



Weekly Report

Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity Initiatives Around the World

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**MAY 5-12,
2014**

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

International Conference on Genocide Prevention

- On the initiative of the Government of Belgium and with the cooperation of the African Union, the European Union and the United Nations, an International Conference on Genocide Prevention gathered in Brussels on 31 March and 1 April 2014, with representatives of 125 States and of relevant regional and universal International Organizations, as well as academics, legal experts, representatives of civil society and Parliamentarians.
- The Conference focused on 4 core areas: (1) the status of academic research on genocide; (2) an integrated international human rights law - international criminal law perspective; (3) role of civil society and (4) parliaments and institutional responses.
- The participating states noted that the international community has made substantial progress in fighting impunity for perpetrators of crimes of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.
- The participating states noted the importance of taking all necessary measures to prevent incitement to violence based on ethnic or religious hatred, including enacting specific laws that prohibit incitement and promote national cohesion as well as collaborating closely with the United Nations Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect on building capacities, advocacy for prevention as well as information sharing.
- Source: International Conference on Genocide Prevention
<http://www.genocideprevention.be/>
http://www.genocideprevention.be/sites/default/files/content/conclusions_international_conference_on_genocide_prevention_v2.pdf

Meeting of the Security Council on the situation in South Sudan

- On May 2, 2014, Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide Mr. Adama Dieng spoke before the Security Council on the current situation in South Sudan.
- Mr. Dieng stated, “the recent brutal attacks in Bentiu, Unity state and Bor, Jonglei state, seem to have changed the trajectory of the conflict and, if such attacks are not immediately halted, [it] could plunge the country into serious violence that could spiral out of control. In the current situation we see elements that we could categorize as risk factors of genocide and other atrocity crimes.”
- “Another cause for serious concern has been the reported use of radio in some areas to spread messages constituting incitement to violence against all those perceived to support the government.”
- Source: United Nations Security Council

[http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/pdf/2014-05-14 Statement of USG Adama Dieng to the Security Council on South Sudan.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/pdf/2014-05-14%20Statement%20of%20USG%20Adama%20Dieng%20to%20the%20Security%20Council%20on%20South%20Sudan.pdf)

“In Bentiu, South Sudan, more than 200 civilians of Dinka ethnicity were massacred and more than 400 others wounded. [...] The attackers separated ethnic Dinka from ethnic Nuer civilians and then executed the Dinka and others perceived to support the government.”

– Adama Dieng, Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide



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Amnesty International and Assembly of First Nations appeal for Canadian government attention to emergency facing Indigenous peoples amidst resource extraction in Colombia

- Amnesty International and the Assembly of First Nations have made an urgent public appeal to the Canadian government about the acute human rights emergency that threatens the very survival of scores of Indigenous peoples in Colombia, many in areas earmarked for resource extraction.
- Earlier this month, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights representative in Colombia, Todd Howland, warned that 40 of the 102 Indigenous nations in Colombia are at risk of extinction. Indigenous organizations have signaled that many others are faced with destruction. All agree that the imposition of mining projects without human rights guarantees is a key factor in this emergency.
- To date, more than 65,000 people have expressed concern about the human rights crisis affecting Indigenous peoples in Colombia and called for action by the Canadian and Colombian governments to protect their rights and survival on their lands.

- Source: Amnesty International Canada

<http://www.amnesty.ca/news/news-releases/amnesty-international-and-assembly-of-first-nations-appeal-for-canadian>

<http://www.amnesty.ca/our-work/campaigns/colombia-indigenous-survival>