



**PARTIDO COMUNISTA DE ESPAÑA**

**Partido Comunista de España**  
*Secretaría de Relaciones Internacionales*  
*c/Olimpo 35 (28043) Madrid*

## **We condemn the false accusation of chemical weapon attacks: ¡We say no to sanctions against Syria!**

The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) has rewritten its previous reports in an attempt to now blame the Syrian government for alleged attacks with chemical weapons that occurred in March and April 2017. Syria was then fighting jihadist groups in the northwest of the country. Those groups included Jabat al Nusra, the Syrian franchise of the terrorist organization Al Qaeda.

By accusing the Syrian government of the use of chemical weapons, an attempt was made to stop this Syrian offensive in legitimate defence of its citizens and its territory. For its part, the United States capitalized the alleged use of chemical weapons to launch a missile attack against Syria on April 7, 2017, outside the framework of international legality. All this happened two years after the OPCW itself certified that Syria had completely disposed of any type of chemical weapons, thus fulfilling an agreement with the OPCW endorsed among others by the United States, Russia and the EU.

The recent rewriting of previous OPCW reports, based on conjectures and testimonies of doubtful credibility, not only calls into question the organization's due rigour. It can also lead to the adoption of new decisions that are unilateral, unjustified and contrary to international law. The statements of the Turkish Islamist regime demanding new sanctions against Syria go along those lines. The words by the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union are also not constructive. Josep Borrell has endorsed this umpteenth OPCW report and threatens new sanctions on Syria.

Since 2011, the Syrian people have been subjected to an unjust and illegal economic blockade, with humanitarian consequences that are especially evident these days. To avoid the collapse of a public healthcare system already punished by sanctions and terrorist attacks, Syria has become the country with the toughest restrictions in the world to avoid the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has meant an almost total halt in its economy at a critical moment for the reconstruction of the country and the return of displaced people.





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The threat of new sanctions on the Syrian people is contrary to the recommendations of the United Nations, which has called for the existing ones to be lifted so that countries such as Syria, Iran, Korea, Venezuela, Nicaragua or Cuba can better combat the pandemic.

The Communist Party of Spain condemns these attempts to impose new sanctions against Syria and calls again for the end of the economic blockade against the country. Furthermore, it supports the Syrian State in its fight against jihadist terrorism and demands the withdrawal of all Turkish and American troops in Syrian territory. The PCE reaffirms its commitment to political, diplomatic and democratic solutions for conflict resolution.

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