



Weekly Report

Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity Initiatives Around the World

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- 1 Parliamentary Initiative
- 2 UN Initiative
- 3 NGO Initiative

“Targeting the most senior and influential Shi’a religious figure in Bahrain may amount to intimidating and thus discriminating against the entire Shi’a Muslim community in the country because of its religious beliefs”

– Heiner Bielefeldt, UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief

Women lead Philippines historic peace accord

- Women leaders in the Philippines negotiated and signed a historic accord bringing peace to a region that has endured a bloody 45-year conflict. Chief Negotiator Professor Miriam Coronel-Ferrer is the first women chief negotiator in Philippine history to sign a major peace agreement between two negotiating parties.
- The Philippine government has made significant efforts to include and amplify women’s voices at the peace-negotiating table. Women represented one-quarter of the total signatories to the agreement.
- The Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro concludes the 17-year long peace negotiations between the Philippine government and its largest Muslim rebel group, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). As a result of the agreement, Muslim rebels will disband guerilla forces, surrender weapons and rebuild their communities. The Philippine government has agreed to give the MILF more powers to control their economy and culture.
- Source: Nobel Women’s Initiative
<http://nobelwomensinitiative.org/2014/04/women-lead-philippines-in-historic-peace-accord/?ref=196>
<http://www.opapp.gov.ph/milf/news/women-make-history-signing-gph-milf-comprehensive-peace-deal>

Independent UN human rights expert urges Bahrain to stop persecuting Shi’a Muslims

- Heiner Bielefeldt, the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief urged the Government of Bahrain to stop the harassment and persecution of, Hussain Mirza Abdelbaqi Najati, a Shi’a Muslim leader, who was reportedly forced to leave the country following threats from State security agents to arrest him and his son.
- Mr. Najati is one of 31 individuals whose Bahraini citizenship was revoked by the Ministry in November 2012, a decision that rendered him stateless. The Special Rapporteur urged the Government to reverse its decision, which he said appears to be arbitrary, and to facilitate Mr. Najati’s return from Lebanon.
- Source: UN News Centre
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=47640-.U1pySvldUrV>

The Sentinel Project is Building an Early Warning System to Identify Communities at Risk of Genocide

- The Sentinel Project is in the process of developing an early warning system (EWS) to identify communities at risk of genocide. The system will be used by the organization to identify situations of concern and produce assessments which inform the organization’s prevention efforts.
- The EWS is employed as a continual process divided into four phases which are subject to constant review. Each of these phases represents a different type of information gathering and analysis that takes place within different time frames. Together, they form a transparent, repeatable process that will satisfy the information requirements for effective early warning and prevention.
- Source: The Sentinel Project
<http://thesentinelproject.org/our-work/early-warning-system-overview/>