

### ISHR and TIMEP oral statement at CEDAW NGO meeting for Egypt Review – 25 October 2021

We are bringing to the committee yet again the following key issues which we regret that they were not included in the list of issues, despite our [submissions](#). We have raised our concerns about these omissions in the list of issues in a confidential letter sent to the Committee.

- 1) Extrajudicial killings of women by State actors, including at least [19 women protestors killed](#) in the [Rabaa massacre on 14 August 2013](#).
- 2) [Enforced disappearances](#) and [arbitrary detention of women](#) for exercising their rights to freedom of assembly, expression and association. Women in detention are deprived of their [baby children](#) and the State doesn't put any considerations for the impact for the [mothers](#) in detention. Many women activists reach the maximum 2 years in pre-trial detention, and the Courts release them, [only to be kept in detention](#) on the exact same charges but with a different case number- based on solely reports by the National Security. Pre-trial detention is used as a [punishment in itself](#) and the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention [said](#) that the widespread or systematic imprisonment could amount to crimes against humanity in Egypt.
- 3) Misuse of counter-terrorism measures and restrictive laws [to quash women](#) human rights defenders and any criticism of the government
- 4) As the UN [CAT confidential inquiry](#) concluded [torture and ill-treatment](#) in Egypt is widespread and systematic, including [against women in detention](#).
- 5) Reprisals [against women defenders](#) for engaging with the UN as documented in the UN Secretary General's annual reports on reprisals
- 6) Significant [barriers for women to access justice](#) and the [systematic impunity](#) for [violations](#) by State actors
- 7) [Patterns of mass sexual assaults](#) by non-State actors, the [barriers to access justice](#) for women survivors, and the State's failure to allocate sufficient resources to protect women, raise awareness and train medical, judicial and police actors to address it.

The omission of this reality in the [list of issues](#) meant a free pass to the State. The biggest impediment for the implementation of the Convention is the [lack of political will](#) of the State to allow for independent organizing, and the State's belief that those exposing human rights violations are a [threat](#) to "national security".

Your committee now has an opportunity to correct it and we urge you to ensure that these issues are raised in the interactive dialogue with Egypt.