

Recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the German Bundestag on 2.6.2016 (Armenia Press Review)

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Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| German Bundestag Recognized Armenian Genocide..... | 3 |
| Bundestag approves Armenian Genocide resolution | 3 |
| German parliament acknowledges Armenian genocide amid intense Turkish pressure | 4 |
| Bundestag adopts Armenian Genocide resolution | 5 |
| German Bundestag recognizes Armenian genocide | 6 |
| Germany recognizes Armenian Genocide | 7 |
| German Bundestag recognizes the Armenian Genocide..... | 8 |
| A Month of Significance in Armenian-German History: Genocide Recognition and Tehlirian's Acquittal..... | 9 |
| Turcologist: There were three reasons for Germany's recognition of Armenian Genocide..... | 12 |
| Turkey's dirty game contributed to Bundestag's recognition of Armenian Genocide | 13 |
| The International Media on the Recognition of Armenian Genocide by Germany | 13 |
| Merkel comments on Bundestag Armenian genocide resolution | 14 |
| Germany supports dialogue between Turkey and Armenia, Angela Merkel says | 15 |
| German MP explains why she voted 'no' to 'Armenian genocide bill' | 16 |
| Resolution calls things by their proper names, Bundestag Vice President said..... | 17 |
| Germany doesn't solve "other issues" by Genocide resolution, says Minister of State Michael Roth. 17 | |
| Serzh Sargsyan: Bundestag's recognition of Armenian Genocide is a historic event not only for Armenia but also for entire civilized world | 18 |
| President Sargsyan: Adoption by the German Bundestag of the Armenian Genocide Resolution is a historic event..... | 19 |
| President thanks Germany for adopting Armenian genocide resolution..... | 20 |

| | |
|--|----|
| President Sargsyan Thanks Berlin, calls the Bundestag Vote “Historical for the Civilized World” | 21 |
| Yerevan welcomes Bundestag resolution recognizing Armenian genocide | 22 |
| Armenia welcomes adoption of Armenian Genocide resolution by Bundestag | 23 |
| Sharmazanov: Due to recognizing and condemning the gravest crime occurred 100 years ago it is possible to prevent new genocides against mankind..... | 24 |
| Catholicos Aram I sends letter to Chancellor Merkel: This is brave step of historical significance | 25 |
| Danke schön: Yerevan youth thanks Germany for Armenian Genocide resolution | 25 |
| We welcome the resolution adopted almost unanimously by the #German Parliament today.-Kaspar Karampetian..... | 28 |
| Agbu Europe Congratulates Bundestag For Historic Vote To Commemorate The Armenian Genocide | 28 |
| Noubar Afeyan recalls German officers that saved his grandfather 100 years ago | 29 |
| German MPs Threatened on the Eve of the Vote on Armenian Genocide | 30 |
| Turkey’s deputy prime minister: “We consider this decision null and void”: ermenihaber | 31 |
| Turkish Prime Minister: Ottoman Armenians Ordinary Victims of WWI | 32 |
| Turkey recalls its ambassador in Berlin..... | 33 |
| Turkey MFA says astonishing things about Armenians | 33 |
| 10.000 Turks rally to protest Berlin’s recognition of Armenian Genocide | 34 |
| Incident between Turkish journalist and activists welcoming Bundestag resolution | 35 |
| Turks call Kurds traitors for their support to Armenians | 35 |
| Germany’s Armenian Genocide Recognition Shines Spotlight on President Obama’s Complicity in Erdogan’s Denial | 36 |
| Maria Zakharova: Bundestag's resolution on Armenian Genocide has brought Germany closer to Russia's stand | 37 |

German Bundestag Recognized Armenian Genocide

Lragir.am, 02 June 2016, <http://www.lragir.am/index/eng/0/politics/view/35851>



The German Bundestag has adopted the resolution qualifying the Ottoman era Armenian killings as 'genocide'. The lower chamber of the German parliament voted almost unanimously, only one voted against, one abstained.

The speakers underscored the importance of facing the past, as well as the urge to facilitate the Armenia-Turkey reconciliation process.

Bundestag raised the issue of the crime of Ottoman Turkey, noting that Germany's step is not a claim and an accusation but a bow towards the memory of the victims.

The president of Bundestag Norbert Lammert has announced about the need for bravery and facing the dark pages of the past. Facing the past may be painful for us but there may be an honest and self-critical approach towards one's own past. This is important from the point of view of building relations with other states to achieve mutual understanding and reconciliation, Lammert said, Armenpress reported. The resolution has been jointly prepared by CDU, CSU, SPD and the Greens Party.

Bundestag approves Armenian Genocide resolution

02.06.2016, Yerevan /Mediamax/ <http://www.mediamax.am/en/news/foreignpolicy/18520/>.

The German Bundestag discussed and approved today the resolution on recognition of the Armenian Genocide. "Remembrance and Commemoration of the Genocide of Armenians and Other Christian Minorities 101 Years Ago" resolution was prepared by the Christian Democratic Union, the Christian Socialist Union, the Greens and the Social Democrats.

The resolution not only recognizes the actions carried out by the Ottoman Empire towards the Armenian population as genocide, but also points out Germany's historical responsibility in this crime.

“The fate of the Armenians is exemplary in the history of mass exterminations, ethnic cleansing, deportations and yes, genocide, which marked the 20th century in such a terrible way. The parliament regrets the shameful role of the German Empire. As one of the Ottoman Empire's main military allies, it did not try to prevent these crimes against humanity, despite having clear information,” the resolution reads.

Although German Chancellor Angela Merkel missed the voting in Bundestag, Chancellor's spokeswoman Christiane Wirtz told German media yesterday that the Chancellor is in favor of the Armenian Genocide resolution. The German Bundestag approved a resolution on systematic massacres and exile of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire in 2005, although that resolution didn't use the term “genocide”.

Mediamax finds it worth reminding that the Bundestag put off the discussion on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide at the session of April 24, 2015, which was attended by German Chancellor Angela Merkel as well. President of the Bundestag Norbert Lammert stated at the two-hour session on that day that “what happened to Armenians during WWI was genocide” and “there cannot be real peace if the justice has not been restored for the generations of the victims.”

The resolution on the Armenian Genocide was presented at the Bundestag in February 2016 as well, but the voting was postponed in order not to sabotage negotiations on the refugee issue as the European Union sought a deal with Turkey.

German parliament acknowledges Armenian genocide amid intense Turkish pressure

02.06.2016, <http://www.panorama.am/en/news/2016/06/02/German-parliament-Armenian-genocide/1589908>

The German parliament has withstood a barrage of pressure from the Turkish government, approving a symbolic resolution that declares the 1915 massacre of Armenians by Ottoman Turkish forces a ‘genocide’, RT <https://www.rt.com/news/345159-germany-armenia-genocide-vote/> reports.

According to the source, the vote was almost unanimous in supporting the resolution with just one MP voting against and another abstaining. The move was largely expected and was supported by German Chancellor Angela Merkel. However, the German leader was forced to skip the vote due to prior commitments. Gregor Gysi, a politician from The Left Party, who was critical of Turkey's treatment of the Kurds who were doing an excellent job in fighting

Islamic State, said that “Germany was a historical accessory” and has a duty to recognize the mass killings of Armenians in the First World War.

“We need to call this what it was – a genocide. The Bundestag should not allow itself to be blackmailed by Turkey’s threats,” he told the parliament.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan had already warned that relations between Ankara and Berlin would suffer if Germany was to recognize the mass killings of Armenians as genocide.

Sections of the German media are worried about what impact the decision by the parliament to recognize the genocide could have on the migrant deal between Turkey and the EU, which has been championed by Merkel.

Bundestag adopts Armenian Genocide resolution

<http://en.alplus.am/1237771.html>, June 2,2016 |



German Bundestag has adopted the Armenian Genocide recognition resolution.

German Bundestag has adopted “Remembrance and commemoration of the genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities in 1915 and 1916” bill; one MP voted against the resolution and one abstained. The resolution was prepared and presented by the “Christian Democratic Union (CDU)/ Christian Social Union (CSU)”, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), and the opposition Greens party.

German Bundestag recognizes Armenian genocide

http://arka.am/en/news/politics/german_bundestag_recognizes_armenian_genocide/



YEREVAN, June 2. /ARKA/. German lawmakers passed overwhelmingly a resolution on Thursday, June 2, recognizing the World War I massacre of Armenians by the government of the Ottoman Empire as genocide, defying Turkey's warnings that the vote could hurt ties.

Only one MP voted against and another abstained, as parliament approved the resolution overwhelmingly by a show of hands.

Put forward by the ruling left-right coalition and the opposition Greens, the resolution entitled "Remembrance and commemoration of the genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities in 1915 and 1916" also carries the word 'genocide' throughout the text.

In direct reference to the atrocities against the Armenians, the resolution says: "Their fate exemplifies the mass exterminations, the ethnic cleansing, the expulsions and indeed the genocides that marked the 20th century in such a terrible way."

It also states that the "German Empire bears partial responsibility for the events," a point that German President Joachim Gauck also made last year during commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the killings.

Germany was then allied with the Ottomans, and deployed soldiers who participated in the deportations of Armenians, said Gauck.

The leader of the Green Party Cem Özdemir, one of the MPs behind the initiative said the resolution is very likely to cause problems in relations with Turkey, 'however, the Bundestag will not allow a despot like Erdogan to blackmail itself.'

"The documents of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs about the mass killings of Armenians speak for themselves and after our resolution it will be much more difficult for Turkey to deny the Armenian Genocide," said Ozdemir.

In 2015 Armenia marked the 100 anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the first genocide of the twentieth century. According to Armenian and many other historians, up to 1.5 million Armenians were killed starting in 1915 in a systematic campaign by the government of Turkey. Turkey has been denying it for decades.

The Armenian genocide was recognized by tens of countries. The first was Uruguay that did so in 1965. Other nations are Russia, France, Italy, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Poland, Lithuania, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Greece, Cyprus, Lebanon, Canada, Venezuela, Argentina, 43 U.S. states.

It was recognized also by the Vatican, the European Parliament, the World Council of Churches and other international organizations.

Germany recognizes Armenian Genocide

by Tatevik Shahunyan

<http://www.arminfo.am/index.cfm?objectid=1D1B6680-28B7-11E6-937D0EB7C0D21663>,
June 2, 16:42



German Bundestag has adopted resolution on Armenian Genocide by vast majority of voices. Only one parliamentarian voted against and another abstained from voting. The resolution recognizes not only the fact of Armenian Genocide in Ottoman Empire in the beginning of the 20th century but also Germany's responsibility for these events.

To note, Armenia and Turkey's ambassadors were present at the hearings in Bundestag. However Chancellor Angela Merkel, Vice-Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel and Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier have not been present at hearings. Deputy Government Spokesperson Christiane Wirtz stated that Merkel supports the resolution.

Turkey in its turn has warned Berlin on the level of first ranking officials about the possible negative consequences of the Turkish-German relations in case of adoption of this re

German Bundestag recognizes the Armenian Genocide

<http://orer.eu/en/%d5%a2%d5%b8%d6%82%d5%b6%d5%a4%d5%a5%d5%bd%d5%a9%d5%a1%d5%a3%d5%b6-%d5%a8%d5%b6%d5%a4%d5%b8%d6%82%d5%b6%d5%a5%d6%81-%d5%b0%d5%a1%d5%b5%d5%b8%d6%81-%d6%81%d5%a5%d5%b2%d5%a1%d5%bd%d5%ba%d5%a1%d5%b6/>, 02 June, 2016



The German Bundestag today adopted a resolution on the genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities with a overwhelming majority of the votes. The voting was preceded by an hour-long debate.

Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democrats and junior coalition partner Social Democrats, along with the opposition Greens, prepared the resolution entitled "Remembrance and commemoration of the genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities in 1915 and 1916", which also carries the word throughout the text.

With the motion, the German Bundestag bows to the victims of forced displacement and massacre of the Armenians and other Christian minorities of the Ottoman Empire, which began over a century ago. It deplores the deeds of the former Young Turk government, the almost complete emanation of the Armenians and other Christian groups (especially Aramaic / Assyrian and Chaldean Christians) in the Ottoman Empire

According to the resolution, the planned expulsion and extermination of more than a million Armenians by the Young Turk regime that starting from April 24, 1915, is an example of mass killing, ethnic cleansing and, yes, genocide."

The Bundestag also deplores the inglorious role of the German Empire, as military ally of the Ottoman Empire, and notes that despite the clear information also on the part of German diplomats and missionaries on organized expulsion and annihilation of Armenians, Germany did not try to stop this crime against humanity.

The commemoration of the German Bundestag is also an expression of special respect for the most ancient Christian Nation on earth.

The Bundestag is committed to special historical responsibility of Germany to supporting the Turks and Armenians to seek ways of reconciliation. According to the bill, “an honest appraisal of history is the most important basis for reconciliation.”

The German Bundestag calls on the Federal Government, in the spirit of the debate of the German Bundestag of 24 April 2015 100th anniversary, to continue the broad public discussion of the expulsion and almost complete annihilation of the Armenians in 1915-1916, to encourage the Turkish side to confront the past to create the necessary foundation for a reconciliation with the Armenian people.

A Month of Significance in Armenian-German History: Genocide Recognition and Tehlirian's Acquittal

Civilnet.am, 02.06.2016, <http://civilnet.am/2016/06/02/a-date-of-significance-in-armenian-german-history-genocide-recognition-and-tehlirians-acquittal/#.V1FNs3nwAq0>

On June 3, 1921, Soghomon Tehlirian was freed from the court room, where Johannes Lepsius testified in his defense.

A chapter from Tatul Hakobyan's book– ARMENIANS and TURKS



Soghomon Tehlirian during his trial at the district court of Berlin in June 1921.

March 15 1921, was the last day of the life of one of the greatest slaughterers of the Armenian nation, Talât Pasha. Shahan Natalie explained to the 25-year-old Armenian avenger Soghomon Tehlirian what he should do after killing Talât in Berlin: “You blow up the skull of the Number One and you don’t try to flee. You stand there, your foot on the corpse, and surrender to the police, who will come and handcuff you.”

This is how Tehlirian describes the last hour of Talât’s life: “I woke up in the morning earlier than usual. The sun’s rays had already reached the window of the opposite building. I had barely finished my tea and wanted to push the armchair close to the edge of the window, when I suddenly saw Talât in the balcony of the opposite building. I froze. Was that him?”

Yes. He walked one or two steps forward, attentively studied the pavement: firstly up, then down, with his head lowered as if under the weight of his thoughts. It appeared that life was not easy after the crimes he had committed. Even though five or six years had passed, fear had not abandoned him. His broad shoulders carried two public death sentences, the war court of Constantinople and that of the ARF. The first one probably had moral meaning to him, as instead of revealing his great 'patriotic' work, he was sentenced to death in his native country, just like an ordinary criminal. But time could clarify that 'misunderstanding'. Future generations would understand the value of the work carried out, if the verdict of the ARF did not exist. I looked at the clock: it was 10 o'clock, his usual hour to go to Umland. I took my weapon, ready to go out. Suddenly he appeared near the door and started moving downwards as heavy as an elephant. My head told me that this time he would not be able to escape me, but my emotions were raging inside me in a tumultuous uproar."

The Young Turk criminals, or a majority of them, would have avoided punishment for organising and implementing the annihilation of the Armenian nation, if the young Armenian avengers and the Nemesis operations of the ARF had not existed. Nemesis is the Goddess of Divine Retribution in Greek mythology. In the autumn of 1919, the Ninth ARF General Congress decided to punish the leaders of the Young Turks and the other executors of the Armenian Genocide. Six hundred and fifty names were selected, 41 of which were the chief criminals. A responsible body was created to carry out Nemesis. Armenia's Ambassador to the United States Armen Garo was elected as the head, alongside a special fund headed by Shahan Marchaklyan. Shahan Natalie was appointed as the immediate leader of the operation, with Grigor Merjanov as his assistant. Hratch Papazyan, who was fluent in Turkish and, as Mahmed Ali, had become Cemal Azmi's son's "friend", had infiltrated the Turkish ranks and was gathering information.

The decision to punish the executioners of the Armenian people was handed down by the ARF's Ninth General Congress. According to Hratch Dasnabedian, prominent ARF member and historian, for understandable reasons, the brochure containing the resolutions of the Ninth General Congress makes no mention of this decision, but the memoirs of Sogomon Tehliryan, Misak Torlakyan, and Arshavir Shirakyan clearly lay out and confirm the nature of this series of political executions as an organised initiative.

Tehliryan writes in his memoirs, "I was level with Talât, on the opposite pavement. With brisk steps I went well ahead and crossed to the same pavement he was on. I turned around. We were approaching one another. He was walking as if strolling, carelessly swinging his cane. A short distance remained. A surprising calm took over my spirit. When we met, Talât looked straight at me. The shudder of death flashed in his eyes. His last step changed. He tilted a bit to avoid me, but I immediately removed my gun and shot him in the head. It seemed as if Talât shuddered from the blow and for one second his strong body stiffened, but unsteadily then, like the trunk of a sawed oak tree, he fell on his face with a thud."

Tehliryan was born in the village of Bagarij, in Kamakh, Erznka. After the genocide, during which his mother and other family members were killed, Tehliryan enlisted in

the Nemesis operation. After killing Talât he was arrested, but on June 3, 1921, he was freed from the court room, where Johannes Lepsius testified in his defence.

Presiding Justice – Why don't you consider yourself guilty?

Defendant – I do not consider myself guilty because my conscience is clear.

Presiding Justice – Why is your conscience clear?

Defendant – I have killed a man. But I am not a murderer.

Presiding Justice – Did you want to kill Talât Pasha?

Defendant – I do not understand this question. I have already killed him.

Presiding Justice – What I want to say is, did you have a plan to kill him?

Defendant – I did not have any plan.

Presiding Justice – When did the idea first occur to you to kill Talât?

Defendant – Approximately two weeks before the incident. I was feeling very bad. I kept seeing the scenes of the massacres over and over again. I saw my mother's corpse. The corpse stood up before me and told me, "You know Talât is here, and yet you do not seem to be concerned? You are no longer my son".

Presiding Justice – So what did you do?

Defendant – I woke up all of a sudden and decided to kill that man.

The Verdict

After an hour's deliberation, the members of the jury returned and the foreman of the jury declared:

"I avow with honour and clear conscience to the verdict of the jury."

"Is the defendant, Soghomon Tehliryan, guilty of having intentionally killed a man, Talât Pasha, on March 15, 1921, in Charlottenburg?"

"NO."

Presiding Justice – I now sign the verdict and I ask the clerk to do the same and read the verdict out loud. The following sentence is issued. 'The defendant is acquitted at the expense of the state treasury. In accordance with the decision of the jury, the defendant is not guilty of the punishable act with which he has been charged.'

Then the following decision was announced.

"The order of imprisonment as regards the defendant is hereby annulled."

Turcologist: There were three reasons for Germany's recognition of Armenian Genocide

by Anzhela Stepanyan

<http://www.arminfo.am/index.cfm?objectid=CF43E320-2964-11E6-B0D50EB7C0D21663>,
June 3, 13:26



There were three reasons for Germany's recognition of the Armenian Genocide, turcologist Ruben Melkonyan has told ArmInfo.

"The first reason was Berlin's intention to respond to the "migrant blackmail" of Turkish President Erdogan," he says, noting that by adopting the resolution Germany stressed the unacceptability of blackmailing as a method of political discussion. The second reason was the intention to curb the ambitions of the Turks living in Germany.

The third important reason is the humanitarian and moral component. Melkonyan thinks that it was Germany's intention to confess its own part of fault for the atrocities committed in Ottoman Turkey that played a significant role in the German lawmakers' decision to say yes to the resolution.

"At the same time, I am not inclined to share the euphoria in our society. Certainly, it is a positive step for Armenia and Bundestag's resolution means recognition of the Armenian Genocide at the state level. However, I would not draw any parallels between the given resolution and Germany's recognition of the Holocaust, given that the document lacks provisions about further reparations, for instance," he says.

To note, German Bundestag adopted on June 2 the resolution on Armenian Genocide by a vast majority of votes. Only one parliamentarian voted against and another abstained from voting. The resolution recognizes not only the fact of Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire in the beginning of the 20th century but also Germany's responsibility for these events. The ambassadors of Armenia and Turkey were present at the hearings in Bundestag. However Chancellor Angela Merkel, Vice-Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel and Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier were not present at the hearings. Deputy Government Spokesperson Christiane Wirtz stated that Merkel supports the resolution. Turkey, in its turn, has warned Berlin on the level of first ranking officials against the possible

negative consequences for the Turkish-German relations in case the resolution was adopted. Ankara recalled its Ambassador to Germany Avni Karslioglu following the adoption of the resolution.

Turkey's dirty game contributed to Bundestag's recognition of Armenian Genocide

[Armenia News](http://news.am/eng/news/330324.html), 20:58, 02.06.2016, <http://news.am/eng/news/330324.html>

YEREVAN. - The wrong policy of Turkey toward Germany played a priority role in Bundestag's adoption of resolution on Armenian Genocide recognition, head of Mundus Vivendi center, Ara Papian, told Armenian News – [NEWS.am](http://news.am/eng/news/330324.html).

In his words, the relations between Germany and Turkey have become rather tense recently. “This was due to the migrant crisis and Turkey's games to get money from Europe and especially Germany. That is, Turkey led a dirty game. On the other hand, as early as last year German President spoke about the Armenian Genocide, and the process was already launched,” Papian noted.

One shouldn't forget that Germany itself has longstanding experience of Holocaust recognition and sense of guilt, he added. The Bundestag, the lower house of the German parliament, on Thursday formally recognized the Armenian Genocide.

The International Media on the Recognition of Armenian Genocide by Germany

Armedia, 06.02.2016, <http://armedia.am/eng/news/35129/the-international-media-on-the-recognition-of-armenian-genocide-by-germany.html>



The German parliament has approved a resolution declaring that recognising the Armenian Genocide committed by the Ottoman Turkey.

This immediately began to appear on the headlines of leading world newspapers.

"Armenians say up to 1.5 million of their people died in the atrocities of 1915. Turkey says the toll was much lower and rejects the term "genocide".The vote heightened German-Turkish tensions at a time when Turkey's help is needed to stem the flow of migrants. Turkey has recalled its ambassador and its leader threatened further action," [BBC](#) wrote after the resolution passed.

"Historians estimate that up to 1.5 million Armenians were killed by Ottoman Turks around the time of World War I, an event viewed by many scholars as the 20th century's first genocide. Turkey denies that the killings that started in 1915 were genocide and contends the dead were victims of civil war and unrest. Ankara also insists the death toll has been inflated," in its turn wrote [Sputnik News](#).

[France 24](#) mentioned that Turkey had previously said that German resolution could seriously damage ties between the two countries. "The adoption of the resolution comes at a particularly awkward time, as Germany and the European Union need Turkey to help stem a record influx of migrants even as tensions are rising between both sides over human rights and other issues.

Armenia has long sought international recognition of the genocide, but Ankara rejects the use of the term to describe the World War I-era killings and argues that it was a collective tragedy in which equal numbers of Turks and Armenians died."

"Germany has now become the 29th country to recognise the systematic murder of Armenians by Ottoman forces during the First World War as genocide, following earlier decisions by France, Italy, the Netherlands and Canada," [The Telegraph](#) wrote. "The Bundestag resolution admitted Germany's historic role, as a military ally of the Ottoman Empire, in aiding the "organized expulsion and annihilation of the Armenians" and failing to stop "these crimes against humanity".

"The timing could not be worse for Merkel, who has championed a deal with Turkey under which Ankara has agreed to stem the flow of refugees to Europe in return for cash, visa-free travel rights and accelerated talks on European Union membership.

Merkel was powerless to stop the symbolic resolution, which was initiated by the opposition Greens and was also backed by lawmakers in her conservative bloc and the Social Democrats," [Reuters](#) wrote.

Merkel comments on Bundestag Armenian genocide resolution

http://arka.am/en/news/politics/merkel_comments_on_bundestag_armenian_genocide_resolution/?sphrase_id=11963853

YEREVAN, June 2. /ARKA/. Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel, who wasn't present for the Bundestag vote today that overwhelmingly labeled the killings of Armenians by Ottoman Turks a century ago as genocide, prompting Turkey to recall its ambassador to Germany, said

later in the day that Germany and Turkey enjoy close and friendly relations, adding, however, that "controversial arguments over some questions are part of a democratic culture."

The motion, which was put forward by Chancellor Angela Merkel's governing coalition of right and left and the opposition Greens, passed with support from all the parties in Parliament. In a show of hands, there was one abstention and one vote against.

"There is a lot that binds Germany to Turkey and even if we have a difference of opinion on an individual matter, the breadth of our links, our friendship, our strategic ties, is great," Merkel said at a news conference with NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg.

The chancellor added that Germany supported dialogue between Turkey and Armenia and sought good relations with Ankara.

According to news reports, Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that "this decision will seriously impact Turkish-German relations." Erdogan said recalling the ambassador for consultations was a "first step" and that the Turkish government would consider further steps to be taken in response to the vote.

Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim called the German decision a "historic error," saying that Turkish people take pride in their past and that "there is no event in our past that would cause us to bow down our heads in embarrassment." Historians estimate that up to 1.5 million Armenians were killed by Ottoman Turks around the time of World War I, an event viewed by many scholars as the 20th century's first genocide.

Germany supports dialogue between Turkey and Armenia, Angela Merkel says

<http://www.panorama.am/en/news/2016/06/02/Germany-Turkey-Armenia-Merkel/1587129> , 02/06/2016

Germany has broad and strong relations with Turkey despite differences on some issues, Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Thursday after lawmakers passed a resolution describing the 1915 massacres of Armenians by Ottoman forces as "genocide", Today Online reports.

According to the source, Turkey, which rejects the description, has recalled its ambassador to Germany in response. "There is a lot that binds Germany to Turkey and even if we have a difference of opinion on an individual matter, the breadth of our links, our friendship, our strategic ties, is great," Merkel said at a news conference with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg.

She added that Germany supported dialogue between Turkey and Armenia and sought good relations with Ankara.

German MP explains why she voted ‘no’ to ‘Armenian genocide bill’

http://arka.am/en/news/politics/german_mp_explains_why_she_voted_no_to_armenian_genocide_bill/



YEREVAN, June 3. /ARKA/. The only German lawmaker who voted “no” to a resolution recognizing the World War I-era killings of Ottoman Armenians as “genocide” has said it is not the duty of the Bundestag to vote on historical events that took place in other countries, according to news reports.

Bettina Kudla, a MP from Chancellor Angela Merkel’s Christian Democratic Union (CDU), posted a statement on her website after the vote on June 2.

“It’s not the duty of the Federal Parliament to evaluate historical events that took place in other countries. In the resolution presented to parliament, there was also no assessment from historians showing that this was genocide,” read the statement.

“It’s not possible to see the political and financial outcomes of this resolution already,” she added.

As the only no-voter among the 631 lawmakers in the Bundestag, Kudla said the vote could seriously harm relations between Germany and Turkey.

“This could also harm the migrant deal signed between Turkey and the European Union. That would make the solution of the both the refugee and migrant issues more difficult. The collapse of the deal between Turkey and the EU would lead to very serious humanitarian consequences and a major financial burden for Germany,” she added.

Also opposing accusations against Germany over the incident, Kudla said the German Empire should not be considered a “partner in crime” for the 1915 killings.

“It’s not accurate to arrive at the conclusion that the German Empire was a partner in crime in the Armenian deportations. The resolution [voted on at the Bundestag] does not state where this responsibility stems from,” she added

Resolution calls things by their proper names, Bundestag Vice President said

02.06.2016, <http://www.panorama.am/en/news/2016/06/02/Bundestag-Vice-President-said/1589869>

“With this step, Germany reaffirmed its commitment to democratic values and human rights,” said Vice President of the Armenian National Assembly, Eduard Sharmazanov told Bundestag VP, Edelgard Bulmahn during a telephone conversation.

He highly appreciated the recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the Bundestag. Sharmazanov is sure that the resolution adopted by the German Bundestag will pave the way for international recognition and condemnation of genocides.

“I am convinced that through recognizing and condemning the gravest crimes, which occurred 100 years ago, it will be possible to prevent further implementation of genocides against humanity,” Sharmazanov said.

According to public relations department of the National Assembly, the Bundestag Vice President noted that the resolution called things by their proper names. Edelgard Bulmahn underlined the importance of facing the history, revealing the facts and thus overcoming the problems.

Germany doesn’t solve “other issues” by Genocide resolution, says Minister of State Michael Roth

03.06.2016, Yerevan/Mediamax/ <http://www.mediamax.am/en/news/foreignpolicy/18540/>

German Minister of State for Europe Michael Roth believes that the debate in the Bundestag is important, but the many obstacles which still stand in the way of reconciliation between Turks and Armenians cannot be removed by a parliamentary debate.

The German Minister made this statement in his “Reconciliation cannot be achieved by passing a resolution” article published in Berlin’s Tagesspiegel on June 2.

“What can we achieve in concrete terms? For it is impossible for a German parliament to come to grips the history of Armenians or Turks on their behalf. However, we can most certainly take a look at the wrong committed by the German Reich. There is good reason why our joint motion mentions the fact that the German Reich shares some of the responsibility,

by remaining silent. There is ample evidence that the Ottoman Empire's key military allies bore some of the guilt and this has to be examined critically," wrote Michael Roth.

The German official urged to stop pretending that the name given to events in 1915 depends on current political issues.

"Implementation of the refugee agreement between the EU and Turkey or the worrying domestic situation in Turkey have nothing to do with what happened 101 years ago. The dead, the displaced and their descendants do not deserve to have their fate treated as a bargaining point in disputes among states," noted the German Minister of State.

According to Michael Roth, Germany can give piece of advice based on its historical experience: "Dear Turks, dear Armenians, do what we have done. On the basis of historical facts, be honest to yourselves and brutally self-critical!"

"The German official noticed that Germany struggled for a long time to deal with the past in an appropriate manner and to shoulder responsibility.

"There is something we can do: we should encourage Turks and Armenians and do even more to help them find projects which foster understanding and reconciliation. Above all, I am pinning my hopes on the younger generations in both countries. It would finally make the future and not only the past the focus of attention. The most difficult part of the road towards rapprochement between Turks and Armenians is still to come. Today's debate in the Bundestag will not change that in any way," concluded Michael Roth.

Serzh Sargsyan: Bundestag's recognition of Armenian Genocide is a historic event not only for Armenia but also for entire civilized world

by Marianna Mkrtchyan

<http://www.arminfo.am/index.cfm?objectid=FA588A30-295E-11E6-B0D50EB7C0D21663>,
June 3, 12:44



Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan sent thank-you notes to the President of the Federal Republic of Germany Joachim Gauck, Chancellor Angela Merkel, and President of the Bundestag Norbert Lammert on the occasion of the adoption by the German Bundestag of the Resolution on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

The press office of the Armenian President reports that Serzh Sargsyan expressed deep gratitude to them and to all German political and social forces which resolutely stated their position on this issue. President Sargsyan expressed confidence that the Resolution will have its unique place in the process of recognition and prevention of genocides. "Adoption by the German Bundestag of the Resolution on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide is a historic event. It is historic not only for Armenia and the Armenian nation, for Germany and the German nation but for the entire civilized world. It symbolizes the preeminence of democracy and all- human values and underscores Germany's consistent role in upholding these values. This is a message to the entire world that crimes against humanity, even if one hundred years old, are not forgotten: they are being condemned for what they were, with a precise definition," reads the message of the President.

President Sargsyan: Adoption by the German Bundestag of the Armenian Genocide Resolution is a historic event

<http://www.panorama.am/en/news/2016/06/03/President-Sargsyan/1590239>

President Serzh Sargsyan sent thank-you notes to the President of the Federal Republic of Germany Joachim Gauck, Chancellor Angela Merkel, and President of the Bundestag Norbert Lammert on the occasion of the adoption by the German Bundestag of the Resolution on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide, press department of the President's office reports.

According to the release, the President of Armenia expressed deep gratitude to them and to all German political and social forces which resolutely stated their position on this issue. President Sargsyan expressed confidence that the Resolution will have its unique place in the process of recognition and prevention of genocides.

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President thanks Germany for adopting Armenian genocide resolution

http://arka.am/en/news/politics/president_thanks_germany_for_adopting_armenian_genocide_resolution/



YEREVAN, June 3. /ARKA/. Armenia's President Serzh Sargsyan sent thank-you notes to the President of the Federal Republic of Germany Joachim Gauck, Chancellor Angela Merkel, and President of the Bundestag Norbert Lammert on the occasion of the adoption by the German Bundestag of the Resolution on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

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German lawmakers passed overwhelmingly a resolution on Thursday, June 2, recognizing the World War I massacre of Armenians by the government of the Ottoman Empire as genocide, defying Turkey's warnings that the vote could hurt ties.

Put forward by the ruling left-right coalition and the opposition Greens, the resolution entitled "Remembrance and commemoration of the genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities in 1915 and 1916" also carries the word 'genocide' throughout the text.

In 2015 Armenia marked the 100 anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the first genocide of the twentieth century. According to Armenian and many other historians, up to 1.5 million Armenians were killed starting in 1915 in a systematic campaign by the government of Turkey. Turkey has been denying it for decades.

The Armenian genocide was recognized by tens of countries. The first was Uruguay that did so in 1965. Other nations are Russia, France, Italy, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Poland, Lithuania, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Greece, Cyprus, Lebanon, Canada, Venezuela, Argentina, 43 U.S. states.

It was recognized also by the Vatican, the European Parliament, the World Council of Churches and other international organizations

President Sargsyan Thanks Berlin, calls the Bundestag Vote “Historical for the Civilized World”

Civilnet.am, 03.06.2016, <http://civilnet.am/2016/06/03/president-sargsyan-thanks-berlin-calls-the-bundestag-vote-historical-for-the-civilized-world/#.V1FNp3nwAq0>



On June 2, President Serzh Sargsyan sent thank-you notes to the President of the Federal Republic of Germany Joachim Gauck, Chancellor Angela Merkel, and President of the Bundestag Norbert Lammert on the occasion of the adoption by the German Bundestag of the Resolution on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide. The President of Armenia expressed deep gratitude to them and to all German political and social forces which resolutely stated their position on this issue. President Sargsyan expressed confidence that the Resolution will have its unique place in the process of recognition and prevention of genocides.

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Germany and the German nation but for the entire civilized world. It symbolizes the preeminence of democracy and all-human values and underscores Germany's consistent role in upholding these values. This is a message to the entire world that crimes against humanity, even if one hundred years old, are not forgotten: they are being condemned for what they were, with a precise definition," reads the message of the President.

Yerevan welcomes Bundestag resolution recognizing Armenian genocide

http://arka.am/en/news/politics/yerevan_welcomes_bundestag_resolution_recognizing_armenian_genocide/?sphrase_id=11963853



YEREVAN, June 2. /ARKA/. Armenia welcomed on Thursday the adoption by Germany's Bundestag of a resolution that declares the killings of Armenians by Turkey's Ottoman forces in 1915 as "genocide".

Put forward by the ruling left-right coalition and the opposition Greens, the resolution entitled "Remembrance and commemoration of the genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities in 1915 and 1916" also carries the word 'genocide' throughout the text.

"While Germany and Austria, as former allies of the Ottoman Empire, are today acknowledging their part of responsibility in the Armenian Genocide, the authorities of Turkey are continuing to obstinately reject the undeniable fact of genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire," Armenian foreign minister Edward Nalbandian said in a statement.

Armenian parliament deputy speaker Eduard Sharmazanov said the resolution opens a new path to international recognition and condemnation of genocides. During a telephone conversation with German counterpart Edelgard Bulmahn Sharmazanov highly assessed the adopted document.

"I am confident that the recognition and condemnation of the gravest crime committed 100 years ago can prevent new genocides against humanity. With this step, Germany has confirmed its commitment to democratic values and human rights," Sharmazanov said.

Asked to comment on the resolution, a Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said it is Germany's internal concern.

Armenia welcomes adoption of Armenian Genocide resolution by Bundestag

<http://www.slaq.am/eng/news/1101240/>, 02.06.16



Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian's statement on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the German Bundestag

Armenia welcomes the adoption of the resolution by the Bundestag of the Federal Republic of Germany on recognition of the Genocide committed against Armenians and other Christian peoples.

President Joachim Gauck's statement on the occasion of the Centenary of the Armenian Genocide together with this resolution adopted by Bundestag are Germany's valuable contribution not only to the international recognition and condemnation of the Armenian Genocide, but also to the universal fight for the prevention of genocides, crimes against humanity.

While Germany and Austria, as former allies of the Ottoman Empire, are today acknowledging their part of responsibility in the Armenian Genocide, the authorities of Turkey are continuing to obstinately reject the undeniable fact of genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire.

The international community has been waiting for 101 years that Turkey would face its history.

Sharmazanov: Due to recognizing and condemning the gravest crime occurred 100 years ago it is possible to prevent new genocides against mankind

<http://www.slaq.am/eng/news/1101235/>, 02.06.16



On June 2, the RA NA Vice President Eduard Sharmazanov had a telephone call with the Vice President of the Bundestag of the Federal Republic of Germany Edelgard Bulmahn.

The NA Vice President highly assessed the adoption of the Draft Resolution recognizing the Armenian Genocide a few minutes ago by the Bundestag. Eduard Sharmazanov expressed conviction that the Resolution adopted by the Parliament of Germany will open a new path in the process of the international recognition and condemnation of genocides.

“I am sure that due to recognizing and condemning the gravest crime occurred 100 years ago it is possible to prevent new genocides against mankind. With this step Germany reaffirmed his faithfulness to democratic values and protection of human rights,” Eduard Sharmazanov underlined.

The Vice President of the Bundestag in her turn noted that the spade was called a spade in the Resolution. Edelgard Bulmahn highlighted the necessity of facing the history and raising the facts from the depth of history and overcoming the problems.

Catholicos Aram I sends letter to Chancellor Merkel: This is brave step of historical significance

<http://news.am/eng/news/330390.html>, 03.06.2016

ANTELIAS. – Immediately after the German Bundestag's passing of the resolution that recognizes Armenian Genocide, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Aram I, sent a letter to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and hailed this brave step of historical significance.

Press service of the Armenian Church Catholicosate of Cilicia—in Antelias, Lebanon—informed Armenian News-NEWS.am that Aram I defined the adoption of this resolution as “an eloquent testimony of Germany's commitment to human rights, as well as a message to the world recalling the importance of taking a responsible approach to the past.”

On behalf of the Armenian people and the Armenian Apostolic Church, Catholicos Aram I also expressed his appreciation of and support to the fight against injustice.

The Bundestag, the lower house of the German parliament, on Thursday formally recognized the Armenian Genocide, with the aforesaid resolution and with only one vote against and one abstention. The resolution also notes that the Bundestag regrets that the German government at the time did nothing to stop this crime against humanity, and therefore the Bundestag also acknowledges the respective historical accountability of Germany.

Danke schön: Yerevan youth thanks Germany for Armenian Genocide resolution

<http://news.am/eng/news/330348.html>, 02.06.2016

YEREVAN. - Several dozens of youth gathered in front of the German Embassy in Armenia to thank Germany for the Bundestag resolution on Armenian Genocide.



The event participants scanned “Thank you” in Armenian and German, Armenian News – [NEWS.am](https://www.news.am) correspondent reports. They had brought with them posters reading “Thank you” and Armenian flags.



“We have gathered to express our gratitude to Germany and Germans. In 1915, Germany was one of the allies of Turkey and the fact that the then ally of Turkey adopts a resolution against the genocide is a historic step,” an event participant, Hayk Bejanyan, told Armenian News – [NEWS.am](https://www.news.am).



The Bundestag, the lower house of the German parliament, on Thursday formally recognized the Armenian Genocide.



We welcome the resolution adopted almost unanimously by the German Parliament today - Kaspar Karampetian

<http://orer.eu/en/%d5%af%d5%9a%d5%b8%d5%b2%d5%bb%d5%b8%d6%82%d5%b6%d5%a5%d5%b6%d6%84-%d5%a3%d5%a5%d6%80%d5%b4%d5%a1%d5%b6%d5%ab%d5%b8%d5%b5-%d5%ad%d5%b8%d6%80%d5%b0%d6%80%d5%a4%d5%a1%d6%80%d5%a1%d5%b6%d5%a7%d5%b6/>, 02 June, 2016



Kaspar Karampetian, president of European Armenian Federation for Justice and Democracy, on the resolution by Bundestag, recognising the Armenian Genocide today, 2 June, 2016:

“We welcome the resolution adopted almost unanimously by the #GermanParliament today, recognizing the #ArmenianGenocide and those of other minorities in the #Ottoman Empire, in 1915-1916. It is a historic day, considering the Geman-#Turkish alliance in those years. By recognizing the Armenian Genocide the German Parliament, just as the #AustrianParliament did last year, could pave the way for #Turkey to come to terms with its past and move forward. Turkey is becoming more and more isolated in its politics of denialism. We congratulate the political groups CDU/CSU, SPD and the Greens on the adoption of the resolution, in particular Cem Özdemir – co-leader of the German Green Party, who played a crucial role, amidst all the pressure. It is a strong message, that all of the speakers emphasized the fact of the Genocide, the German complicity in it and the need for Turkey to recognize it.”

Agbu Europe Congratulates Bundestag For Historic Vote To Commemorate The Armenian Genocide

<http://orer.eu/en/agbu-europe-congratulates-bundestag-for-historic-vote-to-commemorate-the-armenian-genocide/>, 02 June, 2016

June 2, 2016, Brussels – The Armenian General Benevolent Union Europe congratulates the German Bundestag on for today’s vote, in which it adopted a resolution dedicated to the

“memory and commemoration of the genocide of the Armenians and of other Christian minorities”. In the text of the resolution, the German Parliament also “laments the acts of the Young Turk government of the time, which led to the almost total annihilation of the Armenians of the Ottoman Empire”.

“The vote in the German Parliament is uniquely significant”, said Nadia Gortzounian, President of AGBU Europe. “Germany has questioned its own history as few other countries have done. Its society and establishment understand the lasting impact of past crimes if they are not exposed and remembered.” In addition to commemorating the Armenian genocide, the Bundestag’s resolution also condemns Germany’s own involvement in the event, as Turkey’s main ally during World War I.

ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION
ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԲԱՐԵԳՈՐԾԱԿԱՆ ԸՆԴՀԱՆՈՒՐ ՄԻՈՒԹԻՒՆ
European Committee - Եվրոպայի Վարչություն

“We must direct our gratitude in particular to one member of Parliament, Cem Özdemir”, says Sahak Artazyan, President of AGBU’s affiliate in Germany. “Cem fulfilled the promise he made to us last April 24. That a member of Turkish origin should be the one to drive this resolution through Parliament is of enormous significance for all of us in Europe.”

A number of Parliaments around the world have recognized the Armenian genocide, including the European Parliament. AGBU Europe actively works with civil society in Turkey and with political leaders around Europe to address the legacy of the genocide, which includes continued victimization of minorities in Turkey and hostility towards the neighbouring republic of Armenia.

Established in 1906, AGBU is the world’s largest non-profit Armenian organization. Headquartered in New York City, AGBU preserves and promotes the Armenian identity and heritage through educational, cultural and humanitarian programs, annually touching the lives of some 400,000 Armenians around the world. For more information about AGBU and its worldwide programs, please visit www.agbu.org.

Noubar Afeyan recalls German officers that saved his grandfather 100 years ago

03.06.2016, Yerevan /Mediamax/ <http://www.mediamax.am/en/news/society/18534/>

Co-founder of 100 LIVES and Aurora Prize initiatives, U.S.-Armenian entrepreneur and philanthropist Noubar Afeyan commented on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide adopted by the German Bundestag.

“It is a particularly poignant moment for the Afeyan family as my grandfather, Bedros, and his brother Nerses, were saved by German officers manning the Beledik Rail station under construction during WWI.

We grew up with personal accounts of how these officers defied orders in order to save numerous Armenians from railway cars transporting them to their certain death over many months. It is in the memory of those German officers that I participated as a co-founder of the 100Lives/Aurora Prize projects. Today, the descendants of these German heroes confirmed that they did the right thing 100 years ago”, said Noubar Afeyan.

German MPs Threatened on the Eve of the Vote on Armenian Genocide

Civilnet.am, 01.06.2016, <http://civilnet.am/2016/06/01/german-mps-threatened-on-the-eve-of-the-vote-on-armenian-genocide/#.V1FPIHnwAq0>



RT writes that thousands of emails have been reportedly sent out by the Turkish community to German MPs, threatening the politicians and calling them names in connection with Berlin’s latest attempts to recognize the 1915 Armenian genocide. The legislation, which has strained German-Turkish relations, is largely being supported by the opposition Greens in Germany, Merkel’s conservative bloc and Social Democrats. This parliamentary vote was originally scheduled to take place a year ago to mark the 100th anniversary of the genocide, but was postponed and eventually scheduled for June 2.

RT quotes the Germany Spiegel Online news media as saying that Turkish citizens have also reached out privately via social media. Over 500 different Turkish organizations in Germany have sent out emails to not only to their local MPs but also journalists covering the progress of the resolution titled “*Remembrance and commemoration of the genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities in the years 1915 and 1916*”, which the German Parliament will vote on this Thursday.

Some emails crossed a line, intimidating politicians and threatening the lives of journalists.

Chairman of the German Greens, Cem Ozdemir, who is of Turkish origin, was one of the MPs who received abusive messages via email, Twitter and Facebook.

“It’s always the same terms: ‘Traitor,’ ‘Armenia’s pig,’ ‘son of a bitch,’ ‘Armenian Terrorist’ and even ‘Nazi’,” he told ARD.

The most common letter sent out stated: *“More than 90 percent of the Turkish population rightly rejects the genocide accusation and interprets it as slander.”* It then warns that if the resolution is passed, it will *“poison the peaceful coexistence between Germans and Turks in this country, and also in Turkey,”* Spiegel reported.

Journalists received threats such as: *“You will be eliminated,”* or *“Your end will be like that of Hrant Dink.”*

Armenians also sent out letters supporting the resolution. *“Recognition of the Armenian Genocide is important to prevent other genocides in the future,”* the spokesman of the Armenian Foreign Ministry, Tigran Balayan, told AFP.

Turkey’s deputy prime minister: “We consider this decision null and void”: ermenihaber

<http://en.alplus.am/1237798.html>, June 2, 2016



Turkey’s deputy prime minister Numan Kurtulmuş reacted to the adoption of the Armenian Genocide recognition resolution by German Bundestag on social media. High ranking official said, “We consider this decision null and void.” On Twitter Kurtulmuş called the decision a “historic mistake”.

Turkish Prime Minister: Ottoman Armenians Ordinary Victims of WWI

Civilnet.am, 01.06.2016, <http://civilnet.am/2016/06/01/turkish-prime-minister-ottoman-armenians-ordinary-victims-of-wwi/#.V1FNwnnwAq0>



Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım

The newly appointed Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım stated that the events that took place in 1915 in the Ottoman Empire were ordinary events and similar to others that took place in the world during the world war one. Prime Minister Yıldırım criticized Germany for including the Armenian Genocide resolution into the agenda of the German parliament, qualifying the resolution as complete absurdity. On the other hand, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's chief advisor Ihsan Sener claimed that Germany has been subjected to Armenian diaspora's games and lies.

Contrary to Ihsan Saner's announcement, the German Spiegel Online reports that thousands of emails have been sent out by the Turkish community to German MPs, threatening the politicians and calling them names in connection with Berlin's latest attempts to recognize the 1915 Armenian genocide. Journalists covering the subject have also been threatened with *elimination* or messages saying, "*Your end will be like that of Hrant Dink.*"

The German parliament or the Bundestag will be discussing a resolution titled "*Remembrance and commemoration of the genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities in the years 1915 and 1916*". Lately, this resolution has been criticized by Turkish officials and politicians who stressed on more than one occasion that the adoption of this resolution will have a negative impact on relations between Turkey and Germany in particular and Turkey and the European Union in general.

Turkey recalls its ambassador in Berlin

<http://en.alplus.am/1237796.html>, June 2, 2016



Turkey has recalled its ambassador in Berlin after German MPs approved a motion describing the massacre of Armenians by Ottoman forces a century ago as genocide – a decision that Turkey’s prime minister said would “test” relations between the two countries at a sensitive time.

The five-page paper, co-written by parliamentarians from the Christian Democrats, Social Democrats and Green party, calls for a “commemoration of the genocide of Armenian and other Christian minorities in the years 1915 and 1916”. It passed with support from all the parties in parliament. In a show of hands, there was one abstention and one vote against.

Turkey MFA says astonishing things about Armenians

03.06.2016, <http://news.am/eng/news/330393.html>

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Turkey issued a ridiculous statement following the German Bundestag’s passing of the resolution that recognizes Armenian Genocide.

“Turkey tries to honour the memory of the Ottoman Armenians, shares their sufferings, preserves Armenian cultural heritage and takes significant steps for paving the way for reconciliation between the two neighbouring nations. In this respect, there is nothing that Turkey will learn from the Parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany,” the Turkish MFA statement specifically reads.

It is unknown whom the Turkish MFA wants to deceive with such statement, since even those in Turkey do not believe in such words.

And after the Turkish PM's remarks that something commonplace, which can happen in any country, occurred with the Armenians in 1915, the Turkish MFA should have remained silent.

The Bundestag, the lower house of the German parliament, on Thursday formally recognized the Armenian Genocide, with the aforesaid resolution and with only one vote against and one abstention. The resolution also notes that the Bundestag regrets that the German government at the time did nothing to stop this crime against humanity, and therefore the Bundestag also acknowledges the respective historical accountability of Germany.

10.000 Turks rally to protest Berlin's recognition of Armenian Genocide

June 2, 2016, <http://www.panarmenian.net/eng/news/213724/>



PanARMENIAN.Net - Ahead of a **Bundestag** vote on the recognition of the **Armenian Genocide**, Germany-based Turks continue disseminating denialism, seeking to pressure the MPs. Around 10.000 Turks staged a rally in Berlin, Anadolu Agency reports.

Germany is looking to adopt a resolution, titled “Remembrance and commemoration of the Genocide of Armenians and other Christian minorities in the years 1915 and 1916” Thursday, June 2.

Demonstrators carried Turkish and German flags as well as placards reading “Stop distorting historical facts”, “We are against hate, we are for solidarity,” “Long live Turkish-German friendship” and “No to lies about genocide”. The protesters urged German legislators to vote against the recognition of the Genocide. Earlier, thousands of emails were reportedly sent out by the Turkish community to German MPs, threatening the politicians and calling them names. Some emails crossed a line, intimidating politicians and threatening the lives of journalists.

Incident between Turkish journalist and activists welcoming Bundestag resolution

<http://news.am/eng/news/330402.html>, 03.06.2016

On June 2 after the Bundestag had adopted a resolution that recognizes the Armenian Genocide, an incident happened between the Turkish journalists and activists welcoming that decision, reports Süddeutsche Zeitung.

The activists from Armenia, Greece, and PKK gathered in front of the Bundestag with flags in their hands. Everything went peacefully, unless a Turkish journalists' group arrived, writes the newspaper. The Turkish journalists, at the time they were preparing a report, made offensive statements to the Kurdish women activists.

According to the newspaper, a Turkish journalist raised his hand in the direction of the Kurdish women and said: "Here are PKK bitches." "He called me a PKK bitch", said Süddeutsche Zeitung, a Kurdish woman. After that she had approached to the journalist and shouted at him. It brought to a clash. The situation calmed down after the police had intervened. The Kurdish woman filed a complaint against the Turkish journalist for an insult.

Turks call Kurds traitors for their support to Armenians

<http://news.am/eng/news/330305.html>, 03.06.2016

The Kurds, who gathered together with Armenians in front of the German parliament building, are traitors, the Turkish press writes.

Turkish media outlets present video materials and photos depicting not only the Armenian tricolor but also the flags of the pro-Kurdish Peoples' Democratic Party.

During the voting on the Armenian Genocide resolution in German Bundestag, Kurds, Assyrians and Greeks also stood by the Armenians' side in front of the parliament building.

The Bundestag, the lower house of the German parliament, on Thursday formally recognized the Armenian Genocide.

Germany's Armenian Genocide Recognition Shines Spotlight on President Obama's Complicity in Erdogan's Denial

<http://orer.eu/en/germanys-armenian-genocide-recognition-shines-spotlight-on-president-obamas-complicity-in-erdogans-denial/>, 02 June, 2016



Bundestag's Historic Vote Further Isolates Turkey

WASHINGTON, DC – The German Bundestag's historic vote earlier today officially recognizing the Armenian Genocide shines a global spotlight on U.S. President Obama's continued complicity in Turkey's denial of this still unpunished crime, reported the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA).

“The Bundestag's recognition of the Armenian Genocide – made all the more powerful by its honest reckoning with Germany's own role in this still unpunished crime – further isolates Turkey, while shining a global spotlight on the Obama Administration as the leading international enabler of Ankara's campaign of genocide denial,” said ANCA Executive Director Aram Hamparian. “There is still time for President Obama to follow Germany's lead, reject Turkey's gag-rule, and speak honestly about the Armenian Genocide.”

Prior to his election, President Obama was clear and unequivocal in promising to properly characterize Ottoman Turkey's murder of over 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children between 1915 and 1923 as genocide. In a January 19, 2008, statement he wrote: “The facts are undeniable. An official policy that calls on diplomats to distort the historical facts is an untenable policy. As a senator, I strongly support passage of the Armenian Genocide Resolution (H.Res.106 and S.Res.106), and as President I will recognize the Armenian Genocide.”

President Obama has broken that pledge in annual Armenian Remembrance Day statements issued on or near April 24th, the international day of commemoration of this crime.

The U.S. first recognized the Armenian Genocide in 1951 through a filing which was included in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) Report titled: [Reservations](#) to the

Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.” The specific reference to the Armenian Genocide appears on page 25 of the ICJ Report:

“The Genocide Convention resulted from the inhuman and barbarous practices which prevailed in certain countries prior to and during World War II, when entire religious, racial and national minority groups were threatened with and subjected to deliberate extermination. The practice of genocide has occurred throughout human history. The Roman persecution of the Christians, the Turkish massacres of Armenians, the extermination of millions of Jews and Poles by the Nazis are outstanding examples of the crime of genocide.”

President Ronald Reagan reaffirmed the Armenian Genocide in 1981. The U.S. House of Representatives adopted legislation on the Armenian Genocide in 1975, 1984 and 1996. This year, West Virginia became the 44th U.S. state to recognize the Armenian Genocide.

Under Congressional mandate, the US, between 1915 and 1930, embarked on an unprecedented humanitarian campaign providing the equivalent of over \$2 billion in today’s dollars to help save Armenian Genocide survivors.

With German affirmation of the crime, over 25 countries have officially recognized the Armenian Genocide. The Bundestag vote was nearly unanimous with only one opposed and two abstentions. For over an hour leading up to the historic vote, German parliamentarians spoke in favor of the measure, which affirms the Armenian Genocide and crimes committed against other Christian minorities.

Maria Zakharova: Bundestag's resolution on Armenian Genocide has brought Germany closer to Russia's stand

by Nana Martirosyan

<http://www.arminfo.am/index.cfm?objectid=DAB5F000-295E-11E6-B0D50EB7C0D21663>,
June 3, 12:43



Bundestag's resolution on the Armenian Genocide has brought Germany closer to the Russian stand, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Maria Zakharova said at a briefing in Moscow.

"Adoption of statements is the internal affair of Germany. I would like to recall that the Russian State Duma made the relevant statements on the given issue long ago and the statements have been reaffirmed. So, Russia has a very clear stand on this. Today one can say that Germany has come closer to the Russian stand. But I would reiterate that it is their internal affair," she said, stressing that the recall of the Turkish ambassador from Berlin is an event of the Turkish-German bilateral agenda.

To note, German Bundestag adopted on June 2 the resolution on Armenian Genocide by a vast majority of votes. Only one parliamentarian voted against and another abstained from voting. The resolution recognizes not only the fact of Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire in the beginning of the 20th century but also Germany's responsibility for these events. The ambassadors of Armenia and Turkey were present at the hearings in Bundestag. However Chancellor Angela Merkel, Vice-Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel and Foreign Minister Frank- Walter Steinmeier were not present at the hearings. Deputy Government Spokesperson Christiane Wirtz stated that Merkel supports the resolution. Turkey, in its turn, has warned Berlin on the level of first ranking officials against the possible negative consequences for the Turkish-German relations in case the resolution was adopted. Ankara recalled its Ambassador to Germany Avni Karslioglu following the adoption of the resolution.

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