

# Access to Water as a Human Right: A Pathway to Peacebuilding in Syria

Side Event at Human Rights Council, 59th Session  
Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016, 15 :00-16 :00  
Palais des Nations, Geneva, Room XXI

As recognized in the 2010 UN Resolution 64/292, access to water and sanitation is a human right. Yet, in Syria, the realization of this fundamental right is a significant challenge. Not only is providing access to water essential to mitigate issues of basic needs, food security, disease and population displacement, in the Syrian context, effective water management is a key opportunity for cooperation between warring parties. Supporting such cooperation over access to clean and safe water can play an important role in the path towards peacebuilding.

## Speakers

- Ahmed Haj Assad: co-founder and Director of Geo Expertise's office in Geneva. He holds an engineering degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Aleppo and focuses on water management as a tool for post-conflict peacebuilding and reconciliation.
- Ronald Jaubert: Professor at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, as well as a professor at the University of Lausanne, his expertise lies in water management, water security and agricultural policies.
- Elsa Romera Moreno: part of the Geo Expertise Geneva team, she has been conducting extensive field and desk research on the role of Syrian civil society organisations in the response to the Syrian crisis.

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided from Arabic to English, when necessary.

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