

INTERNATIONAL APPEAL IN DEFENSE OF KURDISH CULTURE IN TURKEY

Like every human community, the Kurdish people have the right to preserve their cultural heritage and to freely express their identity. The Kurds' ancient culture is part of the world's cultural patrimony. The product of centuries of history, the work of generations, it deserves, like all other cultures, respect and protection. That is why the undersigned, guided by the principles proclaimed in the United Nation's Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international covenants on human rights, opposed to all forms of intolerance and discrimination, concerned with justice and democracy, urge the Turkish authorities to abolish all constitutional and legal bans on the use of the Kurdish language and, more generally, on all cultural expressions of the millions of Kurdish citizens of Turkey.

FIRST SIGNATORIES

Faruq ABU-ISSA former Minister, Chairman of the Arab Lawyers' Union, Sudan; Abdul-Karim AL-TIZRI, former Minister, Iraq; Adib AL-JADIR, former Minister, Vice-Chairman of the Arab Organization for Human Rights; Abolhassan BANI SADR, former President of Iran; Ahmad BEN BELLA, former President of Algeria; Jean CHARBONNEL, former Minister, MP, France; Ramsey CLARK, Attorney, former Secretary of Justice, USA; Michel CREPEAU, former Minister, MP, France; Mohamed FAIQ, former Minister, Chairman of the Arab Organization for Human Rights, Egypt; Luigi GRANELLI, former Minister, MP, Italy; Michel JOBERT, former Minister, France; Edward M. KENNEDY, Senator*, USA; Bernard KOUCHNER, Secretary of State, France; Edouard LEEMANS, Minister of State, former Spokesman of the Senate, Belgium; Winnie MANDELA, South Africa; Pierre MAUROY, former Prime Minister, First Secretary of Socialist Party, France; Danielle MITTERRAND, President of the France-Libertés Foundation; Véronique NEIERTZ, Secretary of State, MP, France; Leila SHARAF, former Minister, Jordan; Roger-Gérard SCHWARTZENBERG, former Minister, MP, France; Omar SIBAT, former Minister, Syria; Bernard STASI, former Minister, MP, Vice-chairman of the CDS, France; Dr J. VALKENIERS, Minister, Belgium.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

BELGIUM: Magda AELVOET; Vic ANCLIAUX; Franz BAERT; Dr M. COPPIETERS; Jo CUYFERS; W. DE VLIEGHERE; Eric GRYP; Guido JANZEGERS; W. LUYTEN; Nelly MAES; Gaston PAQUE; Théo TOUSSAINT; Hugo VAN DIEN-DEREN; P. VAN GREMBERGEN.

FRANCE: Claude ESTIER; Maxime GREMETZ; Guy MALANDIN; Georges MESMIN; Jean PROVEUX. F.R.G.: Jürgen MARI; Regina MICHALIK; Johann MULLER; Jürgen REERTS; Christian SCHMIDT; Renate SCHMIDT; Eberhard WALDE.

ITALY: Michele ACHILLI, Chairman of Senate Foreign Affairs Committee; Giacchè ALDO; Silvano ANDRIANI; Georgio CARLO ARGAN, former Mayor of Rome; Arrigo BALDRINI; Ugo BENAM; Giovanni BERLINGUER; Lonello BERTOLDI; Romana BIANCHI; Giuseppe BOFFA; Araldo CASCIA; Giuseppe CHIARANTE; Gerardo CHIAROMONTE, director of "L'Unità"; Giorgio CISBANI; Vecchi CLAUDIO; Vito CONSOLI; Armando COSSUTA; Salvatore CROSETTA; Angelo DIONISI; Isa FERRAGUTI; Antonio FRANCHI; Menotti GALEOTTI; Carmine GAMOFALO; Guido GEROSA; Lorenzo GIANOTTI; Franco GIUSTINELLI; Antonio GRAZIANI; Franco GRECO; Nicola IMBRIACO; Raimondo LA VALLE; Luciano LAMA, Vice-Chairman of Senate; Franco LONGO; Pasquale LOPS; Maurizio LOTTI; Archimede Casadci LUCCHI; Francesco MACIS; Ettore MASINA; Gianni MATTIOLI; Luigi MERIGGI; Giorgio NAPOLITANO; Carlo NESPOLO; Adalberto NINUCCI; Gian-Carlo PAJETTA; Ugo PECCIO; Onofrio PETRARÀ; Piero PIERALLI; Mario PINNA; Renato POLLINI; Giovanni RANALLI; Margherita RICCARDO; Dr Hans RUBNER; Enrico SALVATO; Franco SALVI, vice-Chairman of Senate Foreign Affairs Committee; Massimo SCALIA; Umberto SCARDAONI; Giovanna SENERI; Rino SERRI; Stojan SPETIC, Secretary of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee; Ugo SPOSETTI; Antonio TARAMELLI, former President of the Region of Milan; Giglia TEDESCO; Giorgio TORNATI; Graziella TOSSI BRUTTI; Tullio VERCHIETTI; Ugo VETERE; Giuseppe VIGNOLA; Roberto VISCONTI; Giuseppe VITALE; Paolo VOLPONI; Benigno ZACCAGNINI, former Secretary of the Christian Democracy.

NETHERLANDS: Ria BECKERS, President of the Radical Party Parliamentary Group; B. GAAYFORTMAN; E. RENS-MAN.

SPAIN: Luis RECORDER, President of the JNC.

UNITED KINGDOM: Diana ABBOTT; Peter AREMER; Lord AVEBURY; Tony BANKS; Harry BARNES; John BATTER; Tony BENN; Keith BRADLEY; Sir Bernard BRAINE, Vice-Chairman of the Human Rights Parliamentary Group; Ron BROWN; Dennis CANAVAN; Bob CLAY; Ann CLYWDY; Harry COHEN; Frank COOKE; Jeremy CORBYN; John CUMMINGS; Terry FIELDS; George GALLOWAY; Lord GIFFORD; Mildred GORDON; Bumy GRANT; Peter HARDY; Jerry HAYES; Eric HEFFER; Stewart HOLLAND; Doug HOYLE; J. HUGHES; Lord KILBRACKEN; Anthony LLOYD; Eddy LOYDEN; J. MAC ALLION; Max MADDIN; Bill MICHEL; Chris MULLIN; Bob PARRY; Martin REDMOND; J. RUDDOCK; Brian SEDGEMORE; Clare SHORT; Dennis SKINNER; Chris SMITH; Dafydd Elis THOMAS; Pat WALL; Jimmy WAY; Dafydd WIGLEY.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Luciana CASTELLINA, Italy; Gianni CERVETTI, Italy; H. D'ANCONA, Netherlands; Dr Joachim DALASSA, South-Tyrol, Italy; Winifred EWING, Chairman of the Scottish National Party, UK; Stanley NEWENS, UK; Eddy NEWMAN, UK; Jiri PELIKAN, Italy; Marisa RODANO, Italy; Henry SABY, Vice-Chairman of the Socialist Group, France; Lilla TRUPA, Italy.

AUSTRIA: Josef CAP; Dr Heinz FISCHER, President of the Socialist Group in Parliament; Herbert FUCHS; Walter GEYER; Arnold GRABNER; Walter GUGGENBERGER; Fritz HOCHMAIR; Freda MEISSNER-BLAU, President of the Grünen Group in Parliament; Dr Lothar MULLER; Peter PILZ; Karel SMOLLER; Manfred SRB; Andreas WABL.

SWEDEN: Lajla EXVER; Hans-Göran FRANCK; Olaf JOHANSSON, Chairman of the Centre Party; Oskar LINDKVIST;

Bert SVENSSON; Goran SVENSSON; Erkki TAMMENOKSA; Lars WERNER, Chairman of the VPK; Bengt WESTERBERG, leader of the Liberal Party.

USA - SENATORS*: Brock ADAMS; Kent CONRAD; Wendell FORD; Alben GORE; Bob GRAHAM; Daniel K. INOUYE; Carl LEVIN; John MELCHER; Claiborne PELL, Chairman of Senate Foreign Affairs Committee; William PROXMIRE; Donald W. RIEGLE.

USA - CONGRESSMEN: John CONYERS; George CROCKETT; James J. JEFFORDS; Tom LANTOS, co-Chairman of the House "Human Rights Caucus"; Joe MOAKLEY; Constance A. MORELLA; James OBERSTAR; Nancy PELOSI; Ted WEISS.

ORGANIZATIONS

Nuri ABDUL-RAZAQ, Chairman of the Africa-Asia Solidarity Organization; Asmar BENTOUMI, Secretary General of the International Association of Democrat Lawyers; Pierre BERCISS, Chairman of "Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme", France; Michel BLUM, Attorney, Chairman of the Special Committee of Non Governmental Organizations at the United Nations; Pierre BRANA, National Secretary for Human Rights, Socialist Party, France; Jason W. CLAY, Cultural Survival Inc., Harvard, USA; Harlem DESIR, Chairman of SOS Racisme, France; Raphael DOUEB, General Secretary of the France-Libertés Foundation; Julio Anguita GONZALES, General Secretary of the Spanish Communist Party; Dr Bruno HOSP, General Secretary of SVP, South Tyrol, Italy; Yves JOUFFA, Chairman of the French League for Human Rights; G. LE NEOUANNIC, National Secretary of the FEN, France; Leo MATARASSO, Attorney, President of the International League for the Peoples' rights and liberation, France; Yannick SIMBRON, General Secretary of the FEN, France.

NOBEL LAUREATES

Christian BANFINSEN, USA; Kenneth J. ARROW, USA; Herbert C. BROWN, USA; Herbert A. HAUPTMAN, USA; François JACOB, France; Sir John KENDREW, UK; Jean-Marie LEHN, France; Salvador E. LURIA, USA; André LWOFF, France; Mairead Corrigan MAGUIRE, Ireland; Louis NEEL, France; Adolfo PERES ESQUITVEL, Argentina; J.C. POLANYI, Canada; Ilya PRIGOGINE, Belgium; Carlo RUBbia, Italy; Claude SIMON, France; Desmond TUTU, South Africa; S. VAN DER MEER, Netherlands; George WALD, USA; Elie WIESEL, USA.

ARTISTS

Nestor ALMENDROS, Argentina; BARBARA, France; Maurice BEJART, France; Ingmar BERGMAN, Sweden; Jane BIRKIN, UK; Juan CEDRON, Argentina; Gérard DEPARDIEU, France; Miguel Angel ESTRELLA, Argentina; France GALL, France; Francis GIROD, France; Roger HANIN, France; HIGELIN, France; Malak-Djahan KHAZAL, Iran; Parviz KIMIAVI, Iran; Catherine LARA, France; Ariane MNOUCHKINE, France; Yves MONTAND, France; Hugo SANTIAGO, Argentina; Ettore SCOLA, Italy; Mirna SEN, India; Fernando SOLANAS, Argentina; Bertrand TAVERNIER, France; TAVIANI Brothers, Italy; Gian Maria VOLONTE, Italy.

WRITERS AND JOURNALISTS

Rodney ATCHIEY, UK; Hani AL-FIKAIKI, Iraq; Kadim AL-SAMAWI, Iraq; Rafael ALBERTI, Spain; Jorge AMADO, Brazil; Giancarlo ANGELONI, Italy; Father Ernesto BALDUCCI, Italy; Salim BARAKAT, Syria; Ruben BAREIRO-SAGUER, Paraguay; Caroline BEHR, UK; Marshall BERMAN, USA; Jean BERTOLINO, France; Claude BOURDET, France; Robert BRECHON, Secretary of the French Pen Club; Gérard CHALIAND, France; Didier DECOIN, France; Régine DESPORGES, France; Margaret DRABBLE, UK; Umberto ECO, Italy; Salim FAKHRY, Iraq; Jean-Pierre FAYE, France; Michel FLEURET, France; Lady Antonia FRAZER, President of the British Pen Club; Marisa GLOFFRE, USA; Victoria GLENDINING, UK; André GLUCKSMANN, France; Alan GUINSBOURG, USA; Nora GUTTMAN, USA; HAJI-SEYED-DJAVADI, Iran; Marek HALTER, France; Michael HOLROYD, UK; Bernard LANGLOIS, France; Claude LANZMANN, France; Penelope LIVELY, UK; Joyce LUSSU, Italy; M. MAHJOOBI, Iran; Eduardo MANET, Cuba; Claude MAURIAC, France; Emily Arnold McCULLY, USA; Juliette MINCES, France; Alberto MORAVIA, Italy; Abdul-Rahman MUNIF, Saudi Arabia; Jan MYRDAL, Sweden; Esmaeil NOORIALA, Iran; Manuel Zapata OLIVELLA, Columbia; Juan Carlos ONETTI, Uruguay; Grace PALEY, USA; Octavio PAZ, Mexico; Gilles PERRAULT, France; Harold PINTER, UK; Augusto ROA-BASTOS, Paraguay; Bernice Ruth RUBENS, UK; Severo SARDUY, Cuba; Tom STOPPARD, UK; René TAVERNIER, International Vice-Chairman of the Pen Club; Hélène TOURNaire, France; Kathryn WATTERSON, USA; Linda WOLFE, USA; Sa'di YOUSSEF, Iraq.

ACADEMICS

Samuele Sabino ACQUAVIVA, University of Padova, Italy; Richard ADAMS, University of Texas, USA; Jalal Sadiq AL-ADM, University of Damas, Syria; Hadi AL-ALAWI, historian, Iraq; Michel BANKS, London School of Economics; Hanna BATATU, Georgetown University, USA; Cyril BELSHAY, British Columbia University, Canada; M. BENCHIKH, Algiers University; Terry CANNON, Thames Polytechnic, UK; Gustave CHOQUET, member of l'Académie des Sciences, France; Claude COHEN-TANNOUDJI, Collège de France; Harvey COX, Harvard, USA; Vincent CRAPANZANO, Columbia University, USA; Stanley DIAMOND, New School for Social Research of New York, USA; Lior EISENBERG, Harvard Medical School, USA; Didar FAWZY, historian, Egypt; Roderick FLOUD, Birkbeck College, UK; René GALLISOT, Paris University; Burhan GHALIOUN, sociologist, Syria; Myriam GOHEEN, Harvard, USA; Mahdi HAFEZ, economist, Syria; Fred HALLIDAY, London School of Economics; David HAMLYN, Birkbeck College, UK; Mohammed HARBI, historian, Algeria; Hans-Georg HEINRICH, Austria; Guy HERAUD, University of Poitou, France; Paul HIRST, Birkbeck College, UK; Mark HOFFMAN, London School of Economics; François HOUTART, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium; Deell HYMES, University of Virginia, USA; Edmond JOUVE, Sorbonne University, France; Edgar LEDERER, Member of l'Institut de France University; Linda MAYOUC, Cambridge, UK; Pierre METGE, Research Fellow, France; Alexandre MINKOVSKY, René Descartes, France; Maxime MOLYNEUX, Exeter University; Théodore MONOD, member of l'Institut de France; Lucia MORA, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain; Kichiro NAKAHARA, University of Tokai, Japan; professor, France; Roger OWEN, professor, UK; Nasser PAKDAMAN, Paris VII, France; Antonio PAPISCA, University of Padova, Italy; Gérard PIERRE-CHARLES, sociologist, Haiti; Maxime RODINSON, Ecole pratique des Hautes Etudes, France; Julio RODRIGUEZ-PUERTOLAS, Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain; Laurent SCHWARTZ, mathematician, France; Léon SCHWARTZENBERG, cancerologist, Faculté de Médecine de Paris, France; William A. SHACK, University of California, USA; Michael M.J. SISCHER, University of Huston, USA; N. SMITH, Harvard Law School, USA; Paul Patrick STREETEN, Director of World Development Institute, USA; Eugenio SUAREZ-GALBON, University of Madrid, Spain; L.V. THOMAS, Sorbonne University, France; Germaine TILLION, sociologist, France; Alain TOURNAINE, sociologist, France; Armando URIBE, professor, Chile; Peter UTTING, Essex University, UK; Carmen VERGARA, University of Madrid, Spain; Pierre VIDAL-NAQUET, historian, France; Paul VIEILLE, sociologist, CNRS, France; Richard VOKES, Kent University, UK; Kazuo YAMAUCHI, University of Tokai, Japan; Sami ZUBAIDA, Birkbeck College, UK.

AND ALSO:

Gianfranco BARTOLINI, President of the Regional Government of Toscane, Italy; Baroness Tessa BLACKSTONE; Alberto BRASCA, President of the Province of Florence, Italy; Bernard DORIN, Ambassador of France; Jacques GAILLOT, Bishop of Evreux, France; Luciano GUERZONI, President of the Emilia-Romagna Region, Italy; Dr Silvius MAGNAGO, President of South-Tyrol, President of SVP, Italy; S. PATUN, Governor of The Hague, Netherlands; Alfonso RINALDI, Mayor of Modena, Italy; Antoine SANGUINETTI, Admiral, France; Philippe TEXIER, Judge, France; Dr Luis ZINGERLE, President of the Trentin Region, South-Tyrol, Italy.

* US Senators also urge the governmental authorities in Iran, Iraq and Syria to abolish all the restrictions on the use of the Kurdish language and, more generally, to lift all prohibitions on cultural expression of their Kurdish citizens.

THIS CAMPAIGN WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE CULTURAL RIGHTS OF THE KURDS ARE RECOGNIZED. PLEASE SEND SIGNATURES AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO: THE KURDISH INSTITUTE, 106, RUE LAFAYETTE, 75010 PARIS. TEL. 48 24 64 64.