

KG Lobby Center

Thank you, Madame Chair. I speak today on behalf of the Kurdish people, one of the largest people in the world still denied full recognition of their rights under international law. Indigenous people and minorities are not merely cultural symbols, they are central to the economic social cultural and political fabric of society. The Kurdish experience demonstrates this clearly. Despite decades of oppression Kurds have made significant contribution in agriculture education commerce and the arts. The Kurdistan Regional Government shows how inclusive governance enables nations to prosper and contributes to regional stability. The KRG governs a diverse Kurdish population with different religions such as Yazidis Christians Sunnis Shiites and others. Through reserved parliamentary seats it guarantees participation for all, fostering cohesion and accountable governance. Moreover, the Kurdish Peshmerga forces have not only defended Kurdish land but have safeguarded the world from ISIS protecting vulnerable religious communities from genocide. However, we still carry the scars of brutal atrocities ladies and gentlemen, including the Feyli genocide the Barzani genocide, the Anfal Campaign, chemical attack, and the genocide committed by ISIS. Justice for these crimes remains incomplete and survivors continue to wait for truth recognition and reparations. It is essential that the United Nations acknowledge that Kurds like all indigenous people are vital to global stability. We urge the UN to uphold the principles of self-determination and inclusive governance for Kurds as reflected in the ICCPR and to protect the achievements of the KRG through legal guarantees, equal access to services, and support for cultural and linguistic rights. International partnership is key to ensuring that all communities can thrive with dignity. In closure, without recognition there will be no protection, as Ms. Ogana said. Thank you.