



*Fight for
Humanity*

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Fight for Humanity's Mission

Fight for Humanity is a non-partisan, impartial and independent NGO that works for the fulfilment of the human rights of individuals affected by armed conflict or violence. The organization relies on International Human Rights Law to actively promote, through dialogue, training, and awareness-raising campaigns, the basic rules that guarantee the respect for human dignity.

Fight for Humanity believes that a strong respect for human rights is a condition to build sustainable peace and has prioritized four human rights areas that it estimates essential to support peace efforts: cultural rights, including the protection of cultural heritage; freedom from discrimination and the promotion of the rights of women and girls; child rights; and freedom of expression.

Fight for Humanity

150 route de Ferney - P.O. Box 2100
1211 Geneva 2 - Switzerland
info@fightforhumanity.org

Fight for Humanity is a non-profit
[registered](#) Swiss Association.

© Fight for Humanity 2023

Join us on

 fightforhumanity.org

 [FhF_Geneva](#)

 [FhF.Geneva](#)

 [fight-for-humanity](#)

 [Fight for Humanity](#)

Table of Contents

Our Main Achievements in 2022	3
Our Projects in 2022	4
Outreach	9
Financial Statements	11
Our Team	13
Acknowledgements	15



Our Main Achievements in 2022

Promoting women's rights and participation in Myanmar

Fight for Humanity and Berghof Foundation conducted a participatory action research project examining the role that armed and political movements can play to implement UN resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security to protect women in conflict and promote their participation in peace processes.

Supporting more than 650 Detained Children in Syria

Fight for Humanity supported more than 700 detained children from ISIS-related families with educational, recreational, and psychosocial support. These efforts were coupled with advocacy work for the children's reintegration or repatriation to their home countries.

Protecting and Promoting Cultural Heritage for Peace in Syria

Fight for Humanity and its local partner Orient Association secured, organized and documented more than 7000 artefacts in North East Syria and took conservation measures for 50 unique Roman mosaics, and built local capacity for heritage protection.

Promoting social cohesion in Northern Iraq

Fight for Humanity worked together with its partners to empower and engage local authorities and communities to promote social cohesion between different ethno-religious communities and the signature of 10 local peace agreements in conflict-hit and contested areas of Ninewah and Kirkouk.



Observe and Act

The Role of Armed and Political Movements in the Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Myanmar



8. Implementation Challenges and Opportunities

This section reviews the challenges and obstacles that women and girls face when it comes to participating meaningfully in decision-making and being adequately protected from violence and other infringements on their rights. Information gathered from a wide range of respondents from both movements, combined with interviews with country experts, show that factors which hinder the fulfillment of women's rights are partly cultural, partly caused by capacity and resource gaps, and partly related to the conflict dynamics occurring since the February 2009 military coup. This section also highlights a few avenues and opportunities to bridge the identified gaps and address areas of concern.

8.1. Overcoming Cultural Challenges

Across both movements, the issue of cultural norms and gender stereotypes came to the fore as a major challenge to adopting and implementing policies on women's meaningful participation and protection in IDP communities. For instance, within the KNU movement, many interviewees recognized that women's roles are socially constructed to limit them to being mothers, housewives and followers, thereby preventing their participation in public and political spheres.

In both movements, the discussion of leaders with conservative attitudes was considered to be the greatest hindrance to the development and implementation of gender policies, while the strengthening of national cohesion through the movement's EROs was highlighted as the most effective way to address cultural

10. Recommendations

Based on the identified areas of progress, challenges, needs and opportunities related to the advancement of the WPS agenda in the territories controlled by or under the influence of the KNU and KNPP in Myanmar, this report concludes with a number of recommendations that have arisen from the interviews and consultations conducted for this research.

Recommendations for ERO leadership

- Engage in dialogues and exchanges in order to increase knowledge about the WPS agenda and challenges to its implementation. The operational work of a female organizing center attracts and motivates regarding the progress towards and challenges to implementing the WPS agenda, and a peer-learning further progress.
- Build capacity within the organization to address gender issues and the WPS agenda, while continuing to cooperate closely with women's organizations. By building links into capacity to implement participatory and protection programmes for women, ERO leaders can help reduce the burden on women's organizations, thus making task-sharing implementation measures more realistic and sustainable.
- Improve protection policies and reporting building efforts concerning gender issues within the gender, security and defence systems. The active involvement of movement and program implementing groups helps to ensure that all the target groups – due to their reporting women's issues to leaders and protection staff – receive the relevance of national emergency services, which often focus on men.
- Continue to maintain efforts to review existing policies, rules, regulations and laws to identify gaps in the implementation. When these are not working properly, and legal gaps for the protection and promotion of women's rights, national and local laws and regulations should be reviewed, including the national constitution and national gender laws and regulations. This work could be done in close cooperation with national and local public gender organizations.
- Develop action plans for the implementation of new policies, rules, regulations and laws. Such action plans should address the integration of important sub-topics – an organization-wide gender policy, for example – not only within the administrative, but also within the military branches (EROs) and integrate the policy into military training curriculum, for example.
- Create support systems for women within the EROs. Without the possibility of participation, women cannot develop their skills and confidence as politicians. In order to further women's participation

Our Projects in 2022

Protecting Women and Promoting Their Participation in Peace-Building Processes

Context

In 2000, the United Nations (UN) adopted Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), that notably seeks to better protect women and girls during armed conflict and to promote their participation in building peace. This resolution was initially designed to be implemented by UN Member States. Its wider application could improve the lives of an estimated 75 million women and girls currently living in areas controlled or influenced by armed and political movements.

Action

Berghof Foundation and Fight for Humanity, with the support of the German Federal Foreign Office, conducted a participatory action research project examining the role that these movements can play to implement resolution 1325. Over a period of six months, the research team investigated the perceptions, regulations, practices, needs, progress, and challenges regarding the implementation of the WPS agenda of two Ethnic Resistance Organizations (EROs) from Myanmar: the Karenni National Progressive Party (KNPP) and the Karen National Union (KNU).

Achievements

- A [policy brief](#) and a [research report](#) presenting findings and recommendations for the international community, policy makers and EROs.
- A [video](#) on the situation in the EROs areas and the current challenges.
- Presentation of the research report to the two movements' leaderships as a first step before the implementation of some of the recommendations.
- Dissemination of the policy brief to policy-makers and international community through several online events and social media.
- Securization of funding for a next phase of the project to follow up on the recommendations and extend the project to another country.



Supporting more than 650 Detained Children in Syria

Context

After the 2019 defeat of ISIS by the international coalition led by the United States and the Syrian Democratic Forces, over 10'000 ISIS combatants were captured alongside their families. While the combatants are held in detention centers and their relatives in camps, hundreds of boys have also been separated from their families and sent to detention centers, reportedly for security reasons. In 2021 Fight for Humanity and its local partner Purity, with the support of [Medico International](#), started a project to support more than 700 of these children with basic educational, social, and recreational activities.

Action

Despite an attack on one detention center in January 2022, during which dozens of detainees and the detention staff were killed, the team continued its support to the more than 700 children in detention. The team managed to conduct individual assessments of all the children, provided educational and recreational sessions, and led advocacy efforts for a solution for them outside the detention centers – reintegration in their communities when possible or repatriation for the foreigners.

Achievements

Fight for Humanity and its partner Purity:

- Conducted the individual situational assessment of 779 children in detention, opening the way to a customized psycho-social support and efforts for their reintegration.
- Trained and coached Purity's social workers and educators on how to deal with children in detention with the support of Heartland Alliance International.
- Facilitated the installation of 3 containers in the detention centers to be able to conduct the activities with the children.
- Designed a basic educational programme adapted to the children and prepared a psycho-social support manual for the social workers.
- Led 432 educational and recreational sessions for the children in both detention centers using educational and recreational material.
- Encouraged the separation of the children from adults in one of the center, as well as the repatriation of 203 Iraqi children with the support of UNICEF and UNAMI.



Protecting and Promoting of Cultural Heritage for Peace in Syria

Context

The ongoing Syrian conflict and the economic crisis is continuing to have dramatic implications on the country's cultural heritage. Syrian artefacts and historical sites have been exposed to vandalism, destruction, looting, and smuggling. In North East Syria alone, several hundred historical sites in need of protection have been identified. In 2022, Fight for Humanity, with the support of the [ALIPH Foundation](#), continued its project with local partner, Orient Association, to protect this invaluable heritage. The revalorization of the region's common past is meant to facilitate peacebuilding efforts.

Action

The team worked to protect thousands of artefacts and kept on feeding a digital database to record and documents them. The team facilitated awareness-raising sessions on how to protect cultural heritage for the Internal Security Forces (ISF). The support among local authorities and the population, for the protection of cultural heritage was increased through awareness-raising sessions, a video, and campaigns. The team also took stabilization measures to protect 50 unique Roman mosaic tablets.

Achievements

Fight for Humanity and its local partner Orient Association:

- Recorded and documented 7'400 artefacts including potteries and bones coming from past archeological excavations or confiscated from smugglers.
- Created a [video](#) to promote the importance to protect cultural heritage in the region.
- Disseminated the video, 5'000 booklets and 4'000 flyers among students and the population to increase awareness to protect cultural heritage in the region.
- Trained 10 local archaeologists to become trainers on how to prevent illicit trafficking of artefacts, how to recognize artefacts, and how to handle them when capturing them from smugglers.
- Conducted, with the support of the trained trainers, 4 awareness-raising sessions to 172 members of the Internal Security Forces (ISF) on how to deal with illicit trafficking.
- Treated, with the support of an international expert, 50 rare Roman mosaics tablets to protect them from fungus and stored them in wooden boxes in a safe place.



Promoting Social Cohesion in Territories Affected by the Conflict with ISIS in Northern Iraq

Context

Sunnis, Yezidis, Arabs, Kurds, Turkmens, Shabaks, Kakais, Shias, Christians – the Ninewah and Kirkouk governorates are home to a number of ethnoreligious groups. Following the conflict with the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), the level of distrust between communities has increased, and therefore it is essential to “rebuild the social fabric” in areas that were hit hard by the conflict.

Action

In a project supported by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of the Netherlands, a consortium of three partner organizations, led by Public Aid Organization (PAO) and composed of the Alliance of Iraqi Minorities (AIM), and Fight for Humanity worked together to empower and engage local authorities and communities to promote social cohesion between different ethno-religious communities. Twelve locations in the Ninewah and Kirkouk governorates in Northern Iraq were identified for the project including the city of Mosul.

Achievements

The consortium:

- Worked to build the capacity of 630 representatives of local authorities, police and security personnel and community members on conflict analysis, positive peacebuilding, dialogue, and mediation over 24 workshops.
- Secured the signing of 10 local peace agreements in 10 different locations by the local authorities, security forces, community leaders and the federal government on topics such as violent extremism, the return of families associated with the Islamic State or the improvement of social cohesion following 48 Focus Group Discussions (4 in each location) and 36 mediation sessions.
- Produced and disseminated on social media [one video to promote social cohesion between communities.](#)



Working Towards Preventing and Ending Child Recruitment in North East Syria

Context

The SDF and the Self-Administration of North East Syria signed an Action Plan on 29 June 2019 with the UN. Through this Action Plan, the SDF, with the support of the Self-Administration, committed to ending and preventing the recruitment and use of children under the age of 18, and further identifying and separating boys and girls currently within its ranks. Since December 2019, Fight for Humanity has been supporting the implementation of this Action Plan.

Action

Fight for Humanity conducted trainings for SDF and the Internal Security Forces (ISF), and local authorities, as well as provided technical support in the development of policies and mechanisms for preventing recruitment. Fight for Humanity also conducted awareness-raising sessions and online video campaigns on the prevention of child recruitment, the release of children, and the protection of education, targeting a large range of key actors and the population.

Achievements

- Hundreds of children under 18 were prevented to join the SDF or separated from the SDF.
- Training of 65 SDF and ISF officers including a trainer of trainers, 265 participants from civilian councils and civil society organizations, and 150 members of the civilian administration of the local authorities and 131 members of detention and rehabilitation centers on the Action Plan and child protection.



Outreach

Events

On 25th April 2022, Anki Sjöberg, Fight for Humanity's Co-Director participated in a debate organized by the Cercle des Dirigeants d'Entreprises de Genève in connection with the book "126 heartbeats for Geneva Interantional. The video of the event can be [watched here](#).

On 4 May 2022, Mehmet Balci Fight for Humanity's Co-director participated in a panel organized by the [Royal Society for Asian Affairs](#) on how to address engagement with armed groups on cultural heritage. The video of the event can be [watched here](#).

On 3rd November 2022, Fight for Humanity participated in the 2022 Geneva Peace Week by co-organizing a workshop with Berghof Foundation, "Observe and act: What can participatory research tell us about the role of armed & political movements in the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325?"

Publications

Fight for Humanity co-published an article:

Charron G., Sjöberg A., Thomas C, (2022) "[Environmental Threats Or Assets? Exploring the Engagement of Non-State Armed Actors on the Protection of the Environment](#)"(p138), White paper on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding: Nurturing an Ecosystem for Peace. In this article, Independent Diplomat's Guillaume Charron and Fight for Humanity Co-director, Anki Sjöberg give insight on relations between non-state armed actors and environmental protections.







In the media

Fight for Humanity was quoted in several media articles

- Tribune de Geneve, 25 January 2022 [Sept cents garçons pris pour boucliers humains par Daech](#)
- The New York Times, 26 January 2022 [The ISIS Hostages: 'These Children Should Not Have Been There'](#)
- The Telegraph, 31 July 2022: [The UK-funded 'black hole' prisons housing children in cells without sunlight](#)

Online community

Fight for Humanity communicated regularly online, using social media to report on the progress of its projects, participate in advocacy efforts, and highlight news related to human rights in areas controlled by non-state armed acto

Platform	Link	Number of Posts	Number of Reactions/ Views	Total Followers	Number of New Followers
	FFH.Geneva	39	Reach 406 000	1015	73
	FfH_Geneva	38	24539	740	96
	Fight for Humanity	4	684 views	60	
	Fight for Humanity	28	711 views	869	286
	Fight for Humanity Newsletter	5	2885	2312	
	Fight for Humanity Website	11 articles	9228 visitors		

Financial Statements

For its third year of existence, Fight for Humanity was able to increase its financial support with a total income of CHF 834'234 versus CHF 731'587 in 2021 (+14%). This support came from 5 different donors. Two service contracts were also signed and implemented for partner non-government organizations. This third accounting period ended up with a surplus of CHF 53'117.

In 2023, Fight for Humanity intends to pursue its collaboration with its different donors and partners and to continue exploring the possibility of establishing new partnerships. The financial statements were audited by Mazar SA and the audit report is [available here](#).

Balance sheet

Balance sheet as of 31 December	2022	2021
	CHF	CHF
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	63 045	163 046
Other short-term receivables	4 908	29 431
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	77 797	21 640
Total Current assets	145 750	214 117
Total Assets	145 750	214 117
LIABILITIES AND FUND CAPITAL		
Liabilities		
Trade payables	1 469	-
Accrued expenses	6 290	7 919
Other short-term liabilities	41 114	82 896
Projects' deferred income	31 621	111 163
Total liabilities	80 494	201 978
Fund capital		
Unrestricted fund	65 256	12 139
Total Fund capital	65 256	12 139
Total Liabilities and Fund capital	145 750	214 117

Statement of Operations

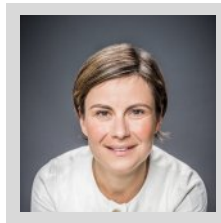
Statement of Operations for the year ended 31 December 2022 in CHF

	2022			2021		
	Unrestricted CHF	Project Funds CHF	Total CHF	Unrestricted CHF	Project Funds CHF	Total CHF
Income						
Private donations	500	-	500	2 129	-	2 129
Public donations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contributions	46 678	750 245	796 923	-	694 715	694 715
Other revenues	4 419	-	4 419	-	-	-
Overhead expenditures billed to the projects	32 392	-	32 392	34 743	-	34 743
Total operating income	83 989	750 245	834 234	36 872	694 715	731 587
Direct and administrative expenses						
Staff costs	639	642 654	643 293	8 443	438 601	447 044
Travel costs	7 572	25 426	32 998	339	12 471	12 810
Equipment, vehicle and rentals	1 794	3 391	5 185	400	12 628	13 028
Operational consumables	20	36 538	36 558	-	86 306	86 306
General and office expenses	9 394	20 449	29 843	1 754	21 473	23 227
Professional fees	21 627	27 922	49 549	9 967	45 129	55 096
Bank charges	2 696	-	2 696	2 388	102	2 490
Insurance charges	-	-	-	271	-	271
Telecommunication costs	216	4 837	5 053	-	667	667
Visibility	-	5 665	5 665	-	12 350	12 350
Overhead expenditures billed to the projects	-	39 815	39 815	-	34 743	34 743
Total direct and administrative expenses	43 958	806 697	850 655	23 562	664 470	688 032
Net Operating income	40 031	(56 452)	(16 421)	13 310	30 245	43 555
Financial result						
Foreign exchange gain	57 195	-	57 195	10 227	-	10 227
Foreign exchange loss	(44 109)	(23 090)	(67 199)	(11 570)	(2 358)	(13 928)
Net financial result	13 086	(23 090)	(10 004)	(1 343)	(2 358)	(3 701)
Net ordinary result before closed projects	53 117	(79 542)	(26 425)	11 967	27 887	39 854
Net result from closed projects transferred from (to) unrestricted fund		-	-		-	-
Project's deferred income variation		79 542	79 542		(27 887)	(27 887)
Result of the year or period after allocations	53 117	-	53 117	11 967	-	11 967

Our Team

Committee

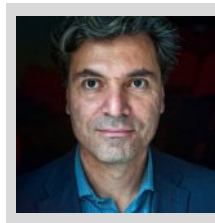
The Fight for Humanity Committee is the leading body of the organization. Every year, it organizes the General Assembly and participates in decision-making processes.



Ruxandra Stoicescu
President

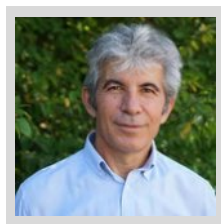


Marc Bonnet
Treasurer

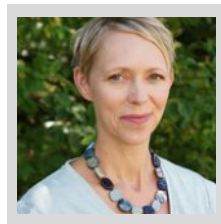


Vicken Cheterian
Secretary

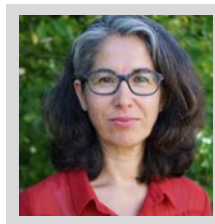
Operational Team



Mehmet Balci
Co-Director



Anki Sjöberg
Co-Director

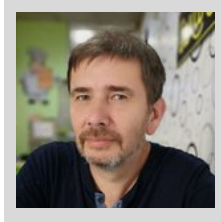


Beytul Gorkem
Head of Operations



Nicolas Sion
Head of Development

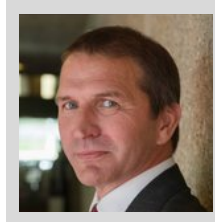
Associate Experts



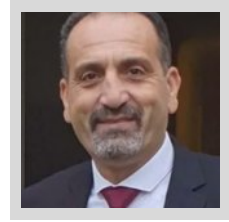
Chris Rush
Protection and human rights expert



Carolin Nehmé
Humanitarian norms expert



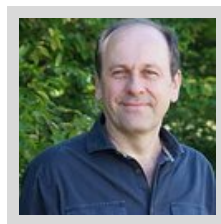
Mark Knight
Expert on Security & Human Rights during transitions and in complex environments.



Iyad Nasar
International humanitarian law and law of armed conflict expert

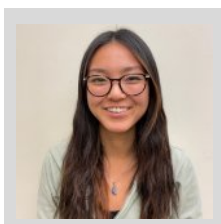


Yousef Wehbe
International human rights and humanitarian law expert

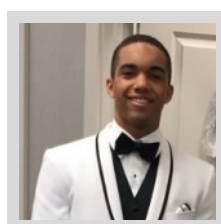


Pascal Bongard
International expert in humanitarian protection and policy

Volunteers / Interns



Natalie Rong
Intern



Nikoy Norris
Intern

Advisory Council

The role of the Advisory Council is to provide strategic and technical advice on the operational direction of Fight for Humanity. The Advisory Committee has a consultative role and its members serve in their individual capacity.



Deborah Berlinck

Journalist and co-Founder of HEADLINES



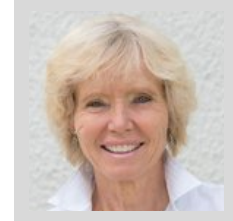
Marianne Boqvist

Head, Youth, Peace and Security and Support to Civil Society programme (YCS) at FBA (Folke Bernadotte Academy)



Arianna Calza Bini

Head of the Gender and Mine Action Programme at the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining



Elisabeth Decrey Warner

Associate Fellow at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, member of "Leaders pour la Paix" and founder of the NGO Geneva Call



Aymar Durant de Saint André

International Consultant



Jan Fermon

Secretary General of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers



Katharine Fortin

Assistant Professor in International Law at Utrecht University



Annyssa Bellal

Executive Coordinator of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform



Aurélie Lamazière

Senior Humanitarian Advocacy Advisor at Save the Children



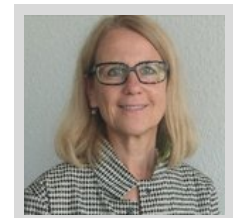
Alejandra Miller Restrepo

Member of the Truth Commission, Colombia



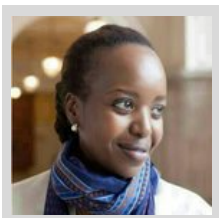
James Munn

Country Director at Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)



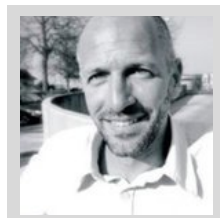
Lorenza Rossi

International Consultant



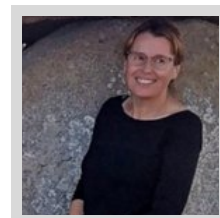
Angela Muvumba Sällström

Senior Researcher at the Nordia Africa Institute



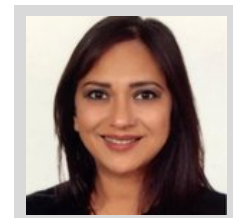
Jonathan Somer

Legal Adviser in International Humanitarian Law with the Danish Red Cross



Tara Steimer

Archaeologist and lecturer at the Laboratory of Prehistoric Archeology and Anthropology at the University of Geneva



Amberin Zaman

Senior Correspondent reporting from the Middle East, North Africa and Europe for Al-Monitor

Acknowledgements

Fight for Humanity would like to thank its donors, partners, and supporters.

Donors: ALIPH Foundation, the United Nations, the Republic and State of Geneva

Partners: Berghof Foundation, Medico International

Country-specific partners: Public Aid Organization (PAO), Purity, Orient Association, Right Defence Initiative


Financial partner: the Swiss Foundation for Mine Action and its team in Manila

Supporters: the members of its committee and advisory council and all the people who brought their support to the organization

Staff: its staff members, consultants, interns and volunteers



150 route de Ferney - P.O. Box 2100
1211 Geneva 2 - Switzerland
info@fightforhumanity.org

 fightforhumanity.org

 [FhF_Geneva](https://twitter.com/FhF_Geneva)

 [FhF.Geneva](https://facebook.com/FhF.Geneva)

 [fight-for-humanity](https://linkedin.com/company/fight-for-humanity)

 [Fight for Humanity](https://youtube.com/FightforHumanity)