

Minority Rights In Iran

Ethnic Minorities Continue to Suffer Official
Discrimination in Iran

16 September 2016, 17h00 – 18h00 - Room XXVII

UNOG, Palais des Nations



**A side event at the human rights council organized by
Association des Etudiants Tamouls de France in
partnership with Centre Zagros pour les Droits de l'Homme**

Recent evolutions in the Iranian political landscape have shown little hope for improvements in the already dire situations faced by ethnic and religious minorities in Iran. Iran is home to a sizeable amount of minorities, equaling, if not surpassing, the population of Persian origin. In a state where political representation of minorities is completely disregarded, their basic rights denied and their history and cultural riches repudiated, the defense of human and minority rights in Iran by international powers and organizations is paramount.

Nevertheless, many Iranian officials, religious leaders, and intellectuals, particularly those associated with the reformist movement, have come to view Iran's ethnic minorities as an essential component of the national fabric. They have also come to realize that the Iranian regime's repression and discrimination against minorities has not only slowed Iran's advancement, but it could one day jeopardize the survival of the Islamic Republic — and even Iran's territorial integrity.

Moderator

Mr Leonardo Rodriguez, PhD

UN Representative, Maloca Internationale,
Research Associate, Pierre Dubois Foundation for
Current History

Panelist

Mr Baban Eliassi

Centre Zagros pour les Droits de l'Homme

Mme sabah BANDOUI

Activiste de droit de l'homme pour le peuple
Balouch

Mme Diane ALAEI

Representative of the Baha'i community at the UN
in Geneva

Dr Karim Abdian

Ahwaz Educational and Human Rights Foundation

Panel Discussion will be followed by a Q&A Session. Light food and refreshments will be served.

In partnership with :

Association Des Etudiants Tamouls de France
Society for Development and Community Empowerment
Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance

Centre Zagros pour les Droits de l'Homme
Swiss Council of Eelam Tamil
Ahwaz Educational and Human Rights Foundation