

Translator's Foreword.

To the Authors, Leiden University, and the Readers,

I have long aspired to author a work that would leave a lasting intellectual imprint. However, in light of the circumstances that my country has endured since my early years to the present day—characterised by successive conflicts and instability—I have not had the opportunity to realise this aspiration. In an environment where survival constitutes a primary and persistent concern, the pursuit of intellectual endeavours is, by necessity, constrained.

Guided by my firm conviction that the consolidation of the principles of justice represents the sole viable pathway towards a stable and prosperous future—capable of ensuring its continuity for peoples of diverse cultures and backgrounds—I resolved to undertake a noble contribution. This has taken the form of translating the present Guidelines into Arabic on a voluntary and non-remunerated basis.

The completion of this work has required approximately one year and half, encompassing both the translation process and rigorous linguistic revision. It has further involved sustained phases of careful scrutiny and professional consultation, undertaken with a view to ensuring the accurate, faithful, and contextually sound transfer of legal meaning into Arabic, while preserving the integrity and substance of the source text. The effort invested in this work is, without doubt, fully justified.

The purpose of this translation is to render accessible to Arabic-speaking jurisdictions the legal applications relating to digitally derived evidence before international courts and tribunals. In so doing, it seeks to contribute to the development of a constructive knowledge bridge between national judicial systems and their international counterparts.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to Ms Helen Knipe, Criminal Justice Adviser at the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, for her invaluable support and insightful contributions, particularly in areas requiring detailed legal clarification. Her continued guidance throughout the course of this work is gratefully acknowledged.

I also extend my profound gratitude to Ass. Prof. Abdullah A. Almadhady for his dedicated and meticulous efforts in linguistic revision, a task that demanded considerable time and precision.

All such contributions are held in the highest esteem and will undoubtedly be appreciated by readers.

Osamah Fayyadh

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