

## Webinar on Accountability in Syria

On **8 September 2025**, the International Humanitarian Law Centre (IHLC) hosted a webinar titled *“Accountability Avenues in the Context of Transitional Justice in Syria”*, which brought together around **80** participants, including representatives of Syrian civil society, judges, diplomats, legal practitioners, as well as representatives of UN agencies, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations.

The event featured presentations on the IHLC paper *“Accountability in the Syrian Context,”* exploring national and international mechanisms for justice. The webinar was moderated by **Ingy Abouloyoun** (Senior Legal Advisor, IHLC). **Stephen Wilkinson** (IHLC Director) delivered the opening speech, followed by speakers **Yousef Wehbe** (Senior Legal Advisor, IHLC), **Dr. Zahra Albarazi** (Transitional Justice Legal Advisor, Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs), and **Veronica Bellintani** (Head of International Law Support Unit, SLDP).

The speakers analysed the challenges hindering the Syrian state from fulfilling its legal obligations to investigate and prosecute violations of international law. They emphasized the importance of ensuring that criminal accountability processes are nationally led, provided they adhere to international legal standards and principles. The discussion also highlighted the potential for utilizing complementary national and international accountability mechanisms.

Attention was given to both current and forthcoming measures undertaken by Syrian authorities, particularly regarding the enactment of a transitional justice law and the operationalization of the Transitional Justice Commission and its various committees.

Furthermore, the speakers shed light on the vital role played by civil society organizations and victims’ associations in promoting a Syrian-led and victim-centred approach to accountability and transitional justice.

Participants actively engaged with the speakers through a series of questions and comments, focusing on the necessity of grounding accountability in international law, the procedural and societal plans of the Transitional Justice Commission, and broader issues related to reparation and justice.

**Paper:** [Accountability-Options-in-Syria\\_EN.pdf](#)