

Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans

The Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans, which I will refer to as E.FE.CON., is the universal federation of the Greek orthodox community of Istanbul. Today we stand before the UN Minority Forum, as representing of over 100 000 Istanbul Greeks who have been forced to migrate and live far from Istanbul, their native land. The month of September 2025 marked 70th anniversary of the pogrom, during the night of the 6th to the 7th of September 1955, the Greek orthodox minority in Istanbul suffered greatly. Men and women were brutally attacked, killed, violated, and raped. And their homes, sanctuaries, cemeteries and businesses were vandalized. E.FE.CON. appeal to the grand national assembly of Türkiye to investigate and disclose the real perpetrators. The events of September 1955 cause a major rapture that led to the massive deportation of the Greek community in 1964. Denying them the right to live in Türkiye despite the Lausanne treaty. Over the past two decades the government of Türkiye issued an invitation to the 99% of the Istanbul Greek community to return to Türkiye. But their return could not become a reality because the authorities did not implement ethical recommendations to facilitate their return. We ask in the context of reparative justice that the Republic of Türkiye take concrete measures to redress the injustices and heal the wounds suffered by the Greek community. Thank you, Madame Chair.