

V. Economy and finance

- The occupying Turkish forces have prohibited the circulation and use of the Syrian lira, which has been replaced by the Turkish lira. In addition, workers' salaries are now paid in the Turkish lira.
- The occupying Turkish forces have issued an order prohibiting the entry of Syrian goods of all kinds into the area, and they have forced merchants and shopkeepers to buy only Turkish goods, particularly food.
- The occupying Turkish forces sent a large number of Turkish harvesters to the city of Afrin to harvest wheat from seized land, after which the crop was transported to Turkey. In addition, the occupiers have prevented the people of the region from going to their fields.
- The occupying Turkish forces have opened branches of the Turkish postal service, Posta ve Telgraf Teşkilatı (PTT).
- The occupiers have rolled out and begun operating a Turkish cellular communications network called Turkcell-Telekom.

Syria reaffirms that the Erdoğan regime's Turkification policy, which is aimed at obliterating the Syrian national identity and imposing Turkish identity by force and coercion, will not change the legal status of the territories that it occupies or the Syrian nationality of the people in those territories, nor will it in any way prejudice the legal and sovereign rights of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Syria once again calls upon the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility to end the occupation and the occupiers' flagrant violations of international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and Security Council resolutions concerning the situation in my country, in all of which the Council reaffirms that the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic must be respected.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Bassam Sabbagh
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
