
Title: International Terrorist Group “Islamic State” and its Crimes: Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes



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Proposal

The Islamic State terrorist group appeared in the Middle East due to the concurrence of many circumstances. Special attention should be drawn to the mistakes of the western coalition that invaded the Iraq of Saddam Hussein. Neither during the occupation of Iraq nor after the withdrawal of the US army from Iraq, the vulnerability of the religious and ethnic minorities was taken into account. As a consequence of such a faulty policy, it is religious and ethnic minorities who have become the principal target of the Islamic radicals. In (June) 2016, the international independent UN commission for the investigation in Syria submitted a report which characterized the on-going massacre of the Yazidis – the most vulnerable religious minority in the region – which started in 2014 as a crime of genocide subject to the UN Convention of 1948.

Along with that, the Report poses before specialists, including criminologists, an array of important issues that have to be resolved to ensure peace and security in the region. First of all, it is not decided yet whether the International Criminal Court or a special tribunal should consider the case of the Yazidis genocide. What is the role do the UN Security Council and the authorities of Iraq and Syria, where genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes take place, in the solution of this issue? What will be the future of the Rome Statute if several countries, including some of the permanent Security Council members, refuse to sign or ratify this document?

A number of issues concern the national law enforcing systems. The Federal Republic of Germany is the first and the only country to issue in 2017 a warrant to arrest one of the Islamic terrorist leaders suspected of committing genocide against the Yazidis. It is evident that antiterrorist authorities of other states should simultaneously take the same measures, especially in those states that have the highest proportion of their residents joining the jihadists, such as Russia, France, Germany and the countries of the Maghreb region.

It is also necessary to consider the appropriateness of taking additional measures, including legislative ones, to boost efforts against terrorism both abroad (international terrorism) and at home (domestic terrorism).
