

Welcome to the sixteenth C4JR YSL NEWSLETTER

The Coalition for Just Reparations (C4JR) publishes regular newsletters to share accurate and up-to-date information regarding the Yazidi Survivors' Law (YSL) and share the views and experiences of all actors involved in the implementation of this seminal transitional justice framework to address atrocities committed by ISIL in Iraq.

Latest News on the YSL

Application Statistics

The Directorate of Survivors' Affairs (Directorate) and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs announced the payment of reparations to 2,216 survivors of ISIL covered by the YSL in July. More details can be found on the Directorate's Facebook page: <https://tinyurl.com/3crs845b>

Implementation of the YSL

Important updates:

■ Health Services Available for Survivors Free of Charge in Nineveh

The Directorate continues to coordinate with the Nineveh Health Department to provide survivors with free healthcare at affiliated hospitals and health centres. Where treatment or surgery is not available in government hospitals, survivors can be referred to private hospitals, with the Directorate covering the full cost of treatment. Transportation costs to and from healthcare facilities will also be covered to help survivors access and complete their treatment. Survivors seeking these services can visit the Directorate's headquarters or contact +964 751 100 2988 during official working hours. See more information here: <https://tinyurl.com/4drp4br6>.

■ Joint Committee Formed to Review Curricula

During the first meeting of the Permanent National Committee for Community Awareness and Guidance, hosted by Mosul University, the GDSA Director-General, Sarab Elias, announced the formation of a joint committee with the Ministry of Education to review curricula. The committee will work to strengthen education on tolerance, peaceful coexistence, and the rejection of hatred and extremism. This initiative is part of the Directorate's responsibilities under Article 3.1(b) of the YSL by-laws, which requires the development of specialized curricula, in coordination with the Ministry of Higher Education, addressing ISIL's crimes and promoting peaceful coexistence and the rejection of violence. For more see: <https://tinyurl.com/5a87d4b9>.



Nadia Murad speaks at a commemorative event in Geneva. Photo credit: Nadia's Initiative

Related News

■ The twelfth anniversary of the Yazidi genocide was commemorated on 3 August at the genocide memorial site in Solagh, Sinjar, honoring the victims and renewing calls for justice. Commemorative events were also held across the Yazidi diaspora, including in The Hague, Berlin and Hanover. In Geneva, Nadia Murad and fellow survivors marked the anniversary at the Palais des Nations, where they reflected on the unfinished work of justice and emphasized the importance of placing survivors at the center of efforts to shape accountability and recovery. The event also featured remarks from the Permanent Representative of France and the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, as well as a commemorative video reflecting on the August 2014 attacks and their continuing impact.

■ During the UN Security Council Open Debate on Delivering on the Promise of International Law for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in July 2026, Iraq reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening national legal and institutional frameworks to support the reintegration of survivors. Ambassador Lukman Al-Faily also highlighted the importance of international cooperation and building national capacity to strengthen investigations, accountability, and survivor protection. Read more here: <https://mofa.gov.iq/newyork/?p=8744&lang=en>.

MORE THAN INK ON PAPER: IMPLEMENTING THE YAZIDI SURVIVORS LAW

Episode 09

August 3, 2026



■ In the latest episode of C4JR's Podcast More than Ink on Paper: Implementing the Yazidi Survivors Law, Jiyan Foundation's project coordinator, Zozan Mohammed, sat down with Adeeba Murad, a Yazidi survivor and human rights defender, and Umm Mustafa, the mother of a Speicher Massacre victim to discuss reparations, accountability, and the implementation of the YSL and Camp Speicher Law. Listen to the episode in full here: https://youtu.be/tBZ_KdhM12o.

■ C4JR member Free Yazidi Foundation took part in the Windsor Dialogue 2026, an annual dialogue on religious freedom held in the UK, which this year focused on Keeping the Faith: Finding Lessons on Diaspora Sustainability. The dialogue brought together voices from different religious and minority communities to discuss persecution, displacement, and the challenges of preserving identity across generations. The event was attended by representatives of religious and minority communities, academics, and representatives of the Iraqi Embassy and other institutions, providing an important platform for dialogue and connection. Read more about the event here: <https://freeyazidi.org/news-updates/raising-yazidi-voices-at-the-windsor-dialogue-2026/>.

Accountability Efforts

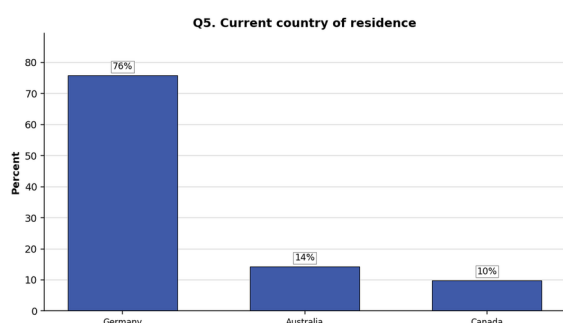
■ To mark the International Day of Criminal Justice on July 17, C4JR issued a statement reaffirming the urgent need for comprehensive, survivor-centered accountability in Iraq. The statement urges the adoption of Iraq's Draft Law on Core International Crimes that would enable Iraqi courts to prosecute international crimes in line with international standards, and ensure the full gravity of ISIL crimes is recognized, with survivors' voices placed at the centre of justice. Read the full statement here: <https://c4jr.org/1707202631067>.

■ In June, the establishment of a Community-Based Truth Commission was announced to address what organizers describe as growing frustration with the failure of international governments and organizations to deliver justice for Yazidi victims. The Commission will convene at the German Bundestag in November 2026, where more than 30 victims, survivors, and experts are expected to testify over three days of oral hearings. The Commission aims to examine practical pathways toward justice, including wider use of universal jurisdiction and the possible establishment of a dedicated international tribunal to prosecute perpetrators. According to monitoring conducted by C4JR member Yazda, fourteen universal jurisdiction cases have been held in Europe over the past twelve years. In the absence of an Iraqi domestic legal framework for prosecuting international crimes, universal jurisdiction has so far provided the primary mechanism for accountability for ISIL crimes. Read more about the Truth Commission here: <https://researchcentres.citystgeorges.ac.uk/genocide-accountability-participation-solutions/blogs/why-we-need-a-community-based-truth-commission-for-the-ezidi-genocide>.

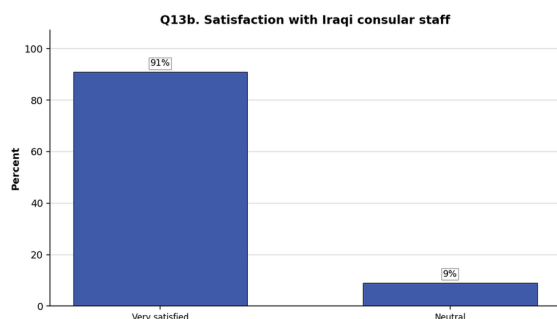
■ In July, the Higher Regional Court of Munich delivered its verdict against Asia R.A. and Twana H.S for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes against two Yazidi girls. The Iraqi Kurdish couple were found guilty of committing these crimes between 2015 and 2017 in Mosul, Iraq and Deir ez-Zor, Syria. Twana H.S was convicted of sexually abusing the children, while Asia R.A was found guilty of aiding and abetting in the abuse. Because Asia R.A. was a minor when the crimes were committed, she received a juvenile sentence of nine and a half years in prison. Twana H.S. was sentenced to life imprisonment. Read more about the case here: <https://www.yazda.org/munich-trial-update>.

Survey Data

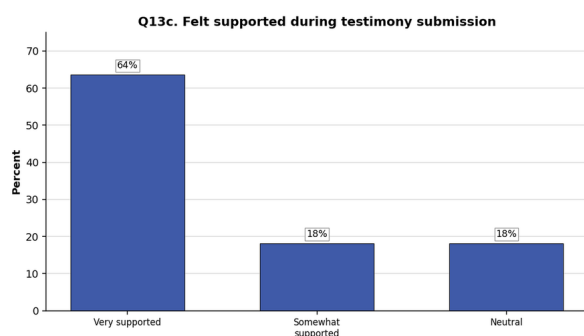
Between June and July 2026, C4JR surveyed 91 Yazidi survivors living in the diaspora—in Canada, Germany, and Australia—who have been approved for benefits under the YSL. The survey assessed survivors' satisfaction with the YSL application process and compensation payments and examined the specific challenges diaspora survivors face in applying to and accessing YSL benefits, with a specific focus on compensation.



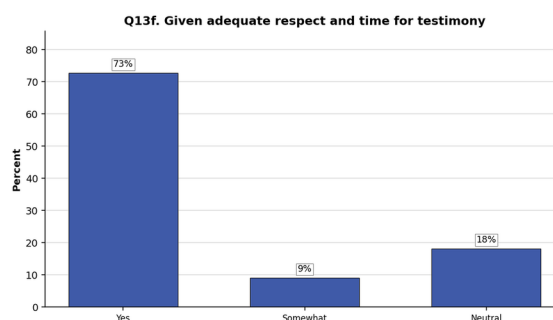
While the majority of respondents returned to Iraq to complete their YSL applications, 12% completed their applications through an Iraqi diplomatic mission abroad. Among these respondents, 91% reported being very satisfied with their treatment by Iraqi consular staff.



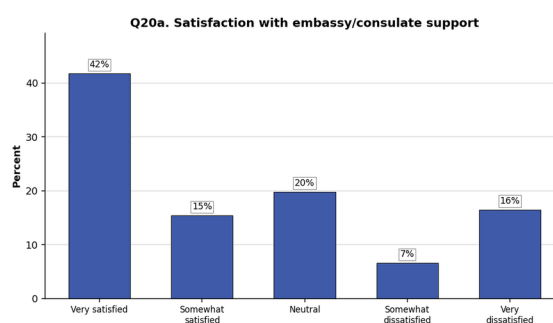
In terms of the remote testimony mechanism, 64% of respondents felt very supported during the process of submitting their testimony, and more than half (55%) reported that they were able to bring a close person with them to the consulate or embassy for additional support. These findings suggest that many YSL applicants experience diplomatic missions as supportive environments when submitting their testimony, including through the opportunity to have someone they trust accompany them during the process.



An overwhelming majority (73%) reported feeling that they were given adequate respect and time to give their testimony during the submission process. These positive responses indicate that the remote testimony mechanism is perceived by survivors to be functioning in a survivor-centered manner. The success of remote testimony and the submission of YSL applications from abroad relieves a significant financial burden that survivors faced in having to return to Iraq to submit YSL applications.



Overall, 87% of respondents reported being aware of the services available through their local Iraqi embassy or consulate. While 42% reported being very satisfied with the support provided, a further 15% reported being somewhat satisfied, indicating high levels of awareness of available services, alongside generally positive experiences with the support provided by Iraqi diplomatic missions.



In terms of how diaspora survivors receive their compensation, 92% rely on a representative (wakeel) to receive payments on their behalf. Although 94% reported high levels of trust in their representatives, this heavy reliance highlights the need for greater support to ensure that survivors in the diaspora can meaningfully and independently access their compensation payments. For more analysis of this issue, as well as many other themes that emerged from C4JR's survey, look out for our forthcoming report!

THERE IS NO DEADLINE TO APPLY TO THE YSL! HERE IS HOW YOU CAN APPLY IF YOU ARE A SURVIVOR



The YSL provides reparations if you are a member of one of the following groups:

- Women and girls who survived ISIS captivity from the Yazidi, Shabak, Christian, or Turkmen communities;
- Yazidi children survivors who were under the age of eighteen at the time of their kidnapping;
- All persons from the Yazidi, Shabak, Christian, or Turkmen communities who survived a specific incident of ISIS mass killing.*



Applications are made to the General Directorate for Survivors' Affairs. You can apply in three ways:

- Make an appointment with the Directorate in their Sinjar or Mosul offices and visit the office at the appointment time. You can make the appointment at <https://ur.gov.iq/login>. See this video on how to make an appointment: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ARulcl4gYU&ab_channel=IOMIRAQ
- Fill out a hard copy form and take it to the Directorate physically. You still need to register online using the link above to get your unique registration code;
- Apply online: You may submit your application, together with copies of your ID and any supporting documents you have to the link above. See this video on how to apply online: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfoDfQWwErE&ab_channel=IOMIRAQ

You can apply on your own - you do not need a lawyer or NGO to apply. If you would like any support with the application, you can contact NGOs in your area. **There is no deadline to apply for the YSL. There is also no fee to apply.**

You can follow the Directorate's announcements on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076062182514>

*Please note that while these details reflect the YSL text, some provisions have been interpreted more narrowly in practice. We strongly recommend seeking professional legal support when applying for or appealing YSL decisions.



C4JR LEGAL AID

To support survivors navigating challenges, C4JR is offering legal aid to applicants throughout the YSL application and appeals process through qualified lawyers.

If you or someone you know needs legal support, please get in touch with us.

 legallaid@c4jr.org

   +9647508516311



About us

The **Coalition for Just Reparations (C4JR)** is an alliance of 33 NGOs calling for comprehensive reparations for civilian victims of atrocity crimes perpetrated during the ISIL conflict in Iraq. C4JR uses Iraqi law and international human rights law to support the reparation claims of survivors and to encourage Iraqi authorities to meet their obligation to provide reparations. C4JR also works to inform, advocate, offer viable solutions, and engage with different stakeholders to ensure survivors realize their right to reparations by providing space for deliberation, collaboration, and reflection. You can visit our website at www.c4jr.org for more information.



www.c4jr.org

info@c4jr.org

     /C4JRorg