

## PROGRAMME

### “THE FORGOTTEN NATION: TURKMENS IN IRAQ”

Thursday, June 6, 2013

11.00-13.00 | Room IX

11.00 **Moderator, NRP:** Welcome, introductions

#### PANEL DISCUSSION:

11.15 **Mr. Chris Chapman:** Security risks for minorities in Iraq and the state's failure to safeguard their rights

11.30 **Ms. Sundus Abbas:** Human Rights situation in Iraq since 2003

11.45 **Mr. Ahmed Al-Hurmezi:** Media and the Iraqi Turkmen Case

12.00 **Mr. Mofak Salman:** Arabization and Kurdization policies in Iraq

12.15 **Dr. Sheith Jerjis:** Confiscation of land and the demographic change of the Iraqi Turkmen territory

12.30 **Q&A,** open floor debate

12.55 **Moderator, NRP:** Closing remarks



# THE FORGOTTEN NATION: Turkmens in Iraq



## GIVING A VOICE TO THE FORGOTTEN



June 6 | 2013  
11.00-13.00 | Room IX  
Palais des Nations | Geneva



minority  
rights  
group  
international



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## SPEAKERS

### MR. CHRIS CHAPMAN (UK)

Chris Chapman is Head of Conflict Prevention at Minority Rights Group International. He manages a research, advocacy and capacity-building programme, which examines the root causes of ethnic and religious conflicts and proposes policy recommendations on the implementation of minority rights as a conflict prevention tool. Chris has published a number of articles and reports on minority rights, conflict prevention and transitional justice. From 1995-2000 Chris worked in conflict resolution, human rights monitoring and journalism in Haiti and Guatemala. He has a Master's Degree in Armed Conflict and Crisis Management from the Open University of Catalonia.

### MS. SUNDUS ABBAS (UK)

Sundus Abbas Saqi worked as a director for a London-based advocacy organization for women with a focus on women's rights. Originally from Kerkuk, Iraq, she is very active in the Iraqi Turkmen community and is currently the Iraq Turkmen Front representative to the United Kingdom. She has a Bsc in Civil Engineering degree from Salahaddin University in Iraq, followed by a degree in computer science from Greenwich University, London.

### MR. AHMED AL-HURMEZI (Sweden)

Originally from Iraq, Mr. Ahmed Al-Hurmezi is an activist in the Iraqi Turkmen Community. With a Master's degree in International Law from Iraq, and another one in European Law from Sweden, Mr. Al-Hurmezi eagerly participates in various legal conferences on international law, media and human rights inside and outside Iraq. He is currently a member of the Iraqi Human Rights organization, adviser in Public Service (Sweden) and the secretary of the Iraqi Turkmen Academic Association. His past experiences include teaching at Al-Mustansiriyha University (Bagdad, Iraq). Mr. Al-Hurmezi is a member of the Iraqi Bar Association and has a certificate of Economic and General Administration.

## SPEAKERS

### MR. MOFAK SALMAN (Ireland)

Mr. Salman was born in the Iraqi Turkmen community of Kerkuk, Iraq. He has a BSc degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Oxford Brookes University and completed an MSc programme in Medical Electronics and Physics at London University, followed by an MSc in Computing Science and Information Technology at South Bank University. Mofak Slaman is the author of various publications in Iraqi Turkmen, including the "Brief History of Iraqi Türkmen", "Türkmen of Iraq," "Türkmen city of Tuz Khormatu", reports into Kurdish Abuse in Türkmeneli, "The forgotten Turkmen in Erbil and Kurdish Obliteration". Being an activist, Mr. Salman has participated a number of conferences, meetings with ambassadors and government officials and other events on Iraqi Turkmen in around the world. He was the Turkmeneli Party representative for both of Republic of Ireland and United Kingdom up until 2012.

### DR. SHEITH JERJIS (Netherlands)

Born in Kerkuk, on June 1954, Dr. Jerjis completed primary and secondary education in Iraq. He received M.B.Ch.B. degree from the medical college, Mosul University in 1980. Dr. Jerjis was an active member of the Iraqi Turkmen Qardashliq Club (Mosul office), between 1973 and 1980. Between 1993 and 1994, he was member of the Steering Council of the Iraqi Turks cultural and Solidarity Association (Izmir office). Additionally, he served as a secretary of the Iraqi Turkmen Cultural Foundation in The Netherlands, between 1997 and 2000. Dr. Sheith Jerjis's current affiliations include the Iraqi Turkmen Human Rights Research Foundation (SOITM, Netherlands), daily electronic newspaper Turkmen Tribune, and the Iraqi Turkmen delegation to the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO).