

# Human Rights Law Challenges in Yemen

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*Sanja Rokvić*

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## ABSTRACT

The objective of this article is to identify the human rights violations that have occurred during the 8-year-long war in Yemen. The basis for this analysis is the 2021 Report, which is the latest official report on Yemen given the ongoing turbulent events in the region. The introduction of the article will underscore the significance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The central section will delve into an analysis of human rights violations through case studies. In the conclusion, potential solutions will be proposed to address the crisis in Yemen. The primary research question guiding this study is: Which human rights have been violated in Yemen?

*Key words* : Yemen, violation of human rights, Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

## **Izzivi prava človekovih pravic v Jemnu**

### POVZETEK

Namen tega članka je opredeliti katere človekove pravice so kršene v Jemnu v 8 let trajajoči vojni. Ker je dogajanje v Jemnu zelo turbulentno, bo članek temeljil na poročilu iz leta 2021, ki je zadnje uradno poročilo o Jemnu. V uvodnem delu članka bo opredeljena pomembnost Splošne deklaracije o človekovih pravicah in svoboščinah, osrednjem delu, pa na študijah primera analiza kršitev človekovih pravic. V zaključku bodo predlagane rešitve spopada z jemensko krizo. Raziskovalno vprašanje se torej glasi: Katere človekove pravice so bile kršene v Jemnu?

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*Ključne besede:* Jemen, kršitev človekovih pravic, deklaracija o človekovih pravicah in svoboščinah.

## 1. Introduction

“Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home – so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman and child seek equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerned citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.” (*Branch, 2016, e-source*) Eleanor Roosevelt<sup>1</sup>, 1958

And where, after all do the universal human rights end? In same places but like a virus it takes root strongly into the human soul, infects it, which is difficult to get over, to overcome. It is the most dangerous virus for human kind, the virus of hatred, xenophobia, which turns into pure malice towards one’s fellow man, one’s brother, one’s own nation. A virus that destroys human dignity and the basic essence of human existence. It is a virus that can destroy the humanity.

One of the poorest and most violent countries in the Middle East, Yemen, holds strategic importance for regional players and the world’s most dangerous terrorist groups. The war began when Saudi Arabia initiated a military intervention against the Houthi rebels.

The territory within Yemen’s borders is one of the oldest cradles of civilization in the Middle East. This land was among the most fertile in the Arabian Peninsula when rainfall was more frequent due to the high mountains. However, with the decline of natural resources, including oil, Yemen and its people became impoverished (*Burrowes, Wenner, 2023, e-source*).

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<sup>1</sup> Eleanor Roosevelt was one of the co-founders of the Universal declaration of human rights. Her struggle in this field has moved many milestones in ensuring equality, justice and dignity without discrimination. Therefore, her thoughts, actions and struggle are the main guide for the preservation of the Human Rights Law.

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On the other hand the country holds an important strategic position at the top of southwestern Arabia. It is situated along the main sea route that leads from Europe to Asia, close to the busiest shipping line.

Millions of barrels of oil passed through daily in both directions – from the Mediterranean through the Suez Canal and from oil refineries in Saudi Arabia to the Asian market. The Yemeni port of Aden was one of the busiest in the world in the 20th century (Burrowes, Wenner, 2023, e-source).

Yemen, as we know it today, was formed during the process of unification of the northern and southern parts of the country. This unification process took place from May 1988 through the signing of the unification agreement in November 1989. The agreement was signed by Ali Abdullah Saleh, the president of North Yemen, and Ali Salim al Bidh on behalf of South Yemen. The official announcement of unification was made on May 22, 1990 (Yemeni Community Association in Sandwell Limited, e-source).

Historically, North Yemen<sup>2</sup>, which managed to persevere its sovereignty and never became a possession of the European power, was a Shiite monarchy. (Yemeni Community Association in Sandwell Limited, e-source) However, South Yemen<sup>3</sup> was British territory, whose fate was determined for centuries by its exceptional strategic position on the route connecting British India with the metropolis (Yemeni Community Association in Sandwell Limited, e-source).

Even after the unification of the country in May 1990 the deep division between former North and South Yemen was not overcome (Burrowes, Wenner, 2023, e-source). The territorial distribution of two Islamic Groups largely corresponds to the former division into the northern and southern parts of the country, in fact it is more about the northwest and southeast (Burrowes, Wenner, 2023, e-source).

Outside Yemen's major cities, there are number of tribal areas that have their own self-government. (Crisis group 2022, e-source) With a large number of civilians owning guns, believed to outnumber citizens, local tribal militias often suppress the national army and enforce their laws based on tradition rather than the state's constitution (Crisis group 2022, e-source).

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<sup>2</sup> Sanaa.

<sup>3</sup> Aden.

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Yemen is a predominantly Islamic society, but divided into Sunnis, estimated to be 55%, and Shiites, making up the rest of the population (Burrowes, Wenner, 2023, e-source). The divisions between Sunnis and Shiites are based on long-standing religious conflicts that began as a dispute over the succession of the Prophet Muhammad. (Burrowes, Wenner, 2023, e-source) While Shiites believe his cousin was meant to fill the role of Muhammad, Sunnis support Muhammad's close friend and adviser, Abu Bakr, the first caliph of the Islamic nation (Burrowes, Wenner, 2023, e-source).

Likewise, over the past decades, strict and puritanical Salafis and Wahhabis have become increasingly influential in Yemen (Al Maqtari, 2017, e-source). The Houthis represent the Zeidi branch, a branch of Shia Islam from the far north of Yemen, near border with Saudi Arabia. (Wilson Center, 2022, e-source) Their leader, Hussein Badreddin al- Houthi, is accused by the government of organizing the rebellion, including violent anti- Israel and anti American demonstrations in 2004. (Wilson Center, 2022, e-source) The regime conducted a search for him, resulting in the arrest of hundreds of people and the death of the leader, who was killed along with a dozen of his supporters (Wilson Center, 2022, e-source).

Since then, the Houthis have been actively fighting the central government, seeking greater political influence and accusing the government of aligning itself with Saudi Arabia while neglecting national development and the needs of the traditional Zeidi tribe. (Wilson Center, 2022, e-source)

The responsibility for the Yemeni crisis, in addition to the weak mechanisms of UN action, can also be attributed to Saudi Arabia. On March 26, 2015, as the leader of a coalition of nine countries from Western Asia and North Africa, it launched an intervention in the Yemeni civil and military conflict in response to the calls of the President of Yemen, Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi, for military support after he was deposed by the Houthi movement (Middle East Eye, 2020, e-source).

The civil war began in September 2014, when Houthi forces captured the capital of Sana'a, followed by a quick takeover of the Houthi government (Ghobari, 2014, e-source). The leaders of Saudi Arabia supported Hadi for several reasons. The main concerns revolved around the rise of the Houthis on the southern border of Saudi Arabia, who, in their opinion, were supported

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by Saudi Arabia's main regional rival, Iran (Yaakoubi, Kalin, Barrington, 2019, e-source).

With several forces fighting in the country, including official authorities, Yemen's chaos has become a breeding ground for extremism. Extremist groups linked to the Islamic State are now operating in Yemen, waging war against the military and civilians, while disregarding the minimum standards of human rights.

## **2. Methodology**

This research work requires the application of various social science research methods as they are essential for obtaining objective answers to the research question posed. The central research question is: Which human rights were violated in Yemen?

The initial step involves acquiring and carefully selecting relevant literature, articles, online sources, reports, legislation, and other materials. Special attention will be given to audio and video sources, as they provide a suitable basis for understanding the current situation in Yemen. Sources will be systematically gathered through scientific databases, the web, the library, and other appropriate channels.

Throughout the article, masculine terms will be used in a neutral sense unless explicitly stated otherwise.

The introductory section of the article will employ the descriptive method. Using this method, which is based on the analysis and interpretation of primary and secondary sources in the field of human rights violations, the study's framework will be established. This framework will be complemented by the explanatory method, as it aims to elucidate specific facts and justify the circumstances surrounding the actions under examination.

Given that the subject of study is the 8-year war in Yemen, the historical method will be incorporated into the research. This will be complemented by case studies, facilitating a more precise analysis and interpretation of the facts, and providing answers to the research question.

The research will involve describing and justifying the circumstances in which specific human rights violations occurred and assessing their consequences on individuals and society.

Following the case study analysis, the research will proceed with intercomparisons, synthesis, and the extraction of key find-

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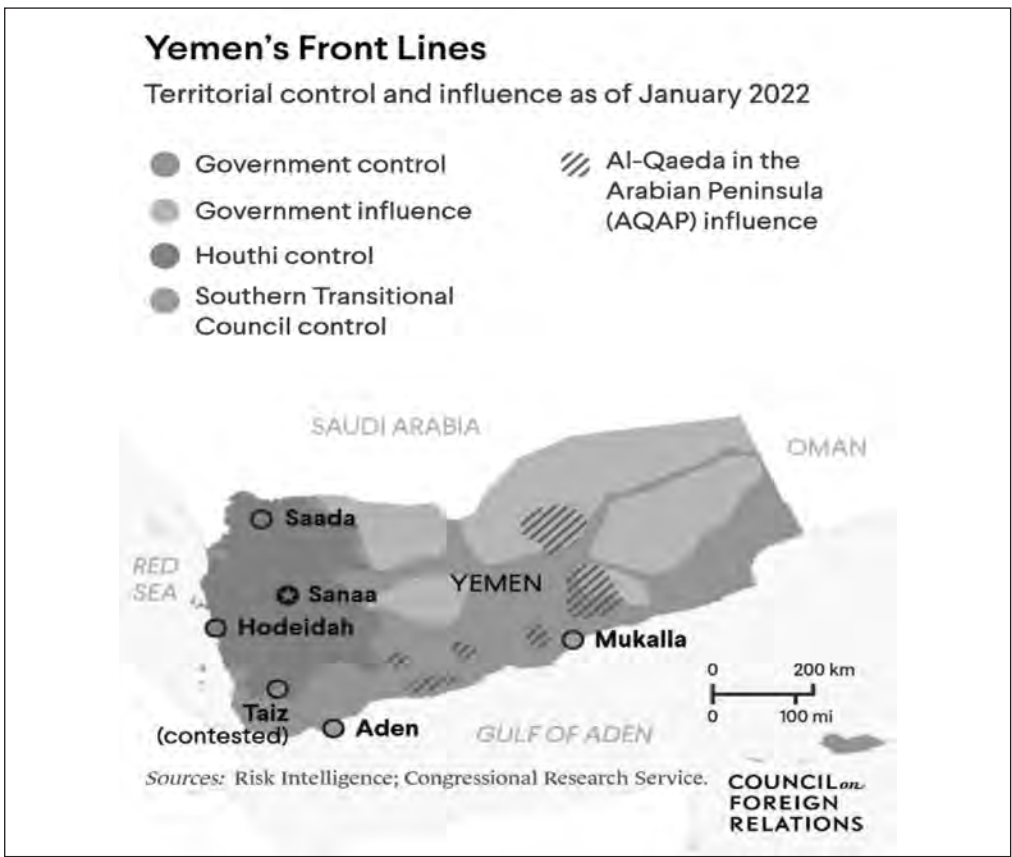
ings. This will be followed by interpretation, concluding with a general assessment of the research and its findings.

Therefore, the article will encompass a meticulous selection of material, the study and filtering of data, the utilization of descriptive, explanatory, historical methods, methods of examples and comparisons, analysis, synthesis, commentary, and methods of providing evaluations and conclusions.

### 3. Current situation

The eight-year-long crisis in Yemen and the military division of the territory have resulted in an intractable military, political, and humanitarian crisis. The war is between the internationally recognized government of Yemen (the military troops of Yemen's gov-

*Figure 1: Current territorial control and influence in Yemen (Robinson, 2022, e-source)*



ernment), which is supported by Saudi Arabia, and Yemen's Houthi rebels, who are supported by Iran (Robinson, 2022, e-source).

The military security crisis, often referred to as Yemen's Chaos, has also been exploited by Jihadist Al Qaeda fighters. They joined the fighting, primarily carrying out suicide attacks in Aden and its surrounding areas, and launched a ballistic missile at the Saudi capital, Riyadh. In response, Saudi Arabia further tightened the blockade of Yemen (Ahlin, 2022, e-source).

Figure 1 illustrates the current situation in Yemen. The majority of the territory is under the control of government security forces, which are under the influence of Saudi Arabia (Robinson, 2022, e-source). The Houthis control the eastern parts of the territory, while the South is in transition. Additionally, inside Yemen, there are parts that are under the control of jihadist members of Al Qaeda (Robinson, 2022, e-source).

Yemen is thus divided according to religious beliefs into the Sunni north and the Shiite South, which are in conflict with each other.

The country has faced numerous emergencies, including:

- Violent conflicts and war
- Economic blockade,
- The crash of its currency,
- Natural disasters (IFRC.ORG, 2022, e-source) (floods),
- The COVID19 pandemic,
- Only half of the medical facilities are functioning,
- The war between Russia and Ukraine, which diverted public interest to another continent<sup>4</sup>.

Yemen is experiencing the largest humanitarian crisis in history. Twelve million children need food, water, shelter, and medicine. Children are grappling with an epidemic, famine, and war all at the same time (IFRC.ORG, 2022, e-source).

The responsibility for the Yemeni crisis, in addition to the inadequate mechanisms of the UN, can also be attributed to Saudi Arabia. On March 26, 2015, as the leader of a coalition of nine countries from Western Asia and North Africa, it began to intervene in the Yemeni civil war in response to the calls by the President of Yemen, Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi, for military support after he was ousted by the Houthi movement (Middle East Eye, 2020, e-source).

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<sup>4</sup> However, the current public attention is now focused on what is happening between Israel and Gaza.

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The civil war began in September 2014 when Houthi forces captured the capital Sanaa, followed by a takeover of the Houthi government (Ghobari, 2014, e-source).

Saudi Arabia's leaders supported Hadi for several reasons. However, the main ones should definitely be looked for because of concerns about the rise of the Houthis on the southern border of Saudi Arabia, who, in their opinion, are supported by Saudi Arabia's main regional rival, Iran (Yaakoubi, Kalin, Barrington, 2019, e-source).

## **4. Which human rights have been violated**

The conflict in Yemen has resulted in widespread human rights violations, affecting the civilian population and leading to a humanitarian crisis. Here are some of the reported human rights violations that have been reported during the eight-year war in Yemen:

- *Right to Life:* The conflict has led to the deaths of thousands of Yemeni civilians, including women and children. The war has also caused massive displacement, with millions of people forced to flee their homes (Human Rights Watch, 2022, e-source).

- *Right to Food and Water:* The conflict has caused a severe humanitarian crisis, with millions of Yemenis facing food and water shortages. (Human Rights Watch, 2022, e-source) The blockade of ports and airports by the Saudi-led coalition has also prevented the delivery of essential humanitarian aid (Human Rights Watch .2022, e-source).

- *Right to Health:* The conflict has damaged Yemen's healthcare system, making it difficult for people to access essential medical care. Many hospitals and clinics have been damaged or destroyed in the fighting, and the Houthi authorities prevented vaccinations against Covid-19 (Amnesty International ,2021, e-source).

- *Right to Education:* The war has disrupted the education system, with many schools and universities being damaged or closed. Millions of children have been unable to attend school, and many have been forced to flee their homes (Amnesty International, 2021, e-source).

- *Right to Freedom of Expression:* The conflict has resulted in the detention and harassment of journalists, activists, and human rights defenders who have spoken out against the war (Amnesty International, 2021, e-source).

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- *Right to Freedom of Movement*: The blockade has restricted the movement of people and goods in and out of Yemen, making it difficult for Yemenis to travel or seek refuge in other countries (Human Rights Watch, 2022, e-source).

- *Right of Equality and Non-discrimination*: All sides have practiced gender-based violence and discrimination. The warring parties carried out harassment, arbitrary detentions, forced abductions, torture, and other ill-treatment, as well as unfair trials based on political, religious, or peaceful belief and action, professional affiliation, and gender (Amnesty International, 2021, e-source).

- *Right to Healthy and Sustainable Environment*: Environmental degradation has threatened many protected species. All sides in the Yemeni conflict are responsible for environmental degradation due to mismanagement of canceled programs, neglect of legally protected areas, mismanagement of oil infrastructure, and economic pressure on civilians (Human Rights Watch, e-source).

The multifaceted human rights violations underscore the urgent need for international attention and concerted efforts to address the crisis in Yemen.

More than 4 million people have been displaced by the conflict, and the COVID 19 pandemic has exacerbated the humanitarian crisis (Human Rights Watch, 2022, e-source).

The people of Yemen are enduring unsustainable economic conditions and a lack of basic services throughout the country. In South Yemen, protests have erupted due to deteriorating economic conditions and basic services. (Human Rights Watch, 2022, e-source)

The most significant challenge for the Yemeni people, beyond the war and the supply of food, water, and fuel, is that more than 2 million Yemeni children under the age of 5 are acutely malnourished (International Medical Corps, e-source). Every 10 minutes one child under the age of 5 dies from malnutrition. (Unicef, e-source).

The situation highlights the critical need for urgent and comprehensive humanitarian intervention in Yemen.

The symbolic representation of Figure 2 is poignant and clear. It underscores that in Yemen, the most vulnerable groups are children and women. The image, with Selma holding her six-year-old son, Abdullah Musabih, in her arms, serves as a powerful visual

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*Figure 2: A mother with her son in the intensive care unit in the Red Sea port of Hodaidah. Photographer: Abduljabbar Zeyad, Reuters (Graham Harrison, 2016, e-source).*



testament to the impact of the crisis on families, particularly on mothers and their young children (Graham Harrison, 2016, e-source). It conveys the human side of the conflict, emphasizing the urgent need for humanitarian support and international intervention to address the plight of the vulnerable populations in Yemen.

The impact of the conflict in Yemen on healthcare is severe, with many hospitals having been destroyed due to military attacks. Even those that are still functioning are operating at the edge of their capacity. Official figures of child deaths caused by starvation vary widely, ranging from 85,000 to 400,000 (Bahashwan, 2022, e-source). Additionally, certain reports indicate that as many as 6 million children under the age of 5 are at risk of starvation (IFRC, 2022, e-source). These figures underscore the urgent need for international assistance and humanitarian efforts to address the escalating crisis and provide essential support to the vulnerable population in Yemen.

The impact of the conflict in Yemen has been exacerbated

by blockades on the supply of fuel, food, and water, particularly by Saudi Arabian soldiers. Prior to these blockades, Ukraine and Russia were the main importers of grain for Yemen, supplying up to 40% of their grain. Reports suggest that Russian intervention in Ukraine interrupted this flow, but the overall import of food into Yemen has been blocked for seven years, leading to numerous deaths, especially among children, due to malnutrition. The price of food in Yemen has increased by 60% compared to the previous year, and the warring parties have impeded the flow of food, medicine, fuel, and humanitarian aid. Experts warn that inflation in developed countries can have deadly consequences in poor countries (Bahashwan, 2022, e-source; OCHA, 2022, e-source).

Peter Salisbury, an expert on Yemen at the International Crisis Group, highlighted the triple damage caused by the war between Ukraine and Russia on Yemen. The loss of food supplies from Ukraine and higher prices on international markets, along with increased fuel prices and a shift in international focus to another continent, contribute to the prolonged suffering of the Yemeni people (Salisbury, Hana, 2022, e-source).

In summary, the circumstances surrounding Yemen indicate that the suffering of the people is unlikely to end soon. Human rights violations are rampant, particularly in relation to the right to food and the right to education. Children are suffering from hunger, and the destruction of schools (over 2,900 destroyed) is hindering their education. The war has also resulted in a lack of freedom for the people in Yemen (Al Jazeera, 2022, e-source). The situation in Yemen remains dire, requiring urgent international attention and humanitarian intervention.

The Amnesty International 2021 report highlights that all parties involved in the conflict in Yemen violated international humanitarian and human rights law with impunity. The Saudi-led coalition supporting the internationally recognized Yemeni government and Houthi forces both engaged in attacks that unlawfully killed and wounded civilians, as well as destroyed civilian facilities, including essential infrastructure like food facilities (Amnesty International, 2021, e-source). Additionally, forces of the Southern Transitional Council (SCT<sup>5</sup>) were reported to have

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<sup>5</sup>The southern Transitional Council is a separatist organization in southern Yemen. The 26 members of the STC include five governors of Southern provinces and two government ministers

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carried out summary executions. (Amnesty International, 2021, e-source)

Furthermore, the report notes that Saudi Arabia and Bahrain actively lobbied member states of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) against the restoration of the United Nations Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen (UN GEE). This lobbying resulted in the termination of the only international impartial investigative mechanism for Yemen, further complicating efforts to hold parties accountable for their actions (Amnesty International, 2021, e-source). The report also highlights the contributions of all parties in the conflict to environmental degradation, the pronouncement of death sentences, and the execution of those sentences. These findings underscore the widespread and systematic nature of human rights abuses and violations of international law in Yemen, emphasizing the urgent need for accountability and a comprehensive resolution to the conflict.

The Amnesty International 2021 report highlights the environmentally damaging coping mechanisms employed by Yemenis, which include a dependence on charcoal, unsustainable fishing, and unsustainable development. These practices have resulted in increased pollution, deforestation, soil erosion, and loss of biodiversity, negatively impacting the enjoyment of the rights to health, food, and water (Amnesty International, 2021, e-source).

The report also details instances of mismanagement of oil infrastructure contributing to environmental degradation. At the Bir Ali oil terminal in Shabwa province, mismanagement led to a pipeline leaking oil into the sea for four days, close to a protected coastal area. Additionally, Houthi authorities refused UN technical assistance for the *FSO Safer tanker*, a vessel, which posed a significant risk and was stranded off the coast of Hodeidah. The tanker carried a cargo of 1.14 million barrels of oil, and the potential consequences included devastating effects on the Red Sea's biodiversity, water scarcity, human health risks, and food security for millions of Yemenis and Eritreans dependent on Red Sea fisheries (Amnesty International, 2021, e-source). These environmental issues further compound the humanitarian crisis in Yemen, adding to the challenges faced by the population.

The highlighted examples underscore the grave human rights violations and the devastating impact of the conflict on the civil-

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ian population in Yemen. The situation calls for urgent attention, intervention, and concerted efforts to address these violations and protect the human rights of all Yemenis. International cooperation and advocacy are crucial in working towards a resolution to the conflict and providing much-needed humanitarian assistance to alleviate the suffering of the people in Yemen. The human rights situation in Yemen emphasizes the need for a comprehensive and sustainable approach to bring about positive change and ensure the well-being of the population.

## 5. Possible solutions

The outlined steps provide a comprehensive and well-considered approach to address the complex situation in Yemen. These measures consider not only the immediate humanitarian needs but also the underlying causes of the conflict. Here's a summary:

- *Negotiate a Political Solution:* Advocating for a negotiated political settlement is crucial to addressing the root causes of the conflict. The involvement of all parties, including the Houthis, is essential for a sustainable resolution.

- *Provide Humanitarian Aid:* Acknowledging the dire humanitarian situation and increasing support for aid efforts can provide essential relief to the millions of Yemenis in need of food, water, and medical assistance.

- *End the Blockade:* Lifting the blockade on Yemen's ports and airports is vital for enabling the unrestricted flow of goods and humanitarian aid. This step can significantly contribute to alleviating the crisis.

- *Address the Economic Crisis:* Recognizing the economic impact of the conflict, providing economic support to stabilize the Yemeni economy and create job opportunities is a crucial aspect of long-term recovery.

- *Address Human Rights Abuses:* Holding all parties accountable for human rights abuses is an essential step towards justice and reconciliation. Establishing an independent commission of inquiry can help investigate violations and ensure accountability.

These steps, when implemented collectively and with international cooperation, have the potential to address both the immediate humanitarian crisis and the underlying factors contributing to the conflict in Yemen.

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If you were to describe what is happening in Yemen in one word, it would be a genocide<sup>6</sup>. The starvation of millions of Yemenis due to the conflict between Sunnis and Shiites, or any political, religious, or ideological strife, is unacceptable in today's world. What is even more horrifying is the realization that this suffering continues to persist day by day, year by year, and is on the brink of extending into a decade. It represents one of the most egregious forms of genocide witnessed by humanity - the mass starvation and displacement of millions of people. Regrettably, it is the most vulnerable groups who bear the brunt of this suffering - children, the elderly, and women - those who lack the most necessities for survival, such as food, healthcare, and a secure home.<sup>7</sup>

The United Nations, founded with the objective of maintaining peace, stability, and upholding basic human rights, should promptly assemble teams comprising doctors, humanitarians, and volunteers to enhance the daily lives of Yemen's residents. Immediate action is crucial to eradicate hunger, enhance healthcare, and, foremost, establish peace and stability.

It is imperative to engage all relevant parties in the pursuit of peace and commence the collaborative construction of a new, more stable nation that adheres to, at the very least, minimum standards of human rights and freedoms.

It's essential to recognize that Sharia beliefs cannot be eradicated overnight, but efforts can be made to soften them to a degree where the minimum standard of human dignity is upheld, irrespective of religious belief, gender, race, or other divisions. Achieving this requires substantial work in the field of education, particularly for the most vulnerable groups, aiming to gradually loosen harsh measures within Sharia law, aligning more closely

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<sup>6</sup>Jeffery Bachman, a professor of human rights and the director of the Master's program in Ethics, Peace, and Human Rights at American University in Washington, categorizes the comprehensive design of genocide within the military campaign of the Saudi-led coalition in his article »A 'synchronized attack' on life: the Saudi-led coalition's 'hidden and holistic' genocide in Yemen and the shared responsibility of the US and UK,« published in the academic journal »Third World Quarterly«. He utilizes literature on genocide studies to analyze the coalition's actions, concluding that they are executing a sustained genocide campaign involving a »synchronized attack« on all aspects of life in Yemen, made possible only through the complicity of the United States and the United Kingdom.

<sup>7</sup>Donna E. Arzt, the late professor of law at Syracuse University College of Law, analyzed the state of human rights in Islamic states in her article »The Application of International Human Rights Law in Islamic States,« published in the journal »Human Rights Quarterly.« She concluded that it is a very complex issue influenced by various factors, such as radical Islam, pan-Arabism, the Palestinian struggle for self-determination, and political-economic relations with the West. The most vulnerable groups are women and children, who become even more susceptible during times of war.

with principles of human rights as recognized in the Western world.

This strategy could be undertaken similarly to what was done decades ago in the case of Turkey.<sup>8</sup>

Yemen, in addition to its highly complex geopolitical and security challenges, grapples with the lack of political participation from its citizens, namely civil society. Beyond issues like poverty, hunger, and insufficient access to medicine, the population also faces the challenge of being unable to choose an effective political authority that can lead the country towards improvement and swift recovery. A significant hurdle lies in the public's lack of trust in the central government and skepticism about the potential for finding viable solutions. Here, the involvement of the international community is both necessary and invaluable.

Despite the failure of previous efforts to secure a mutual agreement for peace or a compromise among warring factions, it is essential to sustain ongoing efforts and maintain international pressure to find a resolution between the conflicting groups.

Ensuring the most basic living conditions for the people of Yemen, including guaranteed peace, sustainable economic conditions, sufficient food, energy resources for survival, and the establishment of a robust health and education system, is paramount. Once these fundamental needs are met, people can move beyond the struggle for survival and engage in political inclusion and other forms of activism. The current unbearable conditions in Yemen are unacceptable in today's human society.

These proposed steps are just a beginning, and ultimately, a sustainable solution demands the commitment of all parties involved in the conflict. Ending the fighting, addressing the root causes of the conflict, and prioritizing the well-being of the Yemeni people are crucial aspects of a comprehensive and lasting resolution<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup>Turkey is a member of the Council of Europe, which means that it has committed itself to respecting a minimum standard of human rights and freedoms. It also experienced an economic boom in the previous decade, which has a beneficial effect on the lifestyle of the residents. It is an example of good practice, how human rights and freedoms can also be enforced in the Islamic world.

<sup>9</sup>Since March of this year, China has been making diplomatic efforts to influence the establishment of a ceasefire between Iran and Saudi Arabia and to establish a ceasefire in Yemen. However, it is realistic to expect that the animosity that has spread and entrenched itself among the people in Yemen will not come to an end overnight. Besides interest and effort, time is also required for changes.

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## 6. Conclusion

The conflict in Yemen has been ongoing since 2014 and has resulted in a devastating humanitarian crisis, with millions of people in need of humanitarian assistance. While there have been efforts to find a political solution to the conflict, progress has been slow, and the situation remains fragile.

One possible scenario for Yemen in 2023 is that the conflict continues, with sporadic fighting between the Yemeni government and the Houthi rebels, as well as ongoing attacks by extremist groups such as Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and the Islamic State (IS). In this scenario, the humanitarian situation in Yemen is likely to remain dire, with many people continuing to face food and water shortages, displacement, and limited access to healthcare.

Another possible scenario is that a political settlement is reached between the Yemeni government and the Houthi rebels, possibly with the help of the international community. This could lead to a ceasefire and a reduction in violence, allowing for the delivery of humanitarian aid and the gradual rebuilding of Yemen's infrastructure. However, achieving a political settlement in Yemen is a complex and difficult process, and it is not clear whether this scenario will come to pass.

Overall, the situation in Yemen remains uncertain and difficult to predict. The conflict has had a devastating impact on the Yemeni people, and it is important that the international community continues to support efforts to find a political solution to the conflict and provide humanitarian assistance to those in need.

Eleanor Roosevelt, the former First Lady of the United States and human rights activist, made many powerful statements about war during her lifetime.

One of her most famous quotes on war is:

*»It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it.«* (Pettinger, 2019, e-source)

This quote emphasizes the importance of taking action to achieve peace, rather than just talking about it or hoping for it. It also implies that peace is something that requires effort and commitment to achieve, and that it cannot be achieved without work and dedication.

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While this quote does not directly reference war, it is often interpreted as a call to action for those who want to prevent war and promote peace. It suggests that peace is not a passive state, but rather an active pursuit that requires ongoing effort and dedication.

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