



Los Angeles County Democratic Party
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Congress Recognizes Armenian Genocide, Trump Will Not

WHEREAS, between 1915 and 1923 the Armenian Genocide took place, and incalculable horror, terror and death were perpetrated, including the systematic mass extermination and expulsion of ethnic Armenians within the Ottoman Empire — an estimated 1,500,000 Armenians were killed — and ever since, families of victims and survivors have suffered further torment because of Armenian Genocide deniers whose indifference, political expediency, moral relativism and hostility have deterred healing and enabled more crimes against humanity (it was only after closely studying the Armenian Genocide that Hitler and the Nazis embarked upon a Holocaust of their own making, emboldened by the world’s refusal to recognize the Armenian Genocide and its monstrous scale); and

WHEREAS, because it will always be urgent that we “never forget” genocide and its victims, there has been a century of extraordinary effort by the Armenian community and its organizations and leaders, countless humanitarian groups and clergy, educators and historians, and the Democratic Party and myriad political activists, all leading a crucial campaign to have those grim events of 1915-1923 be known by their true name — the Armenian Genocide — but there has also been opposition and denial, often based on the claim of political expediency and not wanting to offend Turkey by accurately describing and totaling the evils of that time; and

WHEREAS, there has finally been extraordinary progress in recent months — the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution in October 2019 designating those mass killings of Armenians to have been a genocide, and two months later, the U.S. Senate further affirmed that fact through its unanimous consent — but the Trump administration remains a feckless holdout, scared to use the word “Genocide,” even though the implicit rationale, that it’s in our national interest to placate Turkey, has proved utterly hollow, given Turkey’s heedless transgressions in Syria against our allies the Kurds;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Los Angeles County Democratic Party thanks the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives for officially designating that what transpired within the Ottoman Empire a hundred years ago is properly to be known as a genocide, and furthermore urges the Trump administration to cease being fearful but instead be truthful, by formally designating that cataclysmically deadly tragedy for what it was — “the Armenian Genocide”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to California’s Democratic Congressional delegation, and to the White House.

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