

Hadi Maao

Thank you Madame Chair. Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished delegates, my name is Hadi Maao, as a survivor of bombing and two genocides, I stand before you with a question that carries the pain of my community. How much longer must the Yazidi pay the price, simply because we are Yazidis. More than 10 years after the 2014 genocide, Yazidis still live in conditions unworthy of human dignity. We are no longer only victims of terrorist groups, today, we face political failure, injustice, and lack of responsibility. Iraq's budget is in the billions, yet only a small fraction has reached Sinjar or the thousands of Yazidi families still waiting for shelter. This gap shows how Yazidis continue to be treated as second-class citizens. Families still live in tents and half-built homes. More than 75% of Yazidi families who returned to Sinjar have received no compensation, even though the law exists. Many neighborhoods remain piles of broken concrete. Children are growing up without proper schools, homes, and safety. This feels like a continuation of what we survived, and it is why many Yazidis are still fleeing to Europe for safety. Madame Chair, Yazidis have clear rights under international law: the right to compensation, the right to truth, and the right to justice, yet none of these rights have been meaningfully realized. Today, I ask this Forum and all member states to take a principled and urgent stand. Stop the deportation of Yazidis from Europe. Sending survivors back to an unsafe, unreconstructed region puts them at risk and violates the obligation to do no harm. We are not asking for privilege, we are asking for protection, justice, and the dignity every human being deserves. Thank you.