

I would like to draw the Forum's attention to the critical situation of the Kurdish ethnic minority.

The Turkish government launched a series of air strikes on the Kurdish regions of North and East Syria (Rojava), 15 civilians were killed. These types of attacks not only destabilise the region, but prompt concern over the rise of ISIS once more, because of Turkey's deliberate strikes on prisons and camps that hold more than 6000 ISIS members.

In tandem, Turkey is escalating its threats to occupy another two main Kurdish cities, Kobanê and Manbij, which puts the lives of more than 400 thousand civilians in danger.

At the same exact time, following the brutal murder of Jîna Amini and the massive protests that have emerged in all around the world, the Iranian government however, has responded to these peaceful protests with the most intense repression, especially in the Kurdish cities.

Since the beginning of the protests, the Iranian military forces have killed 112 Kurdish citizens, of whom 14 children and 7 women. Thousands have been injured, and more than 5000 citizens arrested.

These protests are of course not the first of their kind, given the relentless harassment of religious and national minorities in Iran over the past 43 years.

As the crackdown continues in Kurdistan, many human rights organizations are concerned about a new ethnic cleansing massacre taking place in the cities of Mahabad, Piranshahr and Bukan which are under siege.

Moreover, the Iranian government has launched a series of attacks on Iraqi Kurdistan region by using suicide drones which resulted in the death of over 20 Kurdish citizens.

We urge the United Nations and the international community to stop both Turkey and Iran from massacring Kurdish civilians. Intervene to prevent an imminent humanitarian catastrophe in the Middle East, protecting the Kurds and their right to live in freedom!