

**Council Popular of Chaldean Syriac Assyrians on item IV
9th session of the Forum on Minority Issues - ohchr**

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Unites Nations - Geneva

My name is Kamil Zuzu. I am Christian Iraqi. I am the German Bureau official of the Popular Council of Chaldean Syriac Assyrians. I would like to first of all pay tribute to the heroes of the Iraqi army, [Bishmega], the popular mobilisation Units and the Christian forces, who are fighting ISIL in order to liberate Nineveh and Mosul. A 150,000 Christians have been displaced. [115] have been killed and 161 kidnapped and their faith continues to be unknown. 79 have been victims of rape and sexual enslavement. 15 women have been liberated according to [...] report of Shlomo, an organisation dedicated to the documentation of violations against Christians in Iraq. In spite of all this suffering, the killing, the displacement that we have been subjected to, the Iraqi government in addition to all of that is clamping down on the rights minorities. The Iraqi Council of representatives on October 22 2016 adopted a bill to ban alcoholic beverages based on Islamic law. This is a violation of the Iraqi constitution, specifically Article 3, 14, 15 and 17. We would like to draw your attention on Mosul, to the fact that Iraq continuously looks for legislative opportunities to Islamise society especially when faced with great challenges. In October of 2015 the Iraqi Council of Representatives enacted a law to Islamise minors who are non-Muslim, who are under 18, in accordance with the item 26 of the unified ID card. That is at the time when ISIL occupies a third of Iraqi territory. Minorities such as Christians, Yazidis and [Mandaeans] cannot live under this decision as it adds to greater migration of our people from Iraq. Not to mention the killings and the seizure of our property in the capital, Baghdad, through illegal means. Such decisions are contrary to efforts built civil and democratic states in a multi-ethnic and multi-racial society in Iraq. In the name of humanity, we would like to make the following request: 1) to implement international resolutions, including the European Parliament resolution issued in March 2015 and October 2016 in connection with international protection of minorities in Nineveh and the development of an autonomous proving in the Nineveh plain and Sinjar in alliance with Iraqi constitution; 2) to urge the UN Security Council to refer the genocide against minorities perpetrated by ISIL to the International Criminal Court, especially as they are members of the Security Council that have recognised the genocide, namely the UK and the US; 3) to continue the review of human rights in Iraq in view of consistent violations of human rights in Iraq in general and the violation of minority rights in particular; 4) to urge the Iraqi executive legislative judicial powers in Iraq to protect the indigenous peoples including our people in Babylon and Assyria and to protect our culture and language, the language of Jesus Christ which is Syriac; and 5) to set up a reconstruction fund for Nineveh. Thank you.