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Dear collagues ,ladies and gentelman

Despite the fact that there are 11 national minorities in Armenia the government representatives always describe the country as a monoethnic one which is a way of denial of the presence of national minorities and the protection of their rights.

Morever, creating government supported "community leaders" and giving them media access the government created a "myth" that Armenia is the best country in the world for national minorities to live.

As a result of this propaganda, and because of lack of minority rights oriented educational programmes national minorities have lost their motivation to defend their rights as a result of which minorities start to lose their identity and assimilation process started among them.

- 1. Government doesn't try to liberalize national minorities and fight against harmful traditions like early marriage among the national minorities. Police representatives don't open or don't bring this criminal cases to the court when when early marriage cases by national minorities happen
- 2. The majority of yezidi children especially girls don't receive basic education and don't graduate schools. The government doesn't try to guarantee their rights to be receive basic education saying that not receiving education is so called "yezidi tradition" and the government has nothing to do with that.
- 3. National minorities participation in social, political, economic life of the country is not meaningful and is more symbolic. One example of that is the draft law on "National Minorities" which is more about declaration and doesn't provide any mechanisms to realize their right to save their identity and not to be discriminated.
- 4. Because of hate speech agains especially yezidi community, several cases happen when property ,especially the land belonging yezidis had been illegally taken from them. One example of that is the case of Ferik village when past mayor of yezidi populated Ferik village who was ethnic armenian, illagely have sold all the agricultural lands belonging to yezidi village to one of Armenia oligarchs and past ruling party representative Manvel Grigoryans relatives. As a result of which yezidi population of the village is no on the edge of emigraton because this land was the only mean how they ould earn money and live. To solve this issues we recommend to
- Create national strategy of the protection of the rights of national minorities
- Fight against harmful traditions among the national minorities
- Created mechanisms for yezidi children to receive basic educational
- Investigate cases where national minorities were discriminated