



The Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP)

Meaningfulworld

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NY Office

185 East 85th Street, Mezzanine #4
New York, NY 10028

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HE Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations

Your Excellency:

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit. I commend your leadership and I hope that your guidance will assist us in helping us with future conferences within the United Nations.

I would like to report that this is the 5th year that we are having a conference on Preventing Genocide and each year we focus on another scientific and academic topic, within prevention of genocide, sharing and educating the NGOs and diplomats on the UN Convention on Genocide, as well as sharing up to date research on this topic. On Thursday 12 April this year we had one such conference, that was co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations, as well as a number of NGOs.

Before even our speakers have a chance to present their research findings, 2 individuals stood up identifying themselves to be from the Turkish Mission, and wanted to share their perspectives. As a chair, I explained that we have placed a blue index card on each seat, and I invited them to write down their questions and submit it to our interns to be discussed at the end of our conference during the Q&A part. These 2 individuals disrespecting what I said continued to talk. As I asked them repeatedly to kindly respect the process of the conference, to please speak at the end during Q&A, with no avail, as

they continued to talk. Then after great attempts they sat down. The speakers made their presentations, and then the two Turkish Council persons stood up again and began talking. I again, pleaded that they should follow the procedures. They kept on talking, and then when I indicated that if they continue we will have to call the security, to which they responded by saying “We are the security, we own the security, and we pay the security....” And they continued to talk over my voice loudly, disrespectfully, and indignantly.

I ask you and your Secretariat to put an end to this disruptive, unprofessional and arrogant behavior by the Turkish side. Since this has been a pattern of Turkish and Azerbaijani Permanent Missions' behavior in the last 5 years, let's be proactive and explain the representatives of both countries that they have to be more civilized and peaceful in the United Nations conferences and respect the freedom of speech and diverse opinions by others.

We have written to you in the past and have not received any response. I understand that you are extremely busy trying to solve world conflicts and establish peace, but it starts from the United Nations. If we don't feel safe and peaceful within the United Nations, then it is difficult to establish peace around the world.

With much gratitude for your time, guidance and leadership,

Dr. Ani Kalayjian

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Board Certified Expert in Traumatic Stress

Fellow of New York Academy of Medicine

We have been working over a year and had successfully secured a UN venue through the Haitian Permanent Mission to the United Nations. We organized a Humanitarian Outreach

Relief photography exhibit from our humanitarian missions in 6 countries, entitled "transforming

suffering into resilience." We partnered with the permanent Mission of Haiti, and organized a

collaborative event at the UN first level near Vienna Cafe from 23-27 October, celebrating

United Nations Day, ending with a gala reception, peace awards, and much more. Board

of Directors, CONGO Committee on Spirituality, Values, and Global Concerns at the UN

Chair, Health, Transformation & Spirituality, WG of UN CSVGC-NY

Chair of Mentoring and Disaster Prevention Committees, APA Int. Division

President, Armenian American Society for Studies on Stress & Genocide

135 Cedar Street Cliffside Park, NJ 07010-1003

Phone: 201 - 941-2266

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