



Defending religious freedom and other human rights: Stopping mass atrocities against Christians and other believers

Thursday 28th: United Nations Session

United Nations Headquarters

ECOSOC Chamber (10:00am – 1:00pm)

Sponsor: Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations

9:15am - 10:00am / Registration (UN visitors' entrance on 46th Street and 1st Avenue).

10:00am / Opening remarks

- **Archbishop Bernardito Auza.** Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the UN.
- **H.E. Ufuk Gokcen.** Permanent Observer of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the UN.

10:20am / Short video presentation.

10:25am / Protecting victims of persecution and fostering religious freedom worldwide

Chair: **Archbishop Bernardito Auza.** Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the UN.

Panelists:

- **Mr. Carl Anderson.** Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, promoters of the report submitted to the US Secretary of State on *Genocide against Christians in the Middle East*.
- **The Hon. Lars Adaktusson.** Swedish Member of the European Parliament. Initiator of the EP Resolution on the systematic mass murder of religious minorities by the so-called "ISIS/Daesh."
- **Dr. Thomas F. Farr.** Director of the Religious Freedom Project at Georgetown University. First director of the US State Department office of international religious freedom.

11:15am / Witnesses of the mass atrocities and exodus of Christians and other religious minorities

Chair: **Ignacio Arsuaga.** President of CitizenGO.

Panelists:

- **H.E. Joseph Danlami Bagobiri.** Bishop of Kafanchan, Nigeria.
- **Carl & Marsha Mueller.** Parents of Kayla Mueller, a young aid worker and ISIS/Daesh hostage who was killed in Syria.
- **Fr. Douglas Al-Bazi.** Chaldean Catholic Church parish priest kidnapped by ISIS. Erbil, Iraq.
- **Sr. María de Guadalupe.** Missionary in Syria.

12:10pm / Christian and Yazidi women and girls: sexual victims of crimes against humanity

Chair: **Kirsten Evans,** Executive Director, In Defense of Christians.

Panelists:

- **Ms. Bahar Zndnan.** Yazidi witness kidnaped by ISIS/Daesh.
- **Dr. Elisa von Joeden-Forgey.** Associate Professor and Director, Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies Program, Stockton University and Vice President of the International Association of Genocide Scholars.
- **Ms. Jacqueline Isaac.** American-Egyptian Humanitarian Attorney and Vice President of Roads of Success.

12:55pm / Closure

Archbishop Bernardito Auza. Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the UN.