



Statement of National Institution for Human Rights on the Travel Bans

12 July 2016

National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) monitored with concern over the increase of air and land travel bans enforced on citizens who were not summoned by judicial authority; While NIHR appreciates the delicate circumstances that the Kingdom is going through, it stresses the need to take into account the right of travel and movement as guaranteed by the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain according to Article No. (19), Paragraph (b), where it states that **“A person cannot be detained or imprisoned in locations other than those designated in the prison regulations covered by the judicial authority.”** in addition to what was stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article (13) Paragraph (2) ‘Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.’”

The NIHR points out that the travel ban without a judicial order disrupts the constitutional right to freedom of movement and travel, which contradicts the Kingdom's commitments to international and regional conventions related to human rights.

Therefore, NIHR urges to halt the issuance of travel bans that are not based on an explicit legal judicial order, as this conflicts with human rights and fundamental freedoms.

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