



5 August 2015

STATEMENT FROM KLA:

TURKEY'S ACTIONS AGAINST KURDS

Kurdish Lobby Australia strongly condemns air operations by Turkey on 1 August 2015 that resulted in nine deaths of innocent Kurdish civilians in the village of Zargali in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. We offer our deepest condolences to Kurdish people who are being simultaneously attacked by ISIS and Turkey.

Australian politicians should be aware that the general media is rarely reporting daily Turkish airstrikes on Kurds in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and south east Turkey, that entail up to 80 aircraft at any one time.

Since the inception of Kurdish Lobby Australia, in keeping with our focus on peaceful solutions, we have highlighted the need for the international community to monitor and ensure compliance of PKK and the Turkish government in negotiating a Turkish-Kurdish peace process. We strongly condemn the breakdown of the ceasefire that was in place between March 2013 and July 2015.

We urge you and the rest of the international community to encourage each party to reinstate a ceasefire and revitalize the Turkish-Kurdish peace process to avoid decades of war and ensure all parties focus on defeating ISIS.

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