

Dear Chairman, dear participants,

People have the right to identify themselves through their first name and last name.

They have the right to recognize themselves in their own culture and in their own family lineage.

According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, according to articles 1, 2, 7, 8, 12, 16, 22, 28, 29 and 30, these rights are inviolable.

My last name is Spitz. However, the Italian State does not grant me the use of my last name. They have forced me and my family to be called Pizzi. In the province of Trieste, myself along with at least fifty thousand other people are obliged by the Italian State to use false names.

We are the Nameless, people whose names were taken away from their family identity and persona. To this day, we are a people who are subject to a form of ethnic cleansing aimed at the denial of our identity and of our race of origin.

Italy has framed this as the "Restitution in the form of Italian surnames".

Is it actually a form of ethnic cleansing.

As a civil administrator of our territory since 1954 and in light of the damage caused

by the cleansing of non-Italian surnames of the ethnic inhabitants of Trieste, Italy should have long since:

- Promptly returned the original names to those entitled. This did not happen and racial laws imposed by fascism since 1926 remained valid until 1991, thus denying the non-Italian population of Trieste and other cities the right to their own identity and their own race;
- Ensured the submission of its official apology for the damage and suffering caused to the victims of these violations. With its silence and the maintenance of the Fascist racial laws, Italy has endorsed such violations;
- Avoided distorting the historical reality of these places through falsified teachings aimed at influencing the new generations to a forced Italianization.
- Returned original surnames to those entitled without forcing a daunting bureaucratic process on them, which is in contrast to the international law, and allowed Italy to avoid their responsibilities.

We are the Nameless, the people without a name, the result of the ethnic cleansing that the Italian state still inflicts on our people.

And we call for the UN Human Rights Council to look into this concerning situation and put pressure on the Italian government to act upon its obligations and promptly return to our people their true surname, so that we too, like any human being on this planet, can have the right to our personal and familial identity and regain the right to fully identify ourselves with our true origins.

Thank you President and Members of this assembly for the opportunity granted to us