

Annual Report

2022

— Organization for Defending Victims of Violence —



ODVV

Annual Report 2022

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence



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 - **Published:** Winter 2023
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FOREWORD

With all its ups and downs the year 2022 came to an end gave itself to a new year full of worries and hopes. What made this year more concerning was Russia's war against Ukraine which has exacerbated political, international human rights, food insecurities and rising inflation and disruption in the chain of provision of necessities. In addition, the battle to fight COVID-19, was imposed on the world and formed on of the serious global challenges of 2022. Another important point that must be noted is the continuation of the refugee crisis, increasing number of victims of human rights violations in Yemen, Myanmar, Syria and parts of Africa, which still continues and been predominant in human rights issues of the last few years to-date.

The International Bank deems the climate change shock as another of challenges in 2022, and seen it as one of the biggest shocks in the global markets. Heavy floods, unprecedented droughts and scorching heatwaves have all impacted the lives of millions of people and create challenges for the world.

At the same time, the unrests in Iran and the continuation and expansion of unlawful unilateral coercive measures imposed by the United States against the people of Iran, once again highlighted the complexity of human rights in Iran and the necessity of finding real solutions for the problem.

In 2022, while reflecting a correct and balanced human rights development outside the country for its domestic audience, the ODVV tried to show a fair and accurate picture of human rights at the international level in addition to human rights developments inside the country. We tried to relay the inhuman pressures of sanctions on the Iranian people, to our international audience.

All activities, projects, journals, and workshops and sittings held and mentioned in the Annual Report are the fruits of all the hard work of the board of directors, all full and part time staff of the ODVV who took part in the scientific researches and ODVV's operational capabilities.

I would like to thank everyone and as always wish for the days ahead for shaping a safer, better and more stable world.

Mahmoodreza Golshanpazhooh (Ph.D)
Director

Introduction

The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV) is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-political organization in Special Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). The ODVV was established in 1988 in Tehran. Some of the works of ODVV's 32 year history can be summarised in the following: provision of legal and humanitarian services, holding education courses, conducting general or thematic researches through the use of a team of experienced experts in fields needed by society, productions and publications, transfer of experiences and an effective and influential presence in international arenas. The ODVV received its Consultative Status from ECOSOC in 1988 and since 2014 it has had a representative office in Geneva, Switzerland and has been active in the field of human rights and humanitarian activities.

The ODVV is also associated to the United Nations Department of Global Communication (UNDGC), a participatory of the NGOs Coalition for an International Court (based in New York). The ODVV is also member of the, Asia Youth Network, Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO), International Movement for a Just World (JUST), and International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA).



ODVV Mission Statement

Being committed to its moral principles the ODVV's mission is:

- To respect high human values;
- To respect the rule of law and be committed to national values, moral principles and laws;
- To respect national interests and to avoid entering political groupings;
- To respect human dignity and status, and to recognise individual's rights and respect of society's public interests;
- To believe in justice, equality and observe everyone's rights (women and children in particular);
- To believe in being responsible, transparent, answerable, honest and virtuous;
- To accept the expansion and promotion of creativity;
- To respect knowledge, competence and experiences of individuals;
- To accept ideas, notions, recommendations and constructive criticisms;
- To be committed to collective unity and cooperation;
- To promote the spirit of service and voluntary campaigns;
- To promote and expand a culture of non-violence;

For the purpose of reaching its goal which is to promote and expand a human rights culture the ODVV shall utilise the following practices:

- Hold educational, seminars, forums and workshops with the aim of information dissemination and raising the society's culture, preparation of articles and research in this regard;
- Protect and defend the rights of victims of violence and society;
- Promote and expand a culture of non-violence;
- Present advisory and counselling services for the rehabilitation of victims of society, and to refer these victims to the relevant centres to receive care and services;
- Establishment and facilitation of links with national, regional and international organizations that follow similar objectives, and to facilitate the opportunity to exchange views, experiences and knowledge;

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Structure

The ODVV conducts its activities and campaigns under the following structure

- Research Department ■ Education Department ■ Communications Department ■ Rehabilitation Department ■ Administrative and Financial Management

Through benefiting from experienced experts in its board of directors and the expertise of dozens of experts and volunteers in human rights, international law, international relations etc. the ODVV endeavours to through the combination of science and strategy to have the best effectivity in the field of nongovernmental human rights activities of the country. The following is a brief narration of the activities that the aforementioned departments conducted in 2022.

Research



6

Positive
Human Rights
Developments
Newsletters



8

Exclusive
Interviews



69

Dispatched Letters
to Rapporteurs,
Officials and UN
Permanent States'
Representatives



3

Participations
in UN Human
Rights Council
Sessions



16

Participations
in webinars
and
international
sittings

International Activities

Positive Human Rights Developments Newsletters

For the purpose of information dissemination to international bodies such as UN thematic Special Rapporteurs, diplomats, experts, ambassadors, international organizations and various countries representatives inside and outside the country, the ODVV put the compiling of positive human rights developments newsletters in its working agenda.

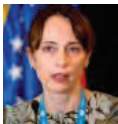
In 2022, 6 English newsletters were emailed to the bodies from January to November with the following contents: human rights, rights of persons with disabilities, women and children's rights, right of access to health, right to life, workers' rights and right to education.



Exclusive Interviews

One of the ODVV's activities at the international level in 2022 was conducting 8 exclusive interviews with top international experts (western in particular) on human rights issues with the aim of study and transparency of the human rights situation in various parts of the world. Human rights in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, the United States, the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT), Islamophobia, the situation in Yemen and the environment and the negative impacts of unilateral coercive measures against Iran were some of the subjects discussed in these interviews.

The Interviews were as follows:



The negative impact of unilateral sanctions on the enjoyment of human rights and ways to confront them

ODVV Interview with Prof. Alena Douhan, The UN Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights.



Climate change makes the global socio-economic challenges more severe

ODVV interview with Prof. Sheril Kirshenbaum scientific author and Michigan State University academic expert on the subject of climate change and its human rights challenges.



A new round of violence against Rohingya Muslims is always a possibility

ODVV interview with Prof. Costas Laoutides associate professor of international relations at Deakin University in Australia on the subject of new round of violence against Rohingya Muslims is a possibility.



Reconstruction should begin in Yemen before it plunges into more poverty

ODVV interview with Dr. Asher Orkaby associate researcher at Princeton University on the subject of Yemen crisis and the Need for reconstruction of the country before further poverty appears.



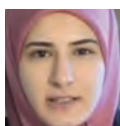
Empowering women will be crucial in combating climate change

ODVV interview with Dr. Petra Minnerop from Durham University on the subject of climate change and human rights.



Poorer nations are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change

ODVV interview with Prof. Stephen M. Gardiner, professor of philosophy and the human aspects of the environment at Washington University on the subject of the climate and poorer nations.



Bahrain is now a profligate practitioner of capital punishment

ODVV interview with Dr. Ghina Rebai, Bahrian Human Rights Association researcher based in Beirut on the subject of human rights in Bahrain.



Local Muslim communities are living out their values in beautiful ways

ODVV interview with Caleb Elfenbein professor of history and religious studies at Grinnell College and the director of its Centre for the Humanities. A scholar of religious studies and racism with a special interest in anti-Muslim prejudice.

It must be said that the full text of the interviews are available in the English and Farsi pages of ODVV website.

Letters Sent

Letters sent to Chinese banks

The ODVV sent five letters to Chinese banks stressing the necessity to commit to international laws and avoid grave human rights violations in the impact of America's illegal unilateral coercive measures. Some of the contents of these letters are highlighted below:

- ODVV welcomed the observation of international laws by the banks and valuing universal human rights standards by the UN as one of the main players in the international legislative field, and observation of international treaties signed by the People's Republic of China.
- Reiterating that the use of unilateral measures – which are imposed outside of UN jurisdictions – have been condemned in numerous UN resolutions, and unilateralism, undermine universal values, international bodies and multilateralism through all of which the UN was founded on.
- Reiterating that as well as UN resolutions, the top ranking officials of the UN and special rapporteurs have on numerous times called on America not to resort to sanctions, particularly during the global COVID-19 pandemic, lift, remove or reduce the sanctions.
- Referring the directors of the banks to all the words of the UN Secretary-General, special rapporteurs and all resolutions condemning sanctions at the UN.

Letter sent to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

ODVV letter was sent in protest to sanctions and their impact on access to water, sanitation and relevant infrastructures, particularly the treatment of COVID-19, introduction of the subject of sanctions imposed by the US to the Special Rapporteur, stressing on the point that sanctions increase all problems in accessing safe water and sanitation, and reverse all efforts to reach the MDGs.

Letter to the UN Human Rights Committee

With the aim of showing the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on any efforts to protect human rights, a letter was sent to the 136th meeting of the UN Human Rights Committee. Some of the issues raised in the letter are as follows:

- Reiterating that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the UN Secretary-General and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights repeatedly called on countries that have imposed sanctions to lift or reduce unilateral sanctions to save human lives and refrain from prohibiting any access to

humanitarian goods that include medicines and vaccines, because COVID-19 will come to an end when All countries are successful in controlling the crisis.

- Reiterating that numerous UN resolutions call unilateral sanctions “illegitimate”, because they undermine the authority of the UN as the main international legislative body and also the rule of international law.

- Reiterating that UN resolutions have repeatedly called on Member States to refrain from imposing unilateral sanctions against other countries.

- Pointing out that these resolutions “deem unilateral coercive measures as contrary to international law, international humanitarian law and the UN Charter, which affect friendly relations between countries, will have a lot of impacts on the human rights of all the people of the targeted countries, and negative impact on the impoverished and vulnerable groups of society.”

Letter sent to the Forum on Human Rights, Democracy & the Rule of Law

With a recommendation for raising of the subject of sanctions in the 4th Forum on Human Rights, Democracy & the Rule of Law, the ODVV sent a letter to this UN body. Some of the issues raised in this letter as follows:

- Recommendation by the ODVV to raise the subject of sanctions and reiterating that unilateral coercive measures undermine and disrupt democracy which include increasing social inequality, poverty and unemployment and equal access to treatment, education, accessing basic services, implementation of national MDG programmes, creation of sustainable infrastructures and universal social support programmes are all disrupted.

- Reiterating the necessity for debate on the impact of sanctions on international cooperation in this Forum.

- Reference to all UN resolutions which deem sanctions as unlawful and condemned them.

Letter sent to the President and Member States of ECOSOC

With the subject of the need to keep Iran in the UN Commission on the Status of Women and the consequences of Iran’s expulsion from the Commission, the ODVV sent a letter to the President and also 52 members of ECOSOC.

Some of the points raised in the letter are as follows:

- Reiterating that as an NGO based in Iran, the ODVV which has been active on human rights issues for over three decades and been in consultative status to ECOSOC, has good knowledge of the human rights situation in Iran and the international atmosphere, and believes that this decision will not have any benefits for women or the Iranian society.

- Reiterating that this decision will put Iran off from any further cooperation with the Commission on the Status of Women.
- Referring to differences in opinions and political views in Iran and the aggressive positions of some countries against Iran's membership in the Commission.
- Reiterating that Iran's membership, is effective interaction with this body and commitment to the Commission towards the promotion of human rights in Iran.
- Reiterating that the expulsion of Iran from the Commission will not help improve human rights.
- Reiterating that the expulsion of an independent state from an international organization will not be good for ECOSOC.
- Reiterating that Iran's encouragement to improve its human rights standards will take place with continued membership and commitment for improving accountability and preservation of the highest standards on women rights.

Letter sent to the Occupied Territories Independent Investigation Commission

The ODVV sent a letter to the Occupied Territories Independent Commission in protest to Israel's disregard to the Commission. Some of the points raised in this letter are as follows:

- Pointing out Israel targeting residential buildings in the aggression.
- Pointing out the vulnerability of women and children in armed conflicts and their death and injuries during Israel's aggressions.
- Pointing out Israel's repeated violation of international law and international humanitarian law and also creating repeated tensions, discrimination, systematic crackdowns of Palestinians based on national, ethnic, racial or religious identities in the occupied territories.

Input sent to the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

The ODVV sent a contribution to the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities in response to the call for input for the report on armed conflict and the disabled. In the written submission ODVV called on the international community and the Human Rights Council to remember those that were injured in Iranian towns from Iraq's chemical weapons attacks.

Input sent to the Independent Expert on International Solidarity

The ODVV sent a written input to the Independent Expert on international solidarity, on the impact of sanctions on international solidarity. Some of the points raised in this written contribution are as follows:

- Thanked the expert's reports and noting the negative impact of sanctions on human rights in

these reports.

- Objection to the impact of sanctions on all human rights of the people of Iran that include right to life and health.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions on international cooperation, international peace and security.

Input sent to the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty

ODVV sent a written contribution entitled “negative impact of sanctions on poverty” to the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty. ODVV stressed on the following in this submission:

- The opposite impact of sanctions on any efforts to accomplish the MDGs that include the eradication of extreme poverty.
- Destructive impact of sanctions on all MDGs that include economic growth, development of infrastructures and promotion of education.

3 Letter and input sent to Alena Dohan, the Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights

1 – The ODVV sent a letter in protest to America’s new sanctions to the UN Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Alena Dohan. Some of the points raised are as follows:

- Pointing out that new sanctions on 23 petrochemicals companies in Iran, Hong Kong and the UAE will result in the grave violation of the human rights of the workers of these companies.
- These types of sanctions threaten the rule of law at the international level.
- These types of sanctions impact multilateralism and free trade relations, cooperation and friendly relations between countries.

2 – Letter sent to Special Rapporteur entitled “sanctions prevent the repayment of debts of third countries to countries under sanction.” Some of the points raised in the letter are as follows:

- America’s sanctions on the international banking system prevents the timely payments of Iraq’s debts to Iran.
- More than 5 billion dollars’ payment of gas and oil exported to Iraq by Iran have been blocked as a result of international sanctions.
- Sanctions on the international banking system prevent the receiving of IOUs of countries under sanction from their trade partners.

3 – Letter send to the Special Rapporteur, on the impact of sanctions on sport, particularly soccer in Iran. Some of the points raised in this letter were as follows:

- Objection to multinational company Nike's refusal to supply shoes for the Iranian national team.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions on the purchase of sports equipment for athletes.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions in the firing of Inter Milan coach from coaching Iranian Esteghlal Soccer team due to bank sanctions and his inability to get his salary.
- Objection to America's refusal to issue visas for Iranian athletes and preventing many of them from competing in America and Europe because of failure to issue visas, for example the Iranian wrestling and karate teams' trip to America and not allowing a tennis player to travel to England to participate in the Wimbledon tournament.

Input sent to the Independent Expert on the International Order

ODVV sent a written input to the independent expert on the international order on challenges in international peace and security. Some of the important points raised in this contribution were as follows:

- Object to sanctions that are the cause of disrupting international security and order.
- Reiterating that sanction is an extreme unilateralism which is up against universal values and UN principles.
- Reiterating that sanctions undermine the international status of the UN and the rule of international law.
- Reference to UN resolutions which criticise sanctions.
- Reference to the words of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and Special Rapporteurs who have criticised sanctions.
- Objection that the United States ignoring various resolutions in opposition to sanctions and UN officials' calls for the lifting of sanctions has set a dangerous precedent.
- Objection to sanctions, result in discrimination inside the country and among countries under sanction with other countries.
- Reiterating that sanctions that are contrary to the international order must be lifted.

2 inputs sent to the Independent Expert on effects of foreign debt

The ODDV sent a contribution on the negative impact of sanctions to the UN Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt on human rights. In this submission important points that have risen as a result of America's imposed sanctions were pointed out as follows:

- Reiterating that violation of all human rights are influenced by sanctions and the closing of official trade and banking routes.
- Reiterating that freezing the country's assets negatively impact of all human rights.

- Reiterating the negative impact of sanctions on the right to life particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, right to education, right to health, right to enjoyment of adequate standards of living, right to housing, right to employment and all MDGs.
- Reiterating on the necessity to create 21st Century international financial policies in a way that the imposition of unilateral coercive measures outside UN jurisdiction be condemned.
- Reiterating that sanctions increase discrimination and restrict the creation of equal opportunities to benefit social services.
- Reiterating the negative impact of sanctions on conducting national human rights promotion projects, eradication of poverty and injustice and protection of the environment.
- The role of the transfer of digital information tools and its impact on foreign debt.
- ODVV's objection to the negative impact of sanctions on digital tools, particularly the impact of sanctions on SWIFT and inter-banking links and violation of human rights through this.

Input sent to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

The ODVV sent a written contribution to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, on the negative impact of sanctions on lack of access to sustainable development. Some of the points raised in this submission are as follows:

- Sanctions are obstacles in the way of attainment of MDGs.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions on the activities of NGOs.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions on the right to life of people during the COVID-19 pandemic due to their impact on people's access to medicines, medical treatment and vaccines.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions on NGOs active in support of patients, migrants, weaker groups, children, women heads of household, self-heads of household, and NGOs in education, environment and health fields.
- Reiterating on the nullification of any attempts to accomplish MDGs under sanctions.

Input sent to Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

The ODVV sent a contribution to the Human Rights Council Consultation Committee on the impact of racial discrimination on improving models, policies and processes which result in the elimination of systematic racial discrimination, advancement of justice and racial equality. Some of the points raised in this letter are as follows:

- Call on the Committee to pay special attention to extensive and systematic racial discrimination based on nationality against millions of citizens of countries under economic sanctions or unilateral coercive measures.

- Expressing concern over the continuation of banking and financial actors' policies who due to nationality, have discriminated against the people of countries under sanctions, prevent the delivery of humanitarian goods, right to free trade and education for students studying in foreign countries.
- Highlighting banks' refusal to conduct lawful business with citizens of countries under sanctions who reside outside their countries.
- Highlighting the impossibility of paying education loans for university fees payments to foreign students, due to being nationals of the country under sanctions.
- Objection that extensive discrimination is done based on nationality, that has disrupted access to all human rights in sanctioned countries.
- Reminding all sanctions imposing countries of the necessity to remain committed to their international obligations in the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination, particularly Article 1.
- Reminding all sanctions imposing countries that they are directly responsible for all human rights violations that include right to life, right to health, right to education, right to employment, right to adequate living standards, right to food, right to water and right to enjoyment of a healthy environment and all other rights that are violated by sanctions.

Input Sent to the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights

ODVV sent a written contribution to the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights on the impact of sanctions on implementation of the UN Guiding principles on business and human rights.

Statement sent to CONGO

Cooperation and coordination with the Conference of NGOs in consultative status (CONGO) joining the list of joint statement submissions in support of women on the subject of adopting supportive actions for women for justice and equality is another of ODVV's activities. This joint statement was sent by CONGO to the UN Commission on the Status of Women on the subject of the situation of women in the world. Also cooperation and coordination with CONGO and joining a joint statement on the environment was also done.

Participation in International Webinars and Sittings



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**Webinars
and Sittings**

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Participation in the 10th Forum on Business and Human Rights

The 10th Forum on Business and Human Rights took place in physical attendance in October 2022. In this Forum an oral statement was read by ODVV's representative in Geneva, and objection was made to sanctions and excessive discrimination towards businesses and banks with sanctions which caused the violation of all human rights of countries under sanction that include the right to life.

Participation in the Sixth Session of Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

In this three-day Session, ODVV participated online, reading an oral statement.

On the first day of the Session while reading an oral statement with a reference to article one of the Convention on the Right to Development, the ODVV objected to sanctions as a tool for creating international inequality and a serious obstacle in the way of the right to development.

- The ODVV was one of the few NGOs that with reading an oral statement dealt with the right to development and international obstacles.

On the second day of the Session, ODVV also read a statement in the dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development with NGOs, on the subject of ODVV's activities and the right to development – discussing promotion of mental health among Afghan refugees and COVID-19, sanctions and their negative impact on some cultural values contradicting dominant international standards on Afghan communities; as well as the obstacles in the activities of the ODVV towards promotion of the mental health of Afghan communities.

On the third day of the Session while studying the "Inequalities" which is a thematic report released by the Mechanism, ODVV submitted a statement on "the impact of sanctions on social inequalities".

Participation in the ICRC Webinar

ODVV took part in the four hour ICRC webinar which was on the subject of "the role of NGOs in the promotion of humanitarian law". The history of the Red Cross, the role of NGOs in the enjoyment of humanitarian law and the role of NGOs in the "promotion" and "development" of humanitarian law at national and international levels were the subjects that were reviewed in this webinar.

Participation in IANSA Sitting

Alongside representatives of a number of NGOs, in cooperation with IANSA, the ODVV

commemorated the Action against Small Arms International Week. Also, ODVV took part in a webinar regarding the eight annual States' meeting for the review of the implementation of action plan for the prevention, fight against and eradication of illegal small arms trade in all its aspects. In this sitting, the role of civil society for the improvement of lobbying efforts with governments, making NGOs participation more effective and encouraging them to participate were discussed.

Participation in IRCT Webinar

ODVV took part in a webinar on the subject of reviewing international standards on the rehabilitation of torture victims.

ODVV took part in a webinar on the subject of effective solutions for the improvement of rehabilitation of torture victims through the use of social-economic empowerment as an inalienable part of rehabilitation.

- In this webinar IRCT members from the Middle East and North Africa were present and discussed the subject of livelihood. In this meeting, a report on the livelihood activities of the ODVV in support of victims of violence and torture was presented.

Participation in a webinar on the subject of effective solutions in the rehabilitation of torture victims and also the activities of centres.

Participation in a 3-hour webinar on the subject of actions and experiences, response to Lebanon and Ukraine issues.

Participation in a webinar on the subject of organizational equipment and data security alongside presentation of practical guidelines in this regard.

Participation in a webinar on the subject of war damages and children and introduction to the updated Istanbul Protocol.

Participation in the webinar on the involvement of torture victims in rehabilitation: members' experiences.

Participation in webinar on taking care of carers who support torture victims.

Participation in webinar on the subject of taking care of migrant children, managing case files and integration of migrant children into the main protection of children system.

In cooperation with IRCT, ODVV with the attendance of a number of NGOs commemorated the International Day in Support of Torture Victims.

Participation in Coalition for an International Court

Participation in a webinar on the subject of an online roundtable for exchanging views, reviewing

the situation of some countries including their courts, proposal of support points with courts and organization of strategic debates among organizations member of the Coalition with the diplomatic community.

Participation in a webinar on the criminalization of the destruction of the environment.

Participation in Technical Sitting with Professor Alena Dohan

On 11 May, 2022, the ODVV held a technical and special meeting with Alena Dohan the UN Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights. In this almost 3 hour sitting representatives from the Iranian Autism Society, Iranian Promotion of Living Quality Charity, the National Network of the Disabled NGOs of the Country, and Chant du Guépard dans le Désert with consultative status to the UN ECOSOC took part in this meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, the ODVV described the issue and protested unilateral coercive measures. The following points were raised:

- Reiterating that oil and bank transactions' sanctions impact all human rights.
- Pointing out the negative impact of sanctions such as rise in inflation and shortage of medicine on the mental health of people and the need to include the psychological impact of sanctions on people in Ms. Dohan's report.
- Pointing out the interest of people and NGOs outside Iran to send assistance to the ODVV and not being successful due to the sanctions.
- Pointing out that people with disabilities' and also autism patients need special medicines and rise in prices of medicines due to the negative impact of sanctions.
- Pointing out the death of 400 children from MSA and dystrophy patients due to lack of access to medicines.
- Pointing out two specific areas which are affected by sanctions: annual forest fires and inability to import firefighting equipment; and the redundancy of the efforts of NGOs in importing clean industries following America's unilateral exit from JCOPOA.
- Pointing out the biggest impact of sanctions on the performance of donor and sponsor organizations regarding Afghan refugees and a drop in their financial aid due to sanctions.
- Hearing the words of the attending NGOs and thanking them for raising the issues the Special Rapporteur again reiterated on the need for discourses such as this to continue and the formation of an NGOs network for the exchange of experiences, and also to send her facts and figures for before and after the imposition of sanctions.

Participation in International Conferences



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Submission
of 14 Written
Statements



10

Submission
of 10 Oral
Statements



1

Publication of
1 Issue of Defenders
Newsletter



4

Holding 4 Side
Events Panels



2

Sending of
2 Letters



5

Holding
5 Exhibits



8

Holding
8 Meetings

International Conferences

ODVV's Activities in 3 Human Rights Council Sessions at a Glance

Subject	49 th Session	50 th Session	51 th Session
Written statements	4	5	5
Oral Statements	6	2	2
Research Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unilateral Coercive Measures – Human Rights Impacts - America's Unilateral Coercive Measures against Cuba, Iran and Venezuela 		
Newsletter	Positive Developments Newsletter No. 34		
Letters Sent		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Letter sent to the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing. - Letter sent to the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights 	
Side Events Sittings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Side Event on Administrative Detention: Violation of Human Rights - Side Event on UN Security Council Resolutions and their Impact on Human Conditions in Yemen 	- Side Event on the Human Rights Situation in Occupied Territories	- Side Event on Unilateral Coercive Measures and Human Rights

Subject	49 th Session	50 th Session	51 th Session
Meeting with Special Rapporteurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights - Meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation - Meeting with UN Independent Expert on Foreign Debt - Meeting with the head of the UN Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development - Meeting with UN Independent Expert on the Enjoyment of All Human Rights by Older Persons - Meeting with UN Independent Expert on International Order
Exhibits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holding the Stop War against Yemen Exhibit - Holding the Protection of the Human Rights of Palestinians Exhibit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holding the Protection of the Human Rights of Palestinians Exhibit - Holding the Negative Impact of Sanctions on the Human Rights in Yemen Exhibit 	Holding the Sanctions are Illegal Exhibit

49th Session of the Human Rights Council

Two years following the COVID-19 pandemic and Human Rights Council Sessions being held online and in video format, with the dropping of the number of fatalities and change in some strict laws, and with the decision of the Council Secretariat, the 49th Session of the Council was held in a combination of both in person attendance and online from 28 March to 1 April 2022.

As in the past, by concentrating on issues such as the impact of sanctions on health, impact of sanctions on failure to promote human rights; the Yemen conflict; extensive human rights violations in occupied territories; racism, Islamophobia and Shia phobia, ODVV tried to raise the issues in the Council. A summary of ODVV's activities in this Session are as follows;

Written Statements

- Written statement under Item 3 on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the access to fundamental human rights in impoverished regions.
- Written statements under Item 4 on human rights concerns in the United States, United Kingdom, France and Canada.
- Written statement under Item 4 on interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Situation in Iran (joint statement of a number of NGOs based in Iran).
- Written statement under Item 5 on unilateral coercive measures undermine democracy and the rule of law.

Oral statements

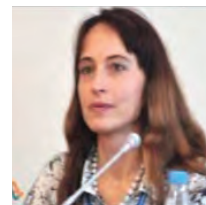
- Oral statement under Item 2 on Israel's settlements construction is a grave violation of international law.
- Oral statement under Item 3 on unilateral coercive measures, extensive violation of human rights
- Oral statement under Item 4 on interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Iran.
- Oral statement under Item 4 on general debate on the human rights situation in Yemen
- Oral statement under Item 7 on the situation of Palestinian detainees.
- Oral statement under Item 9 on Shia phobia in Pakistan.

Communications and meetings with Special Rapporteurs

1 – Meeting with Prof. Alena Dohan the UN Special Rapporteur on the impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights

The meeting with Prof. Dohan took place on 2 March 2022. In this meeting in which a number of

the attendees were attending via video link, various aspects of sanctions were discussed. Also the special rapporteur discussed a number of subjects, and ODVV representatives also raised a number of issues regarding the impact of sanctions in maintenance of medical and treatment equipment and their breaking down which cause delays in diagnosis and treatment.



2 – Meeting with the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

On the Side Events of 49th Session. ODVV representatives had a meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities and in the meeting they asked the Rapporteur to pay further attention and reflect the discriminatory impact of America’s sanctions on the rights of persons with disabilities in countries under sanction in his reports.

The Special Rapporteur expressed happiness in meeting with representatives from Iran and stressed that he had heard the words of Iranian NGOs very clearly and would certainly consider their recommendations which had not been considered before.



3 – Meeting with the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing

On the side-lines of the Special Rapporteur’s presentation of his report, ODVV representatives took the opportunity to have a meeting with the Special Rapporteur.

The representative of the ODVV asked the Rapporteur to consider the subject of the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing. In response the Rapporteur stressed that this matter has been left behind from consideration.



Holding Side Events Sitings

a) Side Event sitting on UN Security Council resolutions and their impact on the human rights situation in Yemen

Al-Khiam Rehabilitation of Torture Victims Centre, with the partnership of ODVV and Northern Germany Yemeni Population, held a Side Event meeting in the 49th Session of the Human Rights Council in online format, on the UN Security Council resolutions and their impact on the human situation in Yemen.

This sitting was held on 23 March 2022 with the participation of Mr. Ali Al-Deilami interim head of the human rights minister, Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Muqtar member of the Yemeni Parliament and

moderated by Mr. Abdulhamid Al-Ghafri human rights activist and member of Northern Yemeni Population. Some of the points raised in this sitting were as follows:

Security Council resolutions do not rely on international rules for the protection of civilians, but is concentrated on the interest of countries.

With regards to human rights issues in the United States which determine international policies and give direction to the world, the result of which is nothing but the appearance of catastrophe in various parts of the world.

Permanent Members of the Security Council have participated in the aggression against Yemen, because they have sold weapons to the aggressors and in view of the ensuing human tragedy, they never call for an end to this war against Yemen, and paint a picture of the conflict as an internal matter.



b) Side Events sitting entitled “Administrative Detention is Violation of Human Rights”

On 16 March, a sitting with the mutual cooperation of the ODVV and Khiaam Rehabilitation Centre was held on the Side Events of the Session in Geneva, for solidarity with Palestinian detainees, entitled “administrative detention is violation of human rights”. Some of the points raised in this sitting were as follows:

41 children were currently in administrative detention and on the pretext of confidential files or that the children might pose a threat to Israel’s security in the future, the IDF does not hesitate for one moment in detaining children.

The Fourth Geneva Convention deems administrative detention as a harsh method to control situations and the most extreme mechanism, which must only be applied under specific circumstances and exceptional cases.

Getting the consensus of the international community and human rights organizations for the suspension of administrative detention and putting the matter of detainees in all programmes of Arab organizations.



Research Paper

The subject of unilateral sanctions against Iran because of extensive violation of human rights has always been in the attention of the ODVV in its research and operational activities. Because of this, towards creating specialised contents on sanctions, the ODVV compiled, printed and distributed two research papers on “unilateral sanctions, negative impacts on human rights and ways to confront them” and “America’s unilateral sanctions against Iran, Cuba and Venezuela”.



Positive Developments Newsletter

On the Side Events of the Session, the ODVV prepared Positive Developments Newsletter No. 33 and sent and distributed them to States’ permanent missions in Geneva, a number of UN Special Rapporteurs and ODVV addressees.

The aim in the publication of this newsletter is to inform the international addressees of the human rights development in Iran in women’s rights, refugees rights, right to education, rights of persons with disabilities and introducing Iranian NGOs active in various human rights fields.



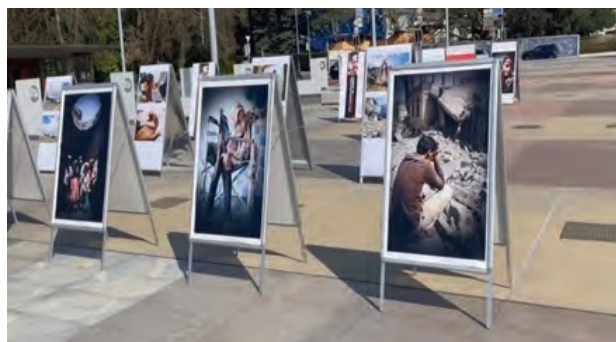
Exhibit

a) Holding the Stop War against Yemen Photo Exhibit

On 26 March, the ODVV held a photo exhibit in Nations Square in Geneva in front of the main gate of the UN European headquarters. This was done in support of the people of Yemen and the subject was Stop the War against Yemen. This took place on the Resistance in Yemen National Day and at the same time as the seventh anniversary of the Coalition’s aggression, on the Side Events of the 49th Session of the Human Rights Council.

In this exhibit, images of the damages inflicted on the people as a result





of the seven-year ongoing conflict and economic sanctions against Yemen and repeated human rights violations which have affected the lives and health of thousands of people and caused destruction and crumbling of health, economic and education infrastructures in the country and extreme poverty and displacement of people were put on display for the public.

b) Holding the Protection of the Human Rights of Palestinians Exhibit

This exhibit was at the same time as the days that Item 7 was being reviewed on 24 and 25 April 2022 at the Nations Square in Geneva. The exhibit was set up in support of the rights of Palestinians and cases of human rights violations by Israel.

In this exhibit images were on display to the public that showed arbitrary detentions, Palestinian peaceful protests, the occupation of East Jerusalem, the human rights situation of Palestinian children and detainees.



50th Session of the Human Rights Council

The 50th Session of the Human Rights Council took place from 13 June to 8 July 2022 at the UN European headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Due to the omission of General Debate by the Council Secretariat, in this Session more time was given to the Special Rapporteurs and the High Commissioner's reports and also a number of UPR sessions. NGOs had limited time to read their oral statements. Nevertheless, as in the past, the ODVV managed to read two oral statements and submitted 5 written statements to the Council Secretariat.

Written Statements

- Written statement under Item 3: interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty
- Written statement under Item 3: interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to health.
- Written statement under Item 3: interactive dialogue with the Independent Expert on international solidarity and human rights.
- Written statement under Item 2: dialogue with the Investigation Commission on Occupied Palestinian Territories.
- Written statement under Item 2: Unilateral Coercive Measures.

Oral Statements

- Oral statement under Item 2: dialogue with UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on report on Occupied Palestinian Territories.
- Oral statement under Item 3: dialogue with Independent Expert on international solidarity and human rights.

Communications and Meetings with Special Rapporteurs

At the same time as the regular session of the Human Rights Council, with the aim of reflecting the negative impact of sanctions on human rights, the ODVV sent two letters to the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Independent Expert on international solidarity and human rights. Some of the contents of these letters are as follows:

Letter sent to the Independent Expert on international solidarity and human rights entitled the impact of sanctions on international solidarity

- Description of the negative impact of sanctions on human rights.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions on all human rights of the people of Iran and Venezuela that include right to life and health.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions on international solidarity and also international cooperation,

peace and security.

Letter sent to the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty on the negative impact of sanctions on poverty

- Reiterating the negative impact of sanctions on any attempts to achieve MDG that include the eradication of extreme poverty.
- Reiterating the destructive impact of sanctions on all MDG such as economic growth, development of infrastructure and promotion of education.
- Objection to the impact of sanctions on people.
- Request for a study on the impact of sanctions on extreme poverty, the report of the findings to be submitted to the Council and present recommendations for the reduction of poverty in countries under sanctions.

Holding Side Events sittings

a) Human rights situation in Occupied Palestinian Territories

The online sitting entitled “review of the first report of the Independent International Commission on the human rights situation in Occupied Palestinian Territories” was held on 6 July 2022. In view of the importance of looking into the Human Rights Council investigation commission’s report by Navi Pelay and her colleagues in the 50th Session of the Council, the ODVV held this sitting.

The sitting was moderated by Dr. Hassan Fartowski and the participants were Ms. Hiba Birat law expert and executive director of Law for Palestine from New Jersey USA, Dr. Sallah Abd el Alei lawyer and director of the International Commission to Support Palestinian Rights from Gaza and Dr. Haytham Mena director of Scandinavian Institute for Human Rights. Some of the subjects discussed in this sitting were as follows:

- The report of the Independent International Commission on the human rights situation of Occupied Palestinian Territories, the systematic violation of human rights in various areas of racism, ethnicity, religious, national and linguistic have been highlighted.
- The report does not mention the issue of refugees and their conditions clearly.
- The ICC has not been mentioned as a suitable authority for criminal investigation of human rights violations crimes.
- In spite of a good assessment of the report it is still necessary for Israel’s accountability to be



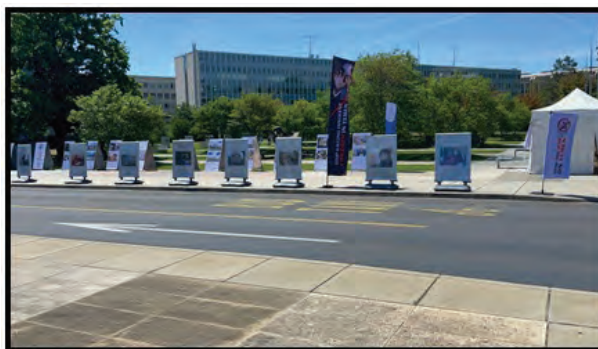
stated more clearly and for this reason the need for NGOs to send more accurate and detailed information has been stressed.

- Pointing out the lack of serious action taken by America in view of public opinion pressures regarding the murder of Shirin Abu-Ghala, Christian Palestinian-American journalist by Israelis.
- Legal and organizational lobbying of Israel which is mostly against Palestinian rights, prevents the realisation of UN and Human Rights Council reports and resolutions.

Exhibits

Protection of Human Rights in Palestine Photo Exhibit

At the same time as the 50th Session of the Human Rights Council, the ODVV held a photo exhibit on Protection of Human Rights in Palestine. This exhibit was held on 13 and 14 June 2022 in Nations Square in front of the main gate of the United Nations in Geneva.



The Negative Impact of Sanctions on Human Rights in Yemen Photo Exhibit

On the Side Events of the 50th Session of the Human Rights Council the ODVV held a photo exhibit on “the Negative Impact of Sanctions on the Human Rights in Yemen.” This exhibit was held on 15 June 2022 in Nations Square in Geneva, Switzerland.

51st Session of the Human Rights Council

The 51st Session of the Human Rights Council was held from 12 September to 7 October 2022 and one of the important events of this Session was the UN Special Rapporteur on the Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights, Alena Dohan’s submission of report to the Council following her visit to Iran. A summary of ODVV’s activities in this Session are as follows:

Written Statements

- Written statement under Item 4 on a look at some human rights concerns in America, United Kingdom and Canada.
- Written statement under Item 7 on a review of the grave violation of international law and humanitarian law in Occupied Palestinian Territories.
- Written statement under Item 10: dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the right to development, negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on all human rights that include the right to development.
- Written statement under Item 3 on dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights (joint statement with 20 Iranian NGOs in consultative status).

Oral Statements

- Oral statement under Item 9 on Islamophobia in the West.
- Oral statement under Item 2 in the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights, on unilateral coercive measures violate all human rights.

Communication and Meeting With Special Rapporteurs

Meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation
On 14 September 2022, ODVV representatives had a meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation and asked him to put to debate the impact of unilateral coercive measures on people in countries under sanctions enjoyment of clean drinking water; because sanctions and serious damages inflicted on drinking water distribution infrastructures deprive people of this right.

Meeting with the Independent Expert on foreign debt and human rights

On 15 September 2022, ODVV representatives had a meeting with the Independent Expert on foreign debt and human rights. In this meeting the ODVV asked for more extensive investigation of the negative impact of sanctions on human rights.

Meeting with the Independent Expert on the Enjoyment of All Human Rights by Older Persons

On 19 September ODVV representatives had a meeting with the Independent Expert on the

Enjoyment of All Human Rights by Older Persons and stressed on the negative impact of sanctions on all human rights. In response this expert said that by responding to “requests” by special rapporteurs, NGOs can deliver their concerns to these experts.

Meeting with the Independent Expert on the international order

On 20 September ODVV representatives had a meeting with the Independent Expert on the international order. In this meeting while commending the Expert for his previous years and his cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights in the form of an online panel with Ms. Dohan, the ODVV called for the continuation of paying attention to sanctions.

Side Events Sitings

Side Event sitting on “unilateral coercive measures and human rights” with the presence of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights

On 13 September 2022, the ODVV held unilateral coercive measures and human rights Side Event sitting at Palais des Nations with the presence of Alena Dohan the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Dr. Parsapoor from a humanitarian NGO, Dr. Hassan Fartousi researcher in international law and human rights activist. In this one hour sitting points raised on the negative impact of sanctions on human rights were as follows:

- Reiterating the harshness and extension of the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on human rights.
- Reiterating that in Iran the sanctions have caused a drugs shortage for children suffering from cancer and EB.
- Explanation that in this sitting the Special Rapporteur intends to discuss the impact of unilateral coercive measures the rights of vulnerable groups.
- Reiterating that humanitarian aid during sanctions is very different to ordinary times.
- Reiterating that even limited sanctions, such as sanctions on a number of key economic figures, due to the appearance of secondary sanctions can have big impact on the people, like what has happened in Zimbabwe.
- Reiterating that the impact of sanctions is varied, and ranges from people booking hotel rooms in other countries to instances such as specialized machinery and unavailability of machinery spare parts.

- Objection to the fact that countries such as Zimbabwe, the lack of infrastructures related to drinking water, for example unavailability of raw materials to produce water pipes has resulted in people's access to clean drinking water to notably reduce and diseases such as cholera have spread.
- Reiterating that during sanctions conditions those that are affected the most are vulnerable groups because they receive very little support.
- Objection to the fact that in sanctions conditions at times patients are forced to sell medicines that they receive through subsidies in the black market to provide for their livelihood needs.
- Pointing out that during sanctions conditions the number of women heads of household increases, because to provide their family's livelihood the men migrate to other countries, and more often they face problems sending money back to their families.
- Pointing out that during sanctions women heads of household face problems such as unemployment and dangers such as criminal activities and prostitution.
- Pointing out that in Venezuela many women are forced to give birth to their children at home because they do not have enough money for a hospital birth; and most hospitals are short on equipment so much so that when needed a few patients are connected to one machine and a number of them lose their lives.
- Objection to the fact that in these countries millions of children cannot get vaccinated and this has resulted in a number of children to die from diseases which are easily preventable with vaccinations, and the mortality rate of adults and children in these countries have noticeably increased.
- Pointing out that countries under sanctions face drug shortages due to some drug companies from refraining from supplying.
- Reiterating that sanctions use medicine as a political tool.
- Described the situation of a child called Ali who was suffering from cancer in Khuzistan province and needed a drug which was manufactured only in Serbia and because of the company's refusal to supply the drug the doctors treating the child were forced to use drugs that were available to them which resulted in Ali losing his sight.
- Described the situation of a child called Zahra who lived in the north of Iran and because of unavailability of cancer drugs she contracted metastasis and died.
- At the end of the meeting on behalf of the ODVV, Dr. Fartowski summarized the speeches and stressed on the negative impact of sanctions on humanitarian law.

Exhibit

Sanctions are Illegal Exhibit

On the Side Event of the 51st Session for presenting the impact of illegal and unilateral sanctions, an exhibit was set up on Nations Square in front of the European headquarters of the UN. In this exhibit which was held on 15 September 20 images and banners related to the impact of sanctions and the speeches made by UN officials were put on display.



Projects

**Conducting project with United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**



Report of Psychological, Empowerment and Livelihood Support Services for Afghan Refugees in Alburz and Pakdasht Regions Project - 2022

This project commenced in June 2022, in Alburz region to present counselling, education, therapy and livelihood services and ended in November 2022 in Pakdasht region.

This project was planned for 2022 by ODVV. The target group were 200 Afghan refugees in Alburz and Pakdasht regions, including both men and women. The aim was reducing the threats of domestic violence and improving the response quality through psychological, empowerment interventions, livelihood supports and promotion of gender equality and the presence of men and boys to reduce violence and abuse.

The beneficiaries (75percent women and 25percent men), benefited from 2000 hours of counselling services and psychological and therapy services.

Twenty of the beneficiaries had no heads of household or bad heads of household, who received livelihood assistance in the form of food packs.

Twelve of the project beneficiaries needed further interventions, in spite of the termination of the project in these regions, they continued to receive counselling services either via phone, online or in-person at the ODVV Counselling Centre.

Project Challenges and Achievements

One of the challenges of the projects with Afghan refugees is men's resistance in benefiting from counselling services and their disagreement on women's receiving project services. In the recent years this challenge has noticeably reduced and the project counsellor colleagues and women have had further success in drawing the interest of men to attend counselling sessions, which in itself is one of the important achievements of the project, but still it remains as an issue.

However, we continue to try to improve this trend and we have hope; because with the experience of these years we found that breaking taboos among the refugee community in Iran for men to face support and counselling services has been an important step and our achievement of these years. A notable number of project beneficiaries managed to encourage their fathers or husbands to attend counselling sessions; and perhaps even reduce physical abuse which at times are violent and result in injuries and or cause suicidal thoughts.

Livelihood support which was first presented by the ODVV in 2022 for women in bad heads of household or no heads of household is one of the actions which was welcomed by the target community and will need to expand in future projects.

Rehabilitation Department: Raha Counselling Centre



1904

Cases



1500

Hours of
Counselling

Rehabilitation Department: Raha Counselling Centre

With a wish to mend and end mankind's pains and sufferings, and expansion of humanitarian campaigns, ODVV Rehabilitation Department provides advisory and educational services.

For the protection of victims of domestic and social violence, the department presents counselling and therapy in legal, family, marriage and psychological disorders areas, at the Rehabilitation Centre.

With the cooperation of 40 mental health experts and lawyers, the Centre provides pre-marriage, education and legal counselling. The statistics of the cases is determined on the basis of gender, age, occupation, marital status, education levels and the reason for coming to the Centre.

In 2022, 1904 cases benefited from the Centre's services. 1250 of them were women and 645 were men. According to the statistics, most of the cases were married and the majority of them had family problems. It must be said that in total approximately 2000 hours of counselling was provided to cases in 2021.

As an active member of the Employment and Education Committee, the ODVV Rehabilitation Centre, through the preparation of the "Prevention of Domestic Violence" document, has always endeavoured to work towards the prevention of violence.

For the realisation of the goals of this Committee, by participation in all meetings with a description of practical activities in this regard, the Rehabilitation Department has undertaken a number of important measures, the important ones of which are:

- Identification of victims of violence at the Raha Rehabilitation Centre.
- Review of effective approaches in counselling and psychotherapy in prevention of violence.
- Identification of suitable titles for technical sittings on prevention of violence and treatment of the victims, to hold at the Raha Rehabilitation Centre.
- Setting a suitable research method to review the link between violence and impractical schemas, depression and anxiety among victims of violence.
- Identification of counselling problems of related governmental departments with the Rehabilitation Centre project for treatment, intervention and counselling towards increasing the mental health of target groups.



ODVV Raha Rehabilitation Centre Had the Following in its Working Agenda for 2022:

- 1 – Posting materials daily in its Telegram page.
- 2 – Expand the Centre’s team of counsellors, psychologists, psychoanalysts and psychiatrists in various fields.
- 3 – Preparation of product packs and introduction of Raha Centre.
- 4 – Talks with services centres for cooperation with Raha Centre.
- 5 – Uploading Raha Centre’s activities reports on its website.
- 6 – Holding education workshop in psychological fields such as stress management education course, pre-marriage education course etc.

Communications and Social Networks



Updating
ODVV Farsi,
English
and Arabic
websites



110

Publication of
110 Reports
and Reviews in
Farsi, English
and Arabic
Websites



410

Publication
of 410 Posts
on Telegram



510

Publication of
510 Tweets



430

Publication of 430 Contents
on Facebook

Communications and Public Relations

Coordination and Publication the Contents of Websites and Social Networks

Information dissemination is another one of ODVV's activities towards its objectives. The ODVV uses various tools to achieve this.

Publications

Unilateral Coercive Measures; Human Rights Negative Impacts and Ways to Confront Them Research Paper

This research paper which is an ODVV exclusive interview with Ms. Alena Dohan the UN Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights. Some of the subjects discussed are as follows:

- Noting case files on the subject of sanctions which will be submitted to the ICC that include the file opened by the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- Ms. Dohan believes that instead of sanctions, the disputes between countries should be settled through the courts.
- Ms. Dohan reiterated that she is trying to have interaction with national human rights bodies such as commissions and committees so that she can provide explanation to the people on referring to treaty bodies. She believes that when the number of files that are brought to international courts and treaty bodies and the UN communications becomes noticeable, the situation will change.
- Ms. Dohan reiterated that sanctions are not the sole reason behind existing problems in countries, but they do add further issues to human rights situations. Therefore, with certainty the impact of sanctions in employment, health, education and other areas is evident.
- Countries that impose sanction say that for the supply of humanitarian goods they issue OFAC permits. But in practice, when I (Dohan) talk to humanitarian aid organizations, they say they face big problems in getting the permits and even when they do get them they cannot operate.

America's Unilateral Coercive Measures against Cuba, Iran and Venezuela Research Paper

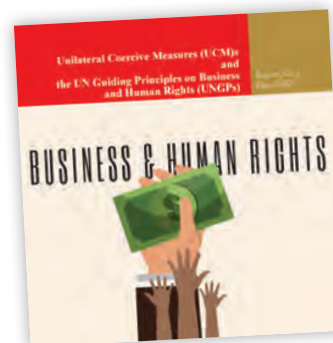
This research paper was prepared with our hard efforts to shed light and challenge the systematic violation of human rights committed through unilateral and multilateral coercive measures and the negative



impact of economic sanctions on the daily lives of ordinary citizens in Iran and target countries. This research paper is in 3 parts and reviews the impact of America's unilateral sanctions against Iran, Cuba and Venezuela.

Unilateral Coercive Measures and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights Research Paper

This research paper reviews the impact of economic sanctions on the government's duty for the protection of human rights, reaching solutions, impact of imposed sanctions on the capacity of governments to protect human rights and also some of the social, economic and political destructive repercussions of unilateral sanctions on the most marginalised and deprived groups in countries under sanctions.



Refugees Newsletter

Towards its mission, the ODVV has always put support for all groups of society in its working agenda, without discrimination and away from politics, groups that include Afghan refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants.

For further understanding of these groups, the ODVV provides expert reviews through publication of newsletters on Afghan refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants conditions in Iran so that a fuller picture of their conditions and better and more effective support for these groups are made possible. To-date 3 of these newsletters have been published.

- A look at the general conditions of Afghan refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Iran. July 2022
- A look at the education conditions of Afghan refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Iran. September 2022
- A look at the health and medical treatment of Afghan refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Iran. December 2022



Positive Human Rights Development Newsletter

Presenting a real picture of human rights developments in Iran, in 2022, the ODVV published 6 editions of positive human rights development newsletter. This newsletter continuously and every month provides a brief report of positive developments of the country, and is sent to various addressees such as State missions in Geneva, and a number of UN Special Rapporteurs.

Collective of 7 Volumes Reviewing the Claims and Criticisms in the Most Important Human Rights Reports against Iran

In this collective ODVV has attempted to review the annual reports (2011 to 2021) of the Special Rapporteurs, UN General Secretary, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch reports, focusing on issues such as treatment of prisoners, freedom of expression, religious minorities, ethnic minorities, observation of correct judicial procedures, under 18 executions.

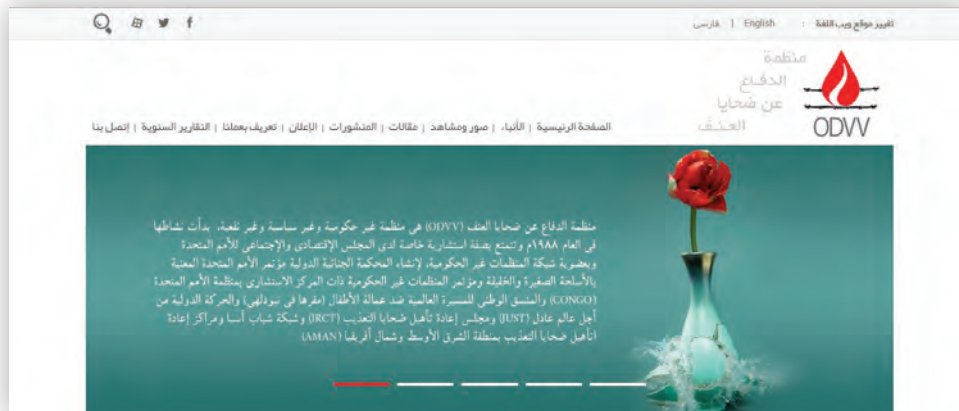
A Look at the Reflection of Some Human Rights Developments in Occupied Palestinian Territories

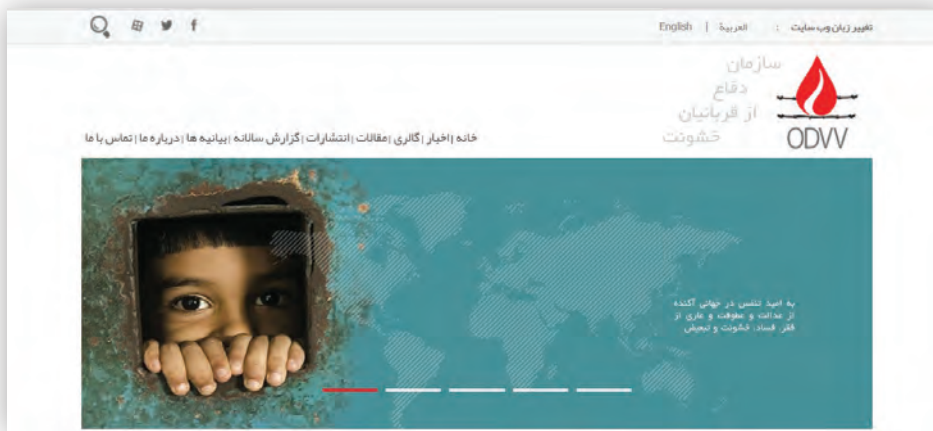
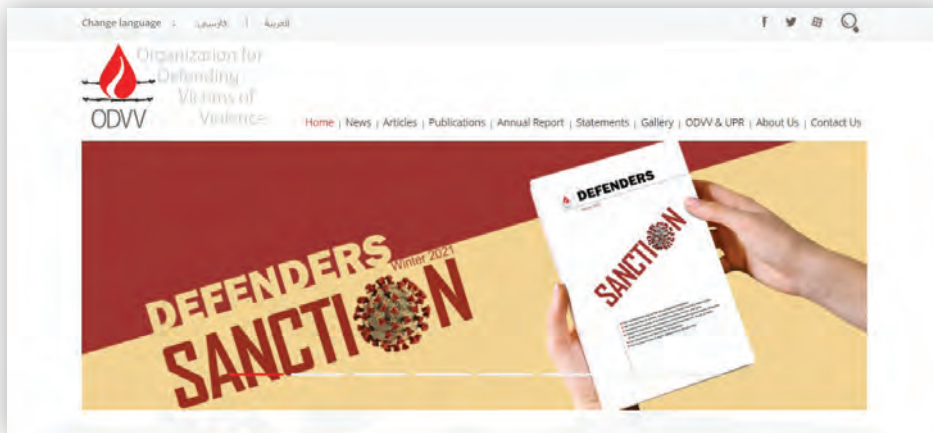
In 2022, the ODVV published 6 reports on the human rights developments in Occupied Palestinian Territories which were in two general sections: UN mechanisms developments and human rights organizations.

In these reports, the main and bold instances of violation of the rights of Palestinians and also the position of international organizations against Israel have carefully been studied. All these reports are available in the Farsi website of the ODVV.

Farsi, English and Arabic Websites

with a trilingual website – Farsi, English and Arabic – the ODVV has managed to make human

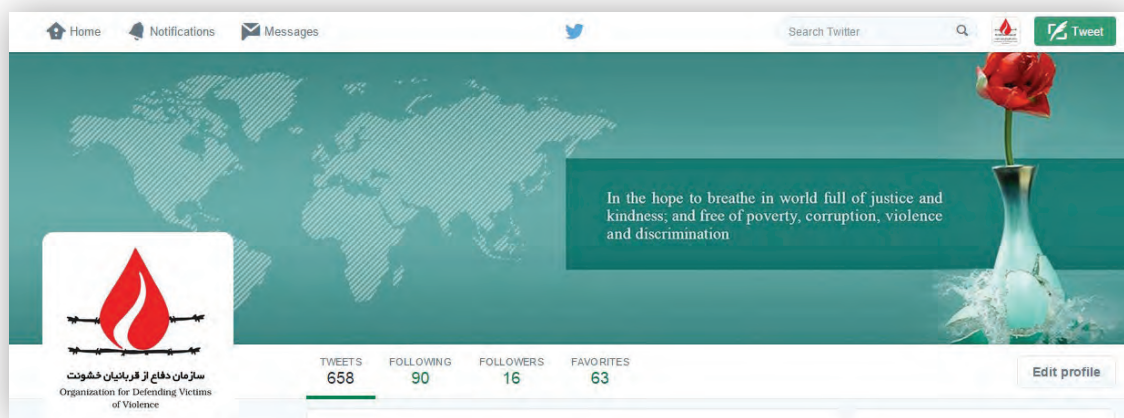




rights news and development, its activities and positions towards various issues, its advancements throughout the year, objectives and programmes available to the addressees and keep them updated on a daily basis. In 2022, a total of 110 articles on various human rights issues were published on the three websites for interested parties to read.

ODVV Social Media Accounts

For the purpose of strengthening the links of the ODVV with sister international organizations and other addressees, the ODVV is active in Facebook and Twitter. This action is with the aim of



the utilisation of new communications tools, identification and creation of networks of institutes and human rights activists to show the existence of multiple voices from Iran on human rights, and information dissemination of activities and drawing further partnerships. In 2022 these pages published more than 900 various human rights materials and articles.

ODVV's Telegram "Human Rights Studies" Channel

The Telegram "Human Rights Studies" channel was launched by the ODVV with the aim of raising the awareness on scientific processes and human rights developments.

Up to the end of 2022, with 3712 members and daily uploads of human rights related materials, the channel is a communications arm of the ODVV with the addressees, volunteers and honorary members.



Data Bank of Documents and Reports of Human Rights Situation in Iran

Through the designing and launching a data bank of documents, resolutions, reports and all important human rights treaties, the ODVV has facilitated the possibility of searching for reference sources and preparation of all its written and oral statements from the first Human Rights Council Session of the year to-date which include more than 300 oral and written statements in the Statements section of the English website.





ODVV

www.odvv.org