



Genocide Watch
The Alliance Against Genocide

Genocide Watch Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Genocide Watch continued to maintain its widely used website www.genocidewatch.com on events in countries at risk of genocide. Much of this work is done by student interns and volunteers who are now located around the world. The website is used as a resource by teachers for classes on genocide in many secondary schools and universities, and it is also a means of communication with policy makers and scholars in the field of genocide studies.

Genocide Watch spoke at meetings of the Working Group on Religious Pluralism at the Hudson Institute, led by Nina Shea. This group grew out of the Genocide Working Group that was founded in 2015 by Ms. Shea, Prof. Robert Destro, and Gregory Stanton to get the US Congress, State Department, and the European Parliament to recognize that ISIS was committing genocide in Iraq and Syria. In 2016, Congress passed a unanimous resolution declaring that ISIS was committing genocide, and Secretary of State Kerry also made this declaration. The European Parliament passed a similar resolution.

As a follow-up to that declaration, we supported a bill to provide substantial aid to groups displaced by ISIS in Iraq, which passed the Senate and House and was signed into law by the President. Funds allocated for that purpose are now being distributed to local NGO's through USAID. Genocide Watch attended the Religious Freedom Roundtable convened by the US State Department in July 2018.

Prof. Stanton spoke at a conference convened by the Dutch parliament in the Hague in July 2018 on how to prosecute members of ISIS for crimes against humanity and genocide. He has also advised a Yazidi prosecutor in Kurdistan who is gathering evidence for such prosecutions.

Genocide Watch played a leading role in response to the genocide and forced displacement of the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar that climaxed in August 2017. Over a million Rohingya refugees are now in Bangladesh, and another 120,000 are in Malaysia, 500,000 in Saudi Arabia and the Middle East. Prof. Stanton spoke at a roundtable on the crisis at the University of Ottawa School of Law in August 2018, as well as at an international conference at Columbia University in New York City in February 2019.

Out of those conferences a working group was formed to approach governments that can take Myanmar to the International Court of Justice for violation of the Genocide Convention. The working group traveled to Malaysia in March 2019 at the invitation of the Foreign Minister of Malaysia and presented options for legal action. It has also contacted other groups and governments working on this project, including the governments of Gambia and Canada. Prof. Stanton has written an Application (legal brief) to be presented to the International Court of Justice by a nation willing to take the case.

Besides the conferences above, Prof. Stanton spoke at other conferences, including at Georgetown University School of Law, Michigan State University School of Law, and the Trinity University School of Law. He also conducted skype classes with a number of secondary schools in the US.

Prof. Stanton will attend the biennial meetings of the International Association of Genocide Scholars in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in July 2019. Much of the conference will center around the Khmer Rouge genocide and the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, which Prof. Stanton was instrumental in founding.

Genocide Watch will continue its work in 2019 and beyond. In May 2019, Genocide Watch lost its office at the George Mason University School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution because the outgoing Dean wanted the office space for himself. Genocide Watch is currently looking for working space in another school at GMU, another university or another host institution. We hope to find this new working place by the end of the summer of 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory H. Stanton
Founding President