

***LERC represented at Parliamentary session on the rights of Non-Palestinian refugees in Lebanon***

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010, Beirut, Lebanon

Reported by Melkar el Khoury, LERC Research Affiliate

Mr. Melkar el Khoury, LERC Research Affiliate and Consultant, represented the Center in a session held at the Lebanese parliament on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010 to discuss a study about the rights of Non-Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

The session was hosted by the Working Group of the Lebanese Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights and was attended by MPs Michel Moussa (Chairperson), Ghassan Mokhaiber (Vice-Chair) and Samy Gemayel, Nawaf Moussaoui and Hikmat Dib (members).

Representatives of the UNHCR Office in Beirut, the Lebanese General Security, civil society and human rights NGOs including Human Rights Watch and the Foundation for Human and Humanitarian Rights/Lebanon were also present.

Discussions focused on the non-existence of a specific body of rules and regulations within Lebanese legislations to deal with the case of refugees and the need to adopt such a law. At present, the status of refugees in Lebanon is being governed by the 1962 Law Regulating the Entry and Stay of Foreigners in Lebanon and their Exit from the Country.