

Sashik Sultanyan
Yezidi National Committee NGO/Armenia
sashasultanyan@gmail.com ,+37494230093

Thank you Madam Chair,

Distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen

I am Sashik Sultanyan , a yezidi human rights activist from Armenia,

After 2014 Yezidi genocide in Sinjar(Northern Iraq) ,the issue of statelessness become more than ever actual for my people.

Probably most of you know that as a result of Yezidi genocide 600 000 yezidi people become IDPs ,they lost their historical homeland ,the land where yezidis have been formulated as ethnoreligious community thousands years ago.

The majority of them are stateless, they either have citizenship but can't use and enjoy their rights on operation level in their historical homeland, or are stateless IDP'S who can't get passports because neither Iraqi Government nor Kurdistan regional government give them opportunities to get passports in the way that is mentioned in Iraqi law.

Dear colleagues , my ancestors 1 century ago had the same fate . they lost their historical homeland because Ottoman empire didn't recognize them as citizens ,therefore they were forced to leave their homes and come to Armenia . And now the history is repeating, but this time if it will be continued, in decades yezidi people will lose their identity, their culture and finally their historical homeland ,which plays an important role for uniting yezidi people all over the world.

In order to prevent this

We recommend

1.Iraqi government and Kurdistan regional government

- Give opportunities to yezidi IDP's to receive passport without discrimination in the way as it's mentioned in Iraqi laws

2. UN

- To create a security zone for Yezidi people where they at least can be physically safe and can enjoy they right to live without genocides and discrimination

Thank you madam chair.