



FUSSS 2023

**FOLLOW UP SAKHAROV@SCIENCES PO STRASBOURG
- LAMIYA AJI BASHAR-SAKHAROV PRIZE 2016 & FUSSS 2023 -**



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Lamiya Aji Bashar was granted the Sakharov Prize by the European Parliament in 2016.

Lamiya Aji Bashar comes from the Iraqi district of Sinjar where the so-called Islamic State conducted a genocide against Yazidis in 2014. In Kocho, hometown of Lamiya Aji Bashar, all Yazidis men were slaughtered in August 2014, whereas women and children were enslaved. Young women such as Lamiya Aji Bashar and her six sisters were traded and exploited as sex slaves.

She succeeded in escaping in April 2015 but was severely wounded by a landmine before reaching the Iraq's government-controlled territory. The explosion of the mine killed two other fugitives and left Lamiya Aji Bashar almost blind.

After being reunited with siblings and receiving medical treatment in Germany, Lamiya Aji Bashar has been active to raise awareness for the Yazidi community and the cause of women and children affected by armed conflict.



FUSSS CALL FOR ACTION 2023

BY LAMIYA AJI BASHAR & 100 STRASBOURG SCHOLARS

To the Iraqi federal and Kurdish regional governments:

1. Respect the distinct identity of Yazidis and all other minority groups in accordance with Articles 2, 3 and 4 of the Constitution of Iraq.
2. Implement and extend to all victims the provisions of the Yazidi Female Survivors Law, especially in order to hold perpetrators of conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence accountable, to provide psychosocial support to victims, and redress measures for all survivors identified.
3. Fully implement the 2020 Sinjar agreement in order to stabilize the region, in particular taking into consideration the democratic participation of all Yazidi populations and "[s]trengthening security in the district by recruiting 2,500 members to internal security forces in Sinjar, while insuring equitable participation of the people of Sinjar in the Internally displaced people (IDP) camps" (Art.2.2).

To Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Russia, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States as States currently serving on the UN Security Council:

4. Take urgent steps to protect the gravesites around Mount Sinjar and all other necessary measures to preserve the evidence of the war crimes, crimes against humanity and possibly genocide committed by the so-called Islamic State IS/Daesh.
5. Confer to the International Criminal Court the power to exercise its jurisdiction over all the crimes of unspeakable cruelty mentioned in the Statement of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court dated 8 April 2015: genocide, mass executions, sexual slavery, rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, torture, mutilation, enlistment and forced recruitment of children and the persecution of ethnic and religious minorities, wanton destruction of cultural property.

To the European Union and its Member States Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden:

6. Promote the equal participation and involvement of women at all levels of decision making, as well as the promotion of women's political and economic empowerment, in particular by increasing the number of women in Iraqi and Kurdish institutions, including civilian security institutions through specific trainings and projects conducted by the civilian mission EUAM Iraq.
7. Ensure that all children affected by armed conflict are considered as victims, and strengthen their protection and reintegration.
8. Make a priority of protecting human rights defenders and civil activists in Iraq, including through legislative changes and special training projects.

To the European Parliament in particular:

9. Endorse and express political support to the abovementioned recommendations through the adoption of a dedicated resolution.



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Every January, Master's degree students from Sciences Po Strasbourg host at the University of Strasbourg a former winner of the Sakharov Prize to reassess the specific human rights situation related to their award.

FUSSS is carried out in accordance with the principles of "consistency and constancy" emphasised by the European Parliament when the Sakharov Prize was created in 1985. Due to the fact that a media event rapidly casts out the previous one, it is paramount to offer a highly visible follow-up event for Sakharov Prize winners and their cause. FUSSS serves this purpose. Each FUSSS includes public conferences, media engagements, and is concluded by the *FUSSS Call for Action* comprising 9 key recommendations for local and international actors in order to trigger significant improvements in human rights.

The Sakharov Prize is awarded by the European Parliament as the representative of the European Union's citizens. Accordingly, FUSSS represents a citizens' contribution to the follow-up duty by scholars in European Studies. As Andrei Sakharov wrote in a letter dated 10 April 1987 to the European Parliament, a prize is useful "since it will once again attract attention to the human rights problem".

On 18 January 2023, FUSSS pays homage to Lamiya Aji Bashar, 2016 Sakharov Prize winner. The conference held by Lamiya Aji Bashar in Sciences Po Strasbourg at 1800 is followed by a press conference from 1945 to 2025 and an official dinner from 2045 to 2300. On 19 January 2023, Lamiya Aji Bashar has an exchange of views with Members of European Parliament at the Strasbourg breakfast offered by the European Parliamentary Association (APE) in the Villa Schutzenberger. A farewell lunch with University scholars takes place at Le Cardo at 1330.

FUSSS 2023 is open to the public upon prior reservation.

Contact Us: iep-fusss@unistra.fr

*Un jour le courage frappe à la porte de la peur et demande: «qui est là ?
La peur répond : «da peur». Le courage entre, et il n'y a personne.
Jean-François Deniau, rapporteur for the creation of the Sakharov Prize*

