



Brussels, May 17th, 2019

Dear brothers and sisters in The Netherlands and Germany,

In 2014 and 2015 our Syriac-Assyrian Christian people were attacked and terrorized in Iraq and Syria by ISIS. It was one very dark chapter in our history that already has many dark chapters. We were desperate as nobody seemed to understand our situation really from our perspective and we needed so much more than being treated as some other religious group. Yes we have experienced the consequences of political correctness that meant that nobody was standing up for our political rights in Iraq and Syria, even though it was and is obvious the only way to ensure that we do not disappear from the Middle East.

There was only one political organization that came to us and asked us what we thought that was needed and helped us so that we could get our point across. This was the European Christian Political Movement, ECPM, that is in The Netherlands represented by ChristenUnie/SGP and in Germany by BündnisC.

The ECPM has worked really hard to help us in the last five years and this help has been absolutely vital. The ECPM picked up so much work that is sadly often overlooked. From organizing conferences, to arranging visa for meetings with politicians to helping with press releases and media attention.

It is good to see that the seriousness of persecution and genocide of Christian minorities is finally breaking through in mainstream politics and media but one question is left out. This question is: what is the most effective way to support us?

As representative of the Syriac-Assyrian people I have two answers. First is that it is vital to support our own organizations directly as much as possible as this is the only way to empower and strengthen us. And my second answer is that we need effective political support here in Europe and in the US in order to get that direct support.

You as Christians in The Netherlands and Germany have now the opportunity to help us. For us as Syriac-Assyrian Christians it is obvious that the ECPM has proven to be this effective political support and we ask therefore to make sure that they can continue to help us. Your support is vital for us.

We ask you therefore to vote in The Netherlands for the ChristenUnie/SGP and in Germany for BündnisC. Both parties have MEP's with a strong record in raising the issue of persecuted Christians and your vote will help us double as it will also help the European Christian Political Movement to continue their crucial work.

I thank you for your prayers and I hope and pray for your most effective support: your vote.

Hülya Gabriel and Tony Vergili
Co-Presidents European Syriac Union