

Mr. President

Ladies and gentlemen

Language is not only a means of expression, but also a vessel of thought. The people, who are deprived of their mother tongue, are also deprived of thinking and expressing themselves.

Depriving the Kurds from learning their mother language, denying their national identity and natural rights and trying to fuse them into the Arab nationalism was the headline of the successive chauvinistic regimes' policies towards the Kurdish people in Syria.

Until the bloody events took place in Syria in 2011. Then the Syrian state abandoned unexpectedly its constitutional obligations and commitments by withdrawing from the Kurdish areas in northern Syria and left the Kurdish people there alone in the face of the terrorist organizations such as Al-Nusra Front and the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), that prompted the Kurds to organize themselves and manage their affairs and defend their areas through self-administrations in cooperation and partnership with other Syrian components.

For the first time in their history, the Kurdish children were taught their mother language under the protection of the self-administrations.

It did not last long because of the colonial and expansionist ambitions of the Turkish state, which launched a brute and naked aggression on 20 December 2018 against the Syrian city of Afrin with Kurdish identity and privacy, which was accompanied by legions of the mercenaries from the remains of ISIS and Al-Nusra under the name of the Syrian National Army, which led ultimately to the occupation of Afrin on March 18th of the same year after a heroic resistance by the Kurdish forces YPG, which lasted 58 days.

The invaders destructed the sustenance, they destroyed the stones, trees and human beings and abandoned more than 300 thousand of the Kurds.

Instead, the Turkish state brought in Afrin settlers from the families of the Arab and Turkmen's militants. They prevented Kurdish leaching and teaching, obliterated the Kurdish identity, Arabized and Turkized Afrin in order to cause a demographic change in Afrin and they actualized it. That is an explicit legal violation of Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations and the international humanitarian law and the four Geneva conventions of 1949 and Hague 1899-1907.

The Turkish state did not become satisfied with that, therefore it has recently completed its aggression on the ninth October of this year with a military attack accompanied by hordes of mercenaries of the Syrian National Coalition on northeast Syria using several kinds of weapons, including the internationally forbidden weapons such as the white phosphorus stipulated in the St. Petersburg Declaration of 1968.

In its invasion, it committed war crimes against the Kurdish civilians according to Article 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in order to eliminate the historical Kurdish presence in these areas by displacing them and bringing Syrian refugees living in Turkey from the Turkmen and Sunni Arabs who are loyal to the Turkish state to establish a racist belt to separate the Syrian Kurds from their Kurdish brothers in Turkey under the pretext of establishing a safe area.

What saddens us is, that the United Nations has been deceived by the tricks, lies and propaganda of the Turkish policy and its misleading claims to the establishment of the safe area by supporting and keeping pace with the Turkish state through the Secretary- General, Mr. Guterres. This makes the United Nations partner of Turkey in the crime of the forced displacement against the indigenous Kurds from their historical areas and the settlement of the others from other regions in their place which amounts to crimes against the humanity and crime of genocide as stipulated in Article 8 of the Rome Statute and the four Geneva conventions.

Consequently, we head to your esteemed forum and urge you to submit a recommendation to the Human Rights Council to put an end to the Turkish occupation of the Syrian territory and to commit the Syrian government to recognize constitutionally the Kurdish national identity in a federal state and consider the Kurdish language as an official language in the country besides Arabic.

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