

National Forum “Ossetia Accuses”

Report on Ossetian Refugees

From 1990-1992, according to various data, about one hundred thousand Ossetians fled Georgia and South Ossetia escaping ethnic cleansings committed against them by Georgia. Total of 117 Ossetian villages were destroyed and burnt both in Georgia and South Ossetia by Georgian armed forces, the big part of them became completely depopulated.

According to the last population census of USSR, carried out in 1989, there were 99 000 Ossetians in the Georgian SSR, excluding the South Ossetian Autonomous Region. Georgian population census of 2002 showed only 36 000 Ossetians living in the country. 62 000 were forced to leave their homes in Georgia from 1990 to 1992, 25-30 000 left South Ossetia. Most part of these people found refuge in Russian Federation, part of them found themselves in the status of refugees on the territory of the Republic of South Ossetia. Overwhelming part of these people still remains displaced. Facts, numbers, witnesses are presented in this monography «Georgia: ethnical cleansings against Ossetians». It will be available to all of you after this working session.

Till now tens of thousands Ossetian refugees live on the territory of the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania in RF. Their property is still not restored, the losses are not reimbursed, no assessment of the inflicted damage had been done; the Georgian publicity-aimed law on restitution of the property of the refugees, strictly criticized both by the UNHCR and the Venice commission, does not work and obviously isn't supposed to, though adoption and implementation of this Law is a commitment of Georgia to the Council of Europe.

In 2011, as it was in 2010, 2009 and in 2008, the Georgian delegation in UN brought to vote the draft resolution “On the status of the refugees and temporarily displaced people from Abkhazia and South Ossetia”. It concerns the ethnic Georgians, who became displaced as a result of the attack of the Georgian army on South Ossetia and previous Georgian agressions both in South Ossetia and Abkhazia. Different declarations were adopted in other international organizations as well, but none of them ever mentions many tens of thousands of Ossetian refugees, as if they don't exist at all.

How could it happen, that it became possible to vote for the draft resolution, which has nothing to do with justice, refusing the rights for Ossetians and

proclaiming them only for the Georgians? Is there one level of justice and guarantees for some nations and other, higher class level for the selected ones?