severing of relations between the two countries, she is unable to go to Bahrain to meet with her family.

A second example is of Mr. Y. A. who is a Bahraini residing in Qatar with his family, including his young daughter who was born in Qatar. The Bahraini embassy in Qatar is closed and he is unable to return to his native country without leaving his family.

Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Bahrain relationship.

Sincerely,

Gerry Connolly  
US Representative

**From:** [Yarvitz, Rebecca L.](#)  
**To:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [Updated Saudi Letter from Keating.docx](#)

---

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP The McDermott Building : 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8365 Fax +1 202 756 8087

[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Monday, June 18, 2018 5:31 PM  
**To:** [gabrielle.gould@mail.house.gov](mailto:gabrielle.gould@mail.house.gov)  
**Subject:** Updated Saudi Letter

Hi Gabrielle,

Just one small edit to the Saudi letter- please see the highlighted word in the attached document.

Thank you,

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP The McDermott Building 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8365 Fax +1 202 756 8087

[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

June 15, 2018

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

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I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,

**William Keating**  
**US Representative**

**From:** [Yarvitz, Rebecca L.](#)  
**To:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [Updated Saudi Letter from Keating.docx](#)

---

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP · The McDermott Building · 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. · Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1 202 756 8365 · Fax +1 202 756 8087

[Website](#) | [vCard](#) | [Email](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Monday, June 18, 2018 3:11 PM  
**To:** [gabrielle.gould@mail.house.gov](mailto:gabrielle.gould@mail.house.gov)  
**Subject:** Updated Saudi Letter

Hi Gabrielle,

Attached please find an updated version of the letter to the Saudi Ambassador.

Thank you,

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

McDermott Will & Emery LLP · The McDermott Building · 500 North Capitol Street, N.W. · Washington, DC 20001  
Tel +1.202 756 8365 · Fax +1 202 756 8087

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June 15, 2018

H.R.H. Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz  
Ambassador  
Royal Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

I am writing to inquire about two families who have been impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all of their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the impact upon binational families.

For example, I have been informed that Abdul-Aziz Saud Qassem Al-Junaid (NHRC file no. 18003, dated 6/14/2017) is a Saudi citizen in Qatar, where he lives with his Qatari wife and children. My understanding is that he could potentially lose his Saudi citizenship because he did not leave Doha last year.

Similarly, I was recently advised that Tiha Awili Qa'dan (NHRC file no. 17656, dated 6/12/2017) is a Qatari mother divorced from a Saudi citizen. But because their children live with the mother in Qatar, the father has been unable to visit the children since last year.

These are but two examples of what I understand are many families adversely affected by the boycott of the State of Qatar. I do understand that there is supposed to be an exception for families to this ban that has yet to be implemented.

Thank you in advance for clarifying the situation as it currently stands and perhaps suggesting ways in which it can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,

William Keating  
US Representative

**From:** [Yarvitz, Rebecca L.](#)  
**To:** [Reuter, Gayle](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Saudi Letter  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:53 AM  
**Attachments:** [Saudi Letter from Keating.docx](#)

---

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

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**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Friday, June 15, 2018 12:10 PM  
**To:** [gabrielle.gould@mail.house.gov](mailto:gabrielle.gould@mail.house.gov)  
**Subject:** Saudi Letter

Good Afternoon Gabrielle,

Attached please find a copy of the letter to the Saudi Ambassador. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you, and have a great weekend!

**Rebecca Yarvitz**

Client Services Assistant

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Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Saudi Arabia relationship.

Sincerely,

William Keating  
US Representative

**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**To:** Reuter, Gayle  
**Subject:** FW: NHRC Report- Qatar  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:29:54 AM  
**Attachments:** Bahrain Letter from Bever.docx  
NHRC Fifth General Report.pdf

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**From:** Yarvitz, Rebecca L.  
**Sent:** Friday, June 15, 2018 11:35 AM  
**To:** zach.cafritz@mail.house.gov  
**Subject:** NHRC Report- Qatar

Good Morning Zach,

Attached please find a copy of the NHRC Fifth General Report on human rights violations resulting from the blockade of Qatar, as well as a draft of the letter to the Bahraini ambassador.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks, and have a great weekend!

**Rebecca Yarvitz**  
Client Services Assistant

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# Fifth General Report Continuation of human rights violations

A year of the blockade  
imposed on Qatar

Doha, Qatar, June 2018



This material is controlled by Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar.  
Additional information is available at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC.

Fifth General Report

Contribution of human rights violations

**A year of the blockade  
imposed on Qatar**

Doha - Qatar 2018



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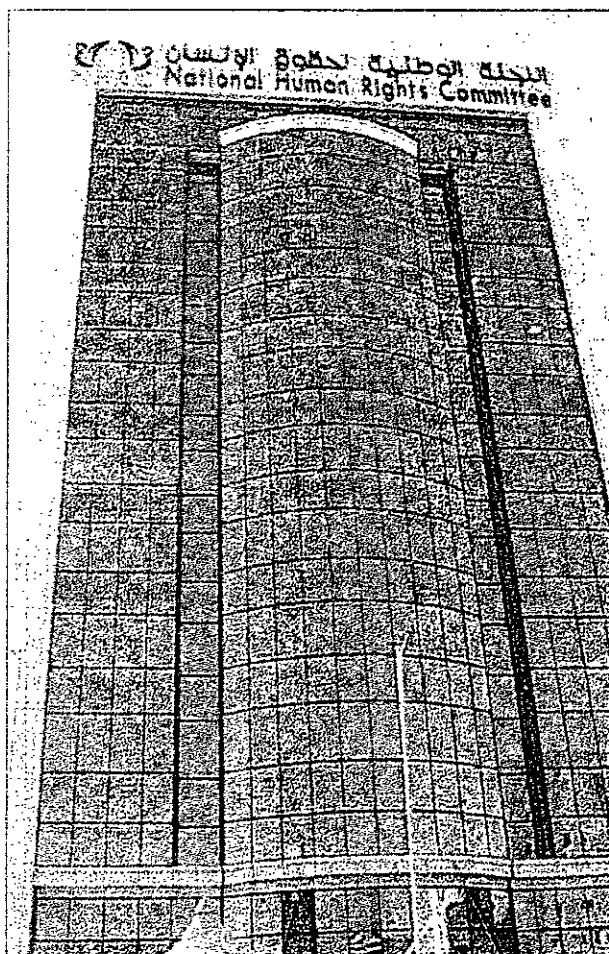
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## First: The NHRC, An Overview

The National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) in Qatar is one of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) established in accordance with the Paris Principles adopted by the UN General Assembly. These institutions become members of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) after being accredited by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) of the GANHRI, under the supervision of the National Institutions, Regional Mechanisms and Civil Society Division (NRCS) of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The NHRC was established in 2002 and was



mandated to protect and promote human rights as defined by the Paris Principles. The Committee has held status (A) accreditation since 2010, which is the top rating accredited to a national institution, demonstrating a high level of credibility, independence and compliance with the Paris Principles.

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## Second: Introduction

On June 5th, 2017, three Gulf countries - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the Kingdom of Bahrain - in addition to the Arab Republic of Egypt cut diplomatic relations with the State of Qatar. Their joint action occurred without any legal or factual justifications, and without producing evidence of proof of their allegations against the State of Qatar. Their decisions however, did not suffice at the political and diplomatic level, but rather continued to adopt a series of arbitrary measures by the three Gulf States (hereafter referred to as blockading countries). Their decisions included the closure of sea, land and air routes to trade and residents of Qatar. Moreover, they demanded Qatari citizens and residents leave their territories within fourteen days, and for their citizens to leave Qatar within the same deadline. That decision was undertaken with complete disregard of all the repercussions and legal, human rights and humanitarian consequences, constituting a series of grave violations to human rights. In its turn, the Government of Qatar has not taken any reciprocal measures against citizens of KSA, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt working in Qatar. These violations have continued for the entirety of the year, and have advanced into arbitrary detention and forced disappearances of some Qataris.

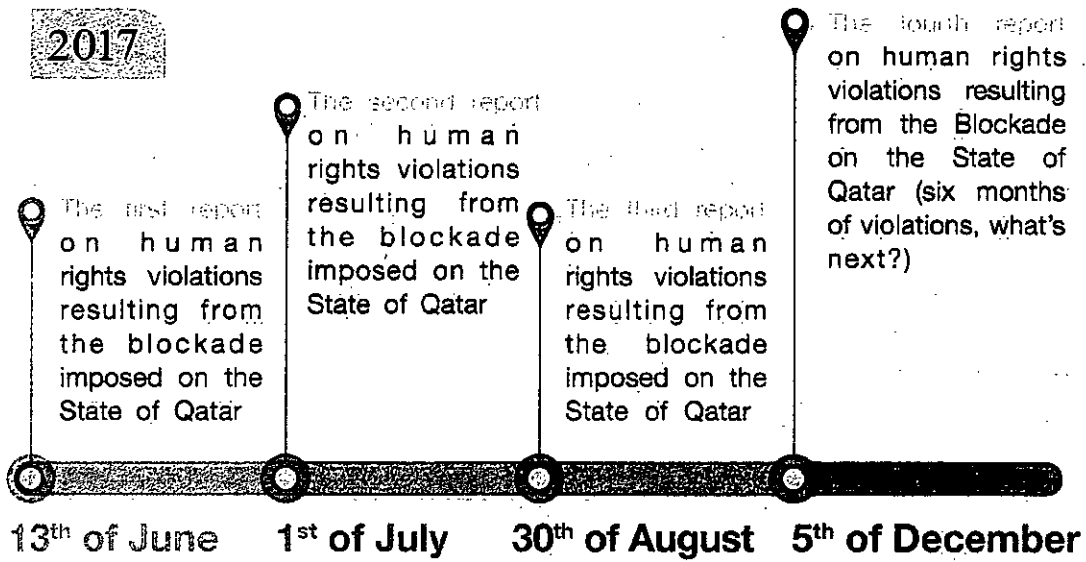
This report includes cases of violations received by the NHRC, and those documented by the Committee, bringing the total number of documented violations to the tens of thousands, and increasing. To date, complaints are still being received by the NHRC and the Compensation Claims Committee (CCC).

This marks the fifth report issued by the NHRC to document these violations on the occasion of the passage of a full year of the blockade. As per its mandate, the NHRC prepared routine reports on violations to human rights in Qatar as a result of the blockade, which are as follows:

After a year of  
the blockade, the  
NHRC reported  
4105 violations

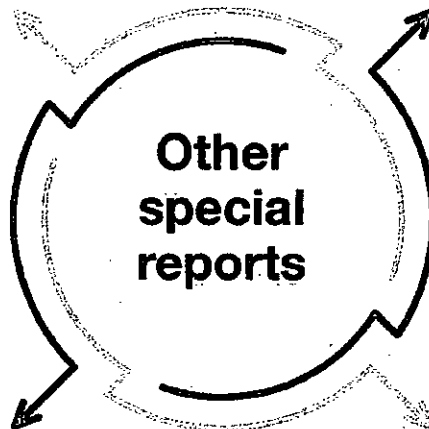
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13<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017  
 Report on violation of the  
 right to health, education

30<sup>th</sup> of August, 2017  
 Report on violation of the  
 right to private property



3<sup>rd</sup> of September, 2017  
 Report on violation of the  
 right to have access to  
 food and medicine

5<sup>th</sup> of September, 2017  
 Report on violation of the  
 right to education

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The Committee has worked since the beginning of the blockade to counter the violations to the rights of individuals, reduce their negative impact on human rights, and seek redress and compensation for victims of these violations. We have both hosted and been received by several international organizations and human rights bodies such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and UN missions, as well as parliamentary delegations - including the Greek, British, Italian, Canadian, German and European parliament, and the Tom Lantos Committee in the U.S. Congress.

The report addresses testimonies made by victims whose basic rights have been violated by the authorities of the three Blockading countries, and includes outlines and details of the violations to which they are exposed to. We also refer to urgent appeals from six United Nations Special Rapporteurs to the KSA, the UAE and Bahrain regarding the human rights violations towards Qatari nationals in the blockading countries as well as the citizens of these States residing in Qatar, that have resulted from the severing of diplomatic ties with Qatar - in particular, the right to family reunification, education, employment, movement and residence, private property, freedom of expression and health care. This is in addition to the urgent appeal by the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief directed at the KSA to ensure Qatari citizens and residents are able exercise their right to religious practice without discrimination <sup>(1)</sup>.

The NHRC will continue to update this basic report as long as the blockade continues, and the flow of complaints from victims continue to be submitted.

(1) Mr. Felipe Gonzalez Mordco, The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Mr. David Kay - the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Dainius P. rus. The Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, M. Mutuma Ruteere, Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, Ms. Fianuala Ni Aolain, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism, Mme Koumbou Boly Barry, Special Rapporteur on the right to education, Mr. Ahmed Shaheed

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## Third: Executive Summary

This report is issued on the occasion of the first anniversary of the blockade on the State of Qatar. It documents the human rights violations that have been committed following the decision of the three Gulf States of Saudi Arabia, the Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates, as well as Egypt, to sever diplomatic ties with the State of Qatar on the 5th of June 2017. The report describes the relevant legal aspects, conclusions and recommendations to all parties concerned.

Thousands of families have been exposed to dispersal due to the closure of crossings and borders and banning direct flights and preventing Qataris from entering these countries and their citizens from entering Qatar. Part IV of the present report includes violations relating to dispersion of families, especially women, children and persons with disabilities. This is in addition to violations of the right to education, work, health and property, movement, and litigation and the right to perform religious rites, and incitement to violence, hatred and violation of freedom of opinion and expression.

These arbitrary decisions soon resulted in the denial of students from completing their education from universities in the blockading countries, preventing individuals from completing and receiving their treatment in hospitals there, in addition to material losses incurred by owners of property, which resulted from their inability to access and dispose of their property. This is in addition to the use of religious and media discourse to disseminate a culture of hatred and violence, which led to that Qatari citizens being assaulted. They have been subjected to cruel and degrading treatment by authorities in the blockading countries, and recently these violations have escalated into arbitrary detention and enforced disappearances since Saudi authorities arrested Qataris in violation of all international covenants and norms of international human rights instruments.

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This report documents information referred to in testimonies of victims and those affected by the blockade. It further points to recognition by the blockading countries of the occurrence of these violations through the formation of committees to address the humanitarian cases of mixed families and other statements - however according to international organisations and reports despite the formation of these alleged committees and the allocation of telephone numbers to receive communications, this procedure has been deemed highly ineffective.

The report of the technical mission of the OHCHR on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights concludes that the unilateral measures, consisting of severe restrictions of movement, termination and disruption of trade, financial and investment flows, as well as suspension of social and cultural exchanges imposed on the State of Qatar, immediately translated into actions applying to nationals and residents of Qatar, including citizens of KSA, UAE and Bahrain. Their report also examines the considerable economic impact of the crisis deeming it equitable to that of economic warfare with the erosion of investor confidence and significant financial losses for the State, companies and individuals.

Several reports by Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have highlighted the negative effects on families, the right to education, the right to health care, the right to freedom of worship and exercising of religious rites, and the impact of the blockade on non-Gulf migrant workers, particularly those coming from South Asia. Amnesty International describes the conditions imposed on people as in total disregard for human dignity.

Part V of the present report constitutes the legal description of the violations committed in accordance to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, as well as the Arab Charter on Human Rights Human rights, the Declaration on the Human Rights of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the economic agreement amongst GCC countries and other international human rights conventions. This is in addition to the violation of the Chicago Convention of Qatari civil aviation without any military necessity or reasons related to public security.

Part VI refers to the findings of the report, the most prominent of which is the continued suffering of individuals, that the measures taken constitute as discriminatory collective punishment against individuals, and describes the failure of the blockading countries to stop violations and damages suffered by those affected.

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The technical mission report of the OHCHR reveals the volume of violations of human rights caused by the blockade, as well as the necessity of the responsiveness of international mechanisms and organizations and their engagement to protect and promote human rights. This is while noting the disappointing failure of all regional mechanisms meant to protect human rights, including the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf and the Arab Parliament from carrying out their role in lifting violations.

The report concludes in Part VII with recommendations to all parties concerned, primarily to the International Community, demanding urgent action to lift the blockade and exert all possible efforts to mitigate its repercussions on the people of Qatar, citizens of the blockading countries and all those impacted. It demands that the Kuwaiti mediation works to alleviate the suffering of the victims and resolve the human rights situation, and from the civil society organizations in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries to intensify efforts and joint cooperation to resolve the repercussions of the crisis on the humanitarian situation. Eight recommendations are presented to the United Nations to take serious steps that would obligate the blockading countries to reverse their arbitrary decisions. Furthermore, four recommendations are outlined for the Human Rights Council, including the establishment of a fact-finding commission, direct interviews with victims and mechanism for compensation. In the same context, the report presents recommendations to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the blockading countries urging that they stop leveraging the humanitarian and social situation to advance their political objectives, in violation of international human rights law. This is in addition to allowing access to the technical mission of the OHCHR and visits by special rapporteurs and international human rights organizations, to examine the effects of the measures taken on the citizens of those States and on the citizens and residents Qatar.

The last recommendations in this report are made to the Qatari government, including continuing to call for recourse to the International Court of Justice, arbitration committees and national and international specialized courts, and the need to bring to justice some of the perpetrators of incitement, hate speech and calls for violence and racial discrimination. In addition to inviting the Compensation Claims Committee to continue litigation and international arbitration procedures in order to redress, compensate and indemnify victims.

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Qatar has not reciprocated with any measures or actions against the countries of the blockade.

Ernest Will & Eric ... of Qatar  
... of the Department ... Washington, DC

## Fourth: The most serious violations

The following table shows the violations reported by the National Human Rights Committee, amounting to (4105) cases, distributed according to violating country and type of violation. The table includes violations against the citizens of the blockading countries in addition to the Qatari citizens and residents:

Violating State	Education	Property	Family Reunification	Movement	Health Care	The practice of religious rites	Work	Residence	Degrading treatment	Arbitrary arrest, detention	The obtaining of official documents	Enforced disappearance	Total
Qatar	66	697	346	770	19	165	67	57	1	1	4	1	2194
Ukraine	148	458	82	348	4	-	6	4	-	2	-	-	1052
Russia	28	55	218	129	14	-	37	32	-	-	1	-	514
Iran	271	24	-	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	337
diverse	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>1234</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>1297</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4105</b>

Table (1) All Violations

### Violations reported by the National Human Rights Committee, amounting to (4105) cases

Table number (1) shows the latest statistics for violations made against the State of Qatar since the beginning of the blockade, on the 5th of June 2017 until 23 May 2018. The violations include 513 cases of violation of the right to education, 1234 cases violation of the right to property, 646 cases violation of the right to family reunification, 1297 violation of the right to movement. This is in addition to 37 violations of the right to health care, 165 violations of the right to practice religious rites, 110 violations of the right to work, 93 violations of the right to residence, 1 case of degrading treatment, 3 violations of arbitrary detention, 5 violations of the right to obtain official documents, 1 violation of Enforced Disappearances, which totals to (4105) violations.

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## A: Violation of the right to family reunification

Table (2) shows the number of violations of the right to family reunification since the beginning of the blockade, 5th of June 2017 until 23rd of May 2018, stands at 646 violations (346 from the KSA, 82 from the UAE, 218 from Bahrain).

Measures taken by the blockading countries have not been confined to diplomatic, legal and economic levels, but rather gone beyond that to the severing of relations by preventing the movement of mixed families through placing obstacles to the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar. The demand by the blockading countries that Qatari citizens leave their territories, as well as their citizens leave Qatar created inhumane conditions in flagrant violation of international human rights conventions. This occurred through the forced deportation of families and their dispersion, not stopping at separating children from their parents. The violation of this right has upset the lives of thousands of family members, especially women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and the denial of mothers and fathers to stay with their children.

This violation is one of the most atrocious because it affects and threatens the family unit, disperses it, and threatens the most vulnerable groups in society (women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly) in a alarming manner, causing serious psychological and social implications on broad segments of society.

The formation of committees to handle the humanitarian situations of the mixed families, is in itself a recognition by the authorities of the blocking countries that there are violations that have already affected these families. Despite the formation of these alleged committees and allocation of phone numbers to receive communications, according to the many complaints of the victims and of the statement of the OHCHR on 14 June 2017, this procedure has not been effective enough to deal with all cases.





Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
						
May 23, 2018	The right to family reunification	346	82	218	---	646

Table (2) Violation of the Right to Family Reunification

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The high commissioner, prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein, commenting on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on Human Rights on the 14th of June 2017 assured that, «The majority of the measures were broad and non-targeted, making no distinction between the Government of Qatar and its population,” and that the directives issued to address the humanitarian needs of families with joint nationalities, appear “not sufficiently effective to address all cases.” Pursuantly the OHCHR technical mission on the Gulf Crisis’ report on January 8th 2018, noted that according to information received by the team, individuals from Qatar working in KSA, UAE and Bahrain, and / or with business interests in these countries, were forced to return to Qatar, reportedly with no access to their companies and other sources of activity and income since the outbreak of the crisis <sup>(2)</sup>.

On June 9, 2017, Amnesty International condemned the violations resulting from the Blockade imposed on the State of Qatar, and stated that The organization’s researchers have interviewed dozens of people whose human rights have been affected by a series of sweeping measures imposed in an arbitrary manner by the three Gulf countries in their dispute with Qatar”, and that “For potentially thousands of people across the Gulf, the effect of the steps imposed in the wake of this political dispute is suffering, heartbreak and fear,” Stressing that the conditions imposed on people across the Gulf reveal an absolute contempt for human dignity. The Organization described these states as manipulating the lives of thousands of residents in the Gulf, dispersing families, destroying the livelihood of the people and their educational future. Moreover, the effects of the steps which are imposed in the wake of the outbreak of the political conflict have reached heart-rending and shocking limits <sup>(3)</sup>.

In June 12, 2017, Amnesty International confirmed that the measures taken by the three countries (Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain) were vague, inadequate, lacked mechanisms and did not address the human rights situation.

Moreover, Amnesty International confirmed on June 19, 2017 that “Amnesty International has spoken to a number of people who tried to call these hot lines. Their experiences raise serious questions about whether these hot lines are providing effective advice or information.. Several people said they had tried in vain for hours or days to get through to the hot lines. Those who got through said officials asked them for minimal details about their cases and told them they would receive a call back, but there had been no follow-up. Amnesty International has rung the hot lines and asked how cases registered were being dealt with,

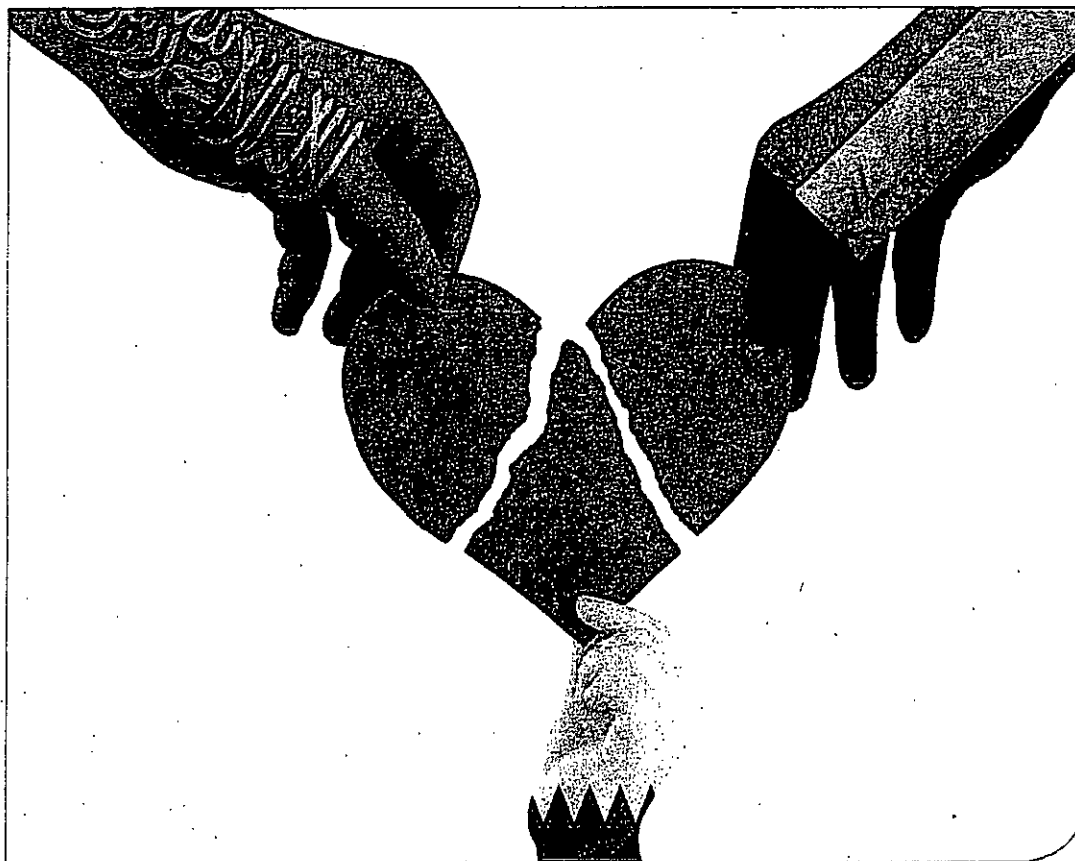
(2) <http://www.ohchr.org> This material is distributed by McDermott Will & Emery LLP on behalf of the State of Qatar.

(3) <https://www.amnesty.org> Additional information is available at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC.

but officials were not able to provide any information. Some affected families have told Amnesty International that they are too scared to call hot lines and register their presence, or their family's presence, in a "rival" country for fear of reprisal <sup>(4)</sup>.

In July 13, 2017, Human Rights Watch reported that "in response to reports of family separations, the countries of the blockade, including Bahrain announced that they would grant exceptions for "humanitarian cases of mixed families" for travel back and forth from Qatar and each country established hotlines. Yet, of the 12 Gulf nationals who said they tried to contact these hotlines, only two managed to get permission to go back and forth. Others said that they did not call because they worried that the three countries would use the hotlines to discover the identities of citizens who remained in Qatar <sup>(5)</sup>.

Saudi authorities have opened the border crossing between the State of Qatar at the beginning of the crisis in a narrow and limited manner to humanitarian situations, and without clear criteria. Saudi authorities, however, have later closed the crossing completely as of 19/12/2017 until now, and have not allowed any entry or exit of humanitarian cases. It should be noted that road travel is of priority for low-income families and the elderly who constitute the most affected categories by the closure of the crossing.



(4) <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2017/08/gulf-qatar-dispute-human-dignity-trampled-and-families-facing-uncertainty-as-pincer-deadline-narrows/>  
(5) <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/07/13/qatar-blockade>

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In the same context, the report of the technical mission of the OHCHR in Qatar (17-24 November 2017) on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 8/1/2018 confirms the gross violations towards mixed families and that most of the cases affected by the current situation remain unresolved. It is likely that the impact of the current crisis will continue for those victims, in particular those who suffer from the family separation and division.

The AFD International Organization has considered that the blockade violates international law and regional and international conventions, charters and the Charter of the United Nations. The report issued on July 25 by the organization pointed out that the step of the blockade is not devoid of humanitarian consequences in the region that is characterized by historical, geographical, cultural, familial ties and links, which have reflected negatively on the citizens. The organization emphasized its concern about those practices in reports condemning what citizens and residents of Qatar have been exposed to whether physically or psychologically, which have affected all the citizens of the countries of the Blockade.

**The NHRC has documented complaints of violations of the right to family reunification, and the prohibition of their reunification. These include:**



**Ms. (T. A.), a Qatari:**

Divorced from a citizen of Saudi nationality and have children of Saudi nationality in her custody. He is a resident of the State of Qatar, and since the beginning of the blockade and the closure of the land border by Saudi authorities, the father's visits have been cut off to his sons living with their mother. This is in addition to the psychological effects of depriving the children from their father.



**Ms. (R. K.), a Qatari:**

Married to a citizen of the UAE nationality (R. M.) and have an Emirati daughter born in the State of Qatar. She resides permanently in Qatar while her husband works in the UAE. Since the beginning of the blockade, the father has been prevented from visiting his family. She added that she has not been able to send her daughter to see her father in the UAE because she cannot guarantee her return to the State of Qatar.



**Ms. (D. S.), a Qatari:**

Is married to a Bahraini citizen (S. A.) and has 3 children. Since the start of the blockade on the state of Qatar, the father's visits to his sons have ceased as well as all ways of communicating with him. She added that she has found it difficult to renew her children's travel documents after the closure of the Bahraini Embassy in the State of Qatar. Furthermore, she has been banned from entering the Kingdom of Bahrain by the Bahraini authorities which hinders her children from continuing their education as well as exposed them to psychological effects due to depriving them of their father.

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## B: Violation of the right to education

Table (3) shows the number of violations of the right to education since the beginning of the blockade on the 5th of June 2017 until 23rd of May 2018. 513 violations have occurred (66 by the KSA, 148 by the UAE, 28 by the Kingdom of Bahrain, 271 by the Arab Republic of Egypt). The NHRC received complaints from Qatari students studying in the blockading countries. Following the imposition of the Blockade on the state of Qatar, authorities in these states forced the students to leave their territories and they found themselves suddenly deprived of their studies. They have been prevented from attending their final exams, although some of them have only one month remaining until graduation. Moreover, the blockading countries forced their students who are studying in Qatar University to return to their country within 14 days from the date of the announcement of the severing of relations. They also prevented these students from the completion of their studies. Universities in the blockading countries also refused to cooperate with expelled Qatari students according to testimonies documented by the NHRC. There have been no response to any requirement that would facilitate for Qatari students to complete their studies or to even be reimbursed the fees they have paid or to recover their academic documents and transcripts.

Qatari students studying in the Arab republic of Egypt faced difficulties at the beginning of the school year 2017/2018 in obtaining the necessary security clearance to obtain the necessary visa to complete their studies. This resulted in their failure to attend regularly and as such those constraints caused these students to miss the term's examination during the months of September and October 2017. Building on the efforts of the NHRC, through its communication with the head of the Egyptian National Council for Human Rights in this regard, it has urged the Egyptian authorities to lift the procedures that hindered the regularity of students attending their classes. The Egyptian authorities have issued new instructions to grant Qatari students a visa and cancel the previously requested security clearance.

Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
May 23, 2018	The right to education	66	148	28	271	513

Table (3) Violation of the Right to Education

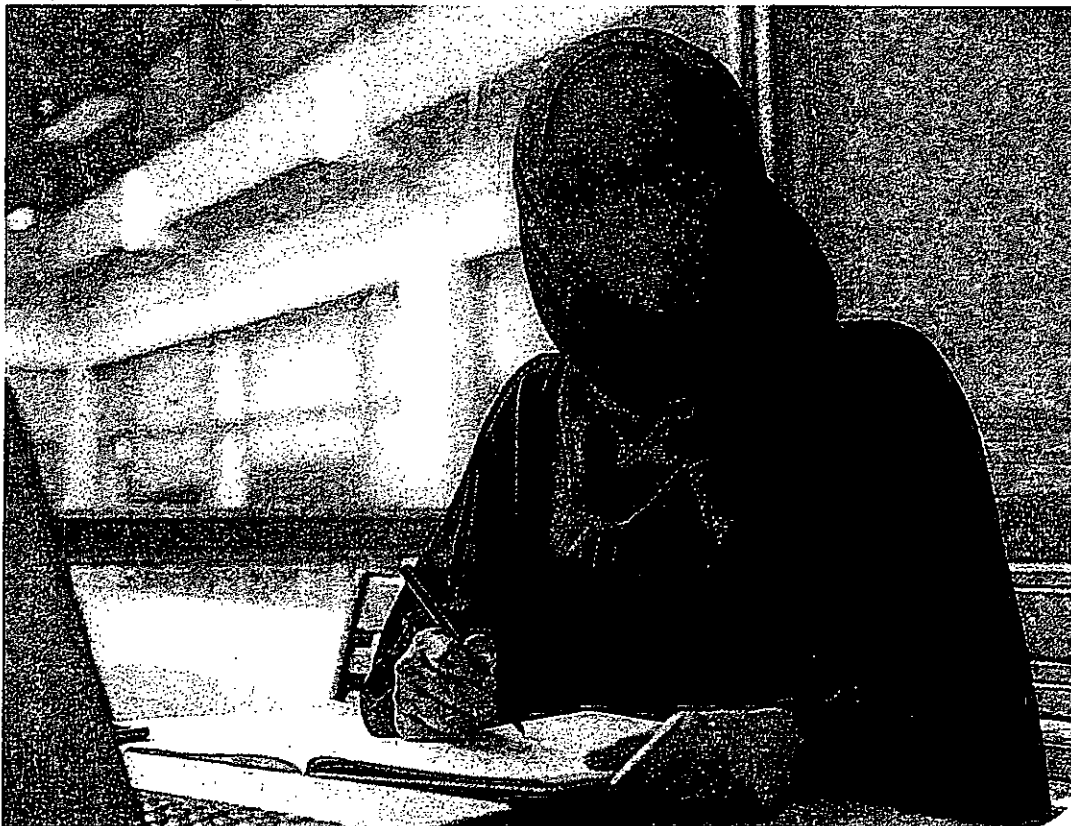
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The report of the Technical Mission of the OHCHR issued on 8/1/2018 states that the expulsion of Qatari students studying in the UAE, KSA, Bahrain and Egypt have a negative effect on their right to education as Qatari students who are prevented from continuing their studies or passing their examinations.

Amnesty International confirmed in its previous reports that it has met with several Qatari students who are concerned that they will not be able to complete their education in the blockading countries. In the same context, Human Rights Watch's report mentions the violations to the right to education as a result of the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar by the countries of the Blockade.

Orders have been issued to Qatari students in the blockading countries to return immediately to the State of Qatar. The report of the technical mission of the OHCHR states that in most cases these orders have been issued by the university administration. The report of the technical mission reviewed the efforts of Qatar University and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in seeking quick and proper solutions by providing alternatives to the affected students in order to ensure their future.



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**The NHRC has documented complaints of violations of the right to education by the countries of the Blockade, including:**



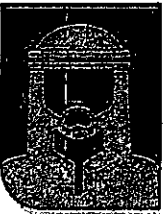
**Ms. (B. M.), a Qatari:**

Receives her education at King Faisal University in Al Ahsa in the KSA. She has successfully passed 85 out of 132 credit hours earned according to the study plan approved by the University according to specialization. She has also paid the outstanding tuition fees. Only 47 credit hours are remaining for graduation, After the Saudi authorities have cut ties with the State of Qatar and closed the land port, she has been unable to complete her education.



**Mr. (G. H), a Qatari:**

Expressed his disappointment to the NHRC for the violation to which he was subjected: «I receive education at my own expenses at the University of Al-Jazira in the UAE in law. I have passed 99 credit hours of study, equivalent to three university years. At the beginning of the blockade, I have been able to return to Qatar and only one year is left for me to complete my studies. I have not been able to accredit the list of subjects that have been received from the university due to the prohibition of dealing with Qataris because of the Blockade and preventing them from entering the UAE. I have also sent an e-mail on 9/8/2017 to the university about the possibility of completing my studies and requesting solutions so that I can continue to receive my education but without a response, which caused me psychological and material damage».



**Mr. (H. P.), a Qatari:**

Is an M.A. student at the University of Applied Sciences in the Kingdom of Bahrain and has only two subjects left to graduate and submit a research message. Following the Bahraini authorities' decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, he was unable to complete the exams and attend lectures scheduled for the remaining subjects, which badly affected his educational process.

المعلومات الشخصية

بحث

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Qatari

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**C: Violation of the right to work**

Table (4) shows the number of violations of the right to education since the beginning of the blockade on the 5th of June 2017 until 23rd of May 2018. 110 violations have been reported (67 by KSA, 6 by the UAE and 37 by Bahrain).

The violations committed by the countries of the Blockade have further extended to deprivation of the right to work, which is one of the most important and fundamental economic and social rights. The business sector has been badly affected by the intertwining of commercial interests and employment. Arbitrary decisions made by the blockading countries resulted in hundreds of unemployed people losing their jobs and businesses. The damage to their livelihoods and their families has been alarming, and the repercussions on the sector continue to fall. There has been serious disruption to the lives of those living off the transport profession between the Gulf States, since none of the blockading countries attempted to compensate or find alternatives for them.

Additionally, a significant number of citizens employed in public, private or government companies in the blockading countries were cut off their source of income, rendering many unemployed without any compensation. Furthermore, a large number of citizens of the blockading countries, the owners of companies in Qatar as well as Qatari investors in the Blockading countries has been forced to close their companies and return to their homeland due to the fear of arbitrary punitive measures imposed by the authorities of the blockading countries against everyone. This caused these investors, traders and businessmen immense losses and physical and psychological damage, and the displacement of labor that has been working in their companies and cutting off of their livelihoods.

The report of the Technical Mission of the OHCHR in the State of Qatar (17-24 November 2017) on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 8/1/2018 indicates that the measures and restrictions imposed by the authorities of the blockading countries constitutes collective punishment against Qatari nationals and residents of the State of Qatar or the countries of the blockade and have permanent effects and consequences of denial of the right to work and to those who have business interests.

Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
May 23, 2018	Right to Work	67	6	37	—	110

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The report also confirms that most of the cases affected by the current situation remain unresolved. The impact of the current crisis is likely to continue for these victims, in particular those who have suffered loss of their jobs, family separation or those who cannot have access to their assets and property.

Since the beginning of the Gulf crisis, authorities of the blockading countries have issued explicit instructions to their nationals, residents in the State of Qatar to leave their jobs and return to their countries, or be subjected to arbitrary punitive measures, which led many of them to submit to the NHRC of Qatar petitions requesting assistance.

Human Rights Watch pointed out in its previous report that «Hundreds of Saudis, Bahrainis, and Emiratis have been forced into the impossible situation of either disregarding their countries' orders or leaving behind their families and jobs.»

In the same context, the report of Amnesty International on its second visit to the State of Qatar on 28 November 2017, stresses that the sudden restrictions imposed by the countries of the Blockade on the State of Qatar since 5 June 2017 led to serious negative effects on human rights, including the threat directed to maintaining jobs.



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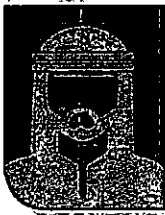


**The NHRC documented complaints of violations of the right to work committed by the countries of the Blockade. These include:**



**Ms. (F. A.), a Saudi:**

Residing and working in the State of Qatar since 2007 as an assistant football coach of Qatari Womens Sport Committee. She received instructions from the Saudi authorities to leave her job and return to the KSA or otherwise be exposed to punitive procedures.



**Mr. (Y. A.), a Bahraini:**

Residing in the State of Qatar for 10 years with his family and his wife, who works in the Ministry of Health in Qatar. He has a daughter who was born in Qatar and he is unable to get a traffic ticket due to the fact that the Bahraini embassy is closed in Doha and he cannot return to Bahrain because of the Gulf crisis and decisions issued from his country leaving his family, wife and job.



**Ms. (H. A.) an Emirati:**

Resident of the State of Qatar and her mother and father are of Qatari and Emirati nationalities respectively. She is studying in Qatar and due to the Gulf crisis a decision was taken to instruct all UAE citizens to return to their country. She however, have not done so which would cause her and her mother much harm.

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**D: the violation of the right to property**

Table (5) shows the number of violations of the right to property since the beginning of the blockade on the 5th of June 2017 until 23rd of May 2018. There have been 1234 violations (697 violations by KSA, 458 by UAE, 55 by Bahrain and 24 by Egypt).

It is well known that there is a great deal of overlapping and intertwining between the Gulf States because of tribal and familial ties between, and the many reciprocal concessions granted to the citizens of these States in the field of private property and commercial and economic activities within the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council. Thousands of citizens of Gulf States have homes, factories, commercial companies and other properties in each other's countries. The extent of the damage inflicted on Qataris and other citizens of the Gulf countries is a result of arbitrary measures and decisions that violated all human rights norms and charters.

The sudden blockade resulted in heavy losses of property for thousands of people. Their livelihoods were cut off, destroyed, and their money/property lost because they were unable to travel to them. All those who have been prevented from traveling have been unable to use or dispose of their property.

For example, according to the NHRC complaints:

Hundreds of Qataris have been prevented from traveling to the KSA to retrieve their camels and livestock, many of which have been lost or passed away.

Another example, especially from the UAE, is the loss of real-estate property purchased by instalments in the form of land, buildings or apartments, because Qataris have been prevented from traveling to the territory of the blockading countries or from transferring money. This is in addition to freezing their assets which have led to the cessation of the process of withdrawal of cheques. If this continues, it may cause the loss of the property in full, and the loss of money paid, and may lead to legal proceeding being brought against the owner for failure to pay the monthly instalments.

Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
May 23, 2018	Right to Property	697	458	55	24	1234

**Table (5) Violation of the Right to Property**

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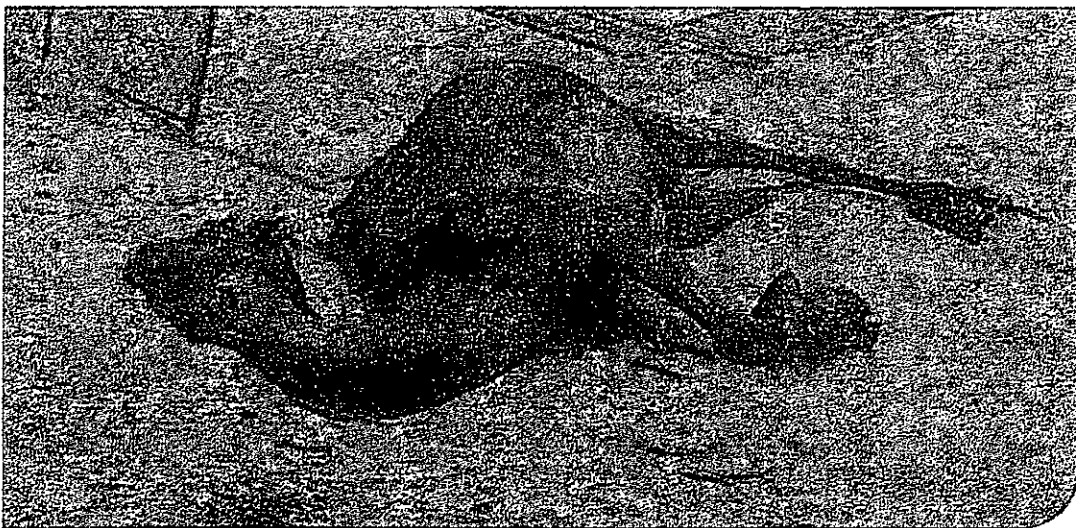
In addition to the above, the financial and postal remittances of any citizen or residents of Qatar have been blocked, closing the door on cases of recovery of material losses.

Moreover, forcing the citizens of the blockading countries to leave the State of Qatar - or else they would be subjected to harsh punitive measures from their countries - caused many to close their companies and leave their private property in the State of Qatar, exposing them and their workers and clients to financial losses.

All these violations indicate that the blockading countries deliberately violated fundamental rights and freedoms, including the right to private property, and intended to do so since the very first moment. This is further reinforced by the fact that no action has been taken to alleviate those grave consequences to which its citizens, and the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar are exposed.

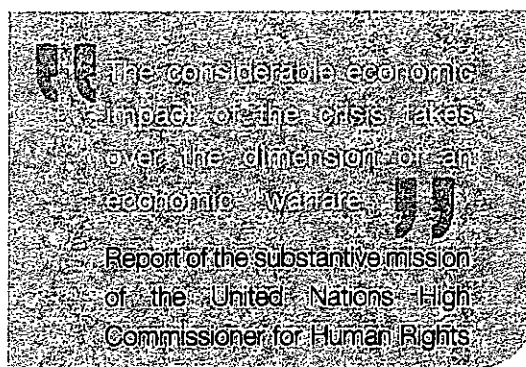
Furthermore, the right to litigation has also been violated through denying Qataris access to legal ramifications for the denial of accessing and tending to their property. All those who own property and businesses because of their previous businesses or inheritance have been prevented from completing litigation proceedings or completing the proceedings of previous cases that were raised.

In a comment made by the high commissioner on the impact of the blockade on human rights on 14 June 2017, he confirmed that the measures taken by the quartet against Qatar are too broad in its scale. He also noted that the OHCHR received reports that individuals have already received brief instructions to leave the country in which they reside or their governments have directed orders to them to return to their homeland. Among those affected are persons who have businesses or companies based in countries different from those they come from<sup>(6)</sup>.



(6) <http://www.ohchr.org>. This material is distributed by McDermott Will & Emery LLP on behalf of the State of Qatar. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC.

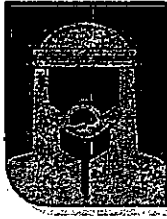
The report of the Technical Mission of the OHCHR in the State of Qatar 17-24 November 2017 on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 8/1/2018 confirms that the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar by the Saudi and other authorities has a negative impact on economic rights and the right to property. It also mentions that Qataris who have commercial interests in the blockading countries have been forced to return to Qatar and have reportedly not been able to have access to their companies and activities since the start of the current Gulf crisis. Furthermore, the suspension of remittances between the State of Qatar and the countries of the Blockade has prevented the transfer of salaries, rents and the amounts resulting from outstanding invoices. This is as well as the absence of any formal mechanism available to move forward to claim their entitlements or their money and managing their assets. As a logical consequence of what has happened all means of legal cooperation has been suspended such as, for example, concluding and executing official agencies. The report stressed that the team conducted interviews with some of the claimants, mostly Qatari nationals who have property in the countries of the blockade, particularly commercial entities. They confirmed that financial transactions between Qatar and the countries of the blockade, had been suspended. They also highlighted the absence of any formal and available litigation mechanism to claim and/or manage their assets. Indeed, legal cooperation has been suspended, including power of attorney. The report also concluded that the team found that the unilateral measures, consisting of severe restrictions of movement, termination and disruption of trade, financial and investment flows, as well as suspension of social and cultural exchanges imposed on the State of Qatar, had immediately translated into actions applying to nationals and residents of Qatar, including citizens of the countries of the blockade. Many of these measures have a potentially durable effect on the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of those affected. As there is no evidence of any legal decisions motivating these various measures and due to the lack of any legal recourse for most individuals concerned, these measures can be considered as arbitrary, and stating that the economic impact of the current crisis is similar to that of economic wars.



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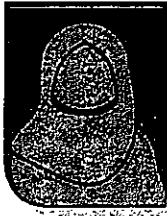


**The NHRC has documented complaints of violations of the right to property by the countries of the Blockade, including:**



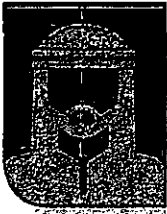
**Mr. (F. S), a Qatari:**

Has a license from the KSA to import 16 horses exported from Doha from the Qatari Equestrian Club. He accompanied these horses to the stable set in the area of Al Ahsa. He was, blindsided by the blockade and closure of transport via all venues - land, air and sea. This led to the loss of his horses amounting to the value of approximately 28,000,000 (Twenty eight million Qatari riyals) due to his failure to secure their needs.



**Ms. (F. Z), a Qatari:**

Has purchased 2 apartments in Dubai in the UAE, in instalments for each apartment. Due to the Gulf crisis and the blockade on the State of Qatar however, the companies have demanded from her to waiver the amounts paid to retrieve the apartments in order to be able to sell them again.



**Mr. (S. M.) a Qatari:**

Has 3 commercial companies with their branches in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Due to the Gulf crisis and the political situation between both States he was prevented from entering the Kingdom of Bahrain in order to dispose of his property due to his Qatari Nationality which he retrieved since the 2013. This caused him significant financial losses due to not tending to his property in Bahrain, and he is still suffering from those losses because of the arbitrariness of the Bahraini government towards him.

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**C: Violation of the right to perform religious rituals**

Table (6) shows the number of violations of the right to practice religious rituals since the beginning of the blockade, from 5 June 2017 to 23 May 2018. They amount to 165 violations (all by Saudi Arabia).

Indeed, the arbitrary decisions and measures taken by the Saudi authorities, resulted in the deprivation of the right to worship by some 1.5 million Muslims residing in the State of Qatar, in gross violation of the right to worship. The Saudi authorities have not exempted those who wish to practice their right to perform the rituals of Hajj and Umrah from the measures of the unjust blockade on the State of Qatar. Instead, they have involved religious rituals in political and diplomatic differences and manipulated these rituals as a tool for political pressure in flagrant violation of international conventions on human rights. This is done through:

- 1. Preventing Qatari pilgrims in Ramadan last month from entering Saudi territory to perform Umrah.
- 2. Forcing those in the Kingdom to leave Saudi Arabia without completing the rituals, and expelling some of them from the hotels where they have been staying from the moment the blockade was imposed.
- 3. Suspension of dealing in Qatari currency and debit cards.
- 4. Degrading and humiliating treatment to Qataris at land and air entry and exit points.
- 5. Preventing Qatar Airways from landing at Saudi airports, making it impossible for Qatari pilgrims to return to Doha directly. They have been forced instead to return using alternative routes through the State of Kuwait and the Sultanate of Oman without regard to humanitarian cases of patients, women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
May 23, 2018	Right to Engage in Religious Rituals	165	---	---	---	165

**Table (6) Violation of Right to Engage in Religious Rituals**

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With the beginning of the pilgrimage season in 2017, the Saudi authorities put obstacles and impediments to those who wish to perform the «fifth pillar of Islam» from Qatari citizens and residents, up to the point of prevention. The authorities refused to deal or coordinate with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Qatar in order to enable those wishing to perform this duty. While Saudi authorities that they would open the land port and the direct air route to the pilgrims of Qatar it soon became clear that that was simply a deflection mechanism and just a manoeuvre.

In light of the continued blockade, air embargo and closure of land borders, as well as the arbitrary measures taken by the Saudi authorities on the right to freedom of worship and religious practice, the Saudi authorities continue to put more obstacles and impediments to the organizers and service providers of Hajj and Umrah campaigns. With the arrival of the Umrah season for the month of Ramadan 2018 and the Hajj season of 2018, and complaints have been submitted by Hajj and Umrah campaigners in the State of Qatar about the harassment and difficulties in performing Umrah rituals faced by residents of the state of Qatar. These include:

- Closure of the electronic registration for Hajj and Umrah to all pilgrims from the State of Qatar.
- Prevention of financial transfers by Saudi authorities between Qatari campaigns and Umrah agents authorized to grant Saudi Umrah permits.
- Saudi authorities continued refusal to deal or coordinate with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Qatar.



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All this confirms unequivocally the continuation of the Saudi authorities in the policy of politicizing religious rites. A delegation from the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Qatar visited the KSA to attend the annual meeting to discuss arrangements for the 2018 Hajj season on Thursday 22 March 2018. The delegation discussed during the meetings obstacles and impediments imposed on Qatari pilgrims and those who are residents in Qatar, including the problem of obtaining the visa required for the performance of Umrah and pilgrimage through the electronic portal which is currently blocked for the State of Qatar. This is in addition to ignorance of the vulnerable groups, especially the elderly and persons with disabilities who wish to perform Hajj and Umrah. However, the Qatar delegation did not find any solutions to these obstacles and impediments with the concerned Saudi authorities. They merely responded to the Qatari delegation by saying that the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Qatar should send official communications through the Sultanate of Oman's embassy to the higher authorities in the KSA to decide whether or not to respond.

Therefore, the NHRC remains deeply concerned at the continued obstacles and impediments, considering that the Saudi authorities have not taken positive steps to enable Qataris and residents of the State of Qatar to exercise their right to perform their religious rituals by continuously banning direct flights from Qatar to Saudi Arabia. This is in addition to the continued closure of the land border crossing point between the two countries and the non-admission of pilgrims and the closure of the electronic portal for registration. This is as well as the prevention of remittances by the Saudi authorities between the campaigns and agents of Hajj and Umrah and the prohibition of circulation of the Qatari currency. This is besides the failure of the Saudi authorities to take account of the damage and financial losses suffered by the Qatari Hajj and Umrah campaigns as a result of the aforementioned arbitrary measures in 2017.

The NHRC considers the concerns related to Umrah and Hajj as procrastination and an attempt by the Saudi authorities to stop any actions that can be taken by the OHCHR or the UN Special Procedures mechanism.

The report of the Technical Mission of the OHCHR in Qatar (17-24 November 2017) on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 8/1/2018 states that measures and restrictions taken by Saudi authorities led to the infringement of the freedom of exercise of religious practice.

The Amnesty International report on its second visit to the State of Qatar on 28 November 2017 also points to the violation of the right to freedom of worship and practice of religious rituals by the Saudi authorities. They call on the Saudi authorities to ensure transparent and operational mechanisms to enable Qataris and residents in the State of Qatar to have access to the holy sites in Saudi Arabia <sup>(7)</sup>.

<https://www.ohchr.org/> This material is distributed by McDermott Will & Emery LLP on behalf of the State of Qatar.  
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**The NHRC documented complaints of violations of the right to freedom of worship and practice of religious rites, including:**



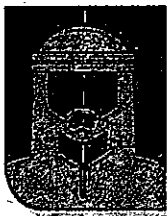
**Mr. (J.P.), a Qatari:**

Went, accompanied by his colleagues on 27/12/2017, to the KSA to perform Umrah via air through the State of Kuwait. However, on their arrival to Jeddah airport, they were harassed by security personnel working in the passports department there for being Qataris. They were seized at the airport's lounge and not allowed to enter Saudi territories for a full day until the night of 12/28/2017. They were then forced to go back from the Jeddah airport to the Kuwait international airport despite the fact that all the requirements claimed by the authorities in Saudi Arabia have been met. Two days after their return, they were contacted by telephone and informed of the possibility of entering the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which resulted in physical and psychological losses due to flight bookings and non-refundable residence as well as the violation of their right to worship and practice their religious rituals.



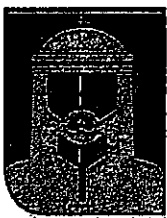
**Mr. (A. H.), a Qatari:**

Accompanied by his wife, made reservation at The Fairmont Hotel in the city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia and booked Umrah travelling tickets. Yet following the decision taken by the Saudi authorities to cut ties with the State of Qatar and the closure of the land crossing point, they were not able to go to Mecca for Umrah. He has not been able to refund the ticket despite his repeated communication with the hotel.



**Mr. (M. M.), a Qatari:**

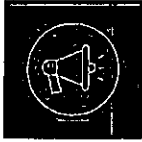
Made reservation at Hilton Sweet Mecca in the city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah. However, following the decision taken by the Saudi authorities to cut ties with the State of Qatar and the closure of the land crossing point he was not able to go to Mecca for Umrah nor recover the value of the ticket nor the accommodation fees, which were paid. An apology was directed to him and he was informed that in case of cancellation of the reservation the amount he paid will be confiscated.



**Mr. (F. P.), a Qatari:**

Was in Mecca in Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah when the Saudi authorities issued a decision obliging Qataris to leave the country due to the Blockade on the State of Qatar. He was expelled arbitrarily from the hotel in which he was staying, on the instructions he had received.

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## H: Violation of freedom of opinion and expression

Citizens of the countries of the Blockade have been exposed to violations of laws and punitive measures on the background of severing of the political relations and imposing blockade on the State of Qatar. This has reached unprecedented limits even for merely showing sympathy towards Qatar through the social media. It has gone beyond blocking and banning Qatari media, including sports channels which certainly do not broadcast news bulletins or programs of political nature. This is an indicator of the extent of deterioration of the freedom of opinion and expression.

Saudi authorities have imposed a penalty of imprisonment of up to five years, the fine of up to three million Saudi riyals, while the UAE have imposed a penalty of three to five years, and a fine of up to 500 thousand dirhams simply for showing sympathy towards the State of Qatar. The NHRC has reported in the field of media alone that nearly 103 media persons from the citizens of the countries of the Blockade, who were working in a number of visual media in the State of Qatar, have all been subjected to different types of violations, including putting pressure on them to resign. Many eventually did thus losing their source of livelihood.

Moreover, pressures are still exercised on all who have not yet submitted their resignations. Such an act is a flagrant violation of the freedom of press, work, residence and opinion.

Amnesty International in its report published on June 9, 2017 stated that "The statements from governments of the countries of the blockade with a record of repressing peaceful expression are a flagrant attempt to silence criticism of these arbitrary policies. Prosecuting anyone on this basis would be a clear violation of the right to freedom of expression. No one should be punished for peacefully expressing their views or criticizing a government decision."

Furthermore, Amnesty International in its report published on June 19, 2017, stated that "It is unthinkable that states can so blatantly infringe on the right to freedom of expression. Citizens have the right to express views and concerns about their governments, as well as feelings of sympathy towards others."

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**A report prepared by the Doha Center for Media Freedom entitled «Media of the Gulf Crisis - Violation of Freedom of Opinion and Expression and International Covenants covering the period from 23rd to 25th August 2017 « on the indicators of the media discourse of the Gulf crisis States (media offensive practices towards freedom of opinion and expression), outline the following cases have been documented as non-exclusive samples:**

First case: The criminalization of showing sympathy towards the State of Qatar



**(As for the Saudi Arabia) non-exclusive samples**

Amnesty International - as indicated in its previous report on 9 June, 2017-has denounced the acts done and measures taken by the Blockading countries , including the KSA, that seriously violate the freedom of opinion and expression emphasizing the fact that these declarations issued by governments repressing the peaceful expression are not more than a flagrant attempt to silence critical voices on these arbitrary policies. If anyone is prosecuted on this basis, it would constitute a clear violation of the right to freedom of expression; as no one should be sanctioned for peacefully expressing his points of view or for criticizing a government decision. It also mentions in its report issued on 19 June, 2017 that it is not possible to believe that these States could reach such a level of flagrant violation of the right to freedom of expression.

Furthermore, the Saudi authorities have already applied the punitive measures following their arrest of a group of Saudi citizens, among them: the famous Islamic preacher "Salman Al-Ouda" upon posting a Tweet on «Twitter».



**(As for the United Arab Emirates) as non-exclusive samples:**

In the UAE, on 7 June 2017, the UAE Attorney General banned the expression of sympathy towards Qatar, according to the declaration of Counselor/ Hamad Saif Al-Shamsi, in which he warns that any contravention of the laws in force shall be met with the imposition of prison sentences and pecuniary fines.

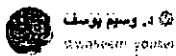
The declaration also includes a warning by the Attorney General «of any participation in speech or in writing on social media or any other form of sympathy with the State of Qatar or an objection to the stance of the UAE and other countries that took firm stances against the Government of Qatar». Violators of these warnings «may be subjected to imprisonment for a period of 3 to 15 years and a fine of not less than 500 thousand dirhams, equivalent to 137 thousand dollars».



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In addition to that, the mentioned report issued by Human Rights Watch on July 13, 2017, also highlights that the United Arab Emirates has threatened to impose sanctions on their citizens in case they «have sympathy» towards Qatar on the Internet.

In implementation of these threats, UAE authorities has arrested Mr./ Ghanem Abdullah Matar, a UAE citizen, upon publishing a series of videos on social media in the month of June, 2017 expressing his sympathy towards Qatar. Therefore, Amnesty International has asked for the immediate release of the citizen as a prisoner of opinion.



قرار بفضح العلاقات مع قطر هو قرار لصالح الشعب القطري أولاً... ثم للأمة العربية.. حتى لا تصبح قطر ذات سيادة إيرانية أو إخوانية أو داعشية..

www.youssef-youssef.com  
24 Jun 2017

منظمة العفو الدولية  
Amnesty AR  
إذا كان اعتقال غانم مطر في #الامارات سببه تعليقاته السلمية حول الأزمة مع #قطر، فإنه سجين رأي ونطالب بالافراج عنه فوراً.



24 Jun 2017  
216 likes

The UAE authorities has also dismissed Mr. Youssef Al-Sarkal, Chairman of the UAE General Authority for Sports, by reason of shaking hands with the President of the Qatar Football Association, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al-Thani, on the sidelines of the Asian Football Confederation's (AFC) meetings in Bangkok, Thailand.

The UAE and the countries of the Blockade 's media have launched a major offensive on this famous figure in the Gulf sport world, which led to that he has been relieved of his duties being the head of the authority after about a month of his appointment.

Furthermore, it was expressed in the UAE newspapers that Al-Sarkal «suffered from his warm embrace with the Qatari official» in their first meeting since the eruption of the Gulf crisis on 5 June, 2017. It also described what Al-Sarkal had done as a «sin» according to the website of Al-Bayan newspaper <sup>(6)</sup>.

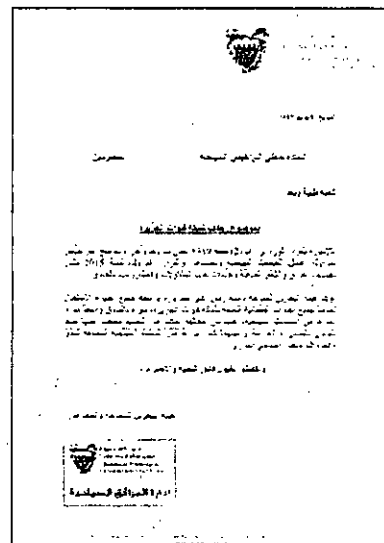


(6) <https://www.albayan.ae> This material is distributed by McDermott Will & Emery LLP on behalf of the State of Qatar. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC.



**(As for Kingdom of Bahrain) non-exclusive Samples:**

On June 11 2017, the Bahraini international lawyer, Issa Faraj Arhamah Al-Burshid, filed a lawsuit against the government of Bahrain and demanded lifting the blockade on Qatar. This case is the first of its kind as he was arrested due to showing sympathy towards the state of Qatar. The case was mentioned in Amnesty International's report of 19 June 2017. The decision by the Bahraini authorities to block Qatari newspaper websites followed the fabricated statements published on the website of Qatar News Agency and attributed to the Emir of the State of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, as an unjustified step and a flagrant violation of freedom of opinion and expression.



Human Rights Watch in its report published on July 13, 2017 also confirmed that Bahrain had threatened to punish their citizens if they show «sympathy» with Qatar on the Internet.

On June 9, 2017, the Tourism and Exhibition Authority of the Kingdom of Bahrain issued a formal circular warning all the tourist facilities and hotels in the Kingdom about the operation of Al Jazeera Media Channel. The Authority stressed the necessity of deleting all the channels related to Al Jazeera Network to avoid penalties for imprisonment and fines, as well as the cancellation of tourist licenses.


The Bahraini authorities have explicitly demanded the closure of Al-Jazeera, and this demand contradicts Article 1 and Article 3 of the Journalism Code of Ethics of the Bahrain Journalists Association, as well the Code of Principles of the International Federation of journalists in its first clause. (Confiscation, idling or revocation of the license shall be allowed only by a ruling of the court. Free and responsible journalism is the very essence of sound and democratic society and an integral and indivisible part of basic human rights and freedoms. It targets illumination of the public opinion, realization of the interests of the nation, defense of the nation's unity, security and stability and avoidance of secular division or prejudice to the established Islamic Shariah dictates. The right to get the correct and true information, including statements, images and documents through legitimate means in order to unearth the truth without infringement or violation of intellectual property rights. Respect for truth and for the right of the public to truth is the first duty of the journalist).

There is also a stark violation of the text of article III of the Charter of the Bahraini Journalists' Association, which provides for «the right to obtain information from the data, photographs and documents by legitimate means to reach the truth and without infringement of intellectual property».

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Second Case: Warning of the General Commission for Tourism and National Heritage in Saudi Arabia and kingdom of Bahrain against watching Al-Jazeera channel in hotels and resorts


 In an official circular issued on the 9th of June 2017, the General Commission for Tourism and National Heritage in Saudi Arabia warned against broadcasting Al-Jazeera channels in hotels and resorts. It further banned watching Al-Jazeera network channels in tourist facilities. The Commission also accentuated on deleting all channels of Al-Jazeera network from the list of satellite broadcasts in rooms and all tourist accommodation facilities, in order to avoid a fine that may amount to 100 thousand Saudi riyals (about 27 thousand dollars), in addition to the cancellation of the license. This has been stated in an official circular by the Tourism Authority to owners and operators of tourist facilities. This circular emphasized as well «the obligation to comply with choosing the appropriate channels along with the official Saudi channels». Furthermore, the Commission demanded «not to place receivers inside rooms and residential units and that receivers should be centralized and supervised by the management of the facility».

As a result of this ban, it is clear that the circulars - issued by Saudi Arabia are classified as practices that restrict the freedom of opinion and expression and are contrary to the general principles of freedoms set forth in various international covenants, which constitutes a blatant violation of the citizens' right to know and access information.

It is also worth mentioning that the issuance of a circular prohibiting watching Al-Jazeera channel and setting all receivers for the deletion of satellite channels of Al-Jazeera network is groundless and contrary to the provisions of the international covenants on rights to freedom of expression and information, which is considered as a restriction on the freedoms.

The circulars issued by the General Commission for Tourism does not provide any legal basis to support its request for the ban. On the other hand, they have not reinforced their circulars with judicial requests or court orders which essentially examine the fulfilment of the said request.

In accordance with Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the above-mentioned circulars are contrary to the most fundamental principles of individual freedoms and the right to access information.

 The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority

The circular stated that: «The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority mandates that all television receivers available in tourism facilities must be reprogrammed to remove all channels related to Al Jazeera Network. Facilities include hotels, restaurants or other tourist establishments. The violation of this circular is punishable by law either by imprisonment, fine or both. Facilities who fail to comply with the circular will face closure and their tourism license will be revoked immediately.

According to article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as Article 3 of the Journalism Code of Ethics of the Bahrain Journalists Association, the aforementioned prohibitions are contrary to the most basic principles of individual freedoms, and access to information. The decision to block Qatari websites contradicts Article 2 of the Journalism Code of Ethics of the Bahrain Journalists Association. (Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. "The right to get the correct and true information, including statements, images and documents through legitimate means in order to unearth the truth without infringement or violation of intellectual property rights"

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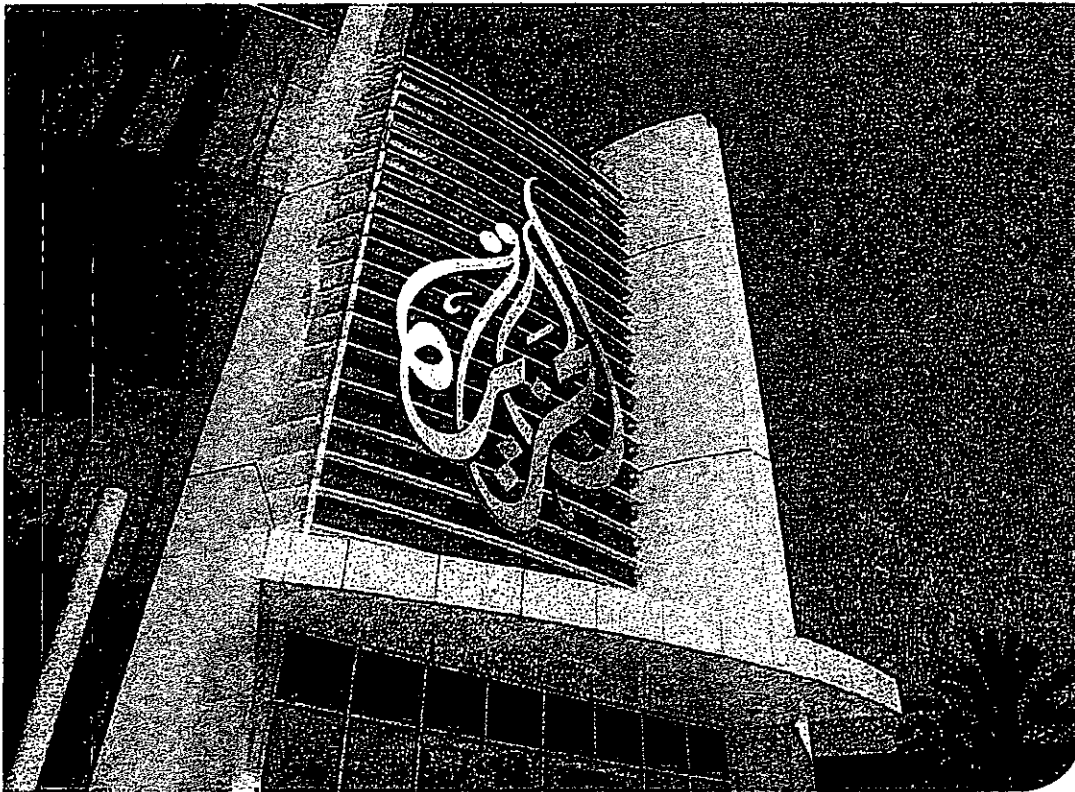


Third concern: blocking Qatari newspaper websites by the countries of the blockade:

The UAE, KSA and Bahrain, announced on 24 May 2017, blocking the site of «Al-Jazeera» and a number of Qatari newspapers. It was confirmed by the «Al-Jazeera» through its official website that those states banned entry to the website of Al-Jazeera TV.

Saudi, UAE and Bahrain authorities' decision to block Qatari web sites and newspapers following the fabricated statements attributed to the Emir of the State of Qatar, which was published on the website of the Qatar News Agency (QNA), has raised wide reactions among analysts and media workers of Arab and Gulf states. These considered this unjustified step as a flagrant violation of freedom of opinion and expression deliberately withholding truth the expression of others of their opinions.

In the framework of clear violation of freedom of speech and the confiscation of opinions, the countries of the Blockade has requested from Qatar the closure of Aljazeera Channel. The requirement of the closure of Al-Jazeera satellite Channel and other media constitutes a violation of the sovereignty of the State. It further constitutes a serious violation of the fundamental right to freedom of expression and freedom of opinion provided for in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which is a total disregard of article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



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This requirement has been met with strong denunciation by international bodies and organizations. The countries of the Blockade's demand to close Al-Jazeera Channel had wide repercussions and was received with criticism from human rights organizations and the competent United Nations offices. Mr. David Kay, the United Nations special rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression, has described demands for the closure of Al-Jazeera channel as «a strong blow to the pluralism of the media and that this request represents a serious threat to the freedom of the media.» The Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression mentioned that reports that a number of governments submitted demands to Qatar to close Al-Jazeera media network in exchange for the lifting of the sanctions would be a major blow against the pluralism of the media in a region that suffers severe constraints in the preparation of reports and media of all kinds. Mr. Kay added «This demand constitutes a serious threat to the freedom of media if the States, under the pretext of a diplomatic crisis, take measures to compel Qatar to close Al-Jazeera.» Mr. Kay said «Every person is now seriously threatened in relation to his right to have access to information when the guarantee of safety and freedom of the media has been compromised.» He added that «I call upon the international community to urge those Governments not to insist on their demand against Qatar and resist taking steps to control the media in their territory and in the region and encourage support for independent media in the Middle East»<sup>(9)</sup>.

In the same context, the OHCHR has expressed its deep concern about the demand made to close Al Jazeera Network and other media. The Organization emphasized that the demand is an unacceptable attack on the right to freedom of expression and opinion, and if such a demand were put into effect, it would open the way for individual States or groups of powerful states to seriously undermine the right to freedom of opinion and expression within its borders and in other countries.<sup>(10)</sup>

Furthermore, Human Rights Watch confirmed that Governments have no right to close media outlets and criminalization of expression in order to «extinguish the criticisms that it considers troubling» and called to protect the media from political interference. The Organization affirmed that «The offending Governments have to show respect to and understanding of the role of the media, even if it disagrees with them».

The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) stated that «journalist is being used as a pawn in a dangerous political game in the crisis in Qatar, where hundreds of media workers face expulsion, and television channels, newspapers and websites are at risk of closure».

The National Union of Journalists has called for an end to the attack on Al Jazeera, hundreds of jobs are at risk. Furthermore, the National Union of Journalists and the International Federation of Journalists called on the countries of the blockade to withdraw its demand to the Qatari authorities to close the channel.

Representatives of international, regional and national organizations for journalists and human rights and freedom of expression who attended the international conference on «Freedom of Expression: Facing Up to the Threat», in its final communique condemned unequivocally the threats by the governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of Yemen demanding the closing down of Al Jazeera and other media outlets and expressed our total solidarity with journalists and other media and ancillary workers at Al Jazeera and other targeted media.

It is worth mentioning that this demand is contrary to international norms and charters, yet the KSA and other States of the Blockade still insist on demanding it to date.

(9) <http://www.unhcr.org/refugees/2013/07/11301307.html>  
(10) <http://www.unhcr.org/refugees/2013/07/11301307.html>

Fifth. Banning beIN Sports channels and imposed a penalty of imprisonment for anyone wearing Barcelona shirt

The fifth case is the banning of beIN Sports Channels and the criminalization of wearing Barcelona football shirt having Qatar Airways' logo is one of the strangest and most controversial matters in the current crisis. The current Gulf crisis has cast a political shadow over sport after the three Blockading countries (KSA, UAE and Bahrain) prohibited wearing Barcelona's shirt on its territory, due to the contract that was concluded between the aforementioned club and Qatar Airways.

Right withdraw the license of Al Jazeera and to close its offices constitutes an arbitrary

Since the beginning of the crisis, on 5 June 2017, the Blockading countries hastened to close the offices of «Al Jazeera» Channel as a part of its steps to sever diplomatic relations with Qatar. These resolutions indicate that the Blockading countries do not discriminate between the political issues and the press work guaranteed by the basic principles of human rights and the rules that guarantee freedom of information dissemination and reception within the framework of the law. The decision to withdraw the license of «Al Jazeera» and to close its offices constitutes an arbitrary violation of an arbitrary political decision, while the judiciary is the competent authority in such cases.

In addition, the NHRC has documented hundreds of hate and racism speeches through the media and social networking sites, some of which amounted to incitement to terrorist acts in the State of Qatar, such as bombing the media facilities and using songs, serials and documentaries in this incitement. The committee also noted a speech of racial discrimination aimed at disrespecting and insulting the Qatari citizen, insulting the Qatari people and circumventing the symbols of the State of Qatar.

These speeches escalated violently because of the involvement of some officials from the Blockading countries and some celebrities of the media and famous social media persons are known openly:



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## G: Incitement of violence and hatred

In a report prepared by the Doha Center for Media Freedom entitled «Gulf Crisis Media - Hate Speech», the report highlighted the issues that were repeated in the media during the first months of the crisis in six key issues:

1. Incitement of treason and treachery: Where most of the media of the Blockading countries, whether print, electronic or audiovisual, have devoted a considerable space to place the indictment of treason and treachery to Qatar since the beginning of the crisis.

This incitement against the regime in Qatar is a violation of the ethics of press work and international conventions, especially Article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and it is contrary to Article 10 of the Charter of Honor of Arab Media and Article 8 of the same Charter.

2. The demonization of the State of Qatar for ally and regionally: The accusations which the media of the blockading countries have not found any evidence for it and which seek to demonize Qatar and portray it as a rogue and aggressive state, are in conformity with article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, as well as the provisions of Article 10 of the Charter of Honor of Arab Media.

3. The ongoing Gulf crisis has affected the demographic fabric of this region, in which the social relations between the different tribes living in the Arabian Peninsula are intertwined and overlap in a striking way that makes it difficult to separate or discriminate.

The crisis has shown the desire of some Gulf governments to disrupt this fabric, and to create a division among the members of one tribe, which extends in more than one country, through the use of populist rhetoric and hate speech, and to break up a centuries-long relations.

Several websites, either by writing or analyzing, dealt with the campaign launched by the Gulf crisis countries on Qatar, which concluded that there is a rising trend towards the demonization of the State of Qatar, and abuse in various forms and ways.

4. The indictment of terrorism: The decision to criminalize sympathy with Qatar was included in other measures taken by Gulf states, preceded by indictment of terrorism, along with making a terrorism list that includes Qatari personalities and charitable and media organizations.

There is no doubt that such a media discourse would inculcate the hate speech among broad segments of the public, away from the distances that would end the crisis and achieve reconciliation. Since the first day of the crisis, the media machine has worked with the blockading countries in order to paint a distorted image of the State of Qatar and its role in the international arena. The media of the countries of the Gulf crisis have also united their discourse on Qatar's accusation of harboring terrorist individuals and entities. This was rejected by Doha and rejected by international and international organizations With those charities classified by the Gulf states as «terrorist».

A number of media channels in the blockading countries have broadcasted programs and coverings in news bulletins exposed to well-known figures in the Arab and Islamic arena, exceeding the limits of linguistic and moral decency, and labeling them with descriptions that the law criminalizes.

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وكالة أنباء الإمارات  
Emirates News Agency

السعودية وقطر و الإمارات والبحرين تصدر بياناً مشتركاً بشأن  
تصنيف أفراد و كيانات بقوائم الإرهاب مرتبطة بقطر

**قائمة الكيانات**

قطر الخيرية - قطر	شركة دوحة ابن بشركة إنترنت ودعم تكنولوجي، - قطر	مركز قطر للعمل التطوعي - قطر
سرايا الدفاع عن بنغازي	مؤسسة الشيخ ثاني بن عبدالله للخدمات الإنسانية - قطر	مؤسسة الشيخ عبد آل ثاني الخيرية - قطر
سرايا المقاومة - البحرين	التفاف 14 فبراير - البحرين	سرايا الأستر - البحرين
حركة أحرار البحرين - البحرين	سرايا المختار - البحرين	حزب الله البحريني - البحرين

قائمة الإرهاب

5. Using religious discourse to spread hate speech

The religious discourse of the Blockading countries was used during the Gulf crisis as a platform to justify some of the political decisions of the blockading countries. A number of fatwas were issued by major bodies and scholars in order to justify the blockade of Qatar and to reverse the facts and repercussions of the crisis.

The media, as well as the social media, have been instrumental in promoting these fatwas and expanding their circulation in order to give the decisions of the political actor acceptable to the public opinion.

Moreover, the press did not stand neutral in this crisis through the transfer of different views, but it used all its efforts to promote these fatwas in a manner contrary to the values of the profession of journalism.

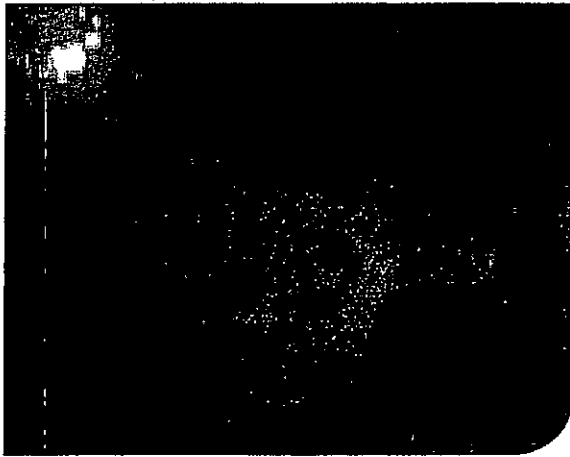
وسميها يونسيف

هذا هو الاسم الذي استخدمناه في تقريرنا

نشر

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It is no secret that all this media and technical pumping to incite hatred and violence will be reflected in the various segments of the society of intellectuals and illiterate extremist



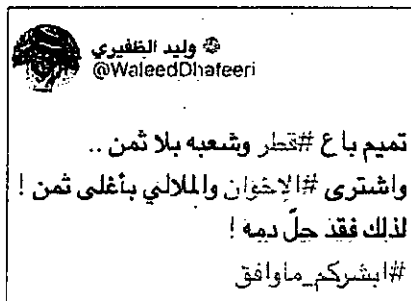
reactions may reach the commission of criminal acts against the Qataris.

Qatari citizens have already been exposed to the destruction of their cars, and they were treated harshly and humiliatingly by some of the authorities of the Blockading countries. It does not suffice there, but developed into hatred, hostility and discrimination against the Qatari citizens from some citizens of the blockading countries. We fear that such

reactions would threaten peace, security and stability in the entire region.

The report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights dated 08 January 2018 confirmed the numerous violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression as well as the various forms of media defamation and hate campaigns against the State of Qatar and its leaders and people. Further, it calls for an overthrow of a regime and the removal of symbols of leadership in Qatar, in addition to incitement to attack or kill the Qataris.

The report confirmed that media from the blockading countries launched a campaign of hatred and widespread distortion, including through social networking sites and the decision of the blockading countries' governments to impose sanctions on anyone who sympathizes with Qatar.



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The report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights indicated that between June and October 2017, media workers and the NHRC in Qatar documented more than 1,120 articles and nearly 600 caricature of the State of Qatar in KSA, the UAE and Bahrain. The media included explicit accusations of Qatar's involvement in supporting terrorism, calls for an overthrow of a regime and the removal of leading figures in Qatar, as well as incitement to attack or kill Qataris.

For example, the Saudi singer followed by a million and a half followers on Twitter has made a post that includes fatwa to kill the Emir of Qatar, while another Saudi tweet warned of the possibility of sending a million Yemeni suicide bombers to Qatar.

Entertainment programmes have also been used to air anti-Qatar messages. For example, Rotana media company produced songs by popular artists stigmatizing Qatar ("Qulo la Qatar"- "Tell Qatar", and "Sanoalem Qatar"- "We will teach Qatar") and well-known television series on MBC and Rotana channels ("Selfie" and "Garabeb Sood") conveyed negative messages on Qatar, which have been regularly and widely broadcast.

The report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) also noted that the KSA, UAE and Bahraini governments have sought to stop broadcasting all Qatari media or the other media related to Qatar. Since satellite broadcasting cannot be controlled, these countries have prevented businesses entities (such as hotels) from displaying the Qatari media (especially the Al Jazeera, beIN-Sports and other channels).



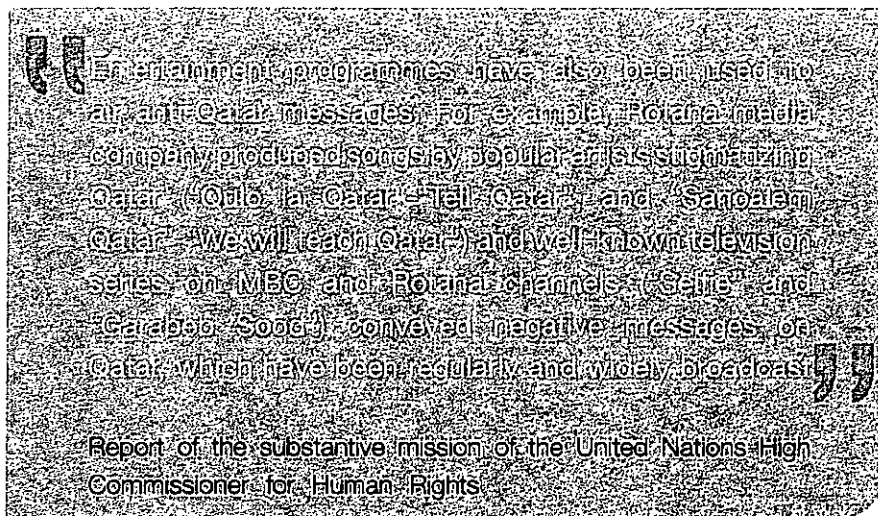
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The report also points out that all these campaigns cast a shadow to the extent of incitement and contributed to creating a general feeling of concern among people in KSA, UAE and Bahrain of those who have family, fraternal or commercial ties with Qatari citizens. Most of the journalists interviewed with the mission noted that their friends and associates in KSA, UAE and Bahrain were deeply fearful. Many have also noted that they cannot communicate with their families and friends in the blockading countries except through numbers other than the numbers of the Blockading countries as they fear to be tracked.

The report issued by the US Department of State on Human Rights in 2017 indicated that the governments of the blockading countries have blocked Qatari websites such as Al-Jazeera because of a dispute between them and Qatar, and that Al-Jazeera remained closed.

In addition to what the NHRC has documented from a full file containing all aspects and manifestations of violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression as well as the discourse of hatred, discrimination and racism, the Doha Center for Media Freedom documented several reports of violations by the Blockading countries through incitement, racism, incitement and hate speech.



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## H: Violation of the right to movement and residence

Table (7) shows the number of violations of the right to movement and thus residence since the beginning of the blockade, corresponding to June 5, 2017 and until May 23, 2018. There were 1297 violations (770 violations from KSA, 348 violations from UAE, 129 violations from Kingdom of Bahrain, 41 violations from the Arab Republic of Egypt and 9 different violations from other states).





Statistics Date	Violation	State					Total
						Other	
May 23, 2018	The right of movement and thus residence	770	348	129	41	9	1297

Table (7) Violation of the right to movement and residence

All citizens and residents of the State of Qatar and the Blockading countries have been affected by the violation of this right since the beginning of the blockade crisis on the State of Qatar, as the blockading countries have adopted arbitrary measures and decisions in contravention of all international and regional instruments, the Arab Charter on Human Rights and the Declaration on the Human Rights of the Gulf Cooperation Council concerning the right to freedom of movement and residence; these measures were represented in the fact that the authorities of the blockading countries prevented Qatari people from entering their territories and deporting those who are there. Moreover, residents of Qatar were forced to leave Qatar within 14 days or they were going to be subjected to arbitrary punishment. All those forced to return to their homes were affected in various ways.

The blockading countries also closed all the airlines offices of the State of Qatar, as soon as the blockade was announced, and without warning to those working in these offices, without enabling any of them to take private property in their offices.

Salwa land port located on the Saudi-Qatari border was closed, and sea and air ports were closed to Qatari shipping and goods from Qatar. Although the Saudi authorities have opened Salwa border crossing in part and individually at intervals, they have returned and closed it completely even in the face of humanitarian cases, including patients, mixed families, persons with disabilities and the elderly. The crossing remains closed until the date of this report.

The Bahraini Minister of the Interior issued a ministerial decree No. (88) for the year 2017 in which Article 1 states that: a visa to the Kingdom of Bahrain shall be imposed on citizens of Qatar and its residents.

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And in article 2 that: The Undersecretary of the Ministry of the Interior for Nationality, Passports and Residency Affairs shall implement this decision and shall come into force on 10 November 2017.



Amnesty International's report on its second visit to the State of Qatar during the period from 28 November 2017 confirmed that the sudden restrictions imposed on the State of Qatar since 5 June 2017 have affected thousands of families and individuals (especially vulnerable groups) in the region who constitute a cohesive social fabric across national borders, dividing families, halting student education, threatening jobs and raising basic food prices in Qatar, making the region's population face an uncertain future. Amnesty International urged the Kingdom of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to lift all arbitrary travel restrictions that impede the free movement of Gulf residents and residents <sup>(11)</sup>.

(11) <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/QAT/2017/11/29/> This material is distributed by McDermott Will & Emery LLP on behalf of the State of Qatar. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC.





The report of the Technical Mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the State of Qatar (17-24 November 2017) which was issued on 08/01/2018 confirmed that the closure of borders (air, sea and land) causes clear implications and effects on the freedom of movement to and from the State of Qatar. On June 5, the authorities of the blockading countries issued instructions to their ports and shipping authorities to refrain from receiving Qatari ships or any other vessels owned by any Qatari companies or individuals. The Saudi General Authority for Civil Aviation also banned the landing of any Qatari aircraft at airports in Saudi Arabia.

The report added that restrictions on the movement of passengers and goods had consequences that directly affected various human rights, but the effects of those consequences have not all come at the same pace, some of which have had limited impact, while others have had a continuing impact to date. Such measures and restrictions initially constituted a direct violation of the right to freedom of movement, especially since they were not officially announced and there were no legal motives behind them.

The absence of freedom of movement between Qatar and other countries is a punishment for Qatari citizens and residents, as well as for residents of the blockading countries. The effects of the restrictions on the right to freedom of movement have varied effects between what is temporary and what is permanent. The temporary effect is the violation of the freedom to practice religious rituals as they were imposed during Ramadan and the Hajj season, as well as family separation, which we should pay due attention to because of the ties between the population in the countries concerned, and the effect on students who had to cut off their studies for inability to take the exams that were scheduled for them. Persistent effects and consequences have been the denial of the right to work and the right of access to property and personal assets of those residents or employees in Qatar or those with commercial interests in Qatar.

The suspension of passenger and cargo traffic between Qatar and the three Gulf States in the Quartet Group has had a major impact on the Qatari economy, which hindered trade movements and financial flows as well as significantly increased the costs of transport and commodity as the government and individuals have had to resort to alternative options.

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The report of the Technical Mission emphasizes that such measures are targeting individuals depending on their Qatar nationality, connection or relationship with Qatar, shall be considered as «unequal and discriminatory measures».

The reports of Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch "previously mentioned", have also highlighted the violations, which was committed against this right by the blockading countries. In addition to the negative effects on families, the right to education, the right to health



Nawaf Talal al-Rasheed

and the right to freedom of worship and the practice of religious rites, the negative impact of the blockade on foreign migrant workers - especially from South Asia.

And in continuation of the series of violations against human rights of the blockading countries towards the State of Qatar, which the authorities of the blockading countries have persisted on harming and harassing them, amounting to cases of arbitrary detention in violation of international conventions and instruments and norms of human rights.

Saudi Arabia has arrested Mr. Muhsen Saleh Sa'adoun Al-Karbi, a Qatari citizen, on his way to visit his family and relatives in the Republic of Yemen. He was arrested in the Republic of Yemen by Allied Coalition Forces that was led by Saudi Arabia in "Shahan Border Port", which is located between the Republic of Yemen and Sultanate of Oman, on 2018, without any known legal charges. Moreover, they prevented him from contacting his family or his lawyer since 21 April and until the publishing of this report. In addition to the inability of his family and his relatives to determine the place of his imprisonment, or what he is accused of. He remains at risk of torture and other ill-treatment in violation of international human rights conventions. The NHRC also received a complaint from the family of Qatari national "Nawaf Talal Al-Rasheed" about the arbitrary arrest of the Qatari citizen by the Saudi authorities, which is considered an enforced disappearance under article 2 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, it is also a crime against humanity under article 7 (i) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court adopted in Rome on 17 July 1998, which is also a flagrant violation of human rights and international law, without any formal charges or



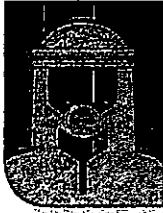
Mohsen Saleh Saadoun al-Karbi

legal justification for his arrest. His family also expressed to the NHRC the deep concern and shock it feels over the lack of knowledge of his place of detention, his enforced disappearance and his denial of contact with him or his lawyer, according to the complaint. Furthermore, the OHCHR called on the Saudi Authorities in May 29, 2018 to provide information about Nawaf Talal Al Rasheed. The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance called for clarifying the fate and whereabouts of him.

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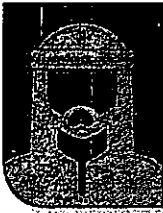


**The National Human Rights Commission has documented complaints of violations of the right to freedom of movement and residence by the countries of the blockade, including:**



**Mr. (H. G) Saudi national:**

Has a license from the KSA to import 16 horses exported from Doha from the his father, who lives in the State of Qatar, died. When he asked the Saudi authorities at the Saudi land port "Salwa" to go to the State of Qatar to receive his father's body, his request was denied and prevented from leaving, the matter that forced him to communicate with the NHRC.



**Mr. (H. Y) Qatari national:**

He booked three tickets for his family from Doha to America. Their trip was on Emirates Airlines, where they traveled through Dubai. However, when the Gulf crisis broke out, he was unable to return on the same flight. Upon returning, he was notified by Emirates Airlines after he had contacted them, to return through the State of Oman noting that he have three month old child and a sick wife, so he was forced to buy new tickets to return him and his family and suffered greater financial losses Three months old and his wife sick, So he had to buy new tickets to return with his family, resulting in greater financial losses.



**Mrs. (H. S) Bahraini national:**

Resident of the State of Qatar and married to a Bahraini citizen residing and working in the State of Qatar and has a family residing in the Kingdom of Bahrain; she demands the right to travel and stay between the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Bahrain. But after severing relations between the two countries, she cannot go to Bahrain to meet with her family, and requests the Bahraini authorities to apply for a permit Although she is a Bahraini citizen and is resident in the State of Qatar.

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## I: Violation of the right to health

Table (8) shows the number of violations of the right to health since the beginning of the blockade of 5 June 2017 until 23 May 2018. There were 37 violations (19 violations by the KSA, 4 by the UAE, 14 by Bahrain).

In its report issued in June 19, 2017, Amnesty International confirmed that those receiving medical treatment were given the option of continuing to treat them or to comply with the extensive and harsh measures declared by the Blockading countries <sup>(12)</sup>.

In addition, the impact on the right to health has had more than one effect in terms of affecting the access of the State of Qatar to medicines (including life-saving items) and medical supplies as a result of the cessation of trade. Qatar relies on 50% to 60% of the Pharmaceutical stocks are from 20 GCC-based suppliers; also the repercussions and consequences of the blockade were also reflected in the delay in the opening of new hospitals in Qatar, as confirmed by the report of the technical mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the State of Qatar (17-24 November 2017) on the impact of the current Gulf crisis on human rights issued on 08/01/2018.

Human Rights Watch also stated in its report issued on 13 July 2017 that the blockade imposed on the State of Qatar caused serious human rights violations, including the suspension of medical care. The organization noted that its researchers documented the cases of Qatari, Gulf and expatriate citizens living in Qatar, whose rights were violated due to restrictive policies imposed on the State of Qatar since 5 June 2017 <sup>(13)</sup>.





Statistics Date	Violation	State				Total
						
May 23, 2018	The right to health	14	4	19	---	37

Table (8) Violation of the right to health

(12) <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur01/001/20170619/>  
 (13) <https://www.hrw.org/report/2017/07/13/qatar-blockade>

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**The NHRC has documented complaints of violations of the right to health by the countries of the blockade, including:**



**The disabled child (G. S) Qatari national:**

Was subjected to the violation of his right to complete treatment at Dallah Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, which began since 2016 through the implantation of metal plate to correct his spine, and had to enter the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with the beginning of the Gulf crisis to the hospital to prolong these plates, but could not entered Saudi Arabia because of the decision to prevent the entry of Qataris..The delay in the operation led to the disintegration of the metal platelets and the re-operation of the operation in another hospital in the Republic of Turkey. Resulting in health complications and severe moral and material damage. The victim sent a communication to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in full details.



**Mrs. (N. A) UAE national:**

She is married to Mr. (A. A) Qatari national, resident in the State of Qatar, suffers from health problems and wishes to travel abroad for medical treatment. However, her UAE travel document expired on 06/01/2018 and cannot be renewed due to arbitrary procedures taken by the UAE authorities, the matter that forced her to take treatment at Hamad General Hospital in Qatar.



**Mr. (K. K) Bahraini national:**

In his visit to the NHRC, saying: «I suffer from chronic diabetes, which led to amputation of my left foot at Hamad General Hospital in Qatar, where I am currently receiving treatment in the same hospital regularly, and after imposing the blockade on the State of Qatar, the authorities in the Kingdom of Bahrain have asked me to leave the State of Qatar and return to the Kingdom of Bahrain. I am a resident of Doha and I am married to a Qatari woman. I have children born in the State of Qatar and are educated there, which makes it difficult for me to return to my country and leave my treatment and education of my children.

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## J: Violation of the right to litigation

Due to the consequences of the blockade on the State of Qatar, citizens and residents of the State of Qatar have not been able to resort to the courts of the Blockading countries and exercise the right to litigation and their right to defense, through the following:

1. Not being allowed to appear before the courts as a result of preventing them from entering blockading countries in violation of their right to litigation and the associated rights such as the right to defense.
2. Hindering the work of their attorneys and creating difficulties for them to initiate proceedings on their behalf.
3. The law-firms in the blockade countries refused to delegate Qatari and resident litigants to the courts and failed to follow up the cases already entrusted to them.
4. Non-implementation of court orders issued in favor of Qataris.
5. Cancellation of judgments issued in favor of Qataris and residents as a result of their inability to initiate their cases and exercise their right to litigation and defense.

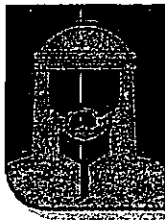
### The NHRC documented complaints of violation of the right to litigation by the countries of the blockade, including:



#### Complaint submitted by: Mr. (G. A) Qatari National:

The complainant submitted a complaint to the committee about the damage he suffered due to the Gulf crisis and the blockade on the State of Qatar, as he had a lawsuit in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia about renting a truck to a Saudi national, and was unable to obtain any financial benefits for the leases entered into with the lessee from the date of conclusion of the contract and until now could not because of the events to follow up his case, which number (364031068) did not find any solutions; the trucks were stolen and hidden by the lessee and could not return the trucks again. The value of each truck is estimated at QR100,000 to be the total loss and damage caused by more than QR2,000,000.

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**Complaint submitted by: Mr. (A. A) Qatari National:**

He bought a house in the Emirate of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, a villa of AED 1,700,000 and a payment of AED 1,200,000 was made by sending payments; to date and after the blockade, they are communicating with him in order to complete the financial payments and replace the property with another property owned by the company in the State of Qatar with a commitment to pay the difference between the value of the two properties QR 1,000,000 million, causing him significant financial losses and does not wish to do so.



**Complaint submitted by: Mr. (A. M) Qatari National:**

Where he claims that he concluded a contract for the purchase of 2 apartments for him and his wife and is committed to pay the monthly installments to the owner; he tried to find a solution to be able to exercise his right to his property, but he finds it very difficult in light of the lack of tolerance of the Bahraini authorities, which expose him to falling in fines imposed on him due to delay in payment Premiums.

## Fifth: Legal description

The governments of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain have violated several resolutions they are a party to and rules and laws of international human rights law. They are in clear violation of many articles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced disappearance; as well as articles in the Arab Charter for Human Rights, the Declaration on the Human Rights of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Economic Agreement between the Gulf Cooperation Council States. Consequently, these countries have the responsibility to protect and preserve the rights and interests of individuals residing in their territories.

The countries of the blockade also blatantly violated the Chicago Convention and have banned the movement of Qatari civil aviation over its territory without any military or public security reasons.

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Articles violated by in the 3 states of blockade



Firstly: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 2

"Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind" it means that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has guaranteed all rights stated therein to everyone, especially right to litigation.

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.

2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

Article 25

1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

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Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.



Secondly: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Article 2

Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 20

1. Any propaganda for war shall be prohibited by law.

2. Any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law.



Thirdly: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Article 6

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his living by work which he freely chooses or accepts, and will take appropriate steps to safeguard this right.

Article 10

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize that:

1. The widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family, which is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, particularly for its establishment and while it is responsible for the care and education of dependent children. Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses.

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2. Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. During such period working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.

3. Special measures of protection and assistance should be taken on behalf of all children and young persons without any discrimination for reasons of parentage or other conditions. Children and young persons should be protected from economic and social exploitation. Their employment in work harmful to their morals or health or dangerous to life or likely to hamper their normal development should be punishable by law. States should also set age limits below which the paid employment of child labour should be prohibited and punishable by law.

Article 12

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

2. The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for:

(a) The provision for the reduction of the stillbirth-rate and of infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child;

(b) The improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene;

(c) The prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases;

(d) The creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness.

Article 13

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to education. They agree that education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity, and shall strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. They further agree that education shall enable all persons to participate effectively in a free society, promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations and all racial, ethnic or religious groups, and further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.



Fourthly: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Article 2

1. States Parties condemn racial discrimination and undertake to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating racial discrimination in all its forms and promoting understanding among all races, and, to this end: (a) Each State Party undertakes

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to engage in no act or practice of racial discrimination against persons, groups of persons or institutions and to ensure that all public authorities and public institutions, national and local, shall act in conformity with this obligation;

(b) Each State Party undertakes not to sponsor, defend or support racial discrimination by any persons or organizations;

(c) Each State Party shall take effective measures to review governmental, national and local policies, and to amend, rescind or nullify any laws and regulations which have the effect of creating or perpetuating racial discrimination wherever it exists;

(d) Each State Party shall prohibit and bring to an end, by all appropriate means, including legislation as required by circumstances, racial discrimination by any persons, group or organization;

(e) Each State Party undertakes to encourage, where appropriate, integrationist multiracial organizations and movements and other means of eliminating barriers between races, and to discourage anything which tends to strengthen racial division.

2. States Parties shall, when the circumstances so warrant, take, in the social, economic, cultural and other fields, special and concrete measures to ensure the adequate development and protection of certain racial groups or individuals belonging to them, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. These measures shall in no case entail as a consequence the maintenance of unequal or separate rights for different racial groups after the objectives for which they were taken have been achieved.

#### Article 4

The States Parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one color or ethnic origin, or which attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to this end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of this Convention, inter alia:

(a) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(b) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and also organized and all other propaganda activities, which promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(c) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination.

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Article 6

States Parties shall assure to everyone within their jurisdiction effective protection and remedies, through the competent national tribunals and other State institutions, against any acts of racial discrimination which violate his human rights and fundamental freedoms contrary to this Convention, as well as the right to seek from such tribunals just and adequate reparation or satisfaction for any damage suffered as a result of such discrimination.

Article 7

States Parties undertake to adopt immediate and effective measures, particularly in the fields of teaching, education, culture and information, with a view to combating prejudices which lead to racial discrimination and to promoting understanding, tolerance and friendship among nations and racial or ethnical groups, as well as to propagating the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and this Convention.



Fifthly: International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Article 2

For the purposes of this Convention, «enforced disappearance» is considered to be the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law.



Sixth: Arab Charter on Human rights

Article 3

1. Each State Party to the present Charter undertakes to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the right to enjoy all the rights and freedoms recognized herein, without any distinction on grounds of race, color, sex, language, religion, opinion, thought, national or social origin, property, birth or physical or mental disability

Article 8

1. No one shall be subjected to physical or mental torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

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Article 26

1. Every person lawfully within the territory of a State Party shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence in accordance with applicable regulations.

Article 32

1. The present Charter shall ensure the right to information, freedom of opinion and freedom of expression, freedom to seek, receive and impart information by all means, regardless of frontiers.

2. Such rights and freedoms are exercised in the framework of society's fundamental principles and shall only be subjected to restrictions necessary for the respect of the rights or reputation of others and for the protection of national security or of public order, health or morals.

Article 33

1. The family is the natural and fundamental unit of society, founded by the marriage of a man and a woman. The right of men and women of marriageable age to marry and to found a family shall be recognized. No marriage shall be entered without the full consent of the intending spouses. The law in force shall regulate the rights and responsibilities of spouses as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

2. The State and society provide for the protection of the family and its members, for the strengthening of its bonds. All forms of violence and abusive treatment in the relations between family members, especially towards women and children, shall be prohibited. The State and society undertake to provide outstanding care and special protection for mothers, children and the elderly. Young persons have the right to be ensured maximum opportunities for physical and mental development.

3. The State Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative and judicial provisions to ensure the protection, survival and well-being of children in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity. The best interest of the child, in all circumstances, serves as the basis for all measures taken, whether the child is a juvenile delinquent or a child "at risk".



Seventh: GCC Human Rights Declaration

Article 6

The Freedom of belief and the practice of religious rites is a right of every person according to the regulation (law) without disruption of the public order and public morals.

Article 9

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and exercising such freedom is guaranteed insofar as it accords with Islamic Sharia law, public order and the regulations (laws) regulating this area.

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Article 14

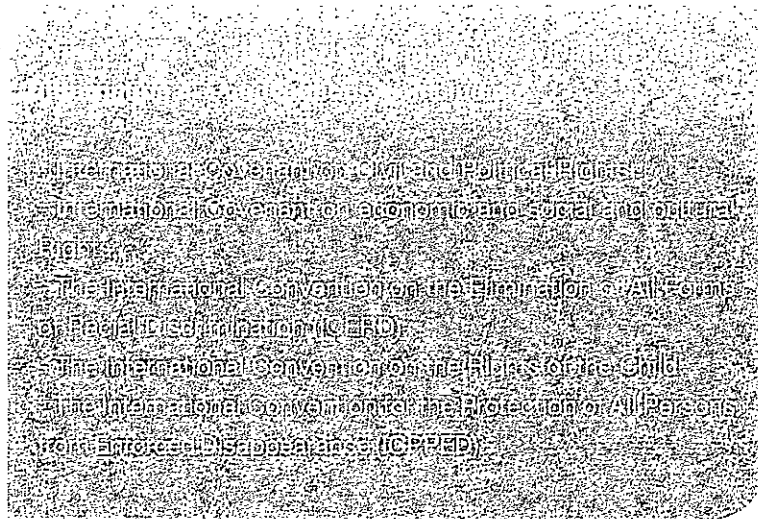
The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, originally composed of a man and a woman, governed by religion, morals and patriotism; its entity and bonds are maintained and reinforced by religion. Motherhood, childhood and members of the family are protected by religion as well as the State and society against all forms of abuse and domestic violence.

Article 24

Every person, who has the capacity of doing so, has the right to work and has the right to free choice of employment according to the requirements of dignity and public interest, while just and favorable employment conditions, as well as employees' and employers' rights, are ensured.

Article 27

Private property is inviolable and no one shall be prevented from the disposition of his property except by the regulation (law), and it may not be expropriated unless for public interest with fair compensation.



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## Sixth: Conclusions

**NHRC confirms its previous conclusions, as well as the conclusions stated in international reports and the United Nations Technical Mission on the consequences of the blockade in Qatar. Further NHRC stresses on the following:**

★ Unilateral arbitrary measures and procedures taken by the blockading countries have resulted in a number of violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

★ The measures taken by states of blockade to punish citizens and residents of Qatar and citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries were used as a tool for political pressure and a mean of managing political disputes. The said measures escalated to collective punishments affecting individuals and property.

★ The discriminatory measures taken by the countries of the blockade amount to racial discrimination, and incitement and hatred attitude towards Qatari people aims to offend and contempt the Qatari citizen, as well as insulting symbols of the State of Qatar.

★ The purpose of the measures taken by the countries of the blockade in the economic, commercial and investment fields is to target and strike the infrastructure of the national economy of the State of Qatar, in addition to damaging the economic rights of individuals and communities, is a dangerous precedent which may amount to the crime of aggression.

★ The countries of the blockade did not take into account the minimum conditions and terms of trade, economic and investment transactions, which confirms the absence of a safe investment environment in those states.

★ The countries of the blockade did not take into account the rights of the most vulnerable groups (women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly). Further, these arbitrary measures have resulted in deprivation of education, denial of employment and violation of the right to health, especially for those groups.

★ Prolongation of the crisis and tragedy of the victims while neither redressing the victims nor restoration their rights, threatens international security and peace and undermines mediation efforts.

★ The ongoing tragedy of separated families may lead to destroying social fabric and exacerbating the suffering of women and children in a flagrant violation of the international convention of the rights of the child and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of

Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Will & Emery LLP on behalf of the State of Qatar.

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✳ The victims have not been granted access to justice in the countries of the blockade. Moreover, they have been deprived their rights to exercise litigation and the associated rights, such as the right to defense, which constitute an impediment to redress, compensation and restitution of victims.

✳ There is no response by the countries of the blockade to remove the violations and lift the harm from those affected, and the measures taken by them were merely a maneuver to improve their image or to delay the current situation. The mysterious mechanisms that lack of credibility in which the countries of the Blockade claim that they have developed in order to address the situation of the victims, failed to remedy the victims' jurist and humanitarian situation and failed to communicate with NHRC the Committee's relentless efforts to do so.

✳ Since the commencement of the blockade and up till now, NHRC did not receive any reply to any of its correspondences sent to national institutions and some relevant civil society organizations in the countries of the blockade, and the said organizations did not provide any cooperation whatsoever.

✳ Qatari authorities have not taken reciprocal arbitrary measures to those taken by the countries of the blockade. The Qatari government has also strived to contain the crisis and its negative impact on citizens and residents, including residents of the countries of the Blockade.

✳ There has been a response by international mechanisms for the protection of human rights, led by the OHCHR and the United Nations' Office of Special Procedures, as well as the Subcommittee for Human Rights in the European Parliament. There has also been remarkable engagement by international human rights organizations such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and others, which conducted field visits and prepared reports. These reports clearly reflect the magnitude of human suffering resulting from the blockade.

✳ The report of the OHCHR Technical Mission revealed the extent of human rights violations caused by the blockade which not only affected the Qataris, but extended to residents and migrant workers in addition to citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

✳ Despite the official correspondences by NHRC on this regard, none of the regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights in the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf or the Arab Parliament have played an effective role in lifting the violations and remedy of victims. Therefore, these mechanisms are still unable to do their part.

✳ The Saudi, UAE and Bahraini authorities have not allowed international organizations to investigate the facts of the negative repercussions of the blockade on human rights, including the rights of their citizens.

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✘ No action has been taken by the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights despite the fact that the NHRC has repeatedly called upon him to intervene quickly to counter the negative effects of arbitrary measures taken by the countries of the blockade and to mitigate their consequences on human rights, in contrast to the many UN Special Rapporteurs who issued urgent appeals and official questions to the countries of the blockade on the size and type of violations and how to compensate the victims.

✘ Despite the statements of the NHRC, the assertions of international reports and organizations, and the urgent appeal of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief to Saudi Arabia, the Saudi authorities continue to politicize religious feelings, put obstacles and hindrances in the way of Qatari people and citizens, and prevent them from exercising their right to worship. The NHRC will work to prosecute KSA locally, regionally and internationally as a result of the psychological damage to the Qatari pilgrims and material losses to the offices of Hajj and Umrah campaigns. Moreover, continue to address the issue of politicizing religious rites in all international human rights forums, and to begin with regional and international partners in organizing awareness campaigns about the seriousness of Saudi Arabia's actions in relation politicizing religious rites.

★ The presence of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates as members of the Human Rights Council raises questions and doubts about the credibility of the Human Rights Council in light of the grave violations committed by these two countries.

✘ Recently, the Saudi authorities have been targeting Qatari citizens while traveling outside the State of Qatar by kidnapping or making illegal arrest warrants and then arbitrarily detaining them and forcibly disappearing.

✘ Most of the cases of victims and parties affected by the blockade, especially the mixed families, remain unresolved and the impact of the current crisis and its negative effects will remain for a long period of time.

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## Seventh: Recommendations to the Competent Authorities

### Recommendations to Civil Society

Take urgent actions to lift the blockade, and make every possible effort to mitigate its repercussions on the people of Qatar, and citizens of the countries of the Blockade, in isolation from the efforts of political mediation to resolve the crisis.

### Recommendations to the Human Rights Organizations

Calling on the Kuwaiti mediation - in the light of the welcome efforts of the Kuwaiti mediation to resolve the humanitarian repercussions resulting from the crisis - to work to alleviate the suffering of the victims and resolve the humanitarian situation for them, especially for the mixed families even if the political solution is long.

Intensify efforts and joint cooperation to resolve the repercussions of the crisis on the humanitarian situation and carry out awareness campaigns to alleviate the suffering of the victims, in addition to fighting hatred and violence speech, as well as holding coordination meetings with NHRC for this purpose.

### Recommendations to OHCHR and UN

1. Take further steps to force the countries of the blockade to reverse from the unilateral arbitrary decisions they have taken.
2. Continue to urge the countries of the blockade to stop the violations caused by the inhumane blockade measures, address these violations, redress the victims and compensate them for the physical and psychological damage caused to them by the blockade.
3. The OHCHR should present reports and data documenting the various types of violations that have affected a large number of individuals, in particular with regard to the displacement of families, including their dire consequences on women and children following the break-up of families, in addition to demanding the states to respect the fundamental freedoms of those in their territories.
4. Submit a detailed report on human rights violations to the Human Rights Council, special rapporteurs and contractual mechanisms to address violations and ensure that they are not repeated, and that a dangerous precedence is not set.
5. Call on the OHCHR for further action at all levels of international human rights mechanisms and to raise the issue of the repercussions of the blockade in the report of the OHCHR at the next session of the UN Human Rights Council.
6. Call on the OHCHR to contact specialized international agencies such as the International Labor Organization, UNESCO, WTO and ICAO to share information and support complaints against the countries of the Blockade.

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7. Call on the United Nations Special Rapporteurs to act swiftly to address the issues of victims of the blockade violations and to visit the countries of the blockade, as well as to include the repercussions of the blockade in their reports to the Human Rights Council.
8. Call on the Special Rapporteur on the unilateral coercive measures to intervene immediately, approach the countries of the blockade, as well as visiting the State of Qatar and the countries of the blockade.
9. Call on the special rapporteur on independence of judges and lawyers to move swiftly to enable victims to obtain their right to litigation, and urge the countries of the blockade to allow them to access the national courts to address their legal status.
10. Invite the Technical Mission of the OHCHR to visit the countries of the blockade and to recognize the negative impact on the countries of the blockade citizen's and citizen's of Qatar, and include its implications in a report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
11. Call on the General Assembly of UN to issue a global declaration against the blockade of the peoples and neutralize civilians from any political strife.

*Recommendations of the Human Rights Council*

1. Take all possible measures to lift the blockade and the resulting violations, as well as demand compensation for all damages to all individuals.
2. Demanding the establishment of a fact-finding committee and conduct direct interviews with victims.
3. Call on the countries of the blockade to allow field visits by special rapporteurs and international human rights organizations, allow victims to resort to national justice, and pursue proceedings for the restoration of their rights. Additionally, immediately stop defamatory campaigns, hate speech and incitement, and hold those responsible accountable.
4. Demands the countries of the blockade abolish all unilateral arbitrary measures, to respect their obligations under international human rights law, to immediately lift violations and to redress victims.

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Recommendation to General Secretary of GCC

1. Exert all efforts through The Settlement of Disputes Committee of the Supreme Council for to persuade the governments of countries to begin to resolve the situation of families, citizens, social, economic, civil and cultural.
2. Work to lift the blockade on the State of Qatar and neutralize civilians from any political strife.

Recommendations to the blockading countries

1. Immediately lifting the blockade on the State of Qatar.
2. Consider positively and immediately the foundations of the report of the OHCHR Technical Mission.
3. Cancel all unilateral arbitrary measures, respect their obligations under international human rights law, and immediately lift violations and redress victims.
4. Neutralizing the political file from influencing the humanitarian and social situation and not using it as a pretext for violating international law and international human rights law.
5. Establish effective mechanisms to address cases of violations and redress victims.
6. Allow the visits of the OHCHR Technical Mission and special rapporteurs and international human rights organizations to examine the effects of the actions taken on the citizens of these countries and the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar. For close humanitarian situations and for determining responsibilities and redress for victims.
7. Allow victims to resort to national justice and litigation procedures to restore their rights.
8. The immediate cessation of defamation campaigns, hate speech, inflammatory propaganda and accountability of those responsible.
9. Stop fabricating arguments and lies to arrest and detain Qataris or residents of the State of Qatar arbitrarily and to limit the racist measures against Qatari citizens.

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Recommendation to the Qatari Government

1. Continue to take all possible steps at the international level by the General Assembly of the United Nations, the Security Council, the Human Rights Council and the international tribunals to lift the unjust blockade on the population of Qatar and defend their rights in the face of violations against them, as well as holding the perpetrators accountable.
2. Seeking resort to the International Court of Justice, arbitration committees and specialized national and international courts, as well as holding the perpetrators of incitement campaigns, hate speech and calls for violence and racial discrimination from the countries of the Blockade accountable.
3. Taking urgent action at the level of the Human Rights Council to present a draft resolution on the repercussions of the blockade on the citizens and residents of the State of Qatar. Furthermore, the repercussions of the blockade to be discussed before the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Security Council.
4. Referring to international reports, led by the Technical Mission report in supporting complaints submitted before the World Trade Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization and UNESCO.
5. Inviting the Compensation Claims Committee to continue litigation and international arbitration procedures, relying on the rationales contained in the national and international reports on the blockade, in order to redress and compensate the victims.
6. Taking due actions to bring the perpetrators of incitement campaigns, hate speech, calls for violence and racial discrimination from the countries of the Blockade to justice.


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June 15, 2018

H.E. Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa  
Ambassador  
Bahrain Embassy  
3502 International Drive NW  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The United States and our Gulf Coast allies face many common challenges and it is critical that our governments work together to confront them.

I am writing to inquire about two families who have been impacted by the ongoing tensions between our allies within the Gulf Cooperation Council. As the dispute with Qatar reaches its one year anniversary, it is incumbent upon all parties to act humanely with the best interests of all of their citizens in mind. In this regard, I believe that we should all work to minimize the adverse impact upon binational families.

For example, an individual who has been identified in an international human rights report as Mr. K. K. (he prefers that only his initials be used out of concern for his safety) is a Bahraini national married to a Qatari woman with children born in Qatar. Following the blockade of the state of Qatar, he has been told to return to the kingdom of Bahrain, leaving behind his Qatari wife and children.

A second example is of Ms. D. S. who is a Qatari mother, married to a Bahraini citizen. Since the start of the blockade, the father has not been able to visit his sons nor has he been able to communicate with them. She has found it difficult to renew her children's travel documents after the closure of the Bahraini Embassy in the State of Qatar, and she has been banned from entering the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Thank you in advance for giving your thoughts as to how these situations can be rectified. As we explore long-term solutions for the dispute within the Gulf Cooperation Council, providing binational families with increased access to their loved ones seems like a potential starting point.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, as well as your stewardship of the U.S.-Bahrain relationship.

Sincerely,

Donald Beyer  
US Representative

<https://www.apnews.com/>

## **The princes, the president and the fortune seekers**

WASHINGTON (AP) — After a year spent carefully cultivating two princes from the Arabian Peninsula, Elliott Broidy, a top fundraiser for President Donald Trump, thought he was finally close to nailing more than \$1 billion in business.

He had ingratiated himself with crown princes from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, who were seeking to alter U.S. foreign policy and punish Qatar, an archrival in the Gulf that he dubbed “the snake.”

To do that, the California businessman had helped spearhead a secret campaign to influence the White House and Congress, flooding Washington with political donations.

Broidy and his business partner, Lebanese-American George Nader, pitched themselves to the crown princes as a backchannel to the White House, passing the princes’ praise — and messaging — straight to the president’s ears.

Now, in December 2017, Broidy was ready to be rewarded for all his hard work.

It was time to cash in.

In return for pushing anti-Qatar policies at the highest levels of America’s government, Broidy and Nader expected huge consulting contracts from Saudi Arabia and the UAE, according to an Associated Press investigation based on interviews with more than two dozen people and hundreds of pages of leaked emails between the two men. The emails reviewed by the AP included work summaries and contracting documents and proposals.

The AP has previously reported that Broidy and Nader sought to get an anti-Qatar bill through Congress while obscuring the source of the money behind

their influence campaign. A new cache of emails obtained by the AP reveals an ambitious, secretive lobbying effort to isolate Qatar and undermine the Pentagon's longstanding relationship with the Gulf country.

A lawyer for Broidy, Chris Clark, contended the AP's reporting "is based on fraudulent and fabricated documents obtained from entities with a known agenda to harm Mr. Broidy."

"To be clear, Mr. Nader is a U.S. citizen, and there is no evidence suggesting that he directed Mr. Broidy's actions, let alone that he did so on behalf of a foreign entity," Clark said.

The AP conducted an exhaustive review of the emails and documents, checking their content with dozens of sources, and determined that they tracked closely with real events, including efforts to cultivate the princes and lobby Congress and the White House.

The cache also reveals a previously unreported meeting with the president and provides the most detailed account yet of the work of two Washington insiders who have been entangled in the turmoil surrounding the two criminal investigations closest to Trump.

Lobbying in pursuit of personal gain is nothing new in Washington — Trump himself, in fact, turned the incestuous culture into a rallying cry when he promised to "drain the swamp."

"I will Make Our Government Honest Again -- believe me," Trump tweeted before the election. "But first, I'm going to have to #DrainTheSwamp in DC."

Broidy's campaign to alter U.S. policy in the Middle East and reap a fortune for himself shows that one of the president's top money men found the swamp as navigable as ever with Trump in office.

Nader's lawyer, Kathryn Ruemmler, declined comment. A senior Saudi official confirmed that the government had discussions with Nader but said it had signed no contracts with either Nader or Broidy.

Neither Broidy nor Nader registered with the U.S. government under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, a law intended to make lobbyists working for foreign governments disclose their ties and certain political activities. The law requires people to register even if they are not paid but merely directed by foreign interests with political tasks in mind.

Violating the federal law carries a maximum \$10,000 fine or up to five years in prison.

Broidy has maintained he was not required to register because his anti-Qatar campaign was not directed by a foreign client and came entirely at his own initiative. But documents show the lobbying was intertwined with the pursuit of contracts from the very start, and involved specific political tasks carried out for the crown princes — whose countries are listed as the “clients” for the lobbying campaign in a spreadsheet from Broidy’s company, Circinus LLC.

“I have represented Mr. Broidy for many years. He has complied with all relevant laws, including FARA,” Clark, Broidy’s attorney, said in a statement to the AP.

Summaries written by Broidy of two meetings he had with Trump — one of which has not been disclosed before — report that he was passing messages to the president from the two princes and that he told Trump he was seeking business with them.

By December of last year, the partners were riding a wave of success in their campaign to create an anti-Qatar drumbeat in Washington.

Saudi Arabia was finding a new ascendancy following Trump’s election. Broidy sought to claim credit for it, emails show, and was keen to collect the first installment of \$36 million for an intelligence-gathering contract with the UAE.

It all might have proceeded smoothly save for one factor: the appointment of Robert Mueller as special counsel to look into allegations of Russian interference in the 2016 election.

#### ‘BELTWAY BANDITS’



In many ways, the partnership between Broidy, 60, and Nader, 59, embodies the insider influence that has given contractors in D.C. the nickname “beltway bandits.”

Both of their careers were marked by high-rolling success and spectacular falls from grace — and criminal convictions. The onset of the Trump administration presented an opportunity: a return to glory.

Broidy, who made a fortune in investments, was finance chairman of the Republican National Committee from 2006 to 2008. But when a New York state pension fund decided to invest \$250 million with him, investigators found that he had plied state officials with nearly \$1 million in illegal gifts while collecting \$18 million in management fees.

In 2009, Broidy pleaded guilty to a felony charge of rewarding official misconduct.

“In seeking investments from the New York State Common Retirement Fund, I made payments for the benefit of high-ranking officials at the Office of the New York State Comptroller, who had influence and decision-making authority over investment decisions,” Broidy said in his plea and cooperation agreement.

Andrew Cuomo, then-New York attorney general, called it “an old-fashioned payoff.”

“This is effectively bribery of state officials, and not just one,” said Cuomo, who is now New York’s governor.

Three years later, Broidy’s conviction was knocked down to a misdemeanor after he agreed to cooperate with prosecutors and pay back the \$18 million to the state.

Nader’s problem was pedophilia.

As a young Lebanese immigrant to the U.S. in the 1980s, he quickly established himself as a forceful independent operator, founding a policy magazine called Middle East Insight. By the ’90s, he had risen as a behind-the-scenes player,

setting up dinners for Israeli and Arab dignitaries with Washington power brokers and U.S. lawmakers.

But in May 2003, Nader was convicted in the Czech Republic of 10 counts of sexually abusing minors and sentenced to a one-year prison term, the AP revealed in March.

He served his time in Prague, according to Czech authorities, then was expelled from the country.

That sordid past was no obstacle as Nader cultivated a formidable list of high-powered contacts.

After the 2003 Iraq war ended, he re-emerged there, as contractors were making a fortune helping the U.S. coalition and the post-Saddam Hussein government rebuild the country and arm its military.

Nader worked with a private military contractor from the U.S., Erik Prince, whose former company, Blackwater, became infamous after a shootout in Baghdad in 2007 left 14 civilians dead.

Nader has been living in the UAE, working as an adviser to Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Abu Dhabi crown prince known as MBZ.

It was Nader's connection to MBZ and Erik Prince that eventually caught the attention of U.S. investigators in the Russia probe.

Mueller's team was interested in two meetings that took place before Donald Trump's inauguration.

One was in the Seychelles, a tropical archipelago in the Indian Ocean, which drew scrutiny because it included Prince, an informal adviser to Trump, and Russian investor Kirill Dmitriev, who has close ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin. The meeting has prompted questions about whether it was an attempt to establish a backchannel between Russia and the incoming Trump administration.

The other meeting was at Trump Tower in New York.

Nader and MBZ were at both.

**'A TERRIFIC, MAGNIFICENT MEETING'**

Just weeks after those meetings, Broidy and Nader met for the first time, during Trump's inauguration.

The two men were soon working out their budding partnership. Nader sent Broidy his private email address on the encrypted ProtonMail service.

From the start, the men had a two-track mission: to carry out a campaign against Qatar that would curry favor with the princes, and to then turn that success into millions of dollars in defense deals, documents show.

The two men barely knew each other. But Broidy had the ear of the president. Nader claimed he had the crown princes'.

On Feb. 7, 2017, Broidy wrote to a staffer for the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee about a bill aimed at sanctioning Qatar for alleged support of terrorist groups— part of what Nader called “hammering Qatar,” emails show.

The next day, Broidy forwarded Nader questions about a potential contract with Saudi Arabia to train Arab troops to fight in the escalating war in Yemen.

The three-year civil war there has left thousands of civilians dead, millions displaced from their homes, and put the entire country on the cusp of famine in what is now the largest humanitarian crisis in the world. The war has drawn in myriad combatants, including a coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the UAE, and backed by the U.S.

Broidy and Nader proposed multiple plans to the princes for more than \$1 billion of work. One pitch was to help create an all-Muslim fighting force of 5,000 troops. A second was aimed at helping the UAE gather intelligence. A third would strengthen Saudi maritime and border security. Still another was related to setting up counterterrorism centers in Saudi Arabia.

In a note to Broidy, Nader said the princes were very happy with the proposed contracts, particularly the crown prince of Abu Dhabi.

But first, emails show, they had to focus on the lobbying campaign. They proposed a budget upward of \$12 million to “expose and penalize” Qatar and get the U.S. to pressure it to “aid in coercive action against Iran,” according to a March 2017 document.

The gist of their plan was to show evidence that Qatar was too close to Iran and supported Islamist groups, including the Muslim Brotherhood. Iran is Saudi’s main regional rival and on the other side of the war in Yemen.

Ideally, Broidy and Nader would work to persuade the U.S. government to sanction Qatar and move a key military base from Qatar to another location in the Gulf. Broidy said he had a direct line to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

“Mnuchin is a close friend of mine (my wife and I are attending Sec. Mnuchin’s wedding in Washington D.C. on June 24th),” Broidy wrote to Nader. “I can help in educating Mnuchin on the importance of the Treasury Department putting many Qatari individuals and organizations on the applicable sanctions lists.”

The al-Udeid Air Base outside Doha is an important U.S. military asset in the Middle East. It’s the forward operating base for U.S. Central Command and hosts some 10,000 U.S. troops — a geopolitical arrangement that Qatar’s Gulf rivals would like to change. Amid the fissures in the Gulf, the base is key leverage for Qatar to maintain influence in Washington. Unlike other countries, Qatar imposes few restrictions on base operations and is even building new facilities for U.S. troops.

Getting the U.S. government to move its critical base in the Gulf was unlikely. And polishing up the image of the Saudis and Emiratis was a hard sell.

Saudi Arabia has a history of torture and human rights abuses. Many Americans still associate the country with the Sept. 11 attacks. Of the 19 attackers, 15 were from Saudi Arabia, and two were from the UAE.

The UAE's track record is no better. Last year, the AP revealed that the UAE was operating "black sites" in Yemen, where its soldiers have tortured prisoners - including, in some cases, tying them to a spit and roasting them over open fires.

Qatar has a troubled record as well. International human rights groups have dinged the country for its treatment of migrant workers preparing the country for the 2022 World Cup. Amnesty International, in a 2013 report, stated that migrants from southeast Asia worked in a state akin to slavery, "forced labour," and lived in "squalid" housing.

Despite the challenges of Saudi Arabia's human rights record, the partners' timing was good. Trump and many other Republicans in Washington viewed Saudi Arabia as a counterweight against Iran.

Broidy reported he was making progress, and Nader kept the "principals" briefed on their adventures, emails show. Broidy boasted that he had got the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, California Republican Rep. Ed Royce, to back an anti-Qatar bill.

"This is extremely positive," Broidy wrote. He claimed he had "shifted" Royce from being critical of Saudi Arabia to "being critical of Qatar." The AP reported in March that Broidy gave nearly \$600,000 to GOP candidates and causes since the beginning of 2017. Royce got the maximum allowed.

Cory Fritz, a spokesman for Royce, noted the congressman's record: Royce has long been critical of both countries. He said Royce has not changed his stance.

Broidy also bragged that he had "caused" Royce to praise a senior Saudi general, Ahmed Hassan Mohammad Assiri, in words that were then memorialized in the Congressional Record. Nader was thrilled: A U.S. congressman publicly flattered a Saudi official, who documents show was helping evaluate Broidy and Nader's contract proposals.

At the end of March, Nader wrote that he'd had "a terrific, magnificent meeting" with the Saudi crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman. Prospects for the billion-dollar contracts were good.

“He was very positive overall,” Nader wrote. The prince even asked them to discuss their contracts with “General Ahmed.”

The money for the lobbying was another matter.

At Nader’s request, \$2.5 million was channeled in two installments from his company in the UAE through a Canadian company called Xiemen Investments Limited, which someone familiar with the transaction said was run by one of Broidy’s friends. The money was then routed to a Broidy account in Los Angeles.

The transaction had the effect of obfuscating that the money for the political work in Washington had come from Nader in the UAE. Some of the recipients of Broidy’s spending in Washington said they had no idea that Nader was involved. Broidy previously told the AP that he did not think to question why the money was routed through a foreign entity.

At that point, Broidy might have realized the dangers of not registering as a foreign agent — it was all over the news.

Three Trump advisers registered retroactively as foreign agents: Michael Flynn, Trump’s former national security adviser, who had done business for Turkey, and Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort and his longtime deputy, Rick Gates, who did business for Ukraine.

Broidy was undeterred. Nader cheered on his anti-Qatar exploits and told him to “keep hammering the bastards.”

#### AN ‘EXTRAORDINARY’ CAMPAIGN

Armed with fresh cash, Broidy pitched Nader a media blitz that would put the fire to Qatar.

He’d persuaded an American think tank, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, to stage an anti-Qatar conference. Broidy wrote Nader that his plan included the commission of 200 articles assigned to the foundation and other think tanks. Mark Dubowitz, the foundation’s CEO, later said that Broidy

assured him the funding was not coming from a foreign government and that he had no contracts in the Gulf.

On April 21, 2017, Broidy sent Nader the draft of an Op-Ed to show the impact of his campaign. It was marked "Confidential."

Three days later, "The Two Faces of Qatar, a Dubious Mideast Ally" was published in The Wall Street Journal. The opinion piece, co-written by retired Air Force Gen. Charles Wald, who had been the deputy head of U.S. European Command, called for moving U.S. military assets from the al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar. "The United Arab Emirates would be a logical destination," wrote Wald.

What readers did not know was that Wald was listed in company documents as a member of Broidy's Circinus team that was pitching contracts in Saudi Arabia.

Asked why he had not made his conflict clear in the Op-Ed piece, Wald denied he had ever worked for Broidy.

"I was not part of the team, period," Wald wrote. "I can't speak for his documentation."

A person familiar with the arrangement, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak on the record, said that Wald consulted with Broidy, but could not join a trip to pitch the contract in Saudi Arabia because of a scheduling conflict. Broidy's leaked emails refer to Wald's involvement almost four dozen times.

The Foundation for Defense of Democracies conference was set for May 23 at the Fairmont Hotel in Washington. In a Circinus progress report from Broidy to Nader, Saudi Arabia and the UAE are listed as the clients, Maj. Gen. Assiri as a consultant, and Broidy and Nader are "leader/liason" — raising questions about Broidy's contention to the AP that he was not working for a foreign government.

The conference also set off a flurry of more anti-Qatar stories in mainstream media, which Broidy catalogued for the crown princes.

The partners were jubilant when Trump made his first foreign trip not to his allies in Europe, but to Saudi Arabia.

Two weeks later, in a major escalation of tensions, the UAE, Saudi Arabia and regional allies launched a travel and trade embargo against Qatar.

It was hard to tell whose side the U.S. government was on.

One day after the UAE and Saudi Arabia began their blockade, Trump sent a series of tweets signaling support for the two countries' actions and embracing an anti-Qatar stance. He said his recent visit to Saudi Arabia was "already paying off. They said they would take a hard line on funding extremism and all reference was pointing to Qatar. Perhaps this will be the beginning of the end to horror of terrorism!"

U.S. officials quickly tried to walk back Trump's comments, saying the U.S. was not taking sides in the dispute among its Gulf allies.

A week later, on June 16, the Trump administration completed a \$12 billion sale of F-15 fighter jets to Qatar that had been approved earlier by Congress. The move was at odds with the president's rhetoric on Qatar, but it paled in comparison with the \$110 billion in arms deals with Saudi Arabia that Trump had previously announced.

#### NADER OR VADER?

In late September, Broidy arranged for the most coveted meeting for any lobbyist in Washington: an audience for himself with the president in the Oval Office.

In advance of the meeting, Nader wrote Broidy a script, an email shows. There were several objectives: to sell the idea for a Muslim fighting force, to keep the president from intervening on Qatar and to arrange a discreet meeting between Trump and the crown prince of Abu Dhabi.

The princes "are counting on you to relate it blunt and straight," Nader wrote.



Nader told Broidy the meeting was potentially historic and to “take advantage of this priceless asset.”

And there was one more thing. Nader asked Broidy to tell the president about his connections with the crown princes, using code names for all three.

“Appreciate how you would make sure to bring up my role to Chairman,” Nader emailed. “How I work closely with Two Big Friends.”

After the Oct. 6 meeting, Broidy reported back to Nader that he had passed along the messages and had urged the president to stay out of the dispute with Qatar. He also said he explained Circinus’ plan to build a Muslim fighting force.

“President Trump was extremely enthusiastic,” he wrote. Broidy said Trump asked what the next step would be and that he told the president he should meet with the crown prince from the UAE, adding, “President Trump agreed that a meeting with MBZ was a good idea.”

The White House did not respond to repeated requests for comment.

Despite that successful readout, Nader wanted more: He wanted a photo of himself with the president — a big request for a convicted pedophile.

Broidy was co-hosting a fundraiser for Trump and the Republican National Committee in Dallas on Oct. 25. The Secret Service had said Nader wouldn’t be allowed to meet the president. It was not clear if the objections were related to his convictions for sexually abusing children.

Broidy drafted an email to Trump’s chief of staff, John Kelly, asking him to intervene on behalf of his friend, whom he oddly called “George Vader” — a misnomer that appears elsewhere in the emails.

“One of my companies does deep vetting for the US government,” he wrote. “We ran all data bases including FBI and Interpol and found no issues with regard to Mr. Vader.”

There was another issue. RNC officials had decreed there would be no photos with the president without payment. Broidy suggested that Nader meet the suggested threshold with a donation between \$100,000 and \$250,000.

It's unclear exactly how the two issues were resolved. Records from the Federal Election Commission show no donations from either George Nader or "George Vader," but on Nov. 30, Broidy gave \$189,000 to the RNC — more than he had given to the RNC in over two decades of Republican fundraising.

The result: a picture of Nader and Trump grinning in front of the American flag.

### A SPIRAL OF MISFORTUNE

It was time for Broidy to visit the UAE and nail down his first contract. He and Nader had already discussed sharing the profits and begun setting up a UAE subsidiary of Circinus, Broidy's company.

In late November, Broidy planned a visit to complete the contracts in the UAE, where MBZ was hosting a Formula One auto race.

But maybe that was too public.

"I think my friend not very wise for you to be seeing (sic) at this event," Nader wrote to Broidy. "Many journalists and people from Russia and other countries will be around."

Broidy met Trump once again on Dec. 2. He reported back to Nader that he'd told Trump the crown princes were "most favorably impressed by his leadership." He offered the crown princes' help in the Middle East peace plan being developed by Jared Kushner. He did not tell Trump that his partner had complete contempt for the plan — and for the president's son-in-law.

"You have to hear in private my Brother what Principals think of 'Clown prince's' efforts and his plan!" Nader wrote. "Nobody would even waste cup of coffee on him if it wasn't for who he is married to."

Days after Broidy's meeting with Trump, the UAE awarded Broidy the intelligence contract the partners had been seeking for up to \$600 million over 5 years, according to a leaked email.

The Muslim fighting force contract would be even larger, potentially bringing their entire Gulf enterprise to more than \$1 billion.

In January, Broidy was preparing for a third meeting with Trump, at Mar-a-Lago, during celebrations of the president's first year in office. Nader was supposed to join them, but the initial payment for the intelligence contract was late. He delayed his trip to the U.S. for a day to make sure it was wired.

On Jan. 17, Broidy reported that he had received the first installment — \$36 million.

"Terrific!" Nader wrote before his flight. "First among many to go!"

Hours after that money transfer, Nader and Broidy discovered that, despite all their precautions, they had not escaped notice.

When Nader landed at Dulles Airport outside Washington, D.C., a team of FBI agents working for Mueller was there to meet him. He was relieved of his electronic devices and later agreed to cooperate. It is unclear why Nader was detained, but he is a link between the Trump campaign and the Russian investor who attended the meeting in the Seychelles.

While there is no evidence that Mueller is interested in the lobbying effort, Nader's detention kicked off a spiral of misfortune for the two partners.

In February, the AP, The New York Times and other news organizations began receiving anonymously leaked batches of Broidy's emails and documents that had apparently been hacked. News stories linked him to plans to leverage his White House access for clients in Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Broidy fought back. He sued Qatar and its lobbyists, alleging in a lawsuit filed in March that the hack was a smear campaign.

“We believe the evidence is clear that a nation state is waging a sophisticated disinformation campaign against me in order to silence me, including hacking emails, forging documents, and engaging in espionage and numerous other illegal activities,” Broidy said in a statement at the time.

Qatar responded that it was Broidy who had engaged in a propaganda campaign.

Then, on April 9, another blow.

The FBI raided the premises of Trump’s personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, seeking information on hush money paid to porn actress Stormy Daniels, who said she’d had an affair with the president.

Broidy, it turned out, was also a Cohen client. He’d had an affair with Playboy Playmate Shera Bechard, who got pregnant and later had an abortion. Broidy agreed to pay her \$1.6 million to help her out, so long as she never spoke about it.

“I acknowledge I had a consensual relationship with a Playboy Playmate,” Broidy said in a statement the day the news broke. He apologized to his wife and resigned from the RNC. There is no indication Broidy is under investigation by Mueller’s team.

In the end, Nader and Broidy’s anti-Qatar operation lost its momentum. There has been no traction on the effort to get the base in Qatar moved to the UAE. In late April, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo called for an end to the bickering among Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar during a trip to the Gulf.

Last week, Saudi Arabia distanced itself from Nader and Broidy. A senior official said Crown Prince bin Salman ordered an end to “engagement with these people.”

But Broidy’s huge contract with the UAE?

It’s good to go.

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Read key documents in Broidy and Nader's correspondence at:

<http://apne.ws/Uux7vo3>

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