

4 May 2016

Urgent Appeal

Dear Friends

attached is a open letter to Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary-General of the UN.

Please ask all your contacts to sign it and to send it to Mr. Ban Ki-moon.

For the letter you can use this short text as email notice.

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Dear Mr/Ms

For months now, Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Turkey has been persisting in his genocidal war against the Kurdish people. Hundreds of civilians including women and children are being killed without any consideration for international law or humanitarian values.

Intellectuals, writers, artists and human rights activists who speak up against this dirty war are being labelled as terrorists and lynched. In spite of all of this, the UN has decided to organise its first Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, hosted by Erdogan.

Although we believe that the UN's decision to organise a Humanitarian Summit is a positive step, the fact that it is taking place in a country in which humanity is being defiled and hosted by a leader that has been accused of supporting the inhumane ISIS organisation by various independent institutions is not only unfortunate, but is also contradictory with the aims of the summit.

It is our belief that if this summit takes place in Istanbul as planned, it will only encourage Erdogan in his manipulative politics, his support for ISIS and his annihilationist approach to the Kurds.

Many tens of academics and individuals who have signed the attached open letter share our opinion. If you agree with us and the undersigned, we kindly urge you to sign and send this letter to the UN General Secretary.

You can show your discontent to Erdogan and the AKP government and their policies of war crimes by sending this letter and urging the UN to cancel the summit in Istanbul, or at the very least alter its location.