



## Statement

27/10/2016

### As Assad Regime Kills School Children in Idlib, UN Honours Syrian UN Envoy Bashar Jaafari: Syrians are Outraged

Only two days after the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon honoured the Assad regime's UN Envoy Bashar Jaafari on 24 October for his ten years of 'service' to the UN, the regime or its Russian ally committed the deadliest attack on a school since the Syrian conflict began. At least 35 civilians, most of them children, were killed in this deadly attack, leading UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake to respond: *"This is a tragedy. It is an outrage. And if deliberate, it is a war crime"*.

Rethink Rebuild Society Director Dr. Haytham Alhamwi said on this attack: *"It is not unusual for Assad or Russia to target civilian objects that represent life and humanitarianism, including schools and hospitals. However, it is shameful that while the UN Secretary-General pays lip service to the brutality of the humanitarian situation in Syria caused by Assad regime, he honours this brutal regime's UN envoy for his 'service'. These double standards and legitimisations of the criminal Assad regime make Syrians ever more critical and distrustful of the UN."*



Bashar Jaafari was honoured for ten years of 'service' at the UN on 24 October 2016



A severed arm of a school child following an attack on an Idlib school by Assad or its Russian ally on 26 October 2016

**ENDS**

For further information and press enquiries, please contact Yasmine at [advocacy@rrsoc.org](mailto:advocacy@rrsoc.org).

**Rethink Rebuild Society** has established itself as a non-profit organisation that acts as an umbrella for the Syrian community in Manchester, and endeavours to clarify the Syrian cause to its audience in the UK and the wider public.