

“Yezidi center for
Human Rights”



Yezidi Center for Human Rights

HRD NGO

« Մարդու իրավունքների
Եզդիական կենտրոն»

իրավապաշտպան ԲԿ

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Sashik Sultanyan

Chairperson

Mr moderator, dear colleagues

It should be mentioned that hate speech and hate crimes start with ignorance and unmeaningful participation of a group in society.

When we talk about national minorities we should take into account that meaningful participation of them should be guaranteed in order to prevent marginalization of minorities based on their religion, identity or just because they are different than the others.

In Armenia participation of national minorities in political life is symbolic. According to electoral code of Armenia minority representative in the parliament is appointed by the ruling party and isn't being elected by minority group representatives which is just making an impression that minorities participate in the political life of the country but in reality, the minority group has no influence on the election of parliamentarian which represents their group.

It is disappointing that till now national minorities in Armenia doesn't participate in the decision making process where decisions are being made about them especially when the government designs the education policy for them.

There are no programs for national minorities which will teach them their rights and help to defend them.

Hate speeches against the yezidis continue and phrases like “Dirty yezidi”, “yezidi color,” “Yezidi behavior” aiming to offend the opponent become already normal in the society.

Hate speeches and hate crimes often happen in the regions, when head of municipal bodies, head of regions based on discrimination and hate speech violate the fundamental rights of yezidi people.

Unfortunately, the hate speech exists even among the teachers who discriminate Yezidi pupils trying to humiliate them.

According to research done by Yezidi Center for Human Rights there are cases when the head of governmental agencies refuse hire Yezidis to work in government offices.

In order to solve this issues we recommend to

1. Organize minority rights training for minority organizations
2. Organize training for public servants, teachers about minority rights
3. Guarantee the rights of fair trial when national minorities are being discriminated