

International Society of Oriental Christians e.V.

Madame Chair, the International Society of Oriental Christians calls for the enforceability of rights guaranteed under the UN Charter for all people suffering from Sharia-based repression, particularly in Egypt, a state that fails to protect all citizens equally, becoming a barrier and leaving minorities, such as Copts and other non-Islamic communities, exposed to discrimination, violence, and systematic injustice. In Egypt, perpetrators are frequently acquitted or never held accountable, denying minorities effective legal protection. Our goal is the sustainable protection of Oriental Christianity as a vital part of world cultural heritage and peaceful coexistence in the Middle East, urgently needed. Christians in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, and Lebanon continue to face existential threats from [inaudible] and ongoing genocide. The UN Charter guarantees freedom of all religion, Article 18: the right to life and security, Article 3: protection from degrading treatment, Article 5 affirms equality before the law regardless of gender or faith. Yet, Article 2 of Egypt's Constitution makes the Koran the supreme source of legality, which contradicts these principles, and restricts genuine religious freedom, especially for individuals wishing to convert from Islam to Christianity. Forced Islamization of women and girls, discrimination, and the absence of the rule of law violate fundamental civil liberties, resulting in injustice against Copts, abductions, attacks against homes, exclusion from public office, discriminatory laws, and the involvement of [inaudible] [CUT OFF BY CHAIR]