



Side-Event on the Margins of International Law Week

Putting Syrians First:

A Victim and Survivor-Centred Approach to Comprehensive Justice

now and in the future

31 October 2019

1.15 pm to 2.45 pm,

Mr. Andrew Gilmour, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights

Ms. Sherine Tadros, Amnesty International

Ms. Michelle Jarvis, Deputy Head of the International and Independent Mechanism

Society (SAMS) Foundation

Mr. Mohammad Al Abdallah, Executive Director of the Syria Justice and Accountability Centre

Closing remarks

H.E Mr. Carl Magnus Nesser, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden

## Concept note

The continuous commission of some of the worst crimes under international law in the Syrian Arab Republic since the outbreak of violence in 2011 paired with the inability of the international community to take action to end and prevent further violations of human rights and humanitarian law has triggered an urgent need for meaningful accountability. While there are ongoing efforts, such as by the General Assembly-mandated International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM) to assist in the investigation and prosecution of such crimes as well as increased progress in domestic judiciaries aimed at holding alleged perpetrators accountable, there is at present no sign of a more comprehensive and holistic solution to ensure justice.