

Contact: Hart Uhl  
Tel. (202) 828-1228  
Email: [hartuhl@scpps.org](mailto:hartuhl@scpps.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **SYRIAN EXPERT HOUSE MEETS WITH BELGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

### **Syrian Delegation and Senior Belgian Officials Discuss *Syria Transition Roadmap***

Washington, DC – On March 26, 2014, [Syrian Center for Political and Strategic Studies](#) (SCPSS) Executive Director Dr. Radwan Ziadeh and a Syrian Expert House delegation were invited to the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to give a presentation on [Syria Transition Roadmap](#), a document recently published by SCPSS and the [Syrian Expert House](#) detailing the Syrian opposition's vision of the democratic transition in Syria.

The Syrian delegation included **Ekhlas Badawi**, a former member of the Syrian parliament and member of the Syrian Expert House, and **Rania Kisar**, a Syrian activist and founder of the Women's Revolution Committee. The delegation outlined key aspects of the report for Ambassador **Marc Otte**, the Belgian Special Envoy to Syria, and **Maarten Vervoort**, a Syria Desk Officer in the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The briefing included an outline of plans for the implementation of the report's recommendations inside Syria, particularly with regard to rule of law and transitional justice. The delegation detailed to Ambassador Otte the Syrian Interim Government's plans to expand its provision of services to civilians in need in the liberated areas. Former MP Badawi described the role of women in the development of [Syria Transition Roadmap](#) and the role of women in the Syrian revolution. Rania Kisar gave an update on events from the ground, describing the ongoing devastating humanitarian catastrophe and listing the clear needs of Syrian civilians.

Finally, Dr. Ziadeh, who was appointed last fall as President of the [Syrian Commission for Transitional Justice](#) by the opposition Syrian Interim Government, outlined for the ministry his plans for initiating a comprehensive Syrian transitional justice program, including means for ensuring accountability.

[Syria Transition Roadmap](#) is the result of a year-long consensus-building research process conducted by the Syrian Expert House, a group of approximately 300 Syrian human rights activists, academics, judges, lawyers, leaders of the political opposition, defected government officials, defected military officers, members of local revolutionary councils, and commanders of the armed opposition.

###

For more information about SCPSS or the Syria Expert House, please contact Hart Uhl, Program Director at the Syrian Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Tel: (202) 828-1228, Email: [hartuhl@scpps.org](mailto:hartuhl@scpps.org), or visit [www.scpps.org](http://www.scpps.org).