



"Iraqi Turkmen: The Human Rights Situation and Crisis in Kerkuk"

26 – 27 March 2007
European Parliament, Brussels
(ASP 5G1)

Organised by the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organisation (UNPO) and Iraqi Turkmen Human Rights Research Foundation (SOITM), in partnership with the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) and the Nonviolent Radical Party.

Session I: "Sources of Conflict"

26 March, 3pm – 6.30pm

- 3.00 pm **Welcoming Remarks by:**
Marino Busdachin, UNPO General Secretary
Sheth Jerjis, SOITM Chairman
Marco Cappato MEP, Committee on Foreign Affairs and Subcommittee on Human Rights
- 3.30 pm Remarks by **Jan Marinus Wiersma MEP**, Vice-Chairman of the Socialist Group
- 3.40 pm **Views on Turkmen Policy:**
Statement from **Sadettin Ergec** (Presented by **Dr. Hassan Aydinli**)
Member of the Iraqi Parliament and Head of the Iraqi Turkmen Front
Jasim Mohammed Jafar
Iraqi Minister and Member of the Iraqi Parliament
- 4.10 pm **Turkmen Population, History, and Geography**
Suphi Saatci, Editor of Qardashlik Journal
Mohammad Koja, author and Editor of the Turkmen Times
Aydin Aksu, Baghdad Representative of the Iraqi Turkmen Front (tbc)
- 4.45 pm **Kerkuk's Demography after the Founding of the Iraqi State**
Ersed Hurmuzlu, author
- 5.00 pm **Human Rights Violations against the Iraqi Turkmen**
Sheth Jerjis, SOITM Chairman
- 5.15 pm **Baghdad after Occupation**
Nermin al-Mufti, Author and Al-Ahram Correspondent
- 5.25 pm **Question Period**
Moderated by **Ken Kostyo**, Director of Global Democracy Resource

Session II: “An Iraq for the Future and the Crisis in Kerkuk”

27 March, 9am – 12.30pm

- 9.00 am **Remarks by:**
Marino Busdachin, *UNPO General Secretary*
Nicola Dell’Arciprete, *Parliamentary Assistant ALDE Group*
- 9.45 am **The Current Situation in Kerkuk**
A Turkmen View: **Ali Mehdi**, *Head of the Turkmen Group at the Kerkuk City Council*
An Arabic View: **Ahmad Hakky Jalal Mohammad**, *Cultural and Social Forum, Geneva*
A Kurdish View: **Burhan Jaf**, *EU Representative of the Kurdish Regional Government*
An Assyrian View: **Abdulahad Astepho**, *Director of the Assyrian Institute of Europe*
- 10.55 am **Comments from:**
Muzaffer Arslan, *Advisor on Turkmen Affairs to the President of Iraq H.E. Jalal Talabani*
Nermin al-Mufti, *Author and Al-Arham Correspondent*
- 11.15 am **Elections in Kerkuk and the Legacy of Demographic Distortion**
Mofak Salman, *Turkmen writer*
Sheth Jerjis, *SOITM Chairman*
- 11.40 am **Land Confiscation, the Iraqi Constitution and Article 140**
Ali Mehdi, *Head of the Turkmen Group at the Kerkuk City Council*
Ayoub Bazzaz, *Professor and Chairman of Iraqi Turkmen Rights Advocating Committee (UK)*
Saabi Barzangi, *Member of the Iraqi Parliament (tbc)*
- 12.05 am **The Situation in Telafer City**
Merry Fitzgerald, *Secretary of the Representative of the Iraqi Turkmen Front in Belgium*
- 12.15 pm **Question Period**
Moderated by **Martin Schulthes**, *Special Programs Manager, No Peace without Justice*

Press Conference

27 March, 1pm – 1.30pm

To be held in the **Press Room** of the European Parliament

With Participation From:

Marco Cappato MEP, *Committee on Foreign Affairs and Subcommittee on Human Rights (tbc)*

Marino Busdachin, *UNPO General Secretary*

Sheth Jerjis, *SOITM Chairman*

Muzaffer Arslan, *Advisor on Turkmen Affairs to the President of Iraq H.E. Jalal Talabani*

Hassan Aydinli, *Iraqi Turkmen Front Representative in Europe, Belgium*

Ali Mehdi, *Head of the Turkmen Group at the Kerkuk City Council*

Burhan Jaf, *EU Representative of the Kurdish Regional Government*