

Beyti: STJ Launches a Project Dedicated to the Protection of HLP Rights in Syria



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With the start of the Syrian uprising in 2011 and its gradual transformation into a multi-party armed conflict, property rights abuses became rife across Syria. This called for the need to invest additional and focused efforts in the documentation of the various patterns of these abuses, which continue to deprive Syrian citizens of their nationally and internationally protected property rights.

In response to this urgent need, Syrians for Truth and Justice ([STJ](#)) founded the **Beyti project**—a local initiative dedicated to the protection of housing, land, and property (HLP) rights.

Beyti sheds light on the concept of property rights and the domestic and international legal texts governing these rights. With this, it aims to provide Syrian individuals and groups with a referential tool to understand the multiple facets of property rights, document related violations, and protect properties vulnerable to such abuses and the rights of their owners.

The project will build on and complement the findings of partner organizations active in the same context. Additionally, it will work to bridge existing gaps by addressing marginalized areas that witnessed large-scale and systematic violations and the different types of property violations that remain under-investigated.

Through a dedicated platform, the project seeks to mainstream knowledge about property rights in a simplified manner, using visual and text content, targeting especially property owners who lack expertise or legal capacity in this area. Most importantly, the project will provide a mechanism through which owners can report and document property rights violations they have suffered.

In the frame of spreading knowledge about property rights, STJ, under the mantle of the project, will also publish several procedural guides that build on an analysis of the various contexts surrounding property rights abuses across Syria. The guides shall offer recommendations and steps through which individuals and non-specialized organizations can restore the enjoyment of violated property rights. Furthermore, STJ will publish periodical reports on the most striking property violations, focusing on the repercussions they threaten to bring for victims and justice and accountability efforts, and thus the desired peace and stability in Syria.



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|| About Beyti Project:

The project aims to document the violations of Housing, Land, and Property rights in the context of the Syrian conflict, especially in the areas that witnessed widespread forced displacement on a national, ethnic, religious, sectarian, or regional basis.

During the implementation of the project, Beyti is keen to coordinate and cooperate with Syrian local initiatives and relevant international organizations, in order to contribute to building the comprehensive Syrian narrative by collecting and documenting the violations committed by all parties and dealing with the victims on the basis of equality and non-discrimination.

In the early stages of the project, Beyti plans to issue a brief guide on property rights violations in Syria, in addition to stories of people who are forcibly displaced. Also, STJ aims to create a database capable of documenting and archiving the forms and interviews that are conducted in a secure manner that adheres to international standards for documentation so that they are analyzed and presented in the form of interactive reports and maps in the future.

Beyti Project welcomes all cooperation and coordination initiatives aimed at preserving evidence and seeking to achieve justice and accountability for all violations committed against Syrian property throughout Syria.

The values and vision of Beyti Project are consistent with those of STJ which seeks to achieve equal rights for all Syrians, documents human rights violations committed in Syria and against Syrians, and works to reach justice and change.



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