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Reminder: KRG-US June 2020 newsletter

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Fri, Jul 3, 2020 at 4:19 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com



**Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.**

Welcome to our June 2020 Newsletter



COVID-19 has taken a significant toll this month on the people of the Kurdistan Region. As of today, June 30, there have been 5,904 confirmed cases of the coronavirus with 200 resulting in death. This reflects a sharp rise in the number of cases from June 11, when there were 1,611 positive cases and 29 deaths. The sudden increase is partly due to an easing of restrictions around the Eid holidays and partly due to misinformation that cast doubt on the seriousness of the virus. The KRG's Ministry of Health is struggling to cope with the sudden rise in cases, and the Ministry of Interior has re-imposed a stay-at-home order in an attempt to stop the increase in infections.

Also this month, Turkey has launched air and land military operations, attacking villages and populated areas of the Kurdistan Region and disputed territories, including Sinjar, resulting in civilian deaths and injuries, among them young children. Meanwhile, Iran has been shelling border villages in the Haji Omran area.

The Turkish government says it is pursuing the PKK, but the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned the Turkish and Iranian ambassadors to protest the breach of Iraqi sovereignty. The Kurdistan Regional Government issued a statement condemning the killing of civilians unreservedly, adding, 'We call on the Republic of Turkey to respect the sovereignty of our homeland. We also call on the PKK to leave these areas immediately to prevent tension on the borders of the Kurdistan Region and further loss of life.'

On a more positive note, earlier this month, the first meeting of the US-Iraq Strategic Dialogue took place. The meeting was held virtually due to travel restrictions and COVID-19-related concerns. Fawzi Hariri, the Head of Diwan of the Kurdistan Region Presidency, was a member of the Iraq delegation in the talks. The KRG is supportive of the dialogue and sees it as an opportunity to put the US-Iraq relationship on a stronger and more sustainable footing and to broaden the economic, security, and capacity-building relationship. We look forward to the next round of the dialogue.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States

The rise in COVID-19 cases coincides with a severe financial situation in the Kurdistan Region that is impacting all communities.

Kurdistan Regional Government



Representative Abdul Rahman congratulates State Department Iraq Director Robert Waller on his posting in Erbil

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman, the KRG Representative to the United States, congratulated Robert Waller, the U.S. State Department's Director of the Office of Iraq Affairs, on his assignment as Consul General in Erbil.

[Read the press release](#)



KRG officials participate in U.S. Chamber event focusing on business opportunities in Kurdistan

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States took part in a virtual event highlighting the business outlook and opportunities in the Kurdistan Region, hosted by the U.S. Chamber...

[Read the press release](#)



KRG Representative Participates in a Ministerial Meeting of Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS

Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman took part in a virtual meeting of a small group of Foreign Ministers of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS...

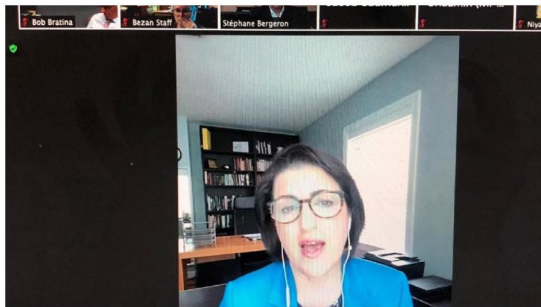
[Read the press release](#)



Representative Abdul Rahman and DASD Ledeen discuss security issues

Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman discussed security related issues and US-Kurdistan cooperation with Simone Ledeen, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East.

[Read the press release](#)



KRG Representative briefs Canadian Parliamentary Friends of the Kurds



NCAFP hosts discussion on Kurdistan Region

Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman on Thursday congratulated the Canadian Parliamentary Friends of the Kurds on its fourth anniversary and briefed members...

[Read the press release](#)

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman addressed the members of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy this week in a virtual discussion about Kurdistan Region in Iraq.

[Read the press release](#)



A statement from KRG spokesperson on recent Turkish airstrikes in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

"We are watching today's incident, as well as others in recent days in border areas, with grave concern. These attacks have tragically killed civilians, and caused significant damage to villages in the areas concerned. The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) condemns the killing of civilians unreservedly. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims, and wish the wounded a speedy recovery."

"We call on the Republic of Turkey to respect the sovereignty of our homeland. We also call on PKK to leave these areas immediately in order to prevent tension on the borders of the Kurdistan Region and further loss of life."

[Read the press release](#)



Kurdistan Region President receives U.S. Ambassador to Iraq

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Matthew Tueller on Tuesday.

The latest developments in Iraq, the fight against COVID-19 pandemic and its economic consequences, the recent ISIS movements and its terror threats were discussed at the meeting. The meeting was also attended by the U.S. Consul General in Erbil, Steven Fagin.

[Read the press release](#)



President Nechirvan Barzani: It is time to come to a mutual understanding and settle differences

During President Nechirvan Barzani's meetings with Iraq's President, Prime Minister, Parliament Speaker and senior political leaders in Baghdad. President Nechirvan Barzani described the current issues facing Iraq as shared difficulties and mutual responsibilities for all Iraqis. The President stated: "We share the same fate, the problems of Iraq and the Kurdistan Region are the problems of all Iraqis".

President Barzani expressed the importance of moving forward from the difficult experiences of the past years, which were marked by deadlocks and disagreements between both sides. "It is time we come to a mutual understanding through an inclusive agreement which is accepted by both sides....

[Read the press release](#)



President Nechirvan Barzani meets with UNSG Special Representative Plasschaert

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani met with the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Iraq, Jeanine Hennis- Plasschaert, in Baghdad on Saturday.

The latest political and economic developments in Iraq and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were highlighted at the meeting. The two sides reiterated the importance of cooperation and coordination among all parties in Iraq in order to overcome the current crises facing the country.

[Read the press release](#)

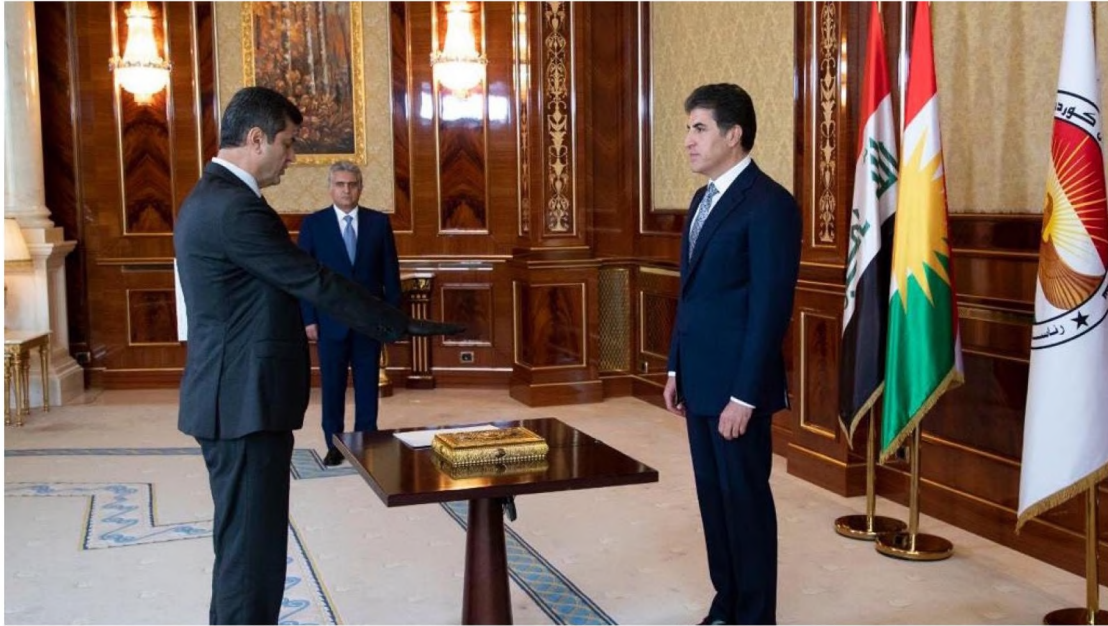


President Barzani Reiterates Support for UNITAD Mission in Iraq

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received a phone call from the United Nations Special Advisor Karim Khan, who heads the U.N. Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (UNITAD), prior to Mr. Khan's briefing to the United Nations Security Council on Monday about his team's work and activities in Iraq.

Mr. Khan updated President Barzani on UNITAD's continued efforts to bring justice to the victims of ISIS atrocities in Iraq, despite security challenges and the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

[Read the press release](#)

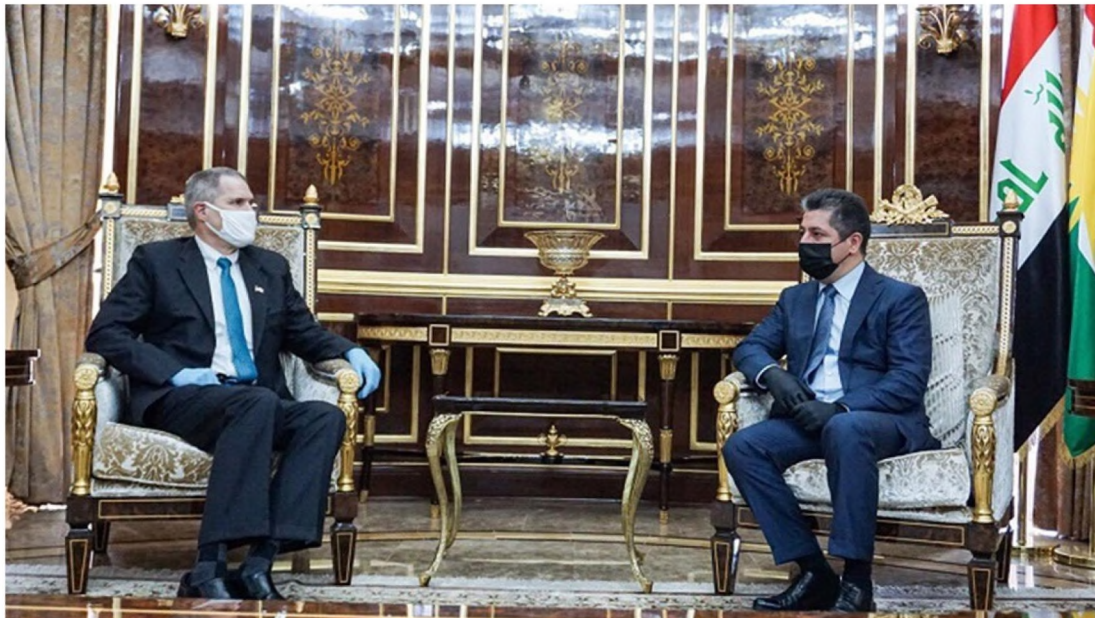


Dr. Ali Tatar Nerway is sworn in as Dohuk's new Governor

The new governor of Dohuk, Dr. Ali Tatar Nerway, was sworn in today and took the oath of office before Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani.

In a meeting following the ceremony, President Nechirvan Barzani congratulated the new Governor on assuming the position and wished him success in his new duty. The President appreciated Dr. Tatar's previous performances, praised his public service experiences and expressed hope that he will continue to work with dedication to provide quality services to Dohuk Governorate and its inhabitants.

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani receives US Ambassador to Iraq

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Tuesday met with U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Matthew Tueller to discuss bilateral relations and the latest developments in Iraq.

In the meeting attended by Steve Fagin, the Consul General in Erbil, the two sides had a lengthy exchange about the upcoming U.S.-Iraq Strategic Dialogue. In that regard, the Prime Minister and Ambassador Tueller agreed on the importance of the Kurdistan Region taking part in a way that ensures the outcome serves the interests of all of Iraq's peoples.

[Read the press release](#)

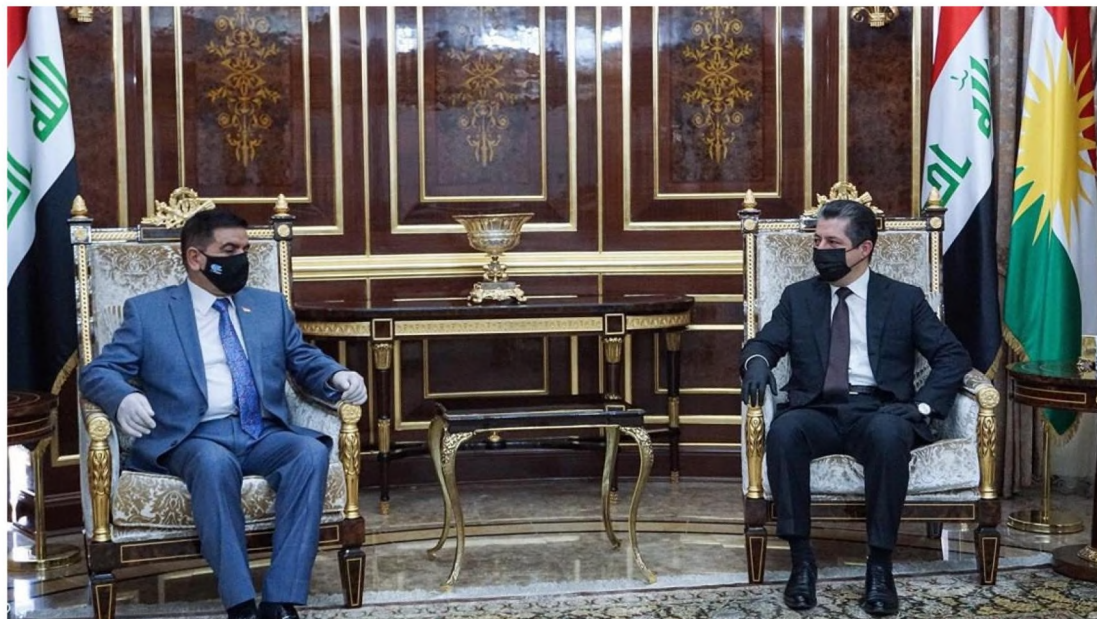


Prime Minister Masrour Barzani discusses government reforms and ISIS threat with coalition delegation

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Tuesday met with a delegation from the Global Coalition to discuss the reforms process and the continued threat from ISIS.

The delegation led by Major General Gerald Strickland, Deputy Commander of Coalition Force's Joint Operation for Stability in Iraq and Syria.

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani discusses security coordination with Iraqi defense minister

Erbil, Kurdistan Region, Iraq (GOV.KRD) - Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Thursday met with Iraqi Minister Defence of Defence to discuss the recent increase of ISIS terror attacks.

In the meeting, Prime Minister Barzani and Defence Minister Juma Inad called ISIS a threat to Iraq and all its peoples. In that regard, both agreed on the need for coordination between Peshmerga forces and the Iraqi Army, in particular through joint security mechanisms in the disputed territories.

[Read the press release](#)



Cabinet discusses reforms and talks with Baghdad

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Wednesday chaired a cabinet meeting in Erbil to discuss details of recent negotiations with the federal government on outstanding disputes and progress with the implementation of the reform law.

In the meeting attended by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani, the Prime Minister spoke about a recent surge in the number of coronavirus infections and fatalities in the Kurdistan Region, and extended his condolences to the families of the dead. He also wished the infected a quick recovery.

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani chairs meeting on developing private sector, tax system

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Sunday chaired a cabinet meeting via video conference to discuss ways to further develop the private sector and improve the tax system.

In the meeting, Prime Minister Barzani spoke about the importance of the private sector in the job market and the necessity to review current laws to pave the way for more development in this sector.

[Read the press release](#)



Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani receives US ambassador to Iraq

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani received today US Ambassador to Iraq Matthew Tueller to discuss Kurdistan Region-US relations and ongoing talks with the government in Baghdad on outstanding issues.

During the meeting, the two sides spoke about the need to further strengthen bilateral relations, and expressed concern regarding the recent ISIS resurgence. The Deputy Prime Minister and Ambassador Tueller also exchanged notes on US-Iraq Strategic Dialogue, and both agreed that the Kurdistan Region can play...

[Read the press release](#)



Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani meets delegation for federal affairs

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani chaired a meeting on Tuesday with the members of the delegation holding talks with the federal government on ongoing disputes.

In the meeting, the Deputy Prime Minister spoke about preparations for the next round of talks with Baghdad on oil exports and budgetary issues, and was briefed on a number of reports filed by the delegation's different committees.

[Read the press release](#)



Speaker Rewas Faiq meets with Chaldean Catholic Archbishop of Erbil Bashar Matti Warda

Kurdistan Parliament Speaker Dr. Rewas Faiq on 20 May visited the Chaldean Catholic Archbishop of Erbil, Bashar Matti Warda. They discussed the friendship and peaceful co-existence between the diverse religious and ethnic communities in Kurdistan Region.

Speaker Faiq said that the Kurdistan Parliament, through legislation, strives to protect the cultural and linguistic rights of religious and ethnic communities in Kurdistan. Parliament, as the people's representatives, will continue to work to maintain peace and stability in Kurdistan, she added.

[Read the press release](#)



The Speaker of the Kurdistan Parliament Dr. Rewas Faiq on 20 May visited the Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East, His Holiness Mar Gewargis III Sliwa.

Speaker Faiq and Mar Gewargis III discussed the friendship and peaceful co-existence between the diverse religious and ethnic communities in the Kurdistan region. Speaker Faiq said, "The Kurdistan Parliament has worked to protect the peaceful coexistence of all people in Kurdistan, and this is a source of pride for our nation. This is why we believe the elected representatives of your communities should preserve social peace and help solve the public's problems and complaints."

Mar Gewargis said, "We are very pleased to see a woman holding the Speaker position in the Kurdistan Parliament."

[Read the press release](#)

KRG-US June Humanitarian Bulletin

In recent days, the Kurdistan Region has seen an alarming spike in COVID-19 cases. More than 2,821 cases have been reported across Erbil, Slemani, Duhok, and Halabja governorates...

[Read the bulletin](#)



Kurdistan in America

Episode 5 - Interview with Amb. Robert Ford



00:00 | 24:50



Listen to the latest episode of our podcast "Kurdistan in America".

This episode features an interview with Robert Ford, the former US Ambassador to Algeria and Syria, and former deputy Ambassador to Iraq from 2008 to 2010. Ambassador Ford discusses his experience in Iraq and shares his views about developments in the region.

[Listen to the Podcast](#)

Kurdistan in the Media

COEXISTENCE IN IRAQI KURDISTAN

Learn about coexistence among the various religious groups in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

The film is produced by HL-senteret as a part of the Inclusive Citizenship project...



State Dept. Spokesperson Morgan Ortagus during a live interview with Kurdistan 24

It is “especially important” for the US “to promote democracy in Iraq,” State Department Spokesperson Morgan Ortagus told Kurdistan 24 on Friday...



Cheney Advisor: US relations with Erbil are model for what ties with Baghdad should be

John Hannah, National Security Advisor to Vice-President Dick Cheney during the George W. Bush administration, shares his thinking about the Kurdistan Region and US-Iraq relations.

Joint Statement on the U.S.-Iraq Strategic Dialogue

The delegation of the Republic of Iraq, led by Senior Under Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Abdul-Karim Hashim Mostafa, and the delegation of the United States Government, led by Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs David Hale, held Strategic Dialogue discussions via video

[Read the article](#)

USCIRF Condemns Turkish Military Operations in Northern Iraq

Department of State's 2019 Report on International Religious Freedom: Iraq

The constitution establishes Islam as the official religion and states no law may be enacted contradicting the “established provisions of Islam.” It provides for freedom of religious belief and practice for all individuals, including Muslims, Christians, Yezidis, and Sabeian-Mandeans, but...

[Read the article](#)

Iraq: Fixing Security in Kirkuk

As the campaign against the Islamic State (ISIS) wound down in 2017, the question of Iraq’s disputed

The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) condemned Turkey's latest round of air strikes and ground operations near civilian areas in northern Iraq...

[Read the article](#)

Harvard Humanitarian Initiative Report

This survey offers a snapshot of the perceptions and attitudes about peace and justice within communities affected by the conflict with the Islamic State (IS). It is based on 5,213 interviews conducted in 2019 among...

[Read the article](#)

Reimagining the U.S.-Iraq Relationship

U.S.-Iraq relations are coming to another important crossroads as senior officials from our two governments come together virtually today for the U.S.-Iraq Strategic Dialogue. They are meeting amidst a global health pandemic that has ...

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KRG Board of Investment establishes three new directorates to boost investment opportunities, reduce bureaucracy

The Kurdistan Region's Board of Investment has decided to establish three new investment directorates in three different areas to increase...

[Read the article](#)

territories, which stretch along the internal boundary between the Kurdistan region and federal Iraq, re-emerged as a priority for Baghdad.

[Read the article](#)

USIP Report: Iraq Conflict and Stabilization Monitoring Framework

The United States Institute of Peace has released its Iraq Conflict and Stabilization Monitoring Framework (CSMF) focused on the challenges to social cohesion, governance, and security in Nineveh province.

[Read the article](#)

ISIS is making a comeback, and Iraq's government may not be able to handle it

The Islamic State is stepping up its attacks in Iraq, fulfilling the expectations of many analysts that the extremist group would mount a comeback after the Iraqi government declared victory over it in 2017.

[Read the article](#)

COVID-19: Kurdistan Region announces 14 deaths, 232 new infections in last 24 hours

The Kurdistan Region's Ministry of Health announced on Monday that it had recorded 14 deaths and 232 new coronavirus infections over the past 24 hours.

[Read the article](#)

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For inquiries, please contact Delovan Barwari, the Director of Public and Humanitarian Affairs, at: delovan.barwari@us.gov.krd

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"Kurdistan in America" - a new podcast from the KRG US Representation

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Fri, Feb 14, 2020 at 12:53 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

We are pleased to announce the launch of the "Kurdistan in America" podcast, bringing you the latest news about the rich relationship between the Kurdistan Region and the United States, as well as interviews with people working at the intersection of our goals and interests.

Check out the first episode here, which includes an interview with Heba El Kayal, the curator of the exhibition "[Speaking Across Mountains: Kurdish Artists in Dialogue](#)", currently showing at the Middle East Institute in Washington, DC.



Episodes will be released monthly, and will be available on the Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher apps.

If you would like to be informed about new episodes by email each month, click the link below:

[Get the podcast by email](#)

If you or someone you know would like to be featured on the podcast, you can email us at kurdistan.in.america@gmail.com.

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**Kurdistan Regional Government - Iraq
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April 21 webinar - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Sun, Apr 19, 2020 at 8:32 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine at Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology Fellow at Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with any questions.

No RSVP is required.

STAY CONNECTED



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Be counted! 2020 Census includes option to write in Kurdistani heritage

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Mon, Mar 30, 2020 at 9:15 AM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه



The US Census is here, it's time to make your Kurdistani heritage count

Every ten years the US government conducts a survey of all people living in the United States. This year the Census includes the ability for people to write in their own race. This means that if your heritage is from Kurdistan, you can say so on the Census form.

It's time to be counted!

Census forms should have been mailed to every address by now. The census is the opportunity to know how many people originally from Kurdistan are now living in the United States. It will help the community to be counted when it matters. Census results help the US federal government allocate funding for health clinics, schools, jobs and education, among other resources and facilities.

In the census form, on the page about Race, check the box that says **WHITE**, and then write Kurdish, or Chaldean, Syriac, Assyrian, Yezidi, Kurdish-Yezidi, or Turkman, in the blank box immediately below.

On the same page about Race, check the box that says **SOME OTHER RACE** and then write Kurdish, or Chaldean, Syriac, Assyrian, Yezidi, Kurdish-Yezidi, or Turkman, in the blank box immediately below.

9. What is Person 1's race?
 Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴
KURDISH

Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴

American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴

<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian
<input type="checkbox"/> Filipino	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Samoan
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. ↴		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. ↴

Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴
KURDISH

[For guidance in English on how to fill out the form, see US Census 2020](#)

For guidance in Kurdish and English on how to fill out the form, see [Census 2020 For Kurdish-Americans Facebook page](#)

If you have questions or need help completing your Census form, please contact:

Barzan Ardalan - [202-368-7811](tel:202-368-7811)

Delovan Barwari - [202-821-1861](tel:202-821-1861)

=====

فۆرمى سەرژمىرى گەيشت، كاتى ئەوهيه فەرھەنگى كوردستانى بوونى خۆت ديارى بكهيت

ھەموو دە سال جاريك حكومتى ويلايهته يەكگرتووھكانى ئەمريكا، سەرژمىرىبەك دەكات بۆ ئەو كەسانەى لە ويلايهته يەكگرتووھكان دەژين. لە ئامار مەكى ئەمسالدا خەلك دەتوانيت رەگەزى خۆى بنووسيت. ئەمەش مانای ئەوهيه بۆ تۆى كوردستانى، دەتوانيت لە فۆرمەكەدا ئەو ديارى بكهيت كە كوردستانىيت

كاتى ئەوه هاتووہ خۆت تۆمار بكهيت

لە ئىستادا دەبیت ھەموو مالتىك بە پۆستە ئەم فۆرمى سەرژمىرىبەى پىنگەيشتیبیت. ئەم سەرژمىرىبە دەرفەتیکە بۆ ئەوهى بزانیين چەند كوردستانى لە ويلايهته يەكگرتووھكان دەژين، و ھاوکار دەبیت بۆ حسابکردنى رەمەندەكەمان كاتىك پىويست بىت. ئەنجامەكانى سەرژمىرەكە ھاوکارىي حكومتى ويلايهته يەكگرتووھكان دەكات بۆ تەرخانکردنى دارايى بۆ بواریهكانى تەندروستى، خەستەخانە، دەرفەتى كار، خویندن، و سەرچاوه و بواری تر

نیشانە بکه. و WHITE خانەى سپى-وايت، Race لە فۆرمەكە، لەسەر لاپەرەى رەگەز، رەيس يان کلدان، Kurdish، ئنجا لە خانە بەتالەكەى خوار موهى بنووسە كە كوردستانىيت: كورد ناسورى، سريانى، ئيزيدى، كوردى ئيزيدى، تورکمان، و ھتد

SOME لە ھەمان لاپەرەى رەگەز، ئەو خانەيش نیشانە بکه كە نووسراوه ھەندىك رەگەزى تر يان کلدان، ناسورى، سريانى، ئيزيدى، Kurdish، و لەويدا بنووسە كورد، OTHER RACE، كوردى ئيزيدى، تورکمان، و ھتد

9. What is Person 1's race?Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins. White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴**KURDISH** Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴ American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴ Chinese Vietnamese Native Hawaiian Filipino Korean Samoan Asian Indian Japanese Chamorro Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. ↴ Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. ↴ Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴**KURDISH**

بۆ رینمایی به ئینگلیزی له سهر چۆنیهتی پرکردنهوهی فورمهکه، بڕوانه

[US Census 2020](#)

بۆ رینمایی به کوردی و ئینگلیزی له سهر چۆنیهتی پرکردنهوهی فورمهکه، بڕوانه

[Census 2020 For Kurdish-Americans Facebook page](#)ئهگهر ههر پرسپاریکت ههبوو یان پتویستت به هاوکاری بوو بۆ پرکردنهوهی فورمی
سههژمیری، نکایه پهیههندی بکه به

بارزان ئههدهلان

[202-368-7811](tel:202-368-7811)

دلوقان بهرواری

[202-821-1861](tel:202-821-1861)

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**Census
2020**

سەرژمێری ۲۰۲۰ دى ههژمارنا هه می که سا بخوفه گریت (ژوانرا زاروکا)
ئه ئین لوبیایه تین ئینگرتی دژین. ئەو پیتفی هاریکاریا ههوانه!

\$ IT'S IMPORTANT ئەف سەرژمێریه یا گرنگه

ئه ف سەرژمێریه دى هاریکاریا حکومهتی کهت داکو زندهتر بشین بریاری بدن کا چهوا کوژی \$۶۷۵ بلیون دولارا خهرجبکهن. چه ند مرؤف بهینه ههژمارتن لدهفرا مه، دى زندهتر پاره هینه دان بو قوتابخانا و نهخوشخانا و ئوریک و بانا ئو گه لهک پروگرامین دترى پیت گرنگ یین سهر بدهفرا مهفه.

IT'S SAFE ئەف سەرژمێریه دى یا پاراستی بیت

هه می ئەو پیزانینین هوبن دهن دى هینه پاراستن و ناهینه پارقه کرن لسهر هیزین ئەوله کاری یان لسهر ئوفیسا کوچ کۆچه را.

IT'S EASY ئەف سەرژمێریه یا بسانا هییه

ئه ف سەرژمێریه دى یا کورت بیت ئو دى زوی بریقه چیت. هوبن دشین بریکا ئونلاینی، یان بریکا تلهفونی یان بریکا پرکرا فورما کاغهزی بهرسفی بدن.

تەماشەى پیزانینین خو یین سەرژمێریاری بکه ئەفا کو دى بو ته هینه هنارتن لدهستپیکا ۱۲ ى هه یفا ئاداری.

www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/2020-census/planning-management/language-resources/language-guides.html

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1532 16th Street, N.W.
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Fax: +1.202.821.1870

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CORRECT LINK - State Dept PDAS Joey Hood featured in this month's "Kurdistan in America" podcast

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Tue, Mar 17, 2020 at 5:39 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

A previous copy of this email was sent with a broken link.

The correct link is - <http://bit.ly/KiA-Episode2>

=====

Check out this month's episode of "Kurdistan in America", featuring an interview with the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joey Hood! Mr. Hood served as deputy head of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad from 2017-2019 and has visited Kurdistan many times.

Learn about Mr. Hood's perspectives on the Kurdistan - US partnership, as well as his family's connection to Operation Provide Comfort and his dream of seeing Kurdish products on the shelves of American supermarkets. You'll also hear a quick news update about KRG - US relations.



Catch [the episode here](#) or on your favorite podcast app including Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, and iheartradio.

If you would like to be informed about new episodes by email each month, click the link below:

[Get the podcast by email](#)

If you or someone you know would like to be featured on the podcast, you can email us at kurdistan.in.america@gmail.com.

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Episode of "Kurdistan in America" podcast with Spirit of America's Zack Bazzi

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Wed, Apr 22, 2020 at 2:51 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Check out the latest episode of our podcast "Kurdistan in America". We interview Zack Bazzi, [Spirit of America's](#) Regional Director for the Middle East and Central Asia about the organization's support for the Peshmerga during COVID-19, the ongoing humanitarian crisis, and Zack's first arrival in Kurdistan as a Sergeant in the US Army.



"Kurdistan in America" is the official podcast of the KRG Representation in the United States, and explores the rich relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region.

[Click here to listen](#)

or find on your favorite podcast app:



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Feb 11 - Screening of "On Her Shoulders" at Middle East Institute

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Tue, Feb 4, 2020 at 8:02 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC



Embassy of the
Czech Republic
Washington, DC



Middle
East
Institute

The Embassy of the Czech Republic, Middle East Institute, and the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

cordially invite you to join a screening of the documentary film

On Her Shoulders

directed by Alexandria Bambach



The film follows Nadia Murad, a Yezidi woman who received the Nobel Prize for her battle against sexual violence and other abuses committed by the so-called Islamic State.

[Watch the trailer here.](#)

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Reception opens at 5:00 pm

Screening begins promptly at 5:30

Middle East Institute
1763 N Street NW
Washington, DC

RSVP HERE

On August 3, 2014, ISIS began a campaign of genocide against the Yezidi people in Sinjar. Thousands were killed in the weeks that followed. Women and children were captured, forced to become sex slaves and child soldiers. Nadia Murad was captured on the same day that ISIS killed her mother and six brothers. Eighteen members of her family were either killed or enslaved.

The 23-year-old's life has since become a dizzying array of exhausting undertakings - from giving testimony before the U.N. to visiting refugee camps to soul-baring media interviews as she lobbies and advocates for her people. Today, the majority of Yezidis have yet to return to their homes in Sinjar and live in camps and other shelters in the Kurdistan Region, which hosts a total of more than 1 million refugees and displaced people.

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation is pleased to partner with the Middle East Institute and the Embassy of the Czech Republic in screening this film and putting the spotlight on the plight of one of our communities.

The film is screened as an extension of the [One World International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival](#), one of the largest human rights film festivals in the world. The festival, organized by the Czech non-profit People in Need, is

held annually in Prague, Czech Republic, attracting more than 120,000 viewers. One World presents more than 110 documentary films from around the globe, focusing on social, political, environmental, media and human rights issues.

Tea and baklava will be served at the beginning of the event, followed by the film screening.

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FRIDAY OPEN HOUSE @ MEI: Speaking Across Mountains: Kurdish Artists in Dialogue

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Wed, Feb 5, 2020 at 2:56 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Join us for an open house at the Middle East Institute to celebrate the exhibition

Speaking Across Mountains: Kurdish Artists in Dialogue

Friday, February 7, 2020

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Middle East Institute

1763 N Street NW

Washington, DC



RSVP HERE

The exhibition features the work of ten contemporary Kurdish artists from Iraq, Turkey and Syria and explores themes that have long shaped the Kurdish experience such as displacement, exile, and memory. The exhibition runs until February 25, 2020.

The evening will also feature Kurdish music by DC-based Syrian-Kurdish musician and artist, Lukman Ahmad, at 6:30PM.

The exhibition is sponsored by the Middle East Institute, the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States, and the NY-based organization [Justice for Kurds](#)

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Fwd: "Kurdistan in America" - a new podcast from the KRG US Representation

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Mon, Feb 17, 2020 at 9:05 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Fri, Feb 14, 2020 at 12:53 PM

Subject: "Kurdistan in America" - a new podcast from the KRG US Representation

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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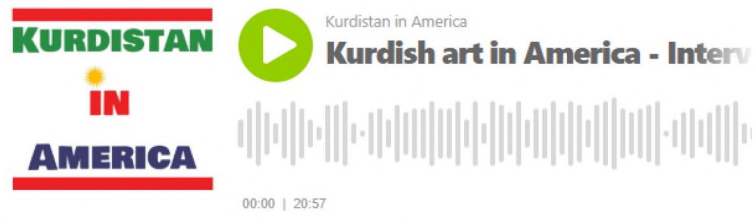


Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

We are pleased to announce the launch of the "Kurdistan in America" podcast, bringing you the latest news about the rich relationship between the Kurdistan Region and the United States, as well as interviews with people working at the intersection of our goals and interests.

Check out the first episode here, which includes an interview with Heba El Kayal, the curator of the exhibition "[Speaking Across Mountains: Kurdish Artists in Dialogue](#)", currently showing at the Middle East Institute in Washington, DC.



Episodes will be released monthly, and will be available on the Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher apps.

If you would like to be informed about new episodes by email each month, click the link below:

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If you or someone you know would like to be featured on the podcast, you can email us at kurdistan.in.america@gmail.com.

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Fwd: April 21 webinar - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 7:44 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Sun, Apr 19, 2020 at 8:32 PM

Subject: April 21 webinar - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)
9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine at
Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology Fellow at Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Masters of Public
Health (MPH) with distinction in Epidemiology from University of Nebraska
Medical Center

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

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Fwd: Be counted! 2020 Census includes option to write in race

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Wed, Mar 11, 2020 at 12:36 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Wed, Mar 11, 2020 at 12:14 PM

Subject: Be counted! 2020 Census includes option to write in race

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

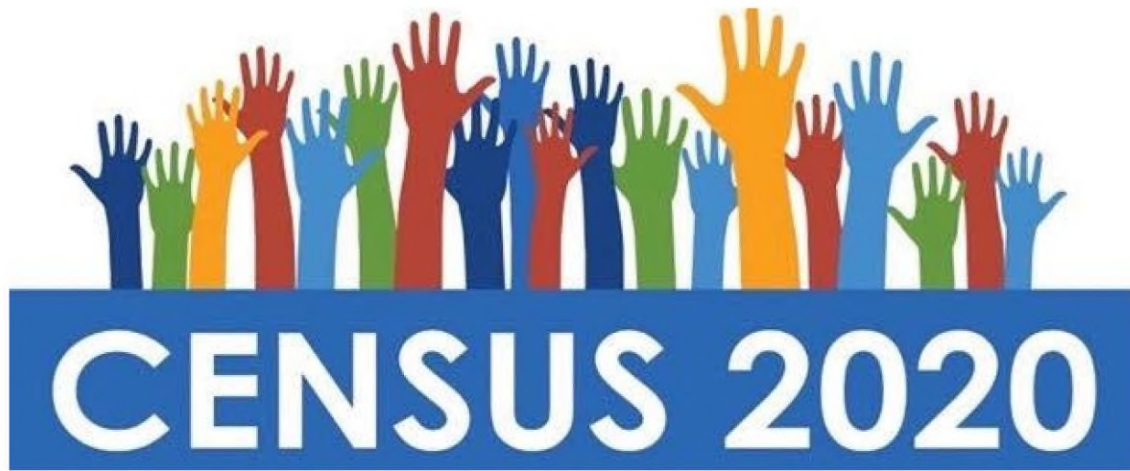
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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپهرهکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه



US residents - be counted in the 2020 Census!

Every ten years the US government conducts a survey of all people living in the United States. Everyone living in the United States is required by law to complete the Census in 2020. Forms to complete the Census will be mailed to every address, beginning March 12.

This year the Census includes the ability for people to write in their own race. For example, if you are Kurdish, you can use the form to indicate your race as shown below:

9. What is Person 1's race?
 Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴

Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴

American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴

<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian
<input type="checkbox"/> Filipino	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Samoan
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. ↴		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. ↴

Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴

KURDISH

The Census is an important tool for the US government - it helps determine how Congressional seats are divided, as well as how federal funding is allocated in your community for education, infrastructure, hospitals, and more.

If you have questions or need help completing your Census form, please contact:

Barzan Ardalan - [202-368-7811](tel:202-368-7811)

Delovan Barwari - [202-821-1861](tel:202-821-1861)

Watch a video by the Kurdish community about how to fill out your census:

[English](#)
[Sorani](#)



بۆ دانیشتوانی ویلایهته یهگرتووهمکان: له سەرژمیری ۲۰۲۰، خۆت تۆمار بکه!

هموو ده سال جارێک، حکومهتی ویلایهته یهگرتووهمکان روومالێک دهکات بۆ ئهو کهسانهی له ویلایهته یهگرتووهمکان دهژین. به گۆزهی یاساکان، ههر کهسێک له ویلایهته یهگرتووهمکان بژی، پێویسته فۆرمی سەرژمیری ۲۰۲۰ پرێکاتهوه. له سەرئای ۱۲ ی نازاری ۲۰۲۰ هوه فۆرمهکانی سەرژمیرییهکه به پۆسته روانه دهکرنیت بۆ ناونیشانی دانیشتوانهکه.

له ناماری نهمسالدا، خهڵک دهتوانن رهگهزی خۆیان بنوسن. بۆ نمونه، کهسێکی کورد دهتوانیت له فۆرمهکاندا رهگهزی خۆی به کورد تۆمار بکات وهک له خوارهوه دهپینیت:

9. What is Person 1's race?
Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.

Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.

American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.

<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian
<input type="checkbox"/> Filipino	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Samoan
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. <input type="checkbox"/>

Some other race – Print race or origin.

KURDISH

نەم سەرژمێرە نامرازیکی پێربایەخە بۆ حکومەتی ویلایەتە یەکنگرتووەکان، ھاوکار دەبێت بۆ دیاریکردنی چۆنیەتی
دابەشبوونی کورسییەکانی کۆنگرێس، و ھەروەھا چۆنیەتی تەرخانکردنی تەمویلی فیدرالی لە کۆمەڵگەمەت بۆ یارەکانی
خوێندن، ژێرخان، خەستەخانە، و ھی تر.
ئەگەر ھەر پرسیارێکت ھەبوو لەسەر پێکردنەوی فۆرمی سەرژمێری، تکایە پەمووندیی بکە بە بەرێزان

باززان نەردەلان
202-368-7811

دلوخان بەرواری
202-821-1861

تکایە کرتە بکە لەسەر نەم بەستەرانی خوارووە بۆ بینینی قیدیۆیەک لەسەر چۆنیەتی پێکردنەوی فۆرمەکە

[English](#)
[Sorani](#)

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Fwd: Best wishes for a joyous Easter

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Sun, Apr 12, 2020 at 11:16 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Sun, Apr 12, 2020 at 8:02 AM

Subject: Best wishes for a joyous Easter

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
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Washington, DC

Best wishes for a joyous Easter
to Christians in the Kurdistan Region,
in Iraq, and around the world.

May this holy occasion will bring about peace,
prosperity and good health for everyone around the world.



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Fax: +1.202.821.1870

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: Episode of "Kurdistan in America" podcast with Spirit of America's Zack Bazzi

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Wed, Apr 22, 2020 at 3:17 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Wed, Apr 22, 2020 at 2:51 PM

Subject: Episode of "Kurdistan in America" podcast with Spirit of America's Zack Bazzi

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Check out the latest episode of our podcast "Kurdistan in America". We interview Zack Bazzi, [Spirit of America](#)'s Regional Director for the Middle East and Central Asia about the organization's support for the Peshmerga during COVID-19, the ongoing humanitarian crisis, and Zack's first arrival in Kurdistan as a Sergeant in the US Army.



"Kurdistan in America" is the official podcast of the KRG Representation in the United States, and explores the rich relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region.

[Click here to listen](#)

or find on your favorite podcast app:



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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: Happy Newroz from the KRG in Washington

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>
To: farakrg@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 20, 2020 at 3:51 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **KRG-USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Fri, Mar 20, 2020 at 3:19 PM

Subject: Happy Newroz from the KRG in Washington

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>



Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, D.C.



Newroztan Piroz

Happy Newroz from the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the
United States

جەژنە پیرۆزەیی نوێنەرایەتی حکومەتی هەرێمی کوردستان لە ویلایەتە یەکگرتوووەکان



We wish everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous Newroz as we celebrate the arrival of spring and the Kurdish new year.

Due to the Coronavirus, public celebrations have been cancelled in Kurdistan and here in the United States and Canada.

But the spirit of Newroz - rebirth, renewal, friendship and freedom - remains as strong as ever.

پێڕۆزبایی جهژنی نهوڕۆزتان لێ دهکەین و هیوادارین جهژنیکی خوش به تهنډروستی باش و دلی شادهوه
بگێرن، جهژنی گۆل و گۆلزار و گهیشتی بههار، و سالی نویی کوردی

لهبهر مەترسیی کۆرۆناڤایروس، ناههنگه گهشتیهکان له کوردستان و لێزه له ویلایهته یهکگرتوو ههکان و
کهندها ههلومشاوهتهوه و ههک دهزانن.

بهلام مانا و رووحیهتی نهوڕۆز، ژیانهوه و گهشانهوه، دۆستایهتی و نازادی، ههر به گهشیی دهههیننهوه.
نهوڕۆزتان پێڕۆز بێت.



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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: KRG US Representation Closed to Visitors

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 10:04 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 9:05 AM

Subject: KRG US Representation Closed to Visitors

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

KRG US Representation Closed to Visitors

داخستنی نوینەرایهتی حکومەتی هەریم له ئەمریکا بۆ ماوهیهکی کاتی له رووی هاوولاتیان و
موراجیع

As the impact of the corona virus continues to evolve, we at the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States remain focused on the health and safety of our staff and communities.

As a result of concerns over the spread of the virus and in line with guidance by local authorities, our office in Washington, DC is closed to visitors until further notice. The Representative and staff of the Mission are teleworking and remain active and available digitally.

Community services, including Proof of Life certificates and Power of Attorney authorizations can still be processed by mail, but applicants should keep in mind that the documents may not be processed in Kurdistan Region for some time due to the curfew and shutdowns experienced there.

During this period, KRG US Representation staff will be teleworking and can be reached as indicated below:

General email: us@gov.krd

Representative to the United States

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
byan.rahman@gov.krd

Director of Consular and Community Affairs

Barzan Ardalan
barzan.ardalan@us.gov.krd
+ 1 [\(202\) 821-1850](tel:(202)821-1850)

Director of Humanitarian Affairs

Delovan Barwari
delovan.barwari@us.gov.krd
+ 1 [\(202\) 821-1861](tel:(202)821-1861)

Special Advisor to the Representative

Niyaz Barzani
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Director of Public and Academic Affairs

Alex Ebsary
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+ 1 [\(202\) 821-1851](tel:(202)821-1851)

Director of Administrative Affairs and Economic Development

Tara Hamawandi
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+ 1 [\(202\) 821-1853](tel:(202)821-1853)

Director of Genocide and Diversity Affairs

Dasko Shirwani
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+ 1 [\(202\) 821-1844](tel:(202)821-1844)

Director of Policy and Advocacy

Karwan Zebari
karwan.zebari@gov.krd
+ 1 [\(202\) 821-1860](tel:(202)821-1860)

We encourage those in the United States to monitor the [CDC website](#) and in Canada to monitor the [Public Health Agency](#).

For information about the KRG's handling of the corona virus and other news, [click here](#).

لەبەر درێژەى مەترسییەکانى کۆرۆناڤايرۆس، نيمه له نوینەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان له ویلايەتە یەكگرتووەکانى ئەمریکا، جەختمان لەسەر سەلامەتى و تەندروستى ستافەكەمان و رەمەندەكەمانە.

له نەجامى نىگەر انبیهکان له تەشەنەسەندنى ڤايرۆسەكە و تەریب لەگەڵ رینماییهکانى دەسەلاتدارانى خوجی، نوینەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان له ئەمریکا داخراو دەبیست له رووى هاوولاتیان تا نەر کاتەى پیتان رادەگەیهین. نوینەر و ستافى نوینەرایەتى به تیلیۆرك کار دەکەن و له ریی نینتەر نیت و نیمەیلەوه کار دەکەن.

خزمەتگوزارییهکانى کونسولگری و مەك و مەكالمەت و بەرحیاتی و هتد هیشتا به پۆسته نەجەم دەدریت بەلام پێویستە داواكار ئەوهى له بیر بیست كه رەنگە بەلگەنامەكان له كوردستان پروسیس نەكرین لەبەر قەدەغەى هاتووچو و راکرتتى دەوام له كوردستان.

نوینەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان له ویلايەتە یەكگرتووەکانى ئەمریکا هیواى سەلامەتى و تەندروستى بۆ تەواوى رەمەندى كوردستانی و دانیشتوانى ویلايەتە یەكگرتووەکانى ئەمریکا و كەنەدا دەخوازیت.

بەرزان رەمەندى كوردستانی و هاوولاتیان دەتوانن له رینگای ئەم نیمەیل و ژمارە تەلەفۆنانهى خوار موه كه ناماز هێبێكر اوه بەپێى تاییەتمەندى كار و بار مەكانهه دەتوانن پەيوەندى به نوینەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریم بکەن.

نیمەیلی گشتی نوینەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان: us@gov.krd

خاتوو بەیان سامى عبدالرحمن، نوینەرى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان

نیمەیل: bayan.rahman@gov.krd

بەریۆه بەرى کاروبارى کونسولگەرى و رەهەندى كوردستانی

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+1(202)821-1850

بەریۆه بەرى کاروبارى مرویى

دلوفان بهرواری

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پراویژکاری تاییهتی نوینهر

نیاز بارزانی

niyaz.barzani@gov.krd

+1(202)821-1854

به‌رئو به‌ری په‌یوه‌ندیه گشتیه‌کان و کاروباری نه‌کادیمی

ئهلکس ئییساری

alex.ebsary@us.gov.krd

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به‌رئو به‌ری کاروباری کارگیری و په‌ره‌پیدانی نابوری

تارا همهمندی

tara.hamawandi@us.gov.krd

+ 1(202)821-1853

به‌رئو به‌ری کاروباری جینۆساید و فره‌بی

دهسکو شیروانی

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+ 1(202)821-1844

به‌رئو به‌ری رامیاری و پشتگیری

کاروان زیباری

karwan.zebari@gov.krd

+ 1(202)821-1860

هاوکات داوا له ره هندی کوردستانی دهکەین ئەوانەى که نیشتهجی ووبلایهته بهگرتوو هکانی ئەمریکا سەردانی مألپەری سەنتەری
کۆنترۆڵکردن و رێگری کردن له نهخۆشیهکان بکەن له رێگای ئەم لینکەوه (<https://www.cdc.gov>)، ههروهها بۆ ئەو
بەریزانهی که له کهنەدا نیشتهجین سەردانی مألپەری وەزارتی تەندروستی کهنەدی بکەن له رێگای ئەم
لینکەوه (<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>). ههروهها بۆ وەرگرتنی دوایین زانیاری لەسەر رێوشوێنهکانی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان بۆ بەرەنگاریبوونهوی
پەتای قایرۆسی کۆرۆنا، تکایه سەردانی مألپەری حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان بکەن له رێگای ئەم لینکەوه
(<https://gov.krd/coronavirus-en/situation-update>).

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: Ramadan Kareem from the KRG in Washington

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Fri, Apr 24, 2020 at 12:33 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Fri, Apr 24, 2020 at 12:29 PM

Subject: Ramadan Kareem from the KRG in Washington

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

The Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States

sends warm wishes to Muslims in America, Kurdistan, and around the world
for a peaceful and reflective Ramadan.

Throughout the holiday, we keep in our thoughts the families of martyrs, the
heroic Peshmerga, and those who remain displaced from their homes.



نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان
له ویلایەتە یەگرتووەکانی ئەمریکا

گەرمترین پیروzbایی له موسلمانانی ئەمریکا،
کوردستان و سەرتاسەری جیهان دەکات بە
بۆنەی مانگی رەمەزانی پیروزهوه.

هیوادارین مانگی رەمەزان مانگی خێروخۆشی
بیت بۆ هەموو لایەک، بۆ کەسوکاری سەربەری
شەهیدان و بۆ پیشمەرگە دلیرەکان و هەروەها
بۆ ئەو کەسانەی کە دوور له خێزان و زیدی
خۆیان ئەم مانگە بەسەر دەبەن.

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: State Dept PDAS Joey Hood featured in this month's "Kurdistan in America" podcast

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Tue, Mar 17, 2020 at 5:40 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Tue, Mar 17, 2020 at 4:31 PM

Subject: State Dept PDAS Joey Hood featured in this month's "Kurdistan in America" podcast

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Check out this month's episode of "Kurdistan in America", featuring an interview with the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joey Hood! Mr. Hood served as deputy head of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad from 2017-2019 and has visited Kurdistan many times.

Learn about Mr. Hood's perspectives on the Kurdistan - US partnership, as well as his family's connection to Operation Provide Comfort and his dream of seeing Kurdish products on the shelves of American supermarkets. You'll also hear a quick news update about KRG - US relations.



Catch [the episode here](#) or on your favorite podcast app including Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, and iheartradio.

If you would like to be informed about new episodes by email each month, click the link below:

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: TODAY @ 2:30 PM EST - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Tue, Apr 21, 2020 at 10:58 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Tue, Apr 21, 2020 at 10:54 AM

Subject: TODAY @ 2:30 PM EST - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States

States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency
Medicine at Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology and Internal Medicine Board Certified, Fellow at Johns Hopkins
University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in
Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

=====

کۆفید-۱۹: گەران له دووی پیکوته و گەرانەوه بۆ ئاسایی COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان له ویلایەتە یەکگرتووەکان، واشنگتۆنی پایتەخت، بانگهێشتی بەرێزتان دەکات بۆ وێبیناری کۆفید-۱۹ لەگەڵ دوو دوو دکتۆری بەناوبانگ له ویلایەتە یەکگرتووەکان، که له بەرهکانی پیشه‌وه کار له‌سه‌ر په‌تاکه ده‌کەن

سێشەممە، ۲۱ ی نیسانی، ۲۰۲۰

به کاتی واشنگتۆن و نیویۆرک: ۲:۳۰ تا ۳:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی ناشفیل ۱:۳۰ بۆ ۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی ساند دییه‌گو ۱۱:۳۰ ی به‌یانی بۆ ۱۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی هه‌ولیر ۹:۳۰ شه‌و بۆ ۱۰:۳۰ شه‌و

ئێفینته‌که به یوتیوب لایف به زیندی په‌خش ده‌کریت و له‌سه‌ر تویتەر و فه‌یسبوکی نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان له ئەمریکا، په‌خش ده‌کریت

ئێره‌ کلێک بکه‌ بۆ په‌خشی راسته‌وخۆ.

په‌تای کۆفید-۱۹ له‌گەڵ خۆی شه‌پۆلێک زانیاری هیناوه‌ که تیندا راسپارده‌ی جێی متمانه‌ زۆربه‌ی جار به زه‌حمه‌ت جیا ده‌کریته‌وه له‌ به‌دزانیاری. فایرۆسه‌که ژیانی داخستوه له‌ باکووری ئەمریکا و هەریمی کوردستان، و هه‌ردوکیان له‌ ئاستی جۆراوجۆردا شه‌ت داونیان به‌خۆوه دیوه.

له‌م وێبیناره‌دا، دوو دکتۆری به‌ناوبانگ که کار له‌سه‌ر په‌تاکه ده‌کەن، وه‌لامی پرسپاره‌کانت ده‌ده‌نه‌وه له‌سه‌ر فایرۆسه‌که. چۆن و له‌ کۆی پێشبینی کرانه‌وه‌ی حکومه‌ت و ئابوورییه‌کان بکه‌ین؟ ئایا پارێزراوی-مه‌ناعه- له‌ فایرۆسه‌که هه‌یه؟ ده‌ستگه‌یشتنی گشتی به‌ پیکوته‌یه‌ک، تا چه‌ند نزیکه؟ ئەم پرسپارانە و تۆش هه‌ر پرسپاریکت هه‌بیت، له‌ وێبیناره‌که‌دا وه‌لامی ده‌دریته‌وه.

ئاخیره رهکان

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

به ریوه بهری هۆبهی ناكاوی و پروفیسوری کلینکی چاره سهری ناكاوی

زانکۆی دهوله تیی لویزانا

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

هه قالی هیماتۆلۆجی له نه خوشخانهی زانکۆی جۆنز هۆپکنز، ماستەر له تهنروسستی گشتیی و له گهڵ تایبه تمهندی له ئیپیدیمیۆلۆجی له بنکهی پزشکی زانکۆی نیبراسکا

رێکخه ر/مۆدییره تیه ر

خاتوو بهیان سامی عبدالرحمن

نوینه ری حکومه تی هه ری می کوردستان له ویلایه ته یه کگرتوو هکانی ئەمریکا

پرسیار و وهلامهکان

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ئیمه یل: karwan.zebari@gov.krd ته له فون: (202)821-1860

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Fwd: TOMORROW, 9:00 AM -- COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and a Way Forward

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 3:23 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

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From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 3:22 PM

Subject: TOMORROW, 9:00 AM -- COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and a Way Forward

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

Virtual event, hosted by Refugees International

**COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and
a Way Forward**

**Wednesday, April 8, 2020
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

[Click here to join this virtual event](#)

or join by phone: +1 209-844-4600, Passcode: 134607577#



As the COVID-19 epidemic spreads across the Middle East, the population in Northeast Syria and Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) face similar challenges. Both Kurdish majority regions host large populations of displaced people who have fled civil war and the conflict with the Islamic State. Even before the COVID-19 crisis, the total number of those in need of humanitarian assistance figured in the millions. The United Nations warns that access to healthcare in Northeast Syria and in KRI for the displaced is increasingly limited. COVID-19 has the potential to devastate these already-vulnerable communities.

Refugees International and the Columbia University Institute for the Study of Human Rights invite you to an on-the-record web event exploring the COVID crisis in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and in Northeast Syria, the effects of this crisis on the displaced people in these regions, and a way forward.

Host

Hardin Lang

is Vice President for Programs and Policy at Refugees International.

Speakers

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

is the Representative of the Kurdistan Regional Government to the United States.

Sinam Mohammed

is Representative of the Syrian Democratic Council to the United States.

Rapporteur

David L. Phillips

is the Director of the Program on Peace-building and Rights at Columbia University's Institute for the Study of Human Rights.

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Arden Bentley at arden@refugeesinternational.org with any questions.

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Fwd: Tuesday @ 2:30 PM - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 2:09 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 1:13 PM

Subject: Tuesday @ 2:30 PM - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States

States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency
Medicine at Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology and Internal Medicine Board Certified, Fellow at Johns Hopkins
University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in
Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

=====

کۆفید-۱۹: گەران له دووی پیکوته و گەرانهوه بۆ ئاسایی

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

نوینه رایه تیی حکومه تی ههریمی کوردستان له ویلایه ته یه کگرتووه کان، واشنگتونی پایتهخت، بانگهیشتی بهریتان دهکات بۆ وئیناری کۆفید-۱۹ له گەل دوو دوو دکتوری به ناوبانگ له ویلایه ته یه کگرتووه کان، که له بهرەکانی پیشه وه کار له سه ر په تاکه دهکن

سپشهمه، ۲۱ ی نیسانی، ۲۰۲۰

به کاتی واشنگتون و نیویۆرک: ۲:۳۰ تا ۳:۳۰ پاش نیوه پۆ

به کاتی ناشفیل ۱:۳۰ بۆ ۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه پۆ

به کاتی ساند دییه گو ۱۱:۳۰ ی به یانی بۆ ۱۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه پۆ

به کاتی ههولیر ۹:۳۰ شه و بۆ ۱۰:۳۰ شه و

ئیفینته که به یوتیوب لایف به زیندی پهخش دهکریت و له سه ر تویتەر و فهیسبوکی نوینه رایه تیی حکومه تی ههریمی کوردستان له ئەمریکا، پهخش دهکریت

ئیره کلیک بکه بۆ پهخشی راسته وخۆ.

په تای کۆفید-۱۹ له گەل خۆی شه پۆلیک زانیاری هیناوه که تیندا راسپاردهی جیی متمانه زۆربهی جار به زحمهت جیا دهکریته وه له بهدزانیاری. فایرۆسه که ژیانی داخستوه له باکووری ئەمریکا و ههریمی کوردستان، و ههردوکیان له ئاستی جۆراوجۆردا شهت داونیان بهخۆوه دیوه.

له م وئیناره دا، دوو دکتوری به ناوبانگ که کار له سه ر په تاکه دهکن، وهلامی پرسپاره کانت دهدهنه وه له سه ر فایرۆسه که. چۆن و له کوئ پیشینی کرانه وهی حکومهت و ئابوورییه کان بکهین؟ ئایا پاریزراوی-مهناعه- له فایرۆسه که ههیه؟ دهستگهیشتی گشتیی به پیکوته یهک، تا چه ند نزیکه؟ ئەم پرسپارانه و تۆش هه ر پرسپاریکت هه بیت، له وئیناره که دا وهلامی دهدریته وه.

ئاخیره رهکان

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

به ریوه بهری هۆبهی ناكاوی و پروفیسوری کلینیکی چاره سهری ناكاوی

زانکۆی دهوله تیی لویزیانا

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

هه قالی هیماتۆلۆجی له نه خوشخانهی زانکۆی جۆنز هۆپکنز، ماسته ر له تهن دروستی گشتیی و له گه ل
تایبه تمهندی له ئیپیدیمیۆلۆجی له بنکه ی پزشکی زانکۆی نیبراسکا

رێکخه ر/مۆدییره یته ر

خاتوو به یان سامی عبدالرحمن

نۆینه ری حکومه تی هه ری می کوردستان له ویلایه ته یه کگرتوه کانی ئەمریکا

پرسیار و وه لامة کان

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Happy Eid from the KRG in Washington

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd> Sun, May 24, 2020 at 11:25 AM
Reply-To: us@gov.krd
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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.***

**The KRG Representation in the United States sends warm wishes to Muslims in Kurdistan, the United States, and around the world on this happy occasion of Eid.
We wish you and your families a Happy Eid.**



نوینه رایه تی حکومه تی هه ریمی کوردستان له ویلایه ته یه گگرتوو ه کان
به بۆنه ی جه ژنی ره مه زانه وه پیروزباییه کی گهرم له سه رجه م موسلمانان
ده کات له کوردستان، ویلایه ته یه گگرتوو ه کان، و جیهان
جه ژنی هه موو لایه کتان پیروز بیت.
به خوشی و شادی.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

1 message

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Sat, Feb 8, 2020 at 11:09 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.***

Welcome to our February 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



© UNHCR/Hussein Fatemi: A newly arrived four-year old Syrian Kurdish refugee in Bardarash camp in Duhok. The camp hosts more than 17,000 new Syrian Kurdish refugees.

The Kurdistan Region serves as a sanctuary to over 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees. This means there has been close to 20 percent increase to Kurdistan's existing population of 5.5 million. The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) shoulders about 70% of the almost 1 billion USD annual cost to provide basic services to the refugees and IDP's. The displaced people live across three provinces of the KRI—Duhok, Erbil, and Slemani—in both camps and urban and rural settings.

Since the beginning of the Turkish military incursion into northeast Syria (Rojava) on 9 October 2019, more than 20,545 Syrian Kurds have

HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 1,050,500 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.
- More than of 28, 617 refugees and IDPs arrived to the Kurdistan in 2019:

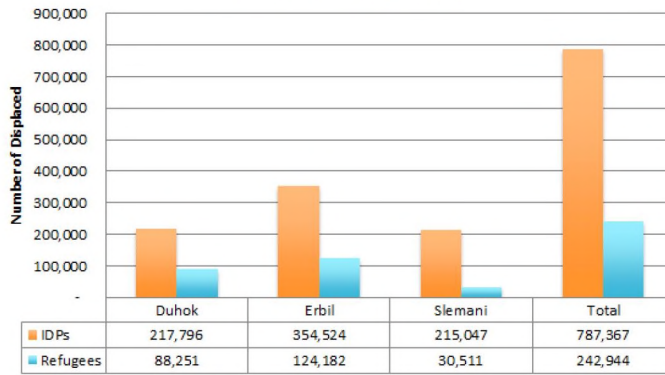
crossed into the Kurdistan Region. At its height, the rate of refugees entering Kurdistan surprised 1,735, but it has dropped to about 35-45 in recent weeks.

- 19,825 refugees
- 8,794 IDPs.

The ongoing turmoil continues to affect the physical and mental well-being, living standards and recovery of millions of IDPs and refugees. The recent escalation of violence by the remnants of ISIS in the disputed areas and the Sunni triangle has also led to an increase in the return of IDPs to Kurdistan. Further, most of the IDPs in camps do not intend to return to their place of origin because of security and economic reasons.

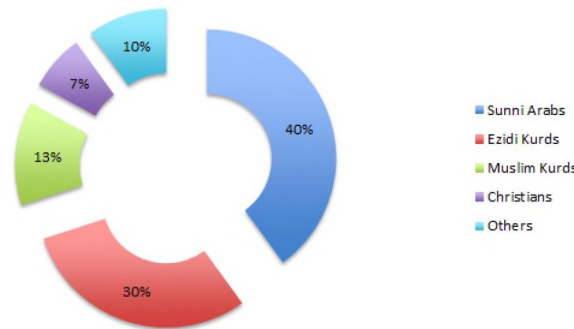
- More than 15,154 refugees and IDPs returned to their place of origin or migrated to another country.
- More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

Number of Displaced



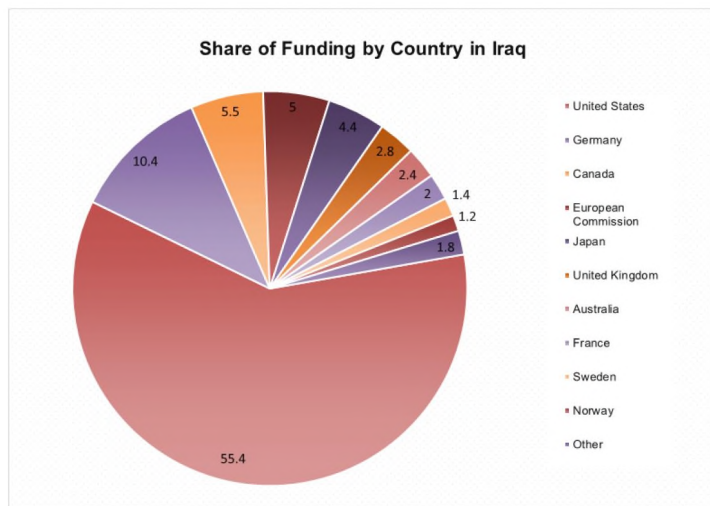
About 40% of the refugees live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region: 47.5% are in Erbil, 33% in Duhok, and 19.5% in Slemani.

IDP Demographics



According to KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC), 787,367 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are registered in Kurdistan.

The total incoming humanitarian funding in Iraq for 2019 was about 647.5 million USD. The United States was the largest donor country—followed by Germany, Canada, the European Commission, Japan, United Kingdom, Australia, France, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, Italy, Kuwait, South Korea, Ireland, Qatar,



Luxembourg, Czech Republic,
Poland, and Malaysia.

[Text Link](#)

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN Agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and their dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable displaced people in Kurdistan and the rest of Iraq.

Funding Gaps: The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the displaced people in Kurdistan. Approximately 25 percent of the funding is covered and managed by the United Nations Agencies and US Department of State bureaus and 5 percent by International and local NGOs. The KRG provides about 70 percent of funds out of its budget to sustain current basic services, which has exhausted its resources. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian partners to either reduce or completely terminate services and ongoing projects. This threatens the welfare and lives of the IDPs and refugees.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can support the vulnerable displaced people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Humanitarian Affairs:

Delovan Barwari

Director of Humanitarian Affairs

Office: [+1 \(202\) 821-1861](tel:+12028211861)

Email: delovan.barwari@us.gov.krd

Twitter: [@DelovanBarwari](https://twitter.com/DelovanBarwari)

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

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Sat, Mar 21, 2020 at 11:10 AM

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Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.

Welcome to our March 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



Employees of the the Barzani Charity Foundation educating people about the coronavirus and providing hand sanitizers and masks to the general public in urban centers and the population of camps for displaced people.

The rapid spread of coronavirus pandemic around the world is expected to have devastating impacts on the global economy, especially the fragile states with displaced people. So far, 40 people have contracted the virus in the Kurdistan Region. In efforts to contain the pandemic, the Kurdistan

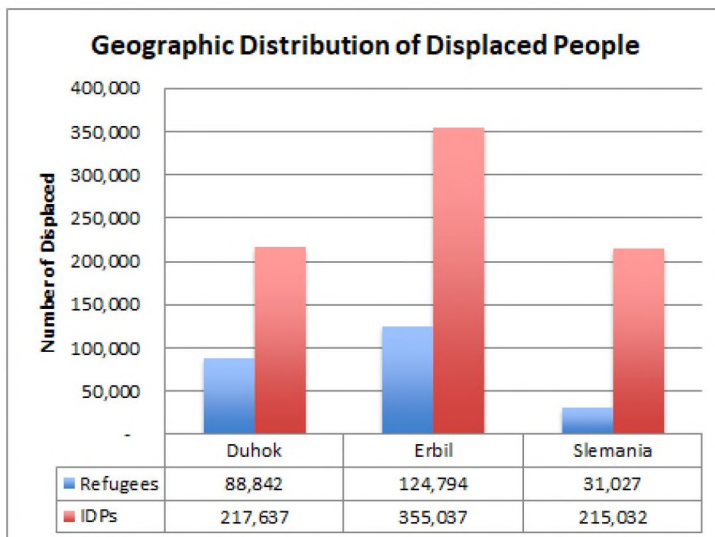
HIGHLIGHTS

Regional Government (KRG) has proactively taken strict measures by temporarily closing schools, extending public holidays, imposing curfews, and canceling large gatherings, including religious sermons.

Fortunately, no COVID-19 cases have been reported among the displaced community in Kurdistan, but the KRG has also imposed strict measures on the internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugee camps, which have negatively impacted prices and movement of aid deliveries inside the camps. Further, the pandemic has devastated the local economy, especially after the sharp drop of oil prices, which will further limit KRG's ability to meet the needs of over 1 million IDPs and refugees, which amounts to 20 percent of its population. The KRG shoulders about 70% of the almost 1 billion USD annual cost to provide basic services to the refugees and IDP's.

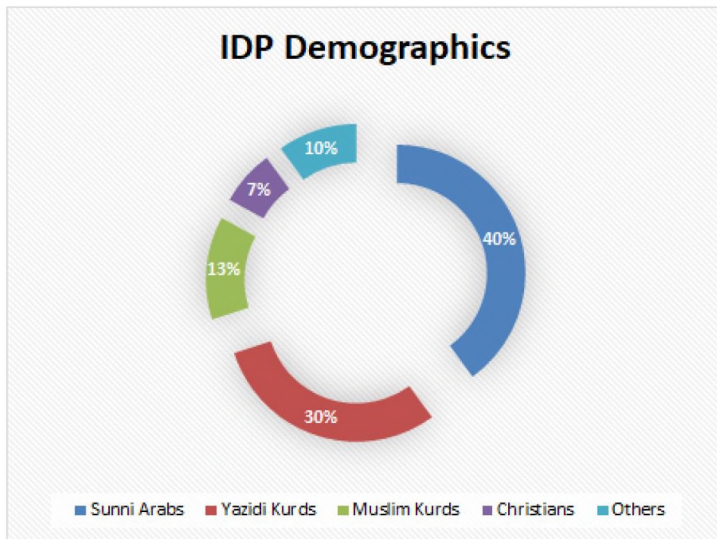
Moreover, thousands of new refugees continue to cross into the Kurdistan Region from northeast Syria (Rojava). Since the beginning of the Turkish military incursion into Rojava on 9 October 2019, more than 21,650 Syrian Kurds have crossed into the Kurdistan Region. Additionally, the ongoing turmoil continues to affect the physical and mental well-being, living standards and recovery of millions of IDPs and refugees. The recent escalation of violence by the remnants of ISIS in the disputed areas and the Sunni triangle has also led to an increase in the return of IDPs to Kurdistan.

- More than 1,052,425 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.
- More than 1,600 displaced people arrived to the Kurdistan Region in February 2020
- More than 1,482 displaced people returned to their place of origin or migrated to another country.
- More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

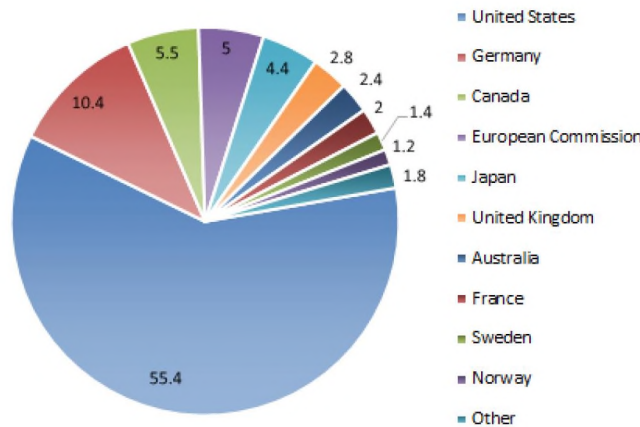


About 40% of the refugees live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region: 47.5% are in Erbil, 33% in Duhok, and 19.5% in Slemani.

According to KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC), 787,367 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are registered in Kurdistan.



Share of Funding by Country in Iraq



The total incoming humanitarian funding in Iraq for 2019 was about 647.5 million USD. The United States was the largest donor country—followed by Germany, Canada, the European Commission, Japan, United Kingdom, Australia, France, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, Italy, Kuwait, South Korea, Ireland, Qatar, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Poland, and Malaysia.

[Text Link](#)

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN Agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and their dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable displaced people in Kurdistan and the rest of Iraq.

Funding Gaps: The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the displaced people in Kurdistan. Approximately 25 percent of the funding is covered and managed by the United Nations Agencies and US Department of State bureaus and 5 percent by International and local NGOs. The KRG provides about 70 percent of funds out of its budget to sustain current basic services, which has exhausted its resources. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian partners to either reduce or completely terminate services and ongoing projects. This threatens the welfare and lives of the IDPs and refugees.

Refugees and IDPs are particularly more vulnerable to the coronavirus and other diseases because of their living conditions and insufficient sanitation and healthcare services. Thus, the KRG calls on the international community, international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), and philanthropists to pay greater attention to the vulnerable displaced people.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support the vulnerable displaced people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Humanitarian Affairs at the KRG US Representation.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Thu, Apr 23, 2020 at 11:43 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com



***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.***

Welcome to our April 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



The KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (KRG-JCC) office in Duhok distribute aid provided by the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) and IKL to the victims of the flash flood in Duhok province.

HIGHLIGHTS

As the coronavirus pandemic spreads around the world, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) has also felt the tragic impact of the outbreak. It has caused hardship to both the local population and displaced people. Further, devastating flash floods swept through parts of the Kurdistan Region in late March, sustaining property and other damage.

The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. Host communities are also experiencing hardship, with some local NGOs delivering food to families facing difficulties. We call on our friends in the United States and the international community to help at this time of crisis.

In response to the pandemic, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has proactively taken measures to contain the invisible enemy. As part of its social distancing strategy, it extended holidays, canceled religious services and other public gatherings, suspended school and flights, and imposed a curfew across Kurdistan. Further, as of April 18th, the KRG Ministry of Health (MOH) has tested about 24,850 people for COVID-19, of which, a total of 338 confirmed cases have been recorded. So far, 312 people have recovered, four have lost their lives, and 22 are still active.

No new cases have been reported in recent days and most of the active cases are expected to recover in the coming days. Therefore, KRG is planning to ease restrictions on essential movements as early as April 24th in most cities. Moreover, the people of Duhok celebrated their victory over COVID-19 by turning their home lights off and lighting candles on their rooftops for five minutes.

Additionally, the KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC) has also taken precautions in the camps housing internally displaced persons (IDP) and refugees to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, while coordinating their activities with the relevant international organizations. Fortunately, no coronavirus cases have been reported in the camps, but travel restrictions have impacted prices and the movement of aid deliveries to the camps. The lockdown has also devastated the local economy, especially after the sharp drop in oil prices. Hence, the situation will likely further limit KRG's ability to meet the needs of nearly 1.1 million displaced people, which amounts to 20 percent of Kurdistan Region's population. The KRG has been shouldering 70% of the nearly 1 billion USD annual cost for providing basic services to the refugees and IDPs.

COVID-19 in Kurdistan:

Total cases tested: 24,850

Total Positive cases: 338

Total Recovered: 312

Total deaths: 4

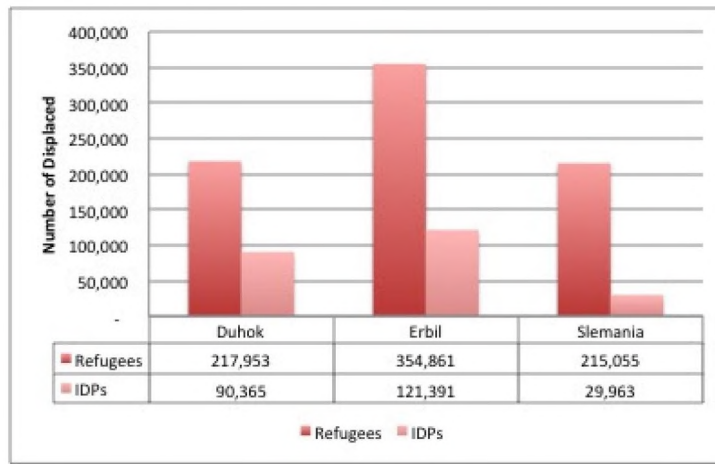
Total active cases: 22

More than 1,052,425 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.

More than 1,600 displaced people arrived in the Kurdistan Region since February 2020.

More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

According to the JCC, about 40% of the refugees live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region. Further, 787,367 IDPs are registered in Kurdistan: 40% are Sunni Arabs, 30% Ezidi Kurds, 13% Muslim Kurds, 7% Christians, and 10% others.



Nonetheless, new refugees and IDPs continue to cross into the Kurdistan Region from northeast Syria (Rojava). Additionally, the political gridlock in Baghdad, compounded with sounds of a resurgence of ISIS in some Sunni areas and the disputed territories (Kirkuk, Sinjar, and Khaniqin) continues to affect the mental and physical health, living conditions, and recovery of millions of displaced people. It has also led to an increase in the return of IDPs to Kurdistan.

The Kurdistan Regional Government is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN Agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable people in Kurdistan and the rest of Iraq.

The KRG, however, is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the IDPs and refugees. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian partners to either reduce or completely terminate services and ongoing projects. Fortunately, the USAID is donating \$670,000 to Iraq, including the Kurdistan Region, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

The refugees and IDPs are particularly vulnerable to the virus and other diseases because of their living conditions and insufficient sanitation and healthcare services. The KRG calls on the international community, international non-governmental organizations, and philanthropists to pay greater attention to their situation.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support the vulnerable people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Humanitarian Affairs at the US Representation.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

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Sat, May 23, 2020 at 10:34 AM

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Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.

Welcome to our May 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



USAID donated two ambulances to the Rizgary Hospital to support Erbil Health Directorate's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) lifted the coronavirus lockdown on May 18 to allow businesses to reopen and eased the ban on traffic within provinces. However, due to new confirmed cases, the Ministry of Interior announced a complete lockdown

HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 in Kurdistan:
Total cases tested: 63,282
Total Positive cases: 442

during the Ramadan Eid holiday this weekend to prevent further outbreaks.

The COVID-19 lockdown, coupled with the sharp drop in oil prices and Baghdad's budget cuts have devastated the Kurdistan Region's economy, causing hardship to both the local population and displaced people as they face reduced employment and livelihood opportunities.

According to a recent Emergency Livelihoods Cluster report published by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), about 29 percent of IDP and refugee livelihood activities in Iraq have stopped or are inactive, a significant increase in the level of activity compared to 65 percent noted in early April. It is primarily due to the easing of lockdown restrictions, but close to 56 percent of the beneficiary targets remain unmet. These include suspensions in vocational training, halting of work placements and cash for labor, delays in asset replacements and grant disbursements, and closure of business set-ups.

Subsequently, the situation will likely constrain the KRG's ability to meet the needs of about 1.1 million internally displaced persons and refugees, which amounts to nearly 20 percent of the Kurdistan Region's population. The KRG has been shouldering around 70% of the 1 billion USD in annual cost to provide essential services to the displaced people. The KRG calls on the United States and the international community to help at this time of crisis.

Total Recovered: 383

Total deaths: 5

Total active cases: 54

Source: KRG Situation Update

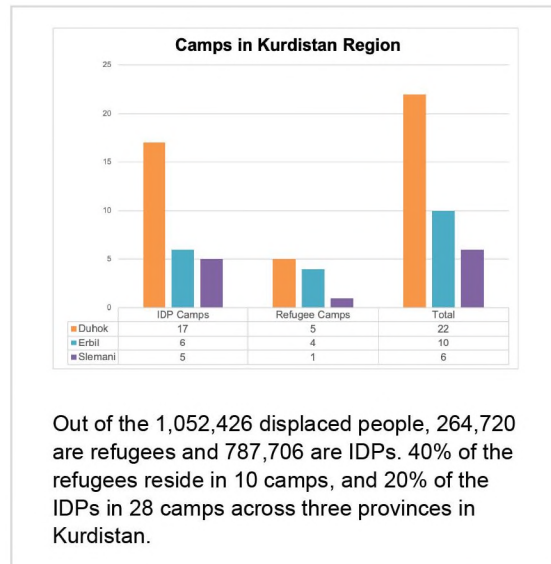
More than 1,052,426 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.

Only about 30–50 percent of Christians in the Kurdistan Region have returned to their places of origin.

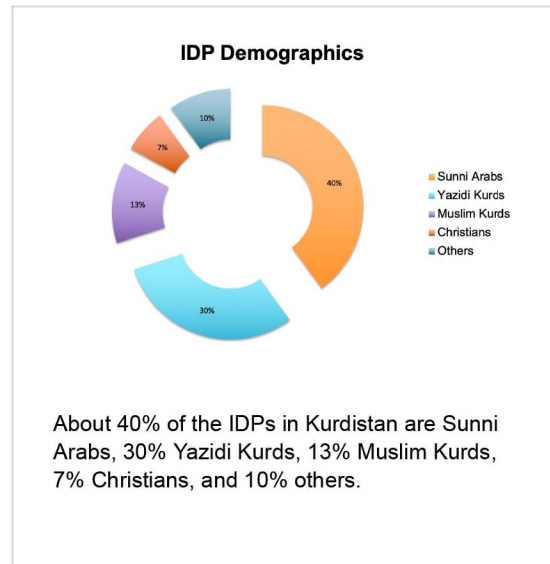
Only 3 percent of Yazidi IDPs plan to return to the Sinjar region.

More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

Source: KRG-JCC and USCIRF



Out of the 1,052,426 displaced people, 264,720 are refugees and 787,706 are IDPs. 40% of the refugees reside in 10 camps, and 20% of the IDPs in 28 camps across three provinces in Kurdistan.



About 40% of the IDPs in Kurdistan are Sunni Arabs, 30% Yazidi Kurds, 13% Muslim Kurds, 7% Christians, and 10% others.

Source: The Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (JCC) of KRG

Moreover, according to the United States Commission for International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) 2020 Annual Report, only about 30–50 percent of the Chaldeans, Assyrians, and other Christians in the Kurdistan Region have returned to their areas of origin since the fall of ISIS in 2017. It is mainly because the Christian community is concerned about security.

Similarly, in a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) survey in February 2020, only 3 percent of Yazidi IDPs planned to return to Sinjar because of security concerns.

Nevertheless, the refugees and IDPs are more vulnerable to the coronavirus and other diseases because of their living conditions and inadequate sanitation and healthcare services. Therefore, the KRG calls on the international community, international non-governmental organizations, and philanthropists to pay greater attention to their situation.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support the vulnerable people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Public and Humanitarian Affairs at the US Representation.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

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Thu, Jun 18, 2020 at 9:41 AM

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**Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.**

Welcome to our June 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



In a collaborative project with the Barzani Charity Foundation, the LDS Charities provides food parcels for more than 7,500 IDP and refugee families in June 2020.

In recent days, the Kurdistan Region has seen an alarming spike in COVID-19 cases. More than 2,821 cases have been reported across Erbil, Slemani, Duhok, and Halabja governorates, an increase of 2,076 cases since June 1. Consequently, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has issued new measures to contain the pandemic.

HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 in Kurdistan:
Total cases tested: 108,001
Total Positive cases: 2,821
Total Recovered: 1,127
Total deaths: 75

The KRG's health guidelines will remain in place, including quarantine, treatment, delivering health services to the infected, and contact-tracing. Further, it will intensify the awareness campaign about the disease and on public health instructions to ensure compliance. Moreover, wearing masks is now mandatory in public places and government offices.

The KRG has also allocated an additional 5 billion Iraqi dinars to the Ministry of Health to meet the growing needs of the directorates of health in the four KRI governorates. It will assist factories producing PPE and masks in ensuring quality and affordable production. The travel bans in the Kurdistan Region and between other parts of Iraq will also continue.

The pandemic, along with the sharp decline in oil prices, and Baghdad's budget cuts have devastated the economy, causing hardship to both the host and displaced communities. On June 11, the Barzani Charity Foundation reported that 429 Syrian refugees living in the Bardarash refugee camp are returning to their places of origin in northeastern Syria (Rojava), mainly because of the coronavirus pandemic and unemployment. Bardarash camp is home to more than 6,500 Syrian refugees, predominately Kurds.

The economic situation has constrained the KRG's ability to meet the needs of more than 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees. The KRG has been funding about 70% of the 1 billion USD in annual cost to provide essential services to the displaced people. The KRG calls on the United States and the international community to help during this crisis, which is likely to continue to impact Kurdistan and Iraq for the foreseeable future.

Total active cases: 1,619

Source: KRG Coronavirus Dashboard

More than 1,008,878 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.

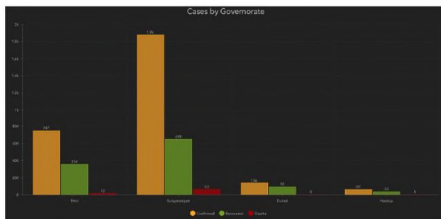
429 Syrian refugees residing in Bardarash refugee camp have begun returning to their place of origin.

Security is the top concern for 70% of IDPs in camps and 80% of IDPs outside of camps.

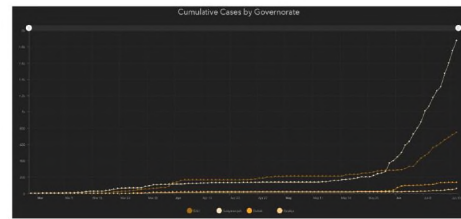
More than 30% of IDPs cited services and reconstruction as major concerns.

More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

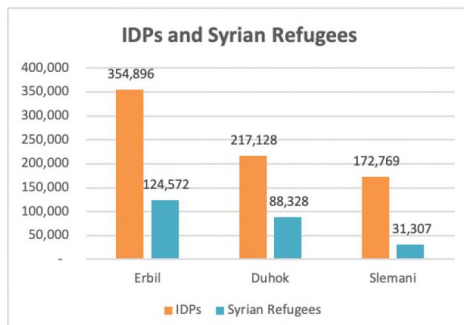
Source KRG-JCC, HHI, USIP



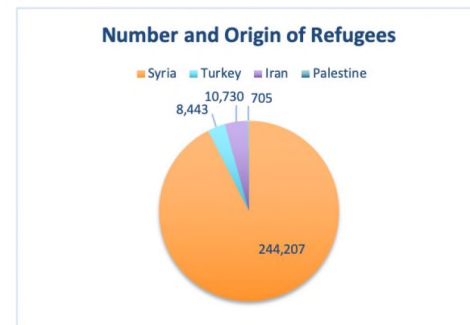
The ratio of COVID-19 cases across the four KRI governorates.



The KRG is experiencing a rapid spike in the number of COVID-19 cases.



The geographical distribution of IDPs and refugees in KRI



The number of refugees per country of origin

Source: KRG Coronavirus Dashboard & Joint Crisis Coordination Center

The results of a study by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) about the needs, perceptions, and attitudes of conflict-affected communities, which included IDPs living in Erbil, Duhok, and Nineveh governorates, indicate that security, livelihood, and basic needs as the top priorities. When asked what should be done for the Yazidis and other minorities, 70% of IDPs in camps and 80% of IDPs outside of camps mentioned security, while more than 30% of IDPs also stressed services and reconstruction as major concerns.

They also expressed a strong desire for accountability and truth, while denial of justice was also among the survivors' prevailing sentiment. Moreover, although over 93% believed there was a need for reconciliation in Iraq, most were not optimistic about peace prospects.

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) also released a study to understand the relationship and dynamics in the post-ISIS period in the conflict-affected communities in Hamdaniya, Sinjar, Tal Afar, and Tal Keif. Similarly, most participants recognize "the need for reconciliation, but Christians and Yazidis have significant doubts that it is possible."

The Kurdistan Regional Government is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable people in the Kurdistan Region and the rest of Iraq. Nevertheless, the refugees and IDPs are more vulnerable to the coronavirus and other diseases because of their living conditions and inadequate sanitation and healthcare services.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support vulnerable communities in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Public and Humanitarian Affairs at the US Representation.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin: Correction on IDP and Refugee Figures and Updates on Coronavirus

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Sat, Apr 25, 2020 at 12:20 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.

Welcome to our April 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



The KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (KRG-JCC) office in Duhok distribute aid provided by the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) and IKL to the victims of the flash flood in Duhok province.

As the coronavirus pandemic spreads around the world, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) has also felt the tragic impact of the outbreak. It has caused hardship to both the local population and displaced people. Further, devastating flash floods swept through parts of the Kurdistan Region in late March, sustaining property and other damage.

The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. Host communities are also experiencing hardship, with some local NGOs delivering food to families facing difficulties. We call on our friends in the United States and the international community to help at this time of crisis.

In response to the pandemic, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has proactively taken measures to contain the invisible enemy. As part of its social distancing strategy, it extended holidays, canceled religious services and other public gatherings, suspended school and flights, and imposed a curfew across Kurdistan. Further, as of April 18th, the KRG Ministry of Health (MOH) has tested about 33,067 people for COVID-19, of which, a total of 344 confirmed cases have been recorded. So far, 318 people have recovered, four have lost their lives, and 22 are still active.

Five new cases were reported in the past few days and most of the active cases are expected to recover in the coming days. Therefore, KRG is planning to ease restrictions on essential movements as early as April 24th in most cities. Moreover, the people of Duhok celebrated their victory over COVID-19 by turning their home lights off and lighting candles on their rooftops for five minutes.

Additionally, the KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC) has also taken precautions in the camps housing internally displaced persons (IDP) and refugees to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, while coordinating their activities with the relevant international organizations. Fortunately, no coronavirus cases have been reported in the camps, but travel restrictions have impacted prices and the movement of aid deliveries to the camps. The lockdown has also devastated the local economy, especially after the sharp drop in oil prices. Hence, the situation will likely further limit KRG's ability to meet the needs of nearly 1.1 million displaced people, which amounts to 20 percent of Kurdistan Region's population. The KRG has been shouldering 70% of the nearly 1 billion USD annual cost for providing basic services to the refugees and IDPs.

HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 in Kurdistan:

Total cases tested: 33,067

Total Positive cases: 344

Total Recovered: 318

Total deaths: 4

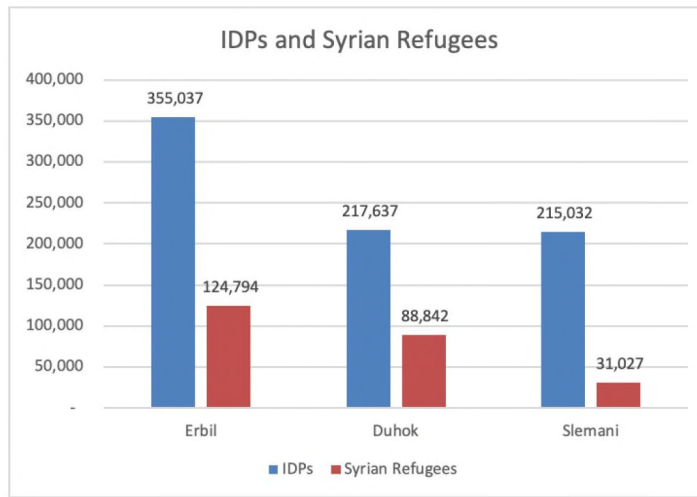
Total active cases: 22

More than 1,052,426 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.

More than 1,600 displaced people arrived in the Kurdistan Region since February 2020.

More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

According to the JCC, about 40% of the refugees live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region. There is a total of 264,720 refugees throughout the Kurdistan Region: 244,663 are Syrian Kurds, 10,844 are Iranian Kurds, 8,513 are Kurds from Turkey, and 700 are Palestinians. Further, out of the 787,706 IDPs that are registered in Kurdistan,



40% are Sunni Arabs, 30% Ezidi Kurds, 13% Muslim Kurds, 7% Christians, and 10% others.

Nonetheless, new refugees and IDPs continue to cross into the Kurdistan Region from northeast Syria (Rojava). Additionally, the political gridlock in Baghdad, compounded with sounds of a resurgence of ISIS in some Sunni areas and the disputed territories (Kirkuk, Sinjar, and Khaniqin) continues to affect the mental and physical health, living conditions, and recovery of millions of displaced people. It has also led to an increase in the return of IDPs to Kurdistan.

The Kurdistan Regional Government is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN Agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable people in Kurdistan and the rest of Iraq.

The KRG, however, is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the IDPs and refugees. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian partners to either reduce or completely terminate services and ongoing projects. Fortunately, the USAID is donating \$670,000 to Iraq, including the Kurdistan Region, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

The refugees and IDPs are particularly vulnerable to the virus and other diseases because of their living conditions and insufficient sanitation and healthcare services. The KRG calls on the international community, international non-governmental organizations, and philanthropists to pay greater attention to their situation.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support the vulnerable people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Humanitarian Affairs at the US Representation.

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KRG-US April 2020 newsletter

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Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Thu, Apr 30, 2020 at 4:25 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

*Washington, D.C.
April 2020 newsletter*

Welcome to our April 2020 newsletter

As COVID-19 rocks communities around the world, Kurdistan Region remains vigilant for potential cases. After a period of total lockdown, a limited number of businesses are reopening as Muslims in the region mark Ramadan, although the majority of establishments and government offices remain closed. For the time being, the KRG seems to have contained the virus through



rigid quarantine and lockdown policies. The total number of active cases today [stands at 37, with five deaths](#). Even so, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani is urging citizens to be vigilant and take precautions.

The economic toll that now faces the Kurdistan Region is immense. The price of oil has crashed, and the lack of economic activity has severely impacted businesses and diminished government revenues. The effect of the pandemic and oil prices on the rest of Iraq is just as extreme. At this critical time, the Iraqi government has said it will no longer make monthly budget transfers to the Kurdistan Region, a move that President Nechirvan Barzani has called "unconstitutional and unlawful". In a meeting with United Nations Secretary-

General's Special Representative for Iraq, Jeanine Hennis- Plasschaert, the President asked the UN to mediate in resolving the dispute.

This week, [Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani is in Baghdad meeting with federal government officials and political leaders](#) in an attempt to seek a solution. In the meantime, we approach the deadline for the formation of a new Iraqi cabinet by Prime Minister-designate Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, who has the support of the Kurdistan Region as well as that of other, but not all, groups in Iraq.

As we contemplate the new complex of challenges facing Kurdistan Region, we are grateful for the support of our partners and allies around the world, including the United States which has provided medical assistance for COVID-19 through USAID and is supporting some peshmerga brigades through stipends, which are critical at this trying time.

We also appreciate the support of NGOs like [Spirit of America](#) which recently provided personal protective equipment to the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs in order to combat the COVID-19 outbreak. This month, the ["Kurdistan in America" podcast interviewed Zack Bazzi](#), Regional Director for the Middle East and Central Asia for the Spirit of America. In concert with the financial and technical support provided by the US Government, organizations like Spirit of America will remain essential for Kurdistan's success in the coming difficult months.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States
Kurdistan Regional Government

KRG US Representation Office Closure

As the impact of the corona virus continues to evolve, we at the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States remain focused on the health and safety of our staff and communities.

As a result of concerns over the spread of the virus and in line with guidance by local authorities, our office in Washington, DC is closed to visitors until further notice. The Representative and staff of the Mission are teleworking and remain active and available digitally.



Community services, including Proof of Life certificates and Power of Attorney authorizations can still be processed by mail, but applicants should keep in mind that the documents may not be processed in Kurdistan Region for some time due to the curfew and shutdowns experienced there.

Read a press release with relevant contact information here: [\[English\]](#) / [\[Kurdish\]](#)

Prime Minister Barzani meets with UNAMI and WHO representatives, describes Baghdad's cut of Erbil budget as political pressure

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met with representatives from the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in Erbil, to discuss ongoing efforts to form Iraq's new cabinet as well as Baghdad's recent move to cut the Kurdistan Region's share of the federal budget.

Prime Minister Barzani described the federal government's budgetary decision as political pressure against the people of the Kurdistan Region. This allocation accounts for half of the money used by

the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) to pay public sector salaries.

[Read a press release here.](#)

[Read a press releases from Deputy Prime Minister's meeting with the representatives.](#)



Deputy Prime Minister Talabani discusses formation of new Iraqi cabinet with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq Affairs

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani stressed the importance of forming a new government in Iraq quickly, in a telephone conversation with David Copley, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq Affairs in the US Department of State.



Deputy Prime Minister Talabani said the federal government and the KRG should step forward to resolve outstanding problems together. He wished success to Iraq's Prime Minister-designate Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, and expressed the Kurdistan Region's readiness to cooperate with the federal government in overcoming Iraq's economic, security and health issues.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Spirit of America's Zack Bazzi speaks with "Kurdistan in America" podcast

The "Kurdistan in America" podcast published its third episode this month, featuring an interview with Zack Bazzi, the Regional Director for the Middle East and Central Asia for the NGO Spirit of America.



The podcast explores the rich relationship between the US and Kurdistan Region. The latest episode focused on Spirit of America's work in the Kurdistan Region, including their recent delivery of critical medical supplies to protect Peshmerga forces from COVID-19. We also discussed the role of the US government and NGOs in supporting the humanitarian crisis, as well as Zack's first introduction to Kurdistan as a US Army Sergeant during the Operation Iraqi Freedom.

[Listen to the latest episode of the podcast here.](#)

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Prime Minister Barzani expresses support for Iraq's new Prime Minister-designate Mustafa Al-Kadhimi

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani spoke by telephone with Iraq's Prime Minister-designate Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, and offered his support in the formation of a new federal government.

Prime Minister Barzani underlined the importance of working together to resolve disputes between the Kurdistan Regional Government and Baghdad in accordance with Iraq's Constitution.



Head of DFR receives a phone call from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq Affairs at the State Department

Minister Safeen Dizayee, Head of KRG's Department of Foreign Relations, received a phone call from David Copley, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq Affairs at the US Department of State's Near Eastern Affairs bureau.



In the phone call, Minister Dizayee congratulated Deputy Assistant Secretary Copley on assuming his new post and wished him success. He also expressed his optimism for a good working relationship as they work to further develop bilateral ties in the many areas of mutual interest and cooperation between the United States and Kurdistan Region.

[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG Representative holds call with US Energy Department PDAS Dr. Matt Zais

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman had a call with Dr. Matt Zais, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of International Affairs at the US Department of Energy (pictured here in January 2020).



During the call the two officials discussed a range of issues including the Iraqi federal government formation, the KRG's handling of the global COVID-19 pandemic, and the ways that the recent collapse in oil prices and decreased demand for energy will impact Kurdistan Region and Iraq.

Read a press release here: [English](#) // [کوردی](#)

Deputy Prime Minister Talabani meets with government delegation for federal budget affairs, urges continued efforts to secure region's fair share

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani with the KRG's delegation for federal budget affairs in Erbil, to discuss the latest developments concerning the region's share of the budget.



The Deputy Prime Minister stressed that the priority of the KRG is to protect the public from the coronavirus pandemic and ensure government employees receive their salaries on time. He said ongoing discussions with Baghdad on the region's share of the federal budget will continue.

In the meeting, the KRG delegation for federal budget affairs briefed the Deputy Prime Minister on the outcome of their recent visit to Baghdad, as well as the current economic conditions in Iraq.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman and officials at State Department and National Security Council discuss challenges facing Kurdistan and Iraq

KRG Representative to the United States Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman spoke with David Copley, the newly-appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Iraq Affairs.

The two officials spoke via telephone about the growing challenges facing Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, including the outbreak of COVID-19, ongoing humanitarian crisis, and the issues around forming a new federal Iraqi government. They also discussed the opportunities for greater cooperation presented by these difficulties.



The previous week, Representative Abdul Rahman spoke with Erik Olson (pictured here, December 12, 2019), Director for Iraq Affairs at the National Security Council, to update him on recent developments in the region, including the KRG's response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Read a press release here: [English](#) // [کوردی](#)

Prime Minister Barzani chairs cabinet meeting on coronavirus, warns disease still a threat

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on April 22 chaired a cabinet meeting via video conference to discuss the ongoing coronavirus threat. He thanked the public for their resilience and commitment to the lockdown measures aimed at containing the disease and urged continued compliance.



Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani also attended the meeting, in which the Prime Minister said the KRG proactive measures to fight the coronavirus have worked.

The Prime Minister said local authorities have taken steps in lifting some social distancing measures to normalize peoples' lives, while key mitigation measures remain in place to prevent a rebound of the disease. These efforts will continue to ensure life goes back to normal in a phased manner.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Two Peshmerga killed in attack by ISIS terrorists

Under cover of darkness, on April 15 ISIS terrorists attacked Peshmerga defensive positions in the town of Kalajo, Garmiyān district. Two brave Peshmerga from the 5th Infantry Brigade, Ismael Fars Rasul and Sarkew Hama Rasheed, were martyred.

We extend our condolences to the families of those brave martyrs, who paid the ultimate price as they defended Kurdistan Region.

In a press release, the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs reminded the people of Kurdistan that despite the current unfavorable conditions and COVID-19 outbreak, the Peshmerga are prepared and working hard at defending the land and people of Kurdistan.



[Read a press release here.](#)

President Barzani hosts wide-ranging discussion with

Kurdistan's Vice Presidents

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani held a meeting on April 20 with his Vice Presidents and a number of senior aides at the Kurdistan Presidency to discuss the latest developments in the Kurdistan Region and Iraq.



The meeting focused on containment efforts of COVID-19 outbreak, the protective measures that were set by the KRG and their impacts on the people's lives and livelihoods, the issue of the deployment of troops in the Zini Warté area, the formation of the new Iraqi Cabinet and Kurdistan Region's share of ministerial posts, and the dangers of ISIS threats and the ways to confront them, particularly in the disputed territories.

[Read a detailed readout of the meeting here.](#)

KRG-US issues April Humanitarian Bulletin

The KRG Representation in Washington issued its monthly humanitarian bulletin, highlighting the ongoing humanitarian crisis and delivering up-to-date information and statistics about the situation.

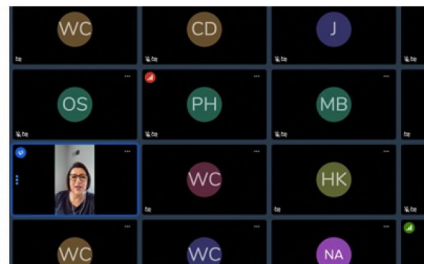


According to KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center, about 40% of the refugees in Kurdistan Region live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region. There is a total of 264,720 refugees throughout the Kurdistan Region: 244,663 are Syrian Kurds, 10,844 are Iranian Kurds, 8,513 are Kurds from Turkey, and 700 are Palestinians.

[Click here to read the Bulletin.](#)

Refugees International hosts virtual event about COVID-19 outbreak and humanitarian efforts in Kurdistan Region and northeast Syria

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman spoke at a virtual event about the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Kurdistan Region and the humanitarian response.



Representative Abdul Rahman outlined the KRG's robust and swift response to the outbreak and the difficulty with providing aid for the more than one million displaced people in Kurdistan Region in such a crisis. She also spoke about the secondary effects that the outbreak has had on the local economy, governmental budgets, and the fight against ISIS.

Ms Abdul Rahman noted that job losses due to the lockdown had resulted in some families in both the host and displaced communities needing food packages. She also warned about the impact of the weakening economy on funding for Peshmerga operations.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Representation Abdul Rahman holds round of calls with US officials

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman held a series of calls with US administration officials this week from the Department of Defense, Office of the Vice President, and Department of State. In each call, Representative Abdul Rahman thanked the US for its going support to the

Kurdistan Region and Iraq.

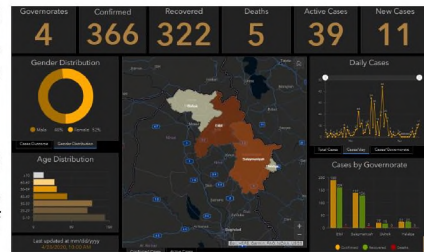
The Representative had a call with Simone Ledeen (pictured here), who began earlier in the month as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East. In their first call, Representative Abdul Rahman congratulated Deputy Assistant Secretary Ledeen on her new post and expressed the Kurdistan Region's appreciation for the close partnership between US forces and the Peshmerga, as well as the US' leadership in the international Coalition against ISIS. They discussed the challenges facing the Peshmerga, including a resurgent ISIS. They also discussed the economic difficulties facing Kurdistan Region, and Iraq as a whole, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and fall in oil prices.



[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG hosts portal for information about COVID-19

The website of KRG's Council of Ministers hosts an information portal about the COVID-19 outbreak in Kurdistan. The portal includes the latest data on daily infection rates, as well as infections by governorate, gender, and age.

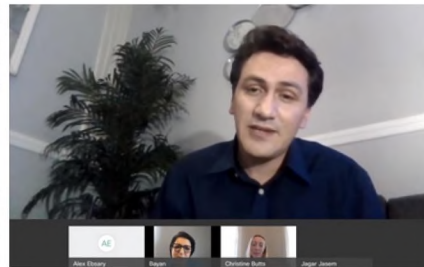


As of April 30, Kurdistan Region had registered a total of 380 confirmed cases, although 325 of those had recovered. There have been five deaths, leaving the total number of active cases at 50.

[Visit KRG's COVID-19 information portal here.](#)

KRG-US hosts COVID-19 discussion with medical professionals

The KRG Representation in Washington hosted a videoconference discussion with doctors working on the front lines of the battle against the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States.



There were two doctors on the call. Dr. Christine Butts, Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine at Louisiana State University, who has previously visited Kurdistan where she has met and worked with Kurdish doctors.

She was joined by Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, originally from Duhok in Kurdistan Region and a Fellow at Johns Hopkins University Hospital working on cancer cure and an international COVID-19 advisor who also holds a Masters of Public Health with distinction in Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman moderated the discussion and took questions from the online audience.

[Video of the discussion is archived here.](#)

Read a press release: [English](#) // [کوردی](#)

Kurdistan Parliament decides on work priorities, special committee to scrutinize Coronavirus measures and their impact

Kurdistan Parliament's presidency and the heads of the parliamentary blocks held a special meeting on 4 April, as the nation tackles the Corona virus outbreak and its consequences. They decided to continue coordinating with the KRG on implementation of the Reform Law; to scrutinize border points, food and medicine imports; and to monitor the work of the special bodies tackling the Coronavirus outbreak.

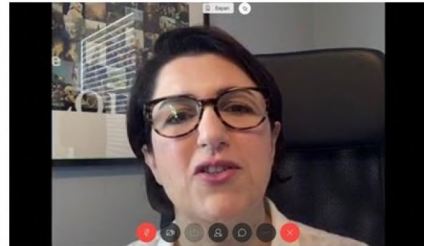


The meeting was chaired by Parliament Speaker Dr. Rewas Faiq, and included Deputy Speaker Hemin Hawrami, Secretary Muna Kahveci, and the heads of the parliamentary blocks (KDP, PUK, Gorran, New Generation, Kurdistan Islamic Group, Kurdistan Islamic Union, Social Democrats, Communist Party, and the Christian and Turkmen parties).

[Read a summary of the committee's decisions here.](#)

Columbia University hosts discussion with Representative Abdul Rahman

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman joined a videoconference with students from Columbia University's International Fellows Program in the School of International and Public Affairs.



During the discussion, which was also joined by advocates from Russia and South America, Representative Abdul Rahman discussed the security, political, and economic situation in the Kurdistan Region, focusing on the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. She also answered questions from students during the off-the-record discussion.

Read a press release: [English](#) // [کوردی](#)

Kurdistan in the media

[Coronavirus: Iraq's Kurdistan region warns of 'humanitarian catastrophe'](#) - The National

April 6, 2020

Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region on Monday warned of a "humanitarian catastrophe" from the coronavirus as the government in Baghdad offered to transfer funds to citizens stranded abroad.

[The Anfal files: survivors recount the genocide](#) - Rudaw

April 14, 2020

Rudaw has collected the testimonies of several survivors to be released in a seven-part series, entitled "The Anfal Files".

[UN envoy commends Kurdistan Region health authorities for "job well done" against COVID-19](#) - Kurdistan24

April 27, 2020

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, commended health authorities in the Kurdistan Region on Monday for "doing a good job" in combating COVID-19 so far.

[KRG delegation in Baghdad to discuss oil and budget share dispute](#) - Rudaw

April 29, 2020

A delegation of Kurdish officials led by Qubad Talabani, deputy prime minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) - met with US and Iraqi officials in Baghdad on Wednesday to discuss outstanding oil and budget issues between Erbil and Baghdad.

[German Trial Accuses Iraqi of Genocide in Killing of Yazidi Girl](#) - New York Times
April 25, 2020

The Frankfurt trial of the 27-year-old man accused of being an ISIS member is believed to be the first that carries the charge of genocide in relation to the Yazidis.

[Baghdad is cutting KRG budget to 'punish' Kurds, PM Barzani tells UNAMI chief](#) - Rudaw

April 27, 2020

Baghdad is withholding the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG)'s share of the Iraqi federal budget to "punish" the Kurdish people, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani told the United Nations special representative to Iraq during her visit to Erbil on Monday.

[WHO provides supplies and equipment to Kurdistan to fight COVID-19](#) - WHO News

April 19, 2020

WHO has provided medical supplies and equipment to the Ministry of Health of the Kurdistan region of Iraq to support response efforts in fighting COVID-19.

[Erbil photographers capturing the city under lockdown](#) - Rudaw

April 14, 2020

Photographers in Erbil have continued to document city life despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which has seen daily life grind to a halt.

[Kurdish doctors use social media to educate diaspora on COVID-19](#) - Rudaw

April 25, 2020

As the coronavirus pandemic continues, people all over the world are struggling. More than 197,500 people have died worldwide. While healthcare providers continue to risk their lives on the front lines in hospitals, there is another arena of public health education that needs to be addressed.

[Growing up in Iraq, I longed for a life without lockdowns. Now the world has become Baghdad.](#) - Washington Post

April 28, 2020

Lockdown. For most people, it probably wasn't a very familiar concept. When the American tanks first rolled into Baghdad, I hadn't heard of such strict curfews either. But now, as a 29-year-old Iraqi, I'm seeing events outside my window that feel like *deja vu*.

[Kurdistan challenges Iraq's budget payment freeze as KRG delegation meets with Baghdad officials](#) - Kurdistan24

April 29, 2020

On Wednesday, the cabinet of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) sent a 10 point letter to its federal counterpart with documents, statistics, and legal arguments that challenged a recently-announced plan to suspend monthly payments of the region's share of the national budget that is crucial to paying salaries of government workers.

[Erbil artisans reopen businesses squeezed by lockdown](#) - Rudaw

April 28, 2020

Forty days after the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) ordered all non-essential businesses to close, Erbil's artisan craftsmen have pulled open their shutters once more to resume work, just in time for the holy month of Ramadan.

[Iraqi Kurdistan rejects NGO accusations of blocking aid to Syrian Kurds](#) - Al Monitor

April 22, 2020

The government of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region is responding with anger to relief organizations' claims that it is blocking aid to the northeast Syria as COVID-19 rages, with officials saying it has "bent over backward" to help.

[As infections fall, Kurdistan PM stresses COVID-19 restrictions still crucial](#) - Kurdistan24

April 22, 2020

Kurdistan Region Prime Minister Masrour Barzani warned on Wednesday that the coronavirus remains a serious danger and called on the public to continue to abide by precautionary measures now still in place to prevent new outbreaks as the number of hospitalized patients falls by the day.

[COVID-19 news coverage praised on Kurdish Journalism Day](#) - Rudaw

April 22, 2020

Coronavirus has become the defining news story of the year - perhaps even the decade. Kurdish leaders have used the occasion of Kurdish Journalism Day to thank the Kurdistan Region's media workers for keeping the public informed through the crisis.

[Iran and the U.S. agree on Iraq's latest nominee for prime minister. But will Iraqis](#) - Washington Post

April 10, 2020

When Iraq's sharp-suited intelligence chief accepted his nomination for prime minister Thursday, 17 years to the day that U.S. troops marched into Baghdad, the challenges ahead seemed steeper than at any point since the invasion transformed Iraq.

[US-led coalition to resume training of Peshmerga next month as ISIS threat looms](#) - Rudaw

April 13, 2020

The US-led coalition will resume military training for Peshmerga forces in the Kurdistan Region by the end of May, a coalition spokesperson told Rudaw on Sunday.

[Iraq's Kurdistan region to defer Nov-Feb oil payments](#) - Genel Energy - Reuters

April 17, 2020

Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region will postpone payments for oil sales made between November 2019 and February 2020 while committing to paying regularly for the following months, London-based Genel Energy said on Friday.

[Kurdistan announces e-school initiative to restart classes amid COVID-19 curfew](#)

- Kurdistan24

April 25, 2020

The Kurdistan Regional Government's (KRG) Minister of Education announced in a televised speech on Thursday that an e-school program for grades one through twelve was now being implemented to help students keep up their studies during the anti-coronavirus curfew that has closed centers of learning throughout the autonomous region.

[Erbil churches livestream Mass amid coronavirus lockdown](#) - Rudaw

April 22, 2020

Ainkawa churches have resorted to live streaming Mass services as the coronavirus lockdown continues.

[Top Kurdistan Region officials mark Qaladze bombardment anniversary](#) - Kurdistan24

April 24, 2020

Senior officials of the Kurdistan Region, on Friday, marked the 46th anniversary of the bombardment of Qaladze by the former Iraqi regime, issuing statements which honored and commemorated the victims and survivors of that atrocity.

[The Red Prison: My Photo Exhibition in a Saddam-Era Jail](#) - PetaPixel

April 7, 2020

When people ask me my favorite places on Earth, typically I respond like this: the best food is in Ethiopia, the best historical sites are in India, but the best people are in Kurdistan. For that reason, I have been pulled back to Kurdistan as a photographer again and again.

[Iraq: Oil dispute reignites between Baghdad and Kurdistan](#) - The National

April 26, 2020

Feud resurfaces as a Kurdish ally could become the country's next prime minister

[Iraq: President says constitution is basis to solve Kurdistan issues](#) - Middle East Monitor

April 21, 2020

Iraq's President Barham Salih stressed on Monday the importance of relying on the constitution and the national interest to solve outstanding issues between the federal government in Baghdad and the Kurdistan region in northern Iraq.

[Iraq's Kurdistan region committed to OPEC+ oil output deal](#) - Reuters

April 19, 2020

Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan Region said on Sunday it is committed to its share of an OPEC+ deal to reduce oil output to support prices and curb oversupply, Iraq's state news agency reported.

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KRG-US February 2020 newsletter

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

*Washington, D.C.
February 2020 newsletter*

Welcome to our February 2020 newsletter

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani led the KRG delegation at the Munich Security Conference earlier this month where he had meetings with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (pictured), Secretary of Defense Mark Esper and Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette as well as a congressional delegation headed by Senator Lindsay Graham.



The meetings with US leaders were productive and underscored the mutual interests of both sides in maintaining regional stability and expanding economic cooperation. Following the Munich conference, Prime Minister Barzani visited the Vatican where he met His Holiness Pope Francis and discussed the role of Kurdistan Region as a haven for refugees and persecuted religious minorities.

Also this month, Senator Jim Inhofe, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and Congressman Ralph Abraham, Co-Chair of the Kurdish American Congressional Caucus, travelled separately to Erbil to meet with officials.

Meanwhile in Baghdad, attempts by Iraq's Prime Minister-designate, Mohamed Allawi, to form a new federal government have so far been met with resistance from several quarters including the Kurdish block who insist on protecting the constitutional entity of the Kurdistan Region and its rights. They continue to engage in dialogue with Mr Allawi.

Like much of the world, Iraq and the Kurdistan Region are on high alert because of the global coronavirus outbreak. With infections popping up in Iran and parts of Iraq, KRG health services are working to educate the public and prepare to handle any infections that may happen. So far, there are no known cases of infection in the Kurdistan Region. KRG authorities are restricting border crossings to prevent transmissions from infected areas and schools are closed until after the Newroz holidays.

Here in Washington, this month we were excited to launch "[Kurdistan in America](#)", the official podcast of the KRG Representation in the United States, and the first official podcast of the Kurdistan Regional Government in general. In March, we hope to have an interview with a senior State Department official who knows Kurdistan and Iraq well. You can stay posted by subscribing to the podcast through [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Stitcher](#), [iheartradio](#), and other podcast services.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States
Kurdistan Regional Government

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met with the US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper during the second day of the Munich Security Conference.



During their discussion of the latest developments in Iraq and the wider region, Prime Minister Barzani thanked the US for its vital role within the Global Coalition and for its ongoing support to the Kurdistan Region in the fight against ISIS. He said that the strong ties between the KRG and the US are crucial for regional stability and security.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan Mission in DC launches KRG's first podcast - "Kurdistan in America"

The KRG Representation in Washington has launched a new podcast aimed at exploring the rich relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region. The podcast is the first official podcast from the Kurdistan Regional Government.

Episodes of the "Kurdistan in America" podcast will be released monthly. Each episode includes a short summary of the latest news about the relationship, as well as interviews with people working at the intersection of the people, goals, and interests of the Kurdistan Region and the United States.

[Listen to the podcast here.](#)



President Nechirvan Barzani meets with US Special

Representative James Jeffrey

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received the US Special Representative to Syria James Jeffrey and his accompanying delegation in Erbil.

In the meeting, the latest developments in Syria and the international efforts to resolve the Syrian crisis were discussed. The President and Ambassador Jeffrey also spoke about the ongoing efforts to restore peace and stability in Syria and bringing an end to the war and bloodshed in the country. The role and the impact of the regional and global powers and their presence in Syria and the need for cooperation and coordination among all sides aimed at finding peaceful political solutions and safeguarding the peace and stability in the wider region were also highlighted.



[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG takes action to prevent coronavirus outbreak in Kurdistan

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani and Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani chaired a cabinet meeting with governors from the Kurdistan Region to discuss recent developments, along with the steps the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is taking to prevent an outbreak of the coronavirus.



Minister of Health Saman Hussein Muhammed updated the Prime Minister and his cabinet on the latest data regarding the spread of the coronavirus around the world and across the region, and presented immediate actions and measures the KRG is undertaking to prevent the virus from entering the Kurdistan Region.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan Region President meets with US Congressional delegation

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani met with the US Congressional lawmaker Ralph Abraham and his accompanying delegation. President Barzani underlined that since 1991 the Kurdistan Region has remained a safe haven for both Iraqi opposition groups, in the past, and for the displaced people and refugees who have fled war and terrorist groups in recent times, as people in need of urgent assistance and asylum have found safety in the Kurdistan Region.



President Barzani expressed gratitude for the U.S. support of the people of Kurdistan and the Peshmerga forces and emphasized that the threat of ISIS is against all humanity; therefore, it is imperative that the international community considers the resurgence of terror threats seriously, the president remarked.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Justice for Kurds hosts Minister Sinjari and Representative Abdul Rahman at Yale University

The organization Justice for Kurds and the Jackson Institute for Global Affairs hosted a high-level conference at Yale University titled "The Kurds in Crisis" to discuss issues facing Kurdish people throughout the Middle East.

Minister Karim Sinjari, who serves as the Chief of Staff to President Nechirvan Barzani, and KRG Representative to the United States Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman were both guests at the event.

Minister Sinjari delivered a keynote address, and Representative Abdul Rahman sat on a panel discussion about KRG-US relations. The conference operated under Chatham House rules.

[Read a press release here.](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets Pope Francis at the Vatican

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met His Holiness Pope Francis at the Pope's official residence in the Vatican City.

Prime Minister Barzani discussed with His Holiness the Pope the critical role the Kurdistan Regional Government has played in protecting minorities in the Kurdistan Region, including Christians, from terrorism and persecution, and updated him on the latest developments in Iraq. They also discussed the legal and constitutional protections existing today in the Kurdistan Region to ensure the freedom of worship of all citizens and invited His Holiness to visit the Kurdistan Region the next time he travels to Iraq.



Prime Minister Barzani also had detailed discussions with the Vatican's Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin during his visit.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Head of DFR Safeen Dizayee and US Consul General discuss issues of mutual concern

At the KRG Department of Foreign Relations (DFR) Minister Safeen Dizayee Head of DFR met with the US Consul General, Mr Steve Fagin in the Kurdistan Region.

At the meeting, Minister Dizayee and US Consul General exchanged views on the latest political situations and developments in the country, promoting Kurdistan and USA bilateral relations, and engaging in various areas of cooperation, as well as economic, humanitarian and health issues.



[Read a press release here.](#)

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo at the Munich Security Conference.

The Prime Minister and Secretary of State discussed ways of further expanding the strong bilateral relations between the Kurdistan Region and the US, particularly regarding the economy. Prime Minister Barzani and Secretary Pompeo agreed that the US Forces continue to be a vital part of the Global Coalition and should remain in Iraq to continue to support the ongoing campaign against the threat of ISIS.



[Read a press release here.](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman wraps up busy week of meetings with senior US Administration officials

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman met with senior US Administration leaders to discuss a range of humanitarian, security, and political issues.



The Representative visited the US Department of State for separate meetings with the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iran and Iraq Robert Waller and Special Advisor for Religious Minorities in the Near East and South / Central Asia Knox Thames. The latter meeting (pictured) particularly focused on the situation of religious and ethnic minorities in the Kurdistan Region. They discussed the International Religious Freedom Alliance that was announced last week and the initiative's guiding principles.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets US Secretary of Energy at the Munich Security Conference

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met the US Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference.



They discussed ways of further strengthening bilateral relations between the Kurdistan Region and the US, particularly in the energy sector. They also spoke of the importance of US investment in the Kurdistan Region and the need to increase trade. Secretary Brouillette described the Kurdistan Region's economic development as 'a miracle' and praised Prime Minister Barzani's leadership.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman attends National Prayer Breakfast

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman attended the National Prayer Breakfast this year, joining American and international political and religious leaders at the event in Washington, DC.



US President Donald Trump delivered a speech at the annual gathering. Vice President Mike Pence, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, and many other members of Congress, the US Administration, as well as foreign government representatives were in attendance.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan's three presidencies and heads of political parties on Iraqi government formation

Kurdistan Region's three presidencies and heads of Kurdistan's political parties met on February 24 to discuss the outcome of the recent talks on the formation of the next Iraqi cabinet. The Kurdistan Regional Government's negotiating team on the formation of the Iraqi cabinet also participated in the meeting.



The meeting discussed the outcomes of the recent visit made by the representatives of Kurdistan political parties to Baghdad, their talks with the Iraqi political parties and Prime Minister-designate Mr. Muhammad Allawi.

[Read a press release and a joint statement here.](#)

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani receives Iraq's Foreign Minister

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani received the Foreign Minister of Iraq, Mohammed Ali al-Hakim. They discussed the recent developments in Iraq and the region. Prime Minister Barzani called for a de-escalation of tensions and affirmed that the Kurdistan Region is committed to ensuring the stability of the country.



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani stated that the Kurdistan Regional Government will continue to engage constructively with the federal government of Iraq, within the context of a mutually respectful relationship that recognizes the rights of the Kurdistan region as laid down in the constitution.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Speaker Dr. Rewas Faiq welcomes Iraq Director of National Democratic Institute

Speaker of the Kurdistan Parliament Dr. Rewaz Faiq welcomed Ms. Ancuta Hansen, Iraq Country Director of the National Democratic Institute (NDI), and her colleagues.



Speaker Faiq commended NDI on their work and efforts and said, "In general we value the work of civil society organizations, especially your Institute, which has expertise in parliamentary work. The Kurdistan Parliament would welcome more cooperation with NDI."

Ms. Hansen thanked the Speaker and also welcomed more coordination with the Kurdistan Parliament. At the meeting it was decided that NDI, in collaboration with the Parliament's Research Centre, should prepare a training program for Parliament's news reporting staff.

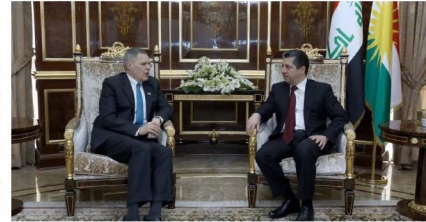
[Read a press release here.](#)

US Ambassador to Iraq Matthew Tueller visits Kurdistan Region

US Ambassador to Iraq Matthew Tueller traveled to the Kurdistan Region to meet with KRG leadership, including KRG Prime Minister and the President of the Kurdistan Region, and discuss

the latest developments in Iraq and the Middle East.

In his meeting with Prime Minister Masrour Barzani, the two discussed the need for a strong partnership between the federal government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government. Prime Minister Barzani said that the KRG will continue to engage constructively with the new government in Baghdad in order to have a mutually respectful relationship.



During his visit, Ambassador Tueller also made a stop in the Christian town of Al-Qosh, where the tomb of the prophet Nahum is being restored by US-based organization ARCH International with funding from the KRG, US Government, and private donors.

[Read a press release about Amb. Tueller's meeting with Prime Minister Barzani here.](#)
[Read a press release about Amb. Tueller's meeting with President Barzani here.](#)

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets US Congressional delegation

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met with a US Congressional delegation led by Senator Lindsey Graham at the Munich Security Conference.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Barzani thanked the US for their enduring friendship. He recognised the US's support in the fight against ISIS that has helped the Kurdistan Region to become a safe haven for Arabs, along with Christians, Yezidis and people of other faiths.



He stressed that the KRG will continue to support peace, stability, and security in the region.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan in the media

[Iraqi Kurdistan PM Barzani warns 'great possibility' of IS group returning](#) - France24

February 4, 2020

Exclusive interview with Prime Minister Masrour Barzani

[KRG Humanitarian Bulletin](#) - KRG Representation in the United States

February 8, 2020

Updates on the humanitarian crisis in the Kurdistan Region.

[New Jersey woman takes on traffickers in Iraq's Kurdistan region](#) - Al Monitor

February 12, 2020

The KRG, with the help of a former US State Department official, is fighting human trafficking.

[Killing of ISIS leader has not hurt group's operations, says Iraqi Kurdish prime minister](#) - Washington Post

February 15, 2020

Iraqi Kurdistan's prime minister says the U.S. killing of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi has not affected the extremist group's ability to operate and is warning that the militants are resurgent.

[WATCH: Pope Francis praises Kurdistan's tolerance during Vatican meeting with](#)

[PM Barzani](#) - Kurdistan24

February 19, 2020

During his official visit to the Vatican, Kurdistan Region Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met on Wednesday with Pope Francis, who praised the region's culture of tolerance towards ethnic and religious minorities, according to a statement from Barzani's office.

[The Inconvenient Truth About ISIS](#) - The Atlantic

February 14, 2020

The group is bigger now than when it founded its self-styled caliphate, and America's conflict with Iran is only making the fight against it more complicated.

[Kurdistan President, Baydemir Meet in Erbil](#) - Bas News

February 20, 2020

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received on Wednesday the Kurdish politician and former member of the Turkish parliament, Osman Baydemir, in Erbil.

[CNN correspondent Arwa Damon wins second annual Shifa Gardi International Award](#) - Rudaw

February 22, 2020

Senior CNN correspondent Arwa Damon was awarded the second annual Shifa Gardi International Award in Erbil on Saturday, in honour of her reporting in Syria.

[Germany shooting: 'It was a shock but not a surprise'](#) - BBC

February 20, 2020

A number of the victims are reported to be of Kurdish descent.

[President of the Kurdistan Region congratulates the joint leaders of the PUK \(in Kurdish\)](#) - KDP.info

February 26, 2020

President Nechirvan Barzani congratulated Bafel Talabani and Lahur Talabany on their election as co-leaders of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan earlier this month.

[A US withdrawal from Iraq will hurt American interests but also ring alarm bells in Kurdistan](#) - The National

February 2, 2020

Troop presence prevents Iran from dominating the region and ISIS from resurfacing, but it also secures goodwill from its partners on the ground

[Iraqi Kurdistan agrees with Baghdad on 2020 budget share: state media](#) - Reuters

February 5, 2020

The government of Iraq and the semi-autonomous region of Kurdistan have reached an agreement on Erbil's contribution to the 2020 federal budget, state news agency INA reported on Wednesday.

[Can this veteran singer save Kurdish people's forgotten tunes?](#) - Al Monitor

February 27, 2020

Age has not stopped Mazhar Khaliqi, the legendary Iranian Kurdish singer who heads the Sulaimaniyah-based Kurdish Heritage Institute, a nongovernmental

institute for preserving Kurdish national heritage and music.

[Britain should send more spies and military hardware to Kurdistan, regional Prime Minister says](#) - Telegraph

February 15, 2020

The long-standing ally of the UK says it was premature to declare victory over Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant

[A Kurdish artist memorialises the experiences of his people](#) - The Economist

February 22, 2020

Osman Ahmed trekked with the Peshmerga, armed only with a pencil and a sketch-book

[Duhok to establish first solar energy park for clean energy](#) - Kurdistan24

February 5, 2020

The Kurdistan Region's Duhok governorate has made a significant step toward becoming a low-carbon province after news it will soon have its first solar energy park, setting an example of sustainable renewable energy for the rest of the autonomous Kurdish region and Iraq, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) said in a statement on Tuesday.

[WHO delivers ambulances to strengthen referral pathways in Kurdistan region of Iraq](#) - WHO News

February 17, 2020

The World Health Organization (WHO) today handed over a new batch of fully equipped ambulances to the Ministry of Health in Kurdistan Region of Iraq to support the needs of internally displaced persons (IDP) and the host community.

[The Kurdistan Region of Iraq to develop Vision 2030 supported by UNDP](#) -

ReliefWeb

February 3, 2020

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Kurdistan Region of Iraq's Ministry of Planning, in order to provide strategic guidance and technical support for the development of KRG Vision 2030.

[Coronavirus: Kurdish doctors separate myths from facts](#) - Rudaw

February 26, 2020

Rudaw has brought together a panel of Kurdish medical experts to separate the myths from the facts.

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KRG-US March 2020 newsletter

1 message

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To: farakrg@gmail.com

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

*Washington, D.C.
March 2020 newsletter*

Welcome to our March 2020 newsletter

March in Kurdistan's calendar is a month filled with significant dates and events, including the somber anniversary of the genocide in Halabja in 1988 and the more joyful celebrations of Newroz, the Kurdish new year.



This year, due to the coronavirus, there were almost no public events in Kurdistan or among the diaspora in North America as gatherings were cancelled in observance of curfews in Kurdistan and social-distancing followed by lockdowns in the United States. In both places, heroic healthcare professionals, key workers and law enforcement have won the praise and gratitude of the public.

As of March 30, there are [161 confirmed cases of COVID-19](#) in the Kurdistan Region, with two people killed by COVID-19. Across Iraq, [the number of confirmed cases is 630](#) with 46 losing their lives. In Kurdistan Region, some communities were also hit by flash floods, while the economy is taking a hit as oil prices fall sharply.

In observance of advice by the CDC, the KRG US Representation closed to visitors earlier this month and we are conducting meetings via the telephone and video-conferencing, the new reality for many diplomatic missions, businesses and schools.

Amid the gloom and deep worry caused by the coronavirus, there is some happier news. [USAID is donating \\$670,000 to Iraq](#), including the Kurdistan Region, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and President Donald Trump congratulated President Nechirvan Barzani on the occasion of Newroz.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States
Kurdistan Regional Government

PM Masrour Barzani speech on the coronavirus

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani delivered a speech on March 14, outlining the KRG's response to the ongoing threat posed by the global outbreak of the coronavirus.



In his speech, the Prime Minister said,

"It is clear that the Kurdistan Region, alongside the rest of the world, faces an unprecedented threat."

"The Kurdistan Regional Government was one of the first in the world to take protective and health measures. We put in place an early emergency budget and immediately took steps to contain and delay the virus as soon as the danger became apparent, for instance by closing schools and universities, and cutting back and in some cases suspending government bodies; restricting border crossing movements; limiting public events and gatherings, and enforcing strict temperature controls at borders and airports. After assessing the situation, we have now restricted movements between provinces in Kurdistan and with the rest of Iraq. We are now at a stage where it is necessary to further restrict movements within cities and towns."

[Read and watch the speech here \[in Kurdish, subtitled in English\]](#)

US President extends Newroz greetings to the people of Kurdistan

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received a congratulatory letter from President Donald Trump of the United States on the occasion of Newroz.



President Trump wrote:

"On behalf of the American people, I wish you and the people of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region a warm and joyous Nowruz.

We have made great progress together against ISIS, and I look forward to new opportunities to strengthen our economic and security relations with your government."

[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG US Representation Office Closure

As the impact of the corona virus continues to evolve, we at the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States remain focused on the health and safety of our staff and

communities.

As a result of concerns over the spread of the virus and in line with guidance by local authorities, our office in Washington, DC is closed to visitors until further notice. The Representative and staff of the Mission are teleworking and remain active and available digitally.



Community services, including Proof of Life certificates and Power of Attorney authorizations can still be processed by mail, but applicants should keep in mind that the documents may not be processed in Kurdistan Region for some time due to the curfew and shutdowns experienced there.

Read a press release with relevant contact information here: [\[English\]](#) / [\[Kurdish\]](#)

President Nechirvan Barzani receives US delegation

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received U.S. Deputy Special Envoy to the International Coalition, Ambassador William Roebuck.



The latest developments in Iraq, including the recent rocket attack on the international coalition forces in Al-Taji near Baghdad were discussed during the meeting.

The two sides also discussed the recent political developments in Iraq and the ongoing efforts to designate a new candidate for Iraq's prime minister.

[Read a press release here.](#)

'Spirit of America' supports Ministry of Peshmerga in fighting coronavirus

The Spirit of America organization has donated over \$18,000 worth of protective gear and equipment for use in efforts against the coronavirus to the Ministry of Peshmerga.



Brigadier General Hazhar Omar, Ministry of Peshmerga Director of Cooperation and Communication said, "We found it necessary to request help from the 'Spirit of America' organization in order to better prepare us protect our forces against this virus. Consequently, through cooperating with the Joint Security Office at the U.S. Consulate in Erbil and Ministry of Peshmerga's General Directorate of Health, we were able to approve and receive the donation from the mentioned organization."

[Read a press release here.](#)

US 2020 Census includes option to write in Kurdistani heritage

Every ten years the US government conducts a survey of all people living in the United States. This year the Census includes the ability for people to write in their own race. This means that if your heritage is from Kurdistan, you can say so on the Census form.

It's time to be counted!

Census forms should have been mailed to every address by now. The Census is the opportunity to know how many people originally from Kurdistan are now living in the United States. It will help the community to be counted when it matters. Census results help the US federal government allocate

funding for health clinics, schools, jobs and education, among other resources and facilities.

[Click here for information on how to indicate Kurdistan heritage.](#)

[Click here for a Facebook group about the Census, run by the Kurdish community.](#)

9. What is Person 1's race?
Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. **KURDISH**

Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.

American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo, Navion, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow, Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.

Chinese Vietnamese Native Hawaiian

Filipino Korean Samoan

Asian Indian Japanese Chamorro

Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.

Some other race – Print race or origin. **KURDISH**

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Joey Hood speaks with "Kurdistan in America" podcast

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joey Hood spoke with the "Kurdistan in America" podcast about the close relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region. He also talked about his family's history with Operation Provide Comfort and his dream of seeing Kurdish products like *leben Erbil* in American supermarkets.

This was the second episode of the podcast, which is released monthly.

[Listen to the latest episode of the podcast here.](#)

or on your favorite podcast app:



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani statement in response to attack on Taji base

In response to the death of US and British servicemen in a rocket attack on Iraq's Taji military camp, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani expressed his condolences:

"I strongly condemn this attack on our Coalition partners and express condolences to the victims' families and wish the wounded a speedy recovery."



"This attack, at a time when ISIS remains a serious threat in Iraq and the region, will only strengthen extremist groups. Our joint efforts should be focused on defeating the terrorist threat. Iraq already faces health, economic and security obstacles. Any further escalation will simply harm Iraq and the whole region."

[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG US issues March Humanitarian Bulletin

The KRG US Representation issued a humanitarian bulletin in March, providing the latest information on the humanitarian crisis, including official figures and updates on the COVID-19 outbreak and the KRG's mitigation strategies.



The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the displaced people in Kurdistan. Approximately 25 percent of the funding is covered and managed by the United Nations Agencies and US Department of State bureaus and 5 percent by International and local NGOs. The KRG provides about 70 percent of funds out of its budget to sustain current basic services, which has exhausted its resources.

[Click here to read the Bulletin.](#)

President Barzani's statement on Halabja chemical attack anniversary

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani issued a statement on the anniversary of Saddam Hussein regime's chemical attack against the town of Halabja. He said,



"Today, 32 years have passed since the former Iraqi regime launched a chemical attack on Halabja, killing 5000 innocent civilians, wounding thousands and displacing many more. The horrors of the horrendous attack still haunt the survivors and their families who bear the physical and emotional scars up to the present time. The chemical attack continues to have a devastating impact on the environment of the city and its neighboring areas."

"As we mark this unforgettable crime, we honor those who made sacrifices for our nation, particularly the fallen heroes who lost their lives in the attack. At the same time, we continue to reiterate that such atrocities must be prevented in the future. The genocide of the people of Kurdistan or civilians anywhere in the world, regardless of their faith, ethnicity or political affiliations should not be allowed. This important and sacred principle calls for more unity and tolerance among us."

[Read the full statement here.](#)

HDP Foreign Affairs Co-chair visits KRG Mission in Washington

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman hosted a meeting with Hisyar Ozsoy, the People's Democratic Party (Halkların Demokratik Partisi) Co-chair of Foreign Affairs, and Giran Ozcan, the Party's Representative in Washington. They discussed a range of issues related to the status of the security, prosperity, and rights of the Kurdish people in the Middle East.

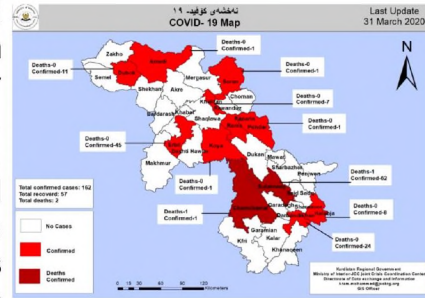


Earlier in the week, Representative Abdul Rahman visited Congress to meet with Senator Angus King and discuss the latest political and humanitarian developments in the region, as well as the resurgence of ISIS in Iraq and the importance of the US-Kurdistan security partnership.

[Read a press release here.](#)

US provides additional assistance to Iraq to respond to novel coronavirus COVID-19

The United States Government has provided \$670,000 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Iraq from the Emergency Reserve Fund for Contagious Infectious Diseases at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). USAID is providing these funds to the World Health Organization (WHO) to support Iraq's COVID-19 readiness and response. These funds will contribute to the goals of the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan to stop further transmission of COVID-19 in affected or at-risk countries, and to mitigate the impact of the outbreak in all countries.



"Today's announcement shows the strength of the US and Iraqi partnership; and we are committed to fighting this pandemic alongside the Iraqi people," said Ambassador Matthew Tueller. "Support provided through the WHO will directly enhance the county's ability to combat the spread of COVID-19."

[Read a US Government press release here.](#)

Speaker of Parliament Dr. Rewas Faiq's message on International Women's Day 2020

On March 8, International Women's Day, the Speaker of Kurdistan's Parliament issued the following message:

On the occasion of March 8th, International Women's Day, my best wishes go out to all the women of Kurdistan and the world. I hope that this symbolic occasion is a new start for women to achieve their goals. We are glad that this occasion coincides with the Kurdish Uprising, when Kurdish women played a significant role together with the Peshmerga forces.



Throughout the history of the Kurdish people's struggle, women have participated in political and civil struggle. However, history has not been fair in recording the role of women in any era.

[Read the full statement here.](#)

President Barzani and Deputy Prime Minister Talabani receive the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Iraq

President Nechirvan Barzani and Deputy Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Region Qubad Talabani separately received the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Iraq, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert.



In the meeting with President Barzani, the two sides reiterated the importance of political stability and a new Iraqi government that addresses the legitimate grievances of the people and safeguards the constitutional rights of all groups and communities. In that regard, they highlighted the constructive role of the United Nations.

In the meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Talabani, which was attended by the representative of the World Health Organization, the Deputy Prime Minister stressed that the KRG has taken many measures to prevent the outbreak of the coronavirus, and expressed optimism in the cooperation between citizens and the government to move beyond this crisis with minimal loss of life.

[Read a press release about the meeting with President Barzani here.](#)

[Read a press release about the meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Talabani here \[Kurdish\].](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman holds virtual meetings with senior administration officials

Keeping with the isolation guidelines issued in March, Representative Abdul Rahman held a number of telephone meetings with senior US administration officials, to discuss the rapidly evolving situation in Iraq around the global outbreak of novel coronavirus and other pressing issues.



She met virtually with Assistant Administrator of USAID's Middle East Bureau Mike Harvey (pictured, photo from July 2019) to discuss the particularly concerning nexus of the expanding coronavirus outbreak and the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Iraq, which has left more than one million refugees remaining displaced in the Kurdistan Region. Representative Abdul Rahman thanked Assistant Administrator Harvey for his leadership and USAID's continuing programming in Iraq.

Representative Abdul Rahman held meetings with officials from the Department of State as well, including Ambassador James Jeffrey, who serves as the US Special Representative for Syria Engagement and the Special Envoy for the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIL. She also met with Robert Waller, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iran and Iraq, and Director of Iraq Affairs.

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani chairs cabinet meeting on reforms, electricity production

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani chaired a cabinet meeting on the implementation of the Reform Law, a flagship initiative of the government, as well as the latest measures taken to contain the outbreak of coronavirus in the Kurdistan Region.



Deputy Prime Minister Talabani stressed the need to continue the ongoing reform process, including diversifying the economy, as one of the government's top priorities. The cabinet requested Minister of Finance and Economy, Awat Janab Noori, to present a detailed report next week on the progress achieved thus far in terms of the implementation of the Reform Law.

[Read a press release here.](#)

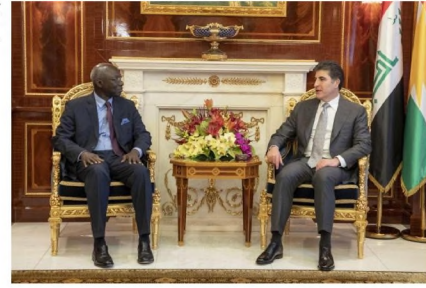
Kurdistan Region President meets with UN delegation

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani met with the United Nations' Under-Secretary General and Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Adama Dieng and Special Adviser and Head of the Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by ISIS/Da'esh (UNITAD) Karim Khan.

In the meeting, also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani and a number of Kurdistan Region officials, President Nechirvan Barzani reiterated Kurdistan Region's support and readiness to cooperate with the

United Nations in investigating the crimes committed by ISIS terror group against the peoples of Iraq in general, especially Yezidi and Christian citizens.

[Read a press release here.](#)



Representative Abdul Rahman meets Senators Grassley, Casey and King

Earlier this month, Representative Abdul Rahman met with members of Congress to continue the KRG's outreach.

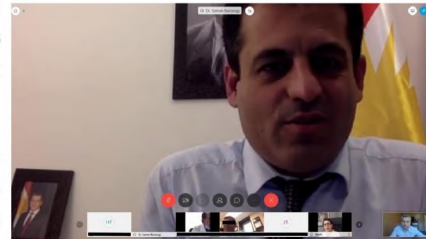
The Representative met with Senator Bob Casey (D-PA, pictured), Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Senator Angus King (I-ME). She discussed security and economic partnerships between Kurdistan and the US, as well as recent developments in Kurdistan and Iraq, including protests, the challenges posed by COVID-19, and plunging oil prices.



KRG Minister of Health in video-conference with American doctors

KRG Minister of Health, Dr Saman Berzinji, spoke to several American doctors to explain the steps the KRG has taken to suppress the spread of COVID-19 and the Region's urgent need for medical equipment and supplies.

The video-conference was organized by the KRG-US Representation and included American doctors who have previously spent time in Kurdistan carrying out operations, as well as physicians who had never visited the Region.



During the video conference, Minister Berzinji said that Kurdistan's healthcare infrastructure had been weakened after 2014 when ISIS terrorists attacked and the Region received close to 2 million refugees and displaced people. He said that the KRG's response to the COVID-19 pandemic is focused on preventing the spread of the virus, which by and large the public in Kurdistan has adhered to.

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani speaks with United States Assistant Treasury Secretary Marshall Billingslea by phone

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani spoke by phone to US Assistant Treasury Secretary for Terrorism Financing Marshall Billingslea to discuss US-Kurdistan Region bilateral relations.

In the call, the PM and Assistant Secretary discussed the KRG's response to the coronavirus pandemic and ways that the United States Government can help. Prime Minister Barzani also updated the Assistant Secretary on the detailed domestic reform agenda that the KRG continues to implement, as well as discussing ways to increase US investment in, and trade with, the Kurdistan Region.



[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan in the media

[WHO praises Kurdistan Region's anti-coronavirus efforts](#) - Kurdistan24

March 21, 2020

The World Health Organization (WHO) in Iraq on Thursday praised the measures enacted and leadership role played by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) in facing the ongoing outbreak of the coronavirus.

[How to Serve U.S. Interests by Saving Kurdistan's Economy](#) - Washington Institute for Near East Policy

March 30, 2020

Unless Washington intervenes with cost-effective, forceful measures, Iraqi Kurdistan could be the first Middle Eastern economy to implode under the pressure of coronavirus and low oil prices.

[Women on the Rise in Kurdistan](#) - Wilson Center

March 8, 2020

Representative Abdul Rahman: "There is no silver bullet to advance women's rights in the Middle East. As we in the Kurdistan Region in Iraq have discovered, building a society in which women and girls enjoy equal rights to men and boys requires a combination of progressive policies and laws and targeted public campaigns aimed at changing cultural mindsets."

[WATCH: Foreign diplomats in Kurdistan Region send Newroz greetings](#) - Rudaw

March 20, 2020

As Kurds prepare to mark the Newroz holiday under coronavirus lockdown, the heads of Erbil's foreign diplomatic missions shared their warm new year's greetings in a series of videos.

[As Planned, US-Led Coalition Pulling Out of 2nd Iraqi Base](#) - New York Times

March 26, 2020

The U.S.-led coalition on Thursday started pulling out of a second base in Iraq, in line with a planned drawdown of troops, hours after two rockets hit inside Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone.

[U.S.-backed Kurdish-led group says militants riot in jail in northeast Syria](#) - Reuters

March 29, 2020

Islamic State prisoners on Sunday seized control of the ground floor of a major prison in northeastern Syria run by the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), with some of the militants managing to escape, an SDF spokesman said.

[Iraq ex-governor named PM-designate as Baghdad awaits curfew](#) - ABC News

March 17, 2020

Iraq's president has named a former governor of the city of Najaf as prime minister-designate, following weeks of political infighting and a looming crisis amid a global pandemic

[Heavy rainfall, flash floods cause severe damage in Duhok governorate](#) - Kurdistan24

March 19, 2020

Hundreds of homes and shops in the Kurdistan Region's Duhok governorate were damaged on Wednesday, and dozens of cars were swept away and

crushed as a result of heavy rain over the past two days.

[Iraq extends suspension of commercial flights again](#) - Kurdistan24

March 29, 2020

The Iraqi Civil Aviation Agency has informed the Ministry of Transportation of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) that the suspension commercial flights to and from all Iraqi airports would continue until April 11.

['Family men, adoring husbands and fathers': Two NC-based Marines killed in Iraq](#) - Stars and Stripes

March 10, 2020

A Marine special operations captain and gunnery sergeant were both killed Sunday during a joint U.S.-Iraq raid to destroy an Islamic State hideout in a mountainous area in northern Iraq, the military said Tuesday.

[Iraqi semi-autonomous Kurdistan region bans New year festivals due to coronavirus](#) - Reuters

March 11, 2020

Iraqi semi-autonomous Kurdistan region has banned the Nowruz New Year festivals due later this month due to coronavirus fears, a statement said on Wednesday.

[Kurdistan arrests over 100 for smuggling people from Iran to avoid quarantine](#) - Kurdistan24

March 29, 2020

Local Asayish (security) in the Kurdistan Region's Sulaimani province have so far arrested over 100 individuals for attempting to smuggle people from Iran to the Kurdish autonomous region illegally to avoid being quarantined amid the outbreak of coronavirus in the region.

[Coronavirus and Refugee Populations: An Imminent Humanitarian Catastrophe](#) - Middle East Centre

March 19, 2020

The new coronavirus pandemic continues to spread across the world, raising alarm for refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who are already devastated by acute and ongoing conflicts.

[21 stunning images from a photojournalist's harrowing ordeal in Iraqi Kurdistan](#) -

The National

March 24, 2020

Sebastian Meyer's business partner was shot and left for dead, but later called from captivity

[Unsung Women | Asenath Barezani, a 16th-century female sage](#) - Forward

March 8, 2020

Asenath Barzani was the daughter, wife, and mother of rabbinic leaders, but she surpassed them all.

[The US census and the Kurdish diaspora](#) - Rudaw

March 18, 2020

Amid fears and mounting uncertainty about Coronavirus, the U.S 2020 census will soon be underway on April 1.

[BCF provides food baskets, supplies to low-income families in Kurdistan amid COVID-19 pandemic](#) - Kurdistan24

March 17, 2020

The Barzani Charity Foundation announced on Monday that it would provide food baskets to low-income families amid the curfews imposed across cities in the Kurdistan Region.

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KRG-US May 2020 newsletter

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd> Sun, May 31, 2020 at 10:01 AM
Reply-To: us@gov.krd
To: farakrg@gmail.com



**Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.**

Welcome to our May 2020 Newsletter



This month saw the successful formation of a new government in Iraq, headed by Prime Minister Mustafa Kadhimi, whose candidacy was supported by the main Kurdish parties. Prime Minister Kadhimi was the Director of the Iraqi National Intelligence Service and previously worked as a journalist and human rights activist. His government will include three ministers from the Kurdistan Region, one of whom is the only woman in the cabinet – Nazanin Mohammed Wassu, the Minister of Reconstruction and Municipalities. There is cautious optimism that Prime Minister Kadhimi will be able to lead Iraq through the current challenging phase and to early elections, as demanded by protesters for several months.

The immediate challenges facing Iraq and Kurdistan include security, public health, and

In terms of public health, similar to the rest of the world, the COVID-19 pandemic has hit our country. Kurdistan's lockdown was recently eased, which has caused the number of positive cases to spike. Prime Minister Masrour Barzani this week called on the public to remain vigilant and follow public health guidelines.

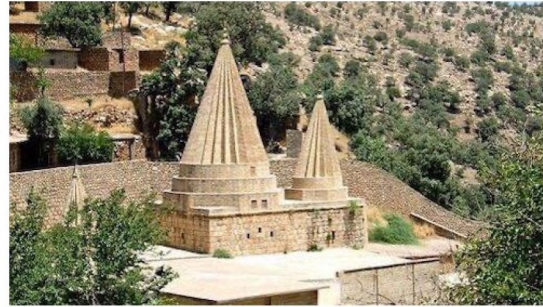
The economic challenges are deep and alarming. Both Kurdistan Region and Iraq as a whole rely on oil for much of their revenues. The fall in oil prices and the sizeable global oversupply means that it's difficult for both governments to make ends meet. The KRG leadership hopes that it can reach both a short-term and long-term agreement with Baghdad on budget-related issues, which have dogged their relations for several years. We hope that the IMF and World Bank will be able to assist Iraq and Kurdistan Region through these difficult times.

As we look ahead to next month, we look forward to the strategic dialogue between Iraq and the United States. We see this as an opportunity to review the status of the relationship to forge a more robust partnership that includes Kurdistan as a factor for peace and stability.

Don't forget to listen to our podcast, which features an interview with Hoshang Mohamad, the Director of the KRG Joint Crisis Coordination Center, and read the humanitarian bulletin included in this newsletter.

the economy. ISIS remains a threat, and we are grateful to the Peshmerga and other forces in Iraq and among our Coalition allies who are staying the course to ensure a caliphate isn't created again.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States
Kurdistan Regional Government



Representative Abdul Rahman and USAID Assistant Administrator Harvey discuss challenges facing Kurdistan

Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman and Michael Harvey, USAID Assistant Administrator in the Middle East Bureau, spoke by phone on Thursday about recent developments in the Kurdistan Region.

[Read the press release](#)

KRG US Representation Participates in International Religious Freedom Roundtable

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States participated in an International Religious Freedom (IRF) Roundtable focused on the Kurdistan Region on Thursday, May 21, 2020.

[Read the press release](#)



US-Kurdistan Business Council hosts discussion with Representative Abdul Rahman

Members of the US-Kurdistan Business Council gathered on videoconference on Wednesday to hear from KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman about the economic outlook in Kurdistan Region and other critical issues.

[Read the press release](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman praises the work of MAG in helping Yazidis in Sinjar

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman participated in a virtual panel discussion organized by the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), which focused on a film that highlights the impact of mines and unexploded bombs in Sinjar.

[Read the press release](#)



KRG-US Representation continues Congressional outreach despite lockdown

Representative Abdul Rahman and members and staff of the U.S. Congress have been holding meetings and phone calls instead of face-to-face meetings due to the pandemic.

[Read the press release](#)

KRG Sincerely Appreciates Alex Ebsary's Services

The Kurdistan Regional Government expresses deep appreciation to Alex Ebsary for his years of service at the KRG US Representation in Washington. He was instrumental in fostering a relationship between Kurds and Americans. We wish him the best of luck in his new endeavors.



PM Masrour Barzani speech on the current financial situation

My fellow citizens,

On the occasion of our Ramadan feast, I extend my warmest wishes to you all. At this time, I call upon you to continue to comply with our health guidelines in order to protect yourselves and your loved ones from the coronavirus pandemic while observing this holy feast.

The whole world, including the Kurdistan Region, is going through a difficult economic period due to the implications of the outbreak and falling oil prices. These are challenging times for the Kurdistan Regional Government. From the outset of this economic crisis, we have been doing our best to ease the financial burden on people throughout our region.

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani receives commander of coalition's anti-ISIS campaign, urges concerted effort to defeat terror

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Saturday met with Major General Eric Hill, Commander of Coalition's Special Operations Forces to defeat ISIS in Iraq and Syria, and discussed the ISIS resurgence and the group's activities in the region.

The two sides spoke about the latest developments in Iraq as well as the need to strengthen coordination between the Peshmerga and Coalition Forces. They stressed the importance of continued coordination in order to eliminate the ISIS threat.

[Read the press release](#)



Readout of PM Masrour Barzani's call with U.S. Secretary of Energy

Erbil, Kurdistan Region, Iraq (GOV.KRD) - Prime Minister Masrour Barzani yesterday spoke to U.S. Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette about the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on the economies of the Kurdistan Region and the United States. During the call, the Prime Minister expressed his condolences for those in the U.S. who have died as a result of the coronavirus.

Prime Minister Barzani and Secretary Brouillette agreed on the importance of increasing U.S.-Kurdistan energy investments. They also discussed the new federal government in Baghdad and how the U.S. can continue supporting Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, including the unlocking of international financial assistance.

[Read the press release](#)



President Nechirvan Barzani reiterates support for rights of ethnic and religious communities

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani met with the representatives of ethnic and religious groups who have members in the Kurdistan Parliament and who are participating in the Kurdistan Regional Government.

At the meeting, the delegates shared their views on the current state of affairs in the Kurdistan Region and discussed the role and position of the ethnic and religious communities in the Region's political and administrative affairs. The representatives also reiterated the importance of safeguarding their communities' rights and fair representation in the Kurdistan Region's public institutions and administrative bodies.

[Read the press release](#)



President Nechirvan Barzani meets with U.S. Consul General Steven Fagin

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received U.S. Consul General Steven Fagin in Erbil on Wednesday. At the meeting, President Barzani reiterated Kurdistan Region's support to Iraq's newly formed government led by Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi. The latest political and economic developments in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, the challenges ahead of Iraq's new government and its future duties were also discussed.

The topic of the US-Iraq dialogue and the role of the Kurdistan Region in it were also highlighted. The two sides also spoke about Erbil-Baghdad relations and efforts to resolve the disputes in accordance with the constitution.

[Read the press release](#)



KRG delegation meets Iraqi Parliament's Finance Committee, seeks support to settle disputes with Baghdad

Baghdad, Iraq (GOV. KRD) - The Kurdistan Regional Government' (KRG) delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani on Friday met with Iraqi Parliament's Finance Committee in Baghdad, to discuss ongoing financial problems with the federal government.

In the meeting, the KRG delegation shared proposed solutions to disputes with Baghdad, in particular regarding oil exports and KRG's share in the 2019 federal budget. They also exchanged views on approaches to cope with the 2020 fiscal year.

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets investment board, reiterates commitment to diverse economy

Erbil, Kurdistan Region, Iraq (GOV.KRD) – Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the High Council for Investment to discuss current economic situation and the need to further develop investment in the Kurdistan Region.

In the meeting attended by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani and other cabinet members, Prime Minister Barzani stressed that the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is working to build a stronger economy.

[Read the press release](#)



Speaker Rewas Faiq congratulates Iraq's new Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi

Kurdistan Parliament Speaker Dr. Rewas Faiq on 12 May wrote to Iraq's new Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi on his appointment, after winning the vote of confidence of Iraq's Council of Representatives:

Mr. Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, Prime Minister of the Federal Government, I congratulate you on your inauguration and on gaining the approval of the Council of Representatives for your cabinet.

[Read the press release](#)

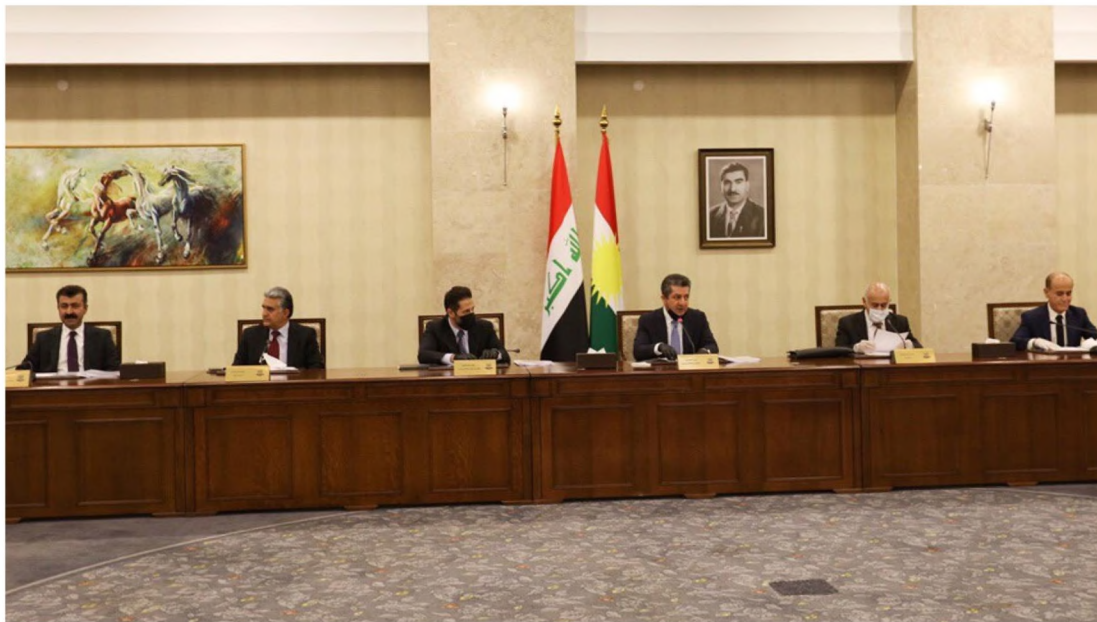


Speaker Rewas Faiq welcomes UNSG's Special Representative to Iraq Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert

The Speaker of the Kurdistan Parliament, Dr. Rewas Faiq, welcomed the UNSG's Special Representative for Iraq, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert on 9 May. They discussed the current situation in the region and the formation of the new Iraqi cabinet, as well as the economic impact of the Coronavirus on Kurdistan Region.

Regarding relations between the Kurdistan Region and the Iraqi Federal Government, Speaker Faiq said, "In the current situation, our priority is to serve the citizens of Kurdistan."

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Barzani chairs cabinet meeting, calls for constitutional solution to problems with Baghdad

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani chaired a cabinet meeting in Erbil on Wednesday to discuss economic conditions in the Kurdistan Region and outstanding problems with the federal government.

In the meeting, which was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani, the Prime Minister wished success to the new Iraqi cabinet, and stressed the need for a constitutional solution to ongoing issues between Erbil and Baghdad.

[Read the press release](#)



Deloitte report on Oil and Gas review in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region, with newly added disclosures on prepayment balances - 2019

The KRG's Regional Council of Oil and Gas Affairs has published a report containing verified statistics covering the Kurdistan Region's oil exports, consumption and revenues for 2019.

The report, available in Kurdish, English and Arabic, provides a quarterly analysis of oil export information and average prices, together with a consolidated annual overview.

[Read the press release](#)

KRG-US May Humanitarian Bulletin

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) lifted the coronavirus lockdown on May 18 to allow businesses to reopen and eased the ban on traffic within provinces. However, due to new confirmed cases, the Ministry of Interior announced a complete lockdown during the Ramadan Eid holiday this weekend to prevent further outbreaks.

[Read the bulletin](#)



Kurdistan in America

Episode 4 - KRG-JCC's Hoshang Mohammed

MAY 16, 2020

KURDISTAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION IN THE UNITED STATES

SEASON 1

EPISODE 4



Humanitarian challenges and an American encounter

This month, the Kurdistan In America podcast interviews Hoshang Mohamed, Director of the KRG Joint Crisis Coordination Center. Hear him discuss the humanitarian challenges facing Yazidis, Christians and other displaced and refugee communities, as well as Hoshang's childhood encounter with Americans coming out of a helicopter.

[Listen to the latest episode of the podcast here or on your favorite app below](#)

[Spotify](#) [Apple Podcasts](#) [iHeartRadio](#)

Kurdistan in the Media

KRG announces major investment plan as economic challenges loom

A senior Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) official on Sunday announced over a thousand investment projects in various sectors across the region.

[Read the article](#)

Kurdish artist NOURI's latest single tops New Zealand iTunes charts

Kurdish pop artist NOURI's latest single "miss all ur jokes" stormed to the top of iTunes streaming rankings in New Zealand, surpassing the likes of Ariana Grande, Justin Bieber, and Dua Lipa.

[Read the article](#)

Iraq's prime minister renews vow to reform system amid setbacks

Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al Kadhimi sought to brush aside early setbacks a mere two weeks into his job on Tuesday, vowing to pursue reforms despite a lack of embedded support from the legislature.

New Iraq prime minister after five months of deadlock

Iraq's parliament has approved a new government, ending months of deadlock as the country battles an economic crisis and the coronavirus pandemic.

[Read the article](#)

Ninewa: Barriers to Return and Community Resilience

The sustainable return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Iraq occupies many international donor projects and resources.

[Read the article](#)

From Xenophon to Kurdistan: The story of the Dutch Grandfather of the Kurds

Piet Muller, the Dutch "Grandfather of the Kurds," passed away. He was one of the first Dutch citizens to support the Kurds, notably discovering them by following the footsteps of Greek historian Xenophon.

[Read the article](#)

Norway's DNO, ExxonMobil continue to explore for oil, gas in Kurdistan

Norway's DNO and ExxonMobil, partners in the Baeshiqa license in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region, continue to explore for oil and gas in the area.

[Read the article](#)

DoD Inspector General publishes quarterly report on Operation Inherent Resolve

The US Department of Defense published the Lead Inspector General's quarterly report on Operation Inherent Resolve, the operation to combat ISIS.

[Read the article](#)

[Read the article](#)

ISIS Makes A Comeback During The Coronavirus Pandemic

The terrorist organization has ramped up attacks while also taking advantage of changes caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

[Read the article](#)

Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIL (UNITAD)

The fourth report on the activities of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State...

[Read the article](#)

For inquiries, please contact Delovan Barwari, the Director of Public and Humanitarian Affairs, at: delovan.barwari@us.gov.krd

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Kurdistan in America Podcast

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**Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.**

Welcome to our Kurdistan in America Podcast

Episode 5 - Interview with Amb. Robert Ford

JUNE 20, 2020

KURDISTAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION IN THE UNITED STATES



Check out the latest episode of our podcast "Kurdistan in America". We interview Ambassador Robert Ford, the former US Ambassador to Algeria and Syria, and former deputy Ambassador to Iraq from 2008 to 2010. Ambassador Ford discusses his experience in Iraq and shares his views about developments in the region.

"Kurdistan in America" is the official podcast of the KRG Representation in the United States, and explores the rich relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region.

Listen to it on your favorite podcast app below



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SAVE THE DATE | MARCH 10 | Bearing Witness to Genocide

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC



SAVE THE DATE

Bearing Witness to Genocide:

*a commemoration of the 32nd anniversary of the chemical bombing of
Halabja*

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

George Washington University

[City View Room](#)

[1937 E St NW](#)

[Washington, DC](#)

On March 16, 1988, Iraqi aircraft attacked the city of Halabja with chemical weapons. Children were lost in the chaos that followed, families were decimated as 5,000 people died and thousands more were injured with poison gas.

This genocide was one of many atrocities committed against the people of Kurdistan by the dictator Saddam Hussein. During his rule, 182,000 Kurds were killed in the Anfal genocide campaign; 8,000 Barzani men and boys were murdered in 1983; thousands of Faylee Kurds disappeared, and thousands more were oppressed, abused, and killed by the Ba'athist regime. The genocide also saw the destruction of 4,500 villages and the razing of cities such as Qala Diza, tearing at the fabric of Kurdish society and economy.

The suffering of the people of Halabja has come to symbolize all of the atrocities committed against the people of Kurdistan. In Iraq, violence and genocide is cyclical, and in 2014 we again witnessed a genocide against the Yezidis, Christians and others in Nineveh.

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These materials are being distributed by the Kurdistan Regional Government - Liaison Office - USA on behalf of the Kurdistan Regional Government, and additional information is on file with the Department of Justice, Washington, District of Columbia.

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State Dept PDAS Joey Hood featured in this month's "Kurdistan in America" podcast

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Tue, Mar 17, 2020 at 4:31 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Check out this month's episode of "Kurdistan in America", featuring an interview with the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joey Hood! Mr. Hood served as deputy head of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad from 2017-2019 and has visited Kurdistan many times.

Learn about Mr. Hood's perspectives on the Kurdistan - US partnership, as well as his family's connection to Operation Provide Comfort and his dream of seeing Kurdish products on the shelves of American supermarkets. You'll also hear a quick news update about KRG - US relations.



Catch [the episode here](#) or on your favorite podcast app including Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, and iheartradio.

If you would like to be informed about new episodes by email each month, click the link below:

[Get the podcast by email](#)

If you or someone you know would like to be featured on the podcast, you can email us at kurdistan.in.america@gmail.com.

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TODAY @ 2:30 PM EST - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency
Medicine at Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology and Internal Medicine Board Certified, Fellow at Johns Hopkins
University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in
Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

=====

کۆفید-۱۹: گەران له دووی پیکوته و گەرانهوه بۆ ئاسایی

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

نوینه رایهتی حکومهتی ههریمی کوردستان له ویلايه ته یه کگرتووهکان، واشنگتونی پایتهخت، بانگههستی بهریتان دهکات بۆ وئیناری کۆفید-۱۹ له گەل دوو دوو دکتوری بهناوبانگ له ویلايه ته یه کگرتووهکان، که له بهرهکانی پیشهوه کار له سهه په تاکه دهکن

سپشه ممه، ۲۱ ی نیسانی، ۲۰۲۰

به کاتی واشنگتون و نیویۆرک: ۲:۳۰ تا ۳:۳۰ پاش نیوه پۆ

به کاتی ناشفیل ۱:۳۰ بۆ ۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه پۆ

به کاتی ساند دییه گو ۱۱:۳۰ ی به یانی بۆ ۱۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه پۆ

به کاتی ههولیر ۹:۳۰ شه و بۆ ۱۰:۳۰ شه و

ئیفینته که به یوتیوب لایف به زیندی پهخش دهکریت و له سهه تویتەر و فهیسبوکی نوینه رایهتی حکومهتی ههریمی کوردستان له ئەمریکا، پهخش دهکریت

[ئیره کلیک بکه بۆ پهخشی راستهوخۆ.](#)

په تایی کۆفید-۱۹ له گەل خۆی شه پۆلیک زانیاری هیناوه که تیندا راسپاردهی جیی متمانه زۆربهی جار به زحمهت جیا دهکریتهوه له بهدزانیاری. فایرۆسه که ژیانی داخستوه له باکووری ئەمریکا و ههریمی کوردستان، و ههردوکیان له ئاستی جۆراوجۆردا شهت داوونیان بهخۆوه دیوه.

له م وئیناره دا، دوو دکتوری بهناوبانگ که کار له سهه په تاکه دهکن، وهلامی پرسپاره کانت دهدهنهوه له سهه فایرۆسه که. چۆن و له کوئی پیشینی کرانه وهی حکومهت و ئابوورییهکان بکهین؟ ئایا پاریزراوی-مهناعه- له فایرۆسه که ههیه؟ دهستگه یشتنی گشتی به پیکوته یهک، تا چه ند نزیکه؟ ئەم پرسپارانه و تۆش ههه پرسپاریکت هه بیته، له وئیناره که دا وهلامی دهدریتهوه.

ئاخیره رهکان

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

به ریوه بهری هۆبهی ناكاوی و پروفیسوری کلینکی چاره سهری ناكاوی

زانکۆی دهوله تیی لویزانا

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

هه قالی هیماتۆلۆجی له نه خوشخانهی زانکۆی جۆنز هۆپکنز، ماستەر له تهن دروستی گشتیی و له گهڵ تایبه تمهندی له ئیپیدیمیۆلۆجی له بنکهی پزشکی زانکۆی نیبراسکا

رێکخه ر/مۆدییره تیه ر

خاتوو به یان سامی عبدالرحمن

نۆینه ری حکومه تی هه ری می کوردستان له ویلایه ته یه کگرتوه کانی ئەمریکا

پرسیار و وه لامة کان

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TOMORROW, 9:00 AM -- COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and a Way Forward

1 message

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Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 3:22 PM

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

Virtual event, hosted by Refugees International

**COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and
a Way Forward**

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

[Click here to join this virtual event](#)

or join by phone: +1 209-844-4600, Passcode: 134607577#



As the COVID-19 epidemic spreads across the Middle East, the population in Northeast Syria and Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) face similar challenges. Both Kurdish majority regions host large populations of displaced people who have fled civil war and the conflict with the Islamic State. Even before the COVID-19 crisis, the total number of those in need of humanitarian assistance figured in the millions. The United Nations warns that access to healthcare in Northeast Syria and in KRI for the displaced is increasingly limited. COVID-19 has the potential to devastate these already-vulnerable communities.

Refugees International and the Columbia University Institute for the Study of Human Rights invite you to an on-the-record web event exploring the COVID crisis in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and in Northeast Syria, the effects of this crisis on the displaced people in these regions, and a way forward.

Host

Hardin Lang

is Vice President for Programs and Policy at Refugees International.

Speakers

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

is the Representative of the Kurdistan Regional Government to the United States.

Sinam Mohammed

is Representative of the Syrian Democratic Council to the United States.

Rapporteur

David L. Phillips

is the Director of the Program on Peace-building and Rights at Columbia University's Institute for the Study of Human Rights.

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Arden Bentley at arden@refugeesinternational.org with any questions.

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Tuesday @ 2:30 PM - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

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Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 1:13 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

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Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency
Medicine at Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology and Internal Medicine Board Certified, Fellow at Johns Hopkins
University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in
Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

=====

کۆفید-۱۹: گەران له دووی پیکوته و گەرانەوه بۆ ئاسایی COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان له ویلایەتە یەکگرتووکان، واشنگتۆنی پایتەخت، بانگهێشتی بەرێزتان دەکات بۆ وێیناری کۆفید-۱۹ لەگەڵ دوو دوو دکتۆری بەناوبانگ له ویلایەتە یەکگرتووکان، که له بەرهکانی پێشەوه کار لەسەر پەتاکە دەکن

سێشەممە، ۲۱ ی نیسانی، ۲۰۲۰

بە کاتی واشنگتۆن و نیویۆرک: ۲:۳۰ تا ۳:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی ناشفیل ۱:۳۰ بۆ ۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی ساند دییەگو ۱۱:۳۰ ی بەیانی بۆ ۱۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی هەولیر ۹:۳۰ شەو بۆ ۱۰:۳۰ شەو

ئێفینتەکه بە یوتیوب لایف بە زیندی پەخش دەکریت و لەسەر تویتەر و فەیسبوکی نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان له ئەمریکا، پەخش دەکریت

[ئێره کلیک بکه بۆ پەخشی راستەوخۆ.](#)

پەتای کۆفید-۱۹ لەگەڵ خۆی شەپۆلیک زانیاری هیناوه که تیندا راسپاردە ی جێی متمانه زۆر بەی جار بە زەحمەت جیا دەکریتەوه له بەدزانیاری. فایرۆسەکه ژیانی داخستوو له باکووری ئەمریکا و هەریمی کوردستان، و هەردوکیان له ئاستی جۆراوجۆردا شەت داونیان بەخۆوه دیوه.

لەم وێینارەدا، دوو دکتۆری بەناوبانگ که کار لەسەر پەتاکە دەکن، وەلامی پرسپارەکانت دەدەنەوه لەسەر فایرۆسەکه. چۆن و له کۆی پێشینی کرانەوهی حکومەت و ئابوورییەکان بکهین؟ ئایا پارێزراوی-مەناعە- له فایرۆسەکه هەیه؟ دەستگەیشتی گشتی به پیکوته یەک، تا چەند نزیکه؟ ئەم پرسپارانە و تۆش هەر پرسپاریکت هەبیت، له وێینارەکه دا وەلامی دەدریتەوه.

ئاخیره رهکان

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

به‌رپوهبه‌ری هۆبه‌ی ناکاوی و پروفیسوری کلینیکی چاره‌سه‌ری ناکاوی

زانکۆی ده‌وله‌تی لویزانا

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

هه‌فالی هیماتۆلۆجی له نه‌خۆشخانه‌ی زانکۆی جۆنز هۆپکنز، ماسته‌ر له تهن‌دروستی گشتیی و له‌گه‌ل
تایبه‌تمه‌ندی له ئیپیدیمیۆلۆجی له بنکه‌ی پزشکی زانکۆی نیبراسکا

رێکخه‌ر/مۆدیره‌یته‌ر

خاتوو به‌یان سامی عبدالرحمن

نوینه‌ری حکومه‌تی هه‌ریمی کوردستان له ویلایه‌ته‌ی یه‌گه‌رتووه‌کانی ئەمریکا

پرسیار و وه‌لامه‌کان

هه‌ر پرسیارێکت هه‌بوو، تکایه‌ په‌یوه‌ندی بکه‌ به‌ کاک کاروان زیباری

ئیمه‌یل: karwan.zebari@gov.krd ته‌له‌فون: (202)821-1860

پتویست به‌ حجزکردن و ناو تۆمارکردن ناکات

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"Kurdistan in America" - a new podcast from the KRG US Representation

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Washington, DC

We are pleased to announce the launch of the "Kurdistan in America" podcast, bringing you the latest news about the rich relationship between the Kurdistan Region and the United States, as well as interviews with people working at the intersection of our goals and interests.

Check out the first episode here, which includes an interview with Heba El Kayal, the curator of the exhibition "[Speaking Across Mountains: Kurdish Artists in Dialogue](#)", currently showing at the Middle East Institute in Washington, DC.



Episodes will be released monthly, and will be available on the Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher apps.

If you would like to be informed about new episodes by email each month, click the link below:

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April 21 webinar - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

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Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

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Be counted! 2020 Census includes option to write in Kurdistani heritage

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

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تکایه برۆ خوارهوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه



The US Census is here, it's time to make your Kurdistani heritage count

Every ten years the US government conducts a survey of all people living in the United States. This year the Census includes the ability for people to write in their own race. This means that if your heritage is from Kurdistan, you can say so on the Census form.

It's time to be counted!

Census forms should have been mailed to every address by now. The census is the opportunity to know how many people originally from Kurdistan are now living in the United States. It will help the community to be counted when it matters. Census results help the US federal government allocate funding for health clinics, schools, jobs and education, among other resources and facilities.

In the census form, on the page about Race, check the box that says **WHITE**, and then write Kurdish, or Chaldean, Syriac, Assyrian, Yezidi, Kurdish-Yezidi, or Turkman, in the blank box immediately below.

On the same page about Race, check the box that says **SOME OTHER RACE** and then write Kurdish, or Chaldean, Syriac, Assyrian, Yezidi, Kurdish-Yezidi, or Turkman, in the blank box immediately below.

9. What is Person 1's race?
 Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴
KURDISH

Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴

American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴

<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian
<input type="checkbox"/> Filipino	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Samoan
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. ↴		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. ↴

Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴
KURDISH

[For guidance in English on how to fill out the form, see US Census 2020](#)

For guidance in Kurdish and English on how to fill out the form, see [Census 2020 For Kurdish-Americans Facebook page](#)

If you have questions or need help completing your Census form, please contact:

Barzan Ardalan - [202-368-7811](tel:202-368-7811)

Delovan Barwari - [202-821-1861](tel:202-821-1861)

=====

فۆرمى سەرژمىرى گەيشت، كاتى ئەو ەيە فەرەنگى كوردستانى بوونى خۆت ديارى بكهيت

هەموو دە سال جاريك حكومەتى ويلايهته يەكگرتوو مەكانى ئەمريكا، سەرژمىرىيەك دەكات بۆ ئەو كەسانەى لە ويلايهته يەكگرتوو مەكان دەژين. لە نامار مەكى ئەمسالدا خەلك دەتوانيت رەگەزى خۆى بنووسيت. ئەمەش ماناى ئەو ەيە بۆ تۆى كوردستانى، دەتوانيت لە فۆرمەكەدا ئەو ديارى بكهيت كە كوردستانىيت

كاتى ئەو ە هاتوو ە خۆت تۆمار بكهيت

لە ئىستادا دەبيت هەموو مالىك بە پۆسته ئەم فۆرمى سەرژمىرىيەى پىنگەيشتبيت. ئەم سەرژمىرىيە دەرفەتتەكە بۆ ئەو ەى بزانيں چەند كوردستانىى لە ويلايهته يەكگرتوو مەكان دەژين، و هاوكار دەبيت بۆ حسابكردنى رەمەندەكەمان كاتىك پىويست بيت. ئەنجامەكانى سەرژمىرەكە هاوكارىى حكومەتى ويلايهته يەكگرتوو مەكان دەكات بۆ تەرخانكردنى دارايى بۆ بوار مەكانى تەندروستى، خەستەخانە، دەرفەتى كار، خویندن، و سەرچاوه و بوارى تر

نیشانە بكه. و WHITE خانەى سپى-وايت، Race لە فۆرمەكە، لەسەر لاپەرەى رەگەز، رەيس يان كلدان، Kurdish، ئنجا لە خانە بەتالەكەى خوار مەوى بنووسە كە كوردستانىيت: كورد ناسورى، سريانى، ئيزيدى، كوردى ئيزيدى، توركمان، و هتد

SOME لە هەمان لاپەرەى رەگەز، ئەو خانەيش نیشانە بكه كە نووسراوه هەندىك رەگەزى تر يان كلدان، ناسورى، سريانى، ئيزيدى، Kurdish، و لەويدا بنووسە كورد، OTHER RACE، كوردى ئيزيدى، توركمان، و هتد

9. What is Person 1's race?Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins. White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴**KURDISH** Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴ American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴ Chinese Vietnamese Native Hawaiian Filipino Korean Samoan Asian Indian Japanese Chamorro Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. ↴ Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. ↴ Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴**KURDISH**

بۆ رینمایی به ئینگلیزی له سهر چۆنیهتی پرکردنهوهی فۆرمهکه، بڕوانه

[US Census 2020](#)

بۆ رینمایی به کوردی و ئینگلیزی له سهر چۆنیهتی پرکردنهوهی فۆرمهکه، بڕوانه

[Census 2020 For Kurdish-Americans Facebook page](#)ئهگهر ههر پرسپاریکت ههبوو یان پتویستت به هاوکاری بوو بۆ پرکردنهوهی فۆرمی
سههژمیری، نکایه پهیههندی بکه به

بارزان ئههدهلان

[202-368-7811](#)

دلوقان بهرواری

[202-821-1861](#)

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سه‌رژمێریا ٢٠٢٠ دى هه‌ژمارنا هه‌می که‌سا بخوڤه‌ گریټ (ژوانرا زارو‌کا)
ئه‌ڤین لوبیایه‌ تین ئینگرتی دژین. ئه‌و پیتفی هاریکاریا هه‌وانه‌!

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IT'S SAFE **ئه‌ف سه‌رژمێریه‌ دى یا پاراستی بیت**
هه‌می ئه‌و پیزانینین هوبین دهن دى هینه پاراستن و ناهینه پارفه‌ کرن لسه‌ر هیزین ئه‌وله‌ کاری یان لسه‌ر ئوفیسا کوچ کوچه‌را.

IT'S EASY **ئه‌ف سه‌رژمێریه‌ یا بسانه‌یه‌**
ئه‌ف سه‌رژمێریه‌ دى یا کورت بیت ئو دى زوی بریقه‌ چیت. هوبین دشین بریکا ئونلاینی، یان بریکا تله‌فونی یان بریکا پرکرن فۆرما کاغه‌زی به‌رسفی بده‌ن.

ته‌ماشه‌ی پیزانینین خو یین سه‌رژمێریاری بکه‌ ئه‌فا کو دى بو ته‌ هینه هنارتن لده‌ستپیکا ١٢ ى هه‌یفا ئاداری.

www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/2020-census/planning-management/language-resources/language-guides.html

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CORRECT LINK - State Dept PDAS Joey Hood featured in this month's "Kurdistan in America" podcast

1 message

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Tue, Mar 17, 2020 at 5:39 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

A previous copy of this email was sent with a broken link.

The correct link is - <http://bit.ly/KiA-Episode2>

=====

Check out this month's episode of "Kurdistan in America", featuring an interview with the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joey Hood! Mr. Hood served as deputy head of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad from 2017-2019 and has visited Kurdistan many times.

Learn about Mr. Hood's perspectives on the Kurdistan - US partnership, as well as his family's connection to Operation Provide Comfort and his dream of seeing Kurdish products on the shelves of American supermarkets. You'll also hear a quick news update about KRG - US relations.



Catch [the episode here](#) or on your favorite podcast app including Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, and iheartradio.

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Episode of "Kurdistan in America" podcast with Spirit of America's Zack Bazzi

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Wed, Apr 22, 2020 at 2:51 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Check out the latest episode of our podcast "Kurdistan in America". We interview Zack Bazzi, [Spirit of America's](#) Regional Director for the Middle East and Central Asia about the organization's support for the Peshmerga during COVID-19, the ongoing humanitarian crisis, and Zack's first arrival in Kurdistan as a Sergeant in the US Army.



"Kurdistan in America" is the official podcast of the KRG Representation in the United States, and explores the rich relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region.

[Click here to listen](#)

or find on your favorite podcast app:



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Fax: +1.202.821.1870

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Feb 11 - Screening of "On Her Shoulders" at Middle East Institute

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Tue, Feb 4, 2020 at 8:02 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC



Embassy of the
Czech Republic
Washington, DC



Middle
East
Institute

The Embassy of the Czech Republic, Middle East Institute, and the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

cordially invite you to join a screening of the documentary film

On Her Shoulders

directed by Alexandria Bambach



The film follows Nadia Murad, a Yezidi woman who received the Nobel Prize for her battle against sexual violence and other abuses committed by the so-called Islamic State.

[Watch the trailer here.](#)

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Reception opens at 5:00 pm

Screening begins promptly at 5:30

Middle East Institute
1763 N Street NW
Washington, DC

RSVP HERE

On August 3, 2014, ISIS began a campaign of genocide against the Yezidi people in Sinjar. Thousands were killed in the weeks that followed. Women and children were captured, forced to become sex slaves and child soldiers. Nadia Murad was captured on the same day that ISIS killed her mother and six brothers. Eighteen members of her family were either killed or enslaved.

The 23-year-old's life has since become a dizzying array of exhausting undertakings - from giving testimony before the U.N. to visiting refugee camps to soul-baring media interviews as she lobbies and advocates for her people. Today, the majority of Yezidis have yet to return to their homes in Sinjar and live in camps and other shelters in the Kurdistan Region, which hosts a total of more than 1 million refugees and displaced people.

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation is pleased to partner with the Middle East Institute and the Embassy of the Czech Republic in screening this film and putting the spotlight on the plight of one of our communities.

The film is screened as an extension of the [One World International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival](#), one of the largest human rights film festivals in the world. The festival, organized by the Czech non-profit People in Need, is

held annually in Prague, Czech Republic, attracting more than 120,000 viewers. One World presents more than 110 documentary films from around the globe, focusing on social, political, environmental, media and human rights issues.

Tea and baklava will be served at the beginning of the event, followed by the film screening.

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FRIDAY OPEN HOUSE @ MEI: Speaking Across Mountains: Kurdish Artists in Dialogue

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Wed, Feb 5, 2020 at 2:56 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Join us for an open house at the Middle East Institute to celebrate the exhibition

Speaking Across Mountains: Kurdish Artists in Dialogue

Friday, February 7, 2020

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Middle East Institute

1763 N Street NW

Washington, DC



RSVP HERE

The exhibition features the work of ten contemporary Kurdish artists from Iraq, Turkey and Syria and explores themes that have long shaped the Kurdish experience such as displacement, exile, and memory. The exhibition runs until February 25, 2020.

The evening will also feature Kurdish music by DC-based Syrian-Kurdish musician and artist, Lukman Ahmad, at 6:30PM.

The exhibition is sponsored by the Middle East Institute, the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States, and the NY-based organization [Justice for Kurds](#)

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Fwd: "Kurdistan in America" - a new podcast from the KRG US Representation

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Mon, Feb 17, 2020 at 9:05 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Fri, Feb 14, 2020 at 12:53 PM

Subject: "Kurdistan in America" - a new podcast from the KRG US Representation

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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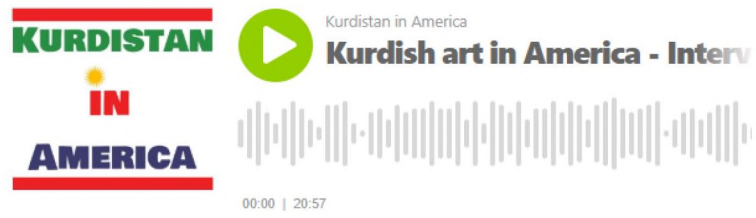


Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

We are pleased to announce the launch of the "Kurdistan in America" podcast, bringing you the latest news about the rich relationship between the Kurdistan Region and the United States, as well as interviews with people working at the intersection of our goals and interests.

Check out the first episode here, which includes an interview with Heba El Kayal, the curator of the exhibition "[Speaking Across Mountains: Kurdish Artists in Dialogue](#)", currently showing at the Middle East Institute in Washington, DC.



Episodes will be released monthly, and will be available on the Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher apps.

If you would like to be informed about new episodes by email each month, click the link below:

[Get the podcast by email](#)

If you or someone you know would like to be featured on the podcast, you can email us at kurdistan.in.america@gmail.com.

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Fwd: April 21 webinar - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 7:44 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Sun, Apr 19, 2020 at 8:32 PM

Subject: April 21 webinar - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)
9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine at
Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology Fellow at Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Masters of Public
Health (MPH) with distinction in Epidemiology from University of Nebraska
Medical Center

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: Be counted! 2020 Census includes option to write in race

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Wed, Mar 11, 2020 at 12:36 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Wed, Mar 11, 2020 at 12:14 PM

Subject: Be counted! 2020 Census includes option to write in race

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپهههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه



US residents - be counted in the 2020 Census!

Every ten years the US government conducts a survey of all people living in the United States. Everyone living in the United States is required by law to complete the Census in 2020. Forms to complete the Census will be mailed to every address, beginning March 12.

This year the Census includes the ability for people to write in their own race. For example, if you are Kurdish, you can use the form to indicate your race as shown below:

9. What is Person 1's race?
 Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴
 Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴
 American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴

<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian
<input type="checkbox"/> Filipino	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Samoan
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. ↴		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. ↴

Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴
KURDISH

The Census is an important tool for the US government - it helps determine how Congressional seats are divided, as well as how federal funding is allocated in your community for education, infrastructure, hospitals, and more.

If you have questions or need help completing your Census form, please contact:

Barzan Ardalan - [202-368-7811](tel:202-368-7811)

Delovan Barwari - [202-821-1861](tel:202-821-1861)

Watch a video by the Kurdish community about how to fill out your census:

[English](#)
[Sorani](#)



بۆ دانیشتوانی ویلایهته یهگرتووهمکان: له سەرژمیری ۲۰۲۰، خۆت تۆمار بکه!

هموو ده سال جارێک، حکومهتی ویلایهته یهگرتووهمکان روومالێک دهکات بۆ ئهو کهسانهی له ویلایهته یهگرتووهمکان دهژین. به گۆزهی یاساکان، ههر کهسێک له ویلایهته یهگرتووهمکان بژی، پێویسته فۆرمی سەرژمیری ۲۰۲۰ پرێکاتهوه. له سەرئای ۱۲ ی نازاری ۲۰۲۰ هوه فۆرمهکانی سەرژمیرییهکه به پۆسته روانه دهکرنیت بۆ ناونیشانی دانیشتوانهکه.

له ناماری نهمسالدا، خهڵک دهتوانن رهگهزی خۆیان بنوسن. بۆ نمونه، کهسێکی کورد دهتوانیت له فۆرمهکاندا رهگهزی خۆی به کورد تۆمار بکات وهک له خوارهوه دهپینیت:

9. What is Person 1's race?
Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.

Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.

American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.

<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian
<input type="checkbox"/> Filipino	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Samoan
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. <input type="checkbox"/>

Some other race – Print race or origin.

KURDISH

نەم سەرژمێره نامرازینکی پڕبایەخە بۆ حکومەتی ویلايەتە یەكگرتووەكان، هاوكار دەبێت بۆ دیاریکردنی چۆنیەتی
دابەشبوونی کورسییەکانی کۆنگرێس، و هەروەها چۆنیەتی تەرخانکردنی تەمویلی فیدرالی لە کۆمەڵگەمەت بۆ یواریەکانی
خوێندن، ژێرخان، خەستەخانە، و هی تر.
ئەگەر هەر پرسیارێکت هەبوو لەسەر پڕکردنەوهی فۆرمی سەرژمێری، تکایە پەمووندیی بەکە بە بەرێزان

باززان نەردەلان
202-368-7811

دلوڤان بەرواری
202-821-1861

تکایە کرتە بەکە لەسەر نەم بەستەرانی خوارووە بۆ بینینی ڤیدیۆیەك لەسەر چۆنیەتی پڕکردنەوهی فۆرمەكە

[English](#)
[Sorani](#)

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: Best wishes for a joyous Easter

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Sun, Apr 12, 2020 at 11:16 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Sun, Apr 12, 2020 at 8:02 AM

Subject: Best wishes for a joyous Easter

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

Best wishes for a joyous Easter
to Christians in the Kurdistan Region,
in Iraq, and around the world.

May this holy occasion will bring about peace,
prosperity and good health for everyone around the world.



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Fwd: Episode of "Kurdistan in America" podcast with Spirit of America's Zack Bazzi

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Wed, Apr 22, 2020 at 3:17 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Wed, Apr 22, 2020 at 2:51 PM

Subject: Episode of "Kurdistan in America" podcast with Spirit of America's Zack Bazzi

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Check out the latest episode of our podcast "Kurdistan in America". We interview Zack Bazzi, [Spirit of America's](#) Regional Director for the Middle East and Central Asia about the organization's support for the Peshmerga during COVID-19, the ongoing humanitarian crisis, and Zack's first arrival in Kurdistan as a Sergeant in the US Army.



"Kurdistan in America" is the official podcast of the KRG Representation in the United States, and explores the rich relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region.

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Fwd: Happy Newroz from the KRG in Washington

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>
To: farakrg@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 20, 2020 at 3:51 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **KRG-USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Fri, Mar 20, 2020 at 3:19 PM

Subject: Happy Newroz from the KRG in Washington

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>



Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, D.C.



Newroztan Piroz

Happy Newroz from the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the
United States

جەژنە پیرۆزەیی نوێنەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریەکێتی کوردستان لە ویلايەتە یەکگرتوووەکان



We wish everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous Newroz as we celebrate the arrival of spring and the Kurdish new year.

Due to the Coronavirus, public celebrations have been cancelled in Kurdistan and here in the United States and Canada.

But the spirit of Newroz - rebirth, renewal, friendship and freedom - remains as strong as ever.

پێڕۆزبایی جهژنی نهوڕۆزتان لێ دهکەین و هیوادارین جهژنیکی خوش به تهنډروستی باش و دلی شادهوه
بگێرن، جهژنی گۆل و گۆلزار و گهیشتی بههار، و سالی نویی کوردی

لهبهر مەترسیی کۆرۆناڤایروس، ناههنگه گهشتیهکان له کوردستان و لێزه له ویلایهته یهکگرتوو ههکان و
کهندها ههلومشاوهتوه و ههک دهزانن.

بهلام مانا و رووحیهتی نهوڕۆز، ژیانهوه و گهشانهوه، دۆستایهتی و نازادی، ههر به گهشیی دهههیننهوه.
نهوڕۆزتان پێڕۆز بێت.



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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: KRG US Representation Closed to Visitors

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 10:04 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 9:05 AM

Subject: KRG US Representation Closed to Visitors

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

KRG US Representation Closed to Visitors

داخستنی نوینەرایهتی حکومەتی هەریم له ئەمریکا بۆ ماوهیهکی کاتی له رووی هاوولاتیان و
موراجیع

As the impact of the corona virus continues to evolve, we at the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States remain focused on the health and safety of our staff and communities.

As a result of concerns over the spread of the virus and in line with guidance by local authorities, our office in Washington, DC is closed to visitors until further notice. The Representative and staff of the Mission are teleworking and remain active and available digitally.

Community services, including Proof of Life certificates and Power of Attorney authorizations can still be processed by mail, but applicants should keep in mind that the documents may not be processed in Kurdistan Region for some time due to the curfew and shutdowns experienced there.

During this period, KRG US Representation staff will be teleworking and can be reached as indicated below:

General email: us@gov.krd

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Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
byan.rahman@gov.krd

Director of Consular and Community Affairs

Barzan Ardalan
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Director of Genocide and Diversity Affairs

Dasko Shirwani
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+ 1 [\(202\) 821-1844](tel:(202)821-1844)

Director of Policy and Advocacy

Karwan Zebari
karwan.zebari@gov.krd
+ 1 [\(202\) 821-1860](tel:(202)821-1860)

We encourage those in the United States to monitor the [CDC website](#) and in Canada to monitor the [Public Health Agency](#).

For information about the KRG's handling of the corona virus and other news, [click here](#).

لەبەر درێژەى مەترسییەکانى کۆرۆناڤایروس، نێمه له نوێنەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان له ویلايەته یەكگرتووهكانى ئەمەریكا، جەختمان لەسەر سەلامەتى و تەندروستیى ستافەكەمان و رەهەندەكەمانە.

له نەجامى نىگەر انییهكان له تەشەنەسەندنى ڤایروسەكه و تەریب لەگەڵ رینماییهكانى دەسەلاتدارانى خۆجیى، نوێنەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان له ئەمەریكا داخراو دەبیته له رووى هاوولاتیان تا ئەر كاتهى بێتان رادهگهیهنن. نوێنەر و ستافی نوێنەرایەتى به تیلیۆرك كار دەكەن و له رێى ئینتەرنێت و نێمهیلەوه كار دەكەن.

خزمەتگوزارییهكانى كونسولگری و مەك و مكالەت و بەرحیاتی و هتد هیشتا به پۆسته نەجەم دەدریت بەلام بپویسته داواكار ئەرەى له بیر بێت كه رەنگه بەلگەنامەكان له كوردستان پروسیس نەكړین لەبەر قەدەغەى هاتووچو و راکرتتى دەوام له كوردستان.

نوێنەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان له ویلايەته یەكگرتووهكانى ئەمەریكا هیواى سەلامەتى و تەندروستیى بۆ تەواوى رەهەندى كوردستانی و دانیشتوانى ویلايەته یەكگرتووهكانى ئەمەریكا و كەنەدا دەخوازێت.

بەرزان رەهەندى كوردستانی و هاوولاتیان دەتوانن له رێگای ئەم نێمهیل و ژماره تەلەفۆنانهى خوار موه كه ناماژ هێبێكر اوه بەپێى تاییەتمەندى كاروبار مەكانەرە دەتوانن پەيوەندى به نوێنەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریم بکەن.

نێمهیلی گشتى نوێنەرایەتیى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان: us@gov.krd

خاتوو بەیان سامى عبدالرحمن، نوێنەرى حکومەتى هەریمی کوردستان

نێمهیل: bayan.rahman@gov.krd

بەریۆهەبرى كاروبارى كونسولگەرى و رەهەندى كوردستانی

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تارا هممه‌ندی

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به‌رئو به‌ری کاروباری جینۆساید و فره‌بی

دهسکو شیروانی

dasko.shirwani@us.gov.krd

+ 1(202)821-1844

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کاروان زیباری

karwan.zebari@gov.krd

+ 1(202)821-1860

هاوکات داوا له ره هندی کوردستانی دهکەین ئەوانەى که نیشتهجی ووبلایهته بهگرتوو هکانی ئەمریکا سەردانی مألپەری سەنتەری
کۆنترۆڵکردن و رێگری کردن له نهخۆشیهکان بکەن له رێگای ئەم لینکەوه (<https://www.cdc.gov>)، ههروهها بۆ ئەو
بەریزانهی که له كهنەدا نیشتهجین سەردانی مألپەری وەزارەتی تەندروستی كهنەدی بکەن له رێگای ئەم
لینکەوه (<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>). ههروهها بۆ وەرگرتنی دوایین زانیاری لەسەر رێوشوێنهکانی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان بۆ بەرەنگاربوونەوی
پەتای قایرۆسی کۆرۆنا، تکایه سەردانی مألپەری حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان بکەن له رێگای ئەم لینکەوه
(<https://gov.krd/coronavirus-en/situation-update>).

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: Ramadan Kareem from the KRG in Washington

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Fri, Apr 24, 2020 at 12:33 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>
Date: Fri, Apr 24, 2020 at 12:29 PM
Subject: Ramadan Kareem from the KRG in Washington
To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

The Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States

sends warm wishes to Muslims in America, Kurdistan, and around the world
for a peaceful and reflective Ramadan.

Throughout the holiday, we keep in our thoughts the families of martyrs, the
heroic Peshmerga, and those who remain displaced from their homes.



نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان
له ویلایەتە یەگرتووەکانی ئەمریکا

گەرمترین پیرۆزبایی له موسلمانانی ئەمریکا،
کوردستان و سەرتاسەری جیھان دەکات بە
بۆنەی مانگی رەمەزانی پیرۆزەوہ.

ھیوادارین مانگی رەمەزان مانگی خێروخۆشی
بیت بۆ هەموو لایەک، بۆ کەسوکاری سەربەرز
شەھیدان و بۆ پیشمەرگە دلیرەکان و هەروەها
بۆ ئەو کەسانە ی کە دوور لە خێزان و زیدی
خۆیان ئەم مانگە بەسەر دەبەن.

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: State Dept PDAS Joey Hood featured in this month's "Kurdistan in America" podcast

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Tue, Mar 17, 2020 at 5:40 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Tue, Mar 17, 2020 at 4:31 PM

Subject: State Dept PDAS Joey Hood featured in this month's "Kurdistan in America" podcast

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Check out this month's episode of "Kurdistan in America", featuring an interview with the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joey Hood! Mr. Hood served as deputy head of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad from 2017-2019 and has visited Kurdistan many times.

Learn about Mr. Hood's perspectives on the Kurdistan - US partnership, as well as his family's connection to Operation Provide Comfort and his dream of seeing Kurdish products on the shelves of American supermarkets. You'll also hear a quick news update about KRG - US relations.



Catch [the episode here](#) or on your favorite podcast app including Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, and iheartradio.

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: TODAY @ 2:30 PM EST - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Tue, Apr 21, 2020 at 10:58 AM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Tue, Apr 21, 2020 at 10:54 AM

Subject: TODAY @ 2:30 PM EST - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States

States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency
Medicine at Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology and Internal Medicine Board Certified, Fellow at Johns Hopkins
University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in
Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

=====

کوئید-۱۹: گه‌ران له دووی پیکوته و گه‌رانه‌وه بۆ ئاسایی COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

نوینه‌رایه‌تیی حکومه‌تی هه‌ریمی کوردستان له ویلایه‌ته یه‌کگرتووه‌کان، واشنگتونی پایته‌خت، بانگه‌یشتی به‌ریزتان ده‌کات بۆ ویبیارنی کوئید-۱۹ له‌گه‌ل دوو دوو دکتوری به‌ناوبانگ له ویلایه‌ته یه‌کگرتووه‌کان، که له به‌ره‌کانی پێشه‌وه کار له‌سه‌ر په‌تاکه ده‌کن

سێشه‌مه، ۲۱ ی نیسانی، ۲۰۲۰

به کاتی واشنگتون و نیویۆرک: ۲:۳۰ تا ۳:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی ناشفیل ۱:۳۰ بۆ ۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی ساند دییه‌گو ۱۱:۳۰ ی به‌یانی بۆ ۱۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی هه‌ولیر ۹:۳۰ شه‌و بۆ ۱۰:۳۰ شه‌و

ئێفینته‌که به یوتیوب لایف به زیندی په‌خش ده‌کریت و له‌سه‌ر تویتەر و فه‌یسبوکی نوینه‌رایه‌تیی حکومه‌تی هه‌ریمی کوردستان له ئه‌مریکا، په‌خش ده‌کریت

[ئێره‌ کلێک بکه‌ بۆ په‌خشی راسته‌وخۆ.](#)

په‌تای کوئید-۱۹ له‌گه‌ل خۆی شه‌پۆلێک زانیاری هیناوه که تیندا راسپارده‌ی جیی متمانه زۆربه‌ی جار به زحمه‌ت جیا ده‌کریته‌وه له به‌دزانیاری. فایرۆسه‌که ژیانی داخستوه له باکووری ئه‌مریکا و هه‌ریمی کوردستان، و هه‌ردوکیان له ئاستی جۆراوجۆردا شه‌ت داونیان به‌خۆوه دیوه.

له‌م ویبیاره‌دا، دوو دکتوری به‌ناوبانگ که کار له‌سه‌ر په‌تاکه ده‌کن، وه‌لامی پرسپاره‌کانت ده‌ده‌نه‌وه له‌سه‌ر فایرۆسه‌که. چۆن و له کوی پێشینی کرانه‌وه‌ی حکومه‌ت و ئابوورییه‌کان بکه‌ین؟ ئایا پارێزراوی-مه‌ناعه- له فایرۆسه‌که هه‌یه؟ ده‌ستگه‌یشتنی گشتیی به پیکوته‌یه‌ک، تا چه‌ند نزیکه؟ ئه‌م پرسپارانە و تۆش هه‌ر پرسپاریکت هه‌بیت، له ویبیاره‌که‌دا وه‌لامی ده‌دریته‌وه.

ئاخیره رهکان

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

به ریۆه بهری هۆبهی ناكاوی و پروفیسۆری كلینكی چاره سهری ناكاوی

زانكۆی دهوله تیی لویزیانا

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

هه قالی هیماتۆلۆجی له نه خۆشخانهی زانكۆی جۆنز هۆپكنز، ماسته ر له تهن دروستی گشتیی و له گه ل
تایبه تمه ندی له ئیپیدیمیۆلۆجی له بنكه ی پزیشکی زانكۆی نیبراسكا

رێكخه ر/مۆدییره تیه ر

خاتوو به یان سامی عبدالرحمن

نۆینه ری حکومه تی هه ری می کوردستان له ویلایه ته یه کگرتوو هکانی ئەمریکا

پرسیار و وه لامة کان

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Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

Fwd: TOMORROW, 9:00 AM -- COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and a Way Forward

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 3:23 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 3:22 PM

Subject: TOMORROW, 9:00 AM -- COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and a Way Forward

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

Virtual event, hosted by Refugees International

**COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and
a Way Forward**

**Wednesday, April 8, 2020
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

[Click here to join this virtual event](#)

or join by phone: +1 209-844-4600, Passcode: 134607577#



As the COVID-19 epidemic spreads across the Middle East, the population in Northeast Syria and Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) face similar challenges. Both Kurdish majority regions host large populations of displaced people who have fled civil war and the conflict with the Islamic State. Even before the COVID-19 crisis, the total number of those in need of humanitarian assistance figured in the millions. The United Nations warns that access to healthcare in Northeast Syria and in KRI for the displaced is increasingly limited. COVID-19 has the potential to devastate these already-vulnerable communities.

Refugees International and the Columbia University Institute for the Study of Human Rights invite you to an on-the-record web event exploring the COVID crisis in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and in Northeast Syria, the effects of this crisis on the displaced people in these regions, and a way forward.

Host

Hardin Lang

is Vice President for Programs and Policy at Refugees International.

Speakers

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

is the Representative of the Kurdistan Regional Government to the United States.

Sinam Mohammed

is Representative of the Syrian Democratic Council to the United States.

Rapporteur

David L. Phillips

is the Director of the Program on Peace-building and Rights at Columbia University's Institute for the Study of Human Rights.

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Arden Bentley at arden@refugeesinternational.org with any questions.

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Fwd: Tuesday @ 2:30 PM - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

J. Michael Slocum <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com> Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 2:09 PM
To: farakrg@gmail.com

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From: **Kurdistan Regional Government - USA** <us@gov.krd>

Date: Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 1:13 PM

Subject: Tuesday @ 2:30 PM - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

To: <jmichaelslocum@slocumboddie.com>

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**Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States**

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States

States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency
Medicine at Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology and Internal Medicine Board Certified, Fellow at Johns Hopkins
University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in
Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

=====

کوئید-۱۹: گه‌ران له دووی پیکوته و گه‌رانه‌وه بۆ ئاسایی COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

نوینه‌رایه‌تیی حکومه‌تی هه‌ریمی کوردستان له ویلایه‌ته یه‌کگرتووه‌کان، واشنگتونی پایته‌خت، بانگه‌یشتی به‌رێزتان ده‌کات بۆ ویبێناری کوئید-۱۹ له‌گه‌ل دوو دوو دکتوری به‌ناوبانگ له ویلایه‌ته یه‌کگرتووه‌کان، که له به‌ره‌کانی پێشه‌وه کار له‌سه‌ر په‌تاکه ده‌که‌ن

سێشه‌مه، ۲۱ ی نیسانی، ۲۰۲۰

به کاتی واشنگتون و نیویۆرک: ۲:۳۰ تا ۳:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی ناشفیل ۱:۳۰ بۆ ۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی ساند دییه‌گو ۱۱:۳۰ ی به‌یانی بۆ ۱۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌رۆ

به کاتی هه‌ولیر ۹:۳۰ شه‌و بۆ ۱۰:۳۰ شه‌و

ئێفینته‌که به یوتیوب لایف به زیندی په‌خش ده‌کریته و له‌سه‌ر تویتەر و فه‌یسبوکی نوینه‌رایه‌تیی حکومه‌تی هه‌ریمی کوردستان له ئه‌مریکا، په‌خش ده‌کریته

[ئێره کلێک بکه بۆ په‌خشی راسته‌وخۆ.](#)

په‌تای کوئید-۱۹ له‌گه‌ل خۆی شه‌پۆلێک زانیاری هیناوه که تیندا راسپارده‌ی جیی متمانه زۆربه‌ی جار به زحمه‌ت جیا ده‌کریته‌وه له به‌دزانیاری. فایرۆسه‌که ژیانی داخستوه له باکووری ئه‌مریکا و هه‌ریمی کوردستان، و هه‌ردوکیان له ئاستی جۆراوجۆردا شه‌ت داونیان به‌خۆوه دیوه.

له‌م ویبێناره‌دا، دوو دکتوری به‌ناوبانگ که کار له‌سه‌ر په‌تاکه ده‌که‌ن، وه‌لامی پرسپاره‌کانت ده‌ده‌نه‌وه له‌سه‌ر فایرۆسه‌که. چۆن و له کوی پێشینی کرانه‌وه‌ی حکومه‌ت و ئابوورییه‌کان بکه‌ین؟ ئایا پارێزراوی-مه‌ناعه- له فایرۆسه‌که هه‌یه؟ ده‌ستگه‌یشتی گشتیی به پیکوته‌یه‌ک، تا چه‌ند نزیکه؟ ئه‌م پرسپارانە و تۆش هه‌ر پرسپاریکت هه‌بیت، له ویبێناره‌که‌دا وه‌لامی ده‌دریته‌وه.

ئاخیره رهکان

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

به‌رپوهبه‌ری هۆبه‌ی ناکاوی و پروفیسوری کلینیکی چاره‌سه‌ری ناکاوی

زانکۆی ده‌وله‌تی لویزانا

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

هه‌فالی هیماتۆلۆجی له نه‌خۆشخانه‌ی زانکۆی جۆنز هۆپکنز، ماسته‌ر له تهن‌دروستی گشتیی و له‌گه‌ل
تایبه‌تمه‌ندی له ئیپیدیمیۆلۆجی له بنکه‌ی پزشکی زانکۆی نیبراسکا

رێکخه‌ر/مۆدیره‌یته‌ر

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Happy Eid from the KRG in Washington

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd> Sun, May 24, 2020 at 11:25 AM
Reply-To: us@gov.krd
To: farakrg@gmail.com



***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.***

**The KRG Representation in the United States sends warm wishes to Muslims in Kurdistan, the United States, and around the world on this happy occasion of Eid.
We wish you and your families a Happy Eid.**



CEJNA WE PÎROZ BE!

ROŞANÊ ŞÎMA BİMBAREK BO!

نوینه رایه تی حکومه تی هه ریمی کوردستان له ویلایه ته یه گگرتوو ه کان
به بۆنه ی جه ژنی ره مه زانه وه پیروزباییه کی گهرم له سه رجه م موسلمانان
ده کات له کوردستان، ویلایه ته یه گگرتوو ه کان، و جیهان
جه ژنی هه موو لایه کتان پیروز بیت.
به خوشی و شادی.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

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Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Sat, Feb 8, 2020 at 11:09 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com



***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.***

Welcome to our February 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



© UNHCR/Hussein Fatemi: A newly arrived four-year old Syrian Kurdish refugee in Bardarash camp in Duhok. The camp hosts more than 17,000 new Syrian Kurdish refugees.

The Kurdistan Region serves as a sanctuary to over 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees. This means there has been close to 20 percent increase to Kurdistan's existing population of 5.5 million. The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) shoulders about 70% of the almost 1 billion USD annual cost to provide basic services to the refugees and IDP's. The displaced people live across three provinces of the KRI—Duhok, Erbil, and Slemani—in both camps and urban and rural settings.

Since the beginning of the Turkish military incursion into northeast Syria (Rojava) on 9 October 2019, more than 20,545 Syrian Kurds have

HIGHLIGHTS

- [More than 1,050,500 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.](#)
- [More than of 28, 617 refugees and IDPs arrived to the Kurdistan in 2019:](#)

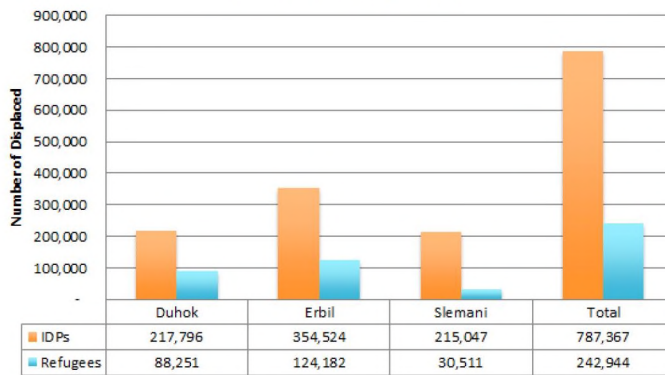
crossed into the Kurdistan Region. At its height, the rate of refugees entering Kurdistan surprised 1,735, but it has dropped to about 35-45 in recent weeks.

The ongoing turmoil continues to affect the physical and mental well-being, living standards and recovery of millions of IDPs and refugees. The recent escalation of violence by the remnants of ISIS in the disputed areas and the Sunni triangle has also led to an increase in the return of IDPs to Kurdistan. Further, most of the IDPs in camps do not intend to return to their place of origin because of security and economic reasons.

- 19,825 refugees
- 8,794 IDPs.

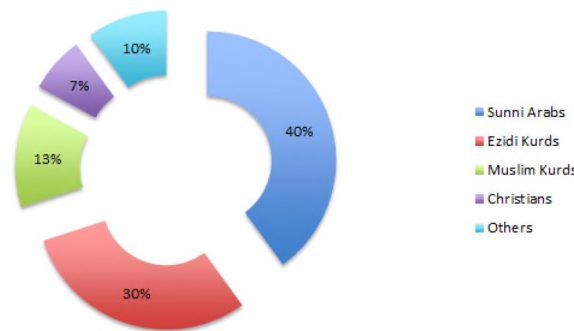
- More than 15,154 refugees and IDPs returned to their place of origin or migrated to another country.
- More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

Number of Displaced



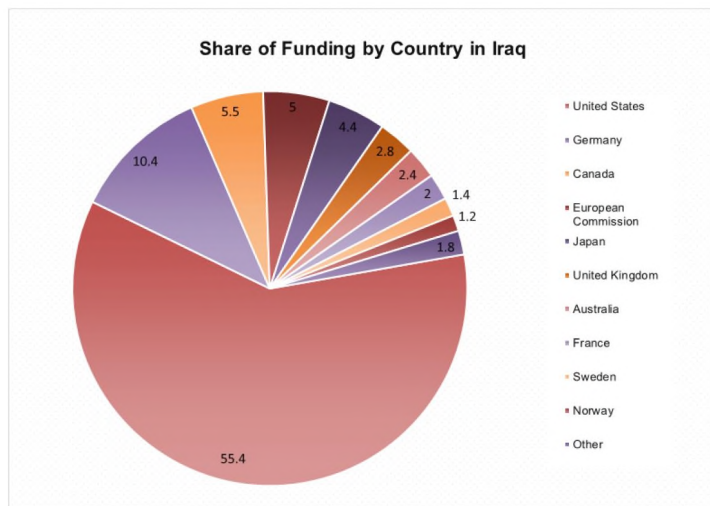
About 40% of the refugees live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region: 47.5% are in Erbil, 33% in Duhok, and 19.5% in Slemani.

IDP Demographics



According to KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC), 787,367 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are registered in Kurdistan.

The total incoming humanitarian funding in Iraq for 2019 was about 647.5 million USD. The United States was the largest donor country—followed by Germany, Canada, the European Commission, Japan, United Kingdom, Australia, France, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, Italy, Kuwait, South Korea, Ireland, Qatar,



Luxembourg, Czech Republic,
Poland, and Malaysia.

[Text Link](#)

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN Agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and their dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable displaced people in Kurdistan and the rest of Iraq.

Funding Gaps: The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the displaced people in Kurdistan. Approximately 25 percent of the funding is covered and managed by the United Nations Agencies and US Department of State bureaus and 5 percent by International and local NGOs. The KRG provides about 70 percent of funds out of its budget to sustain current basic services, which has exhausted its resources. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian partners to either reduce or completely terminate services and ongoing projects. This threatens the welfare and lives of the IDPs and refugees.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can support the vulnerable displaced people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Humanitarian Affairs:

Delovan Barwari

Director of Humanitarian Affairs

Office: [+1 \(202\) 821-1861](tel:+12028211861)

Email: delovan.barwari@us.gov.krd

Twitter: [@DelovanBarwari](https://twitter.com/DelovanBarwari)

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Sat, Mar 21, 2020 at 11:10 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com



Kurdistan Regional Government
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Washington D.C.

Welcome to our March 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



Employees of the the Barzani Charity Foundation educating people about the coronavirus and providing hand sanitizers and masks to the general public in urban centers and the population of camps for displaced people.

The rapid spread of coronavirus pandemic around the world is expected to have devastating impacts on the global economy, especially the fragile states with displaced people. So far, 40 people have contracted the virus in the Kurdistan Region. In efforts to contain the pandemic, the Kurdistan

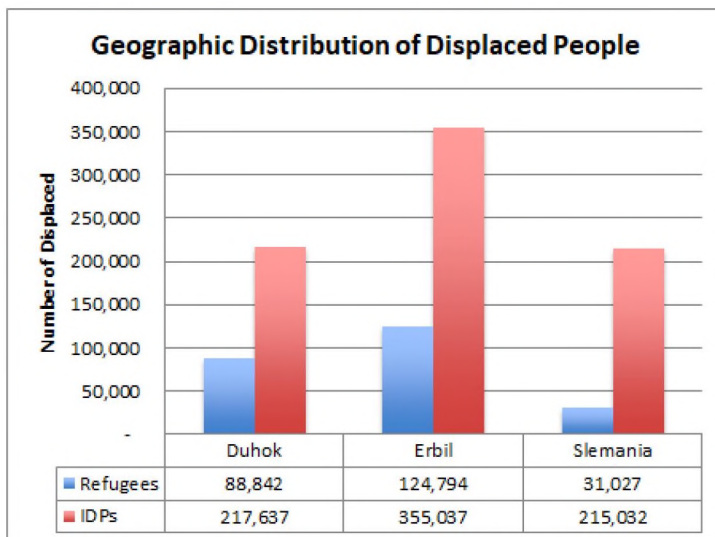
HIGHLIGHTS

Regional Government (KRG) has proactively taken strict measures by temporarily closing schools, extending public holidays, imposing curfews, and canceling large gatherings, including religious sermons.

Fortunately, no COVID-19 cases have been reported among the displaced community in Kurdistan, but the KRG has also imposed strict measures on the internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugee camps, which have negatively impacted prices and movement of aid deliveries inside the camps. Further, the pandemic has devastated the local economy, especially after the sharp drop of oil prices, which will further limit KRG's ability to meet the needs of over 1 million IDPs and refugees, which amounts to 20 percent of its population. The KRG shoulders about 70% of the almost 1 billion USD annual cost to provide basic services to the refugees and IDP's.

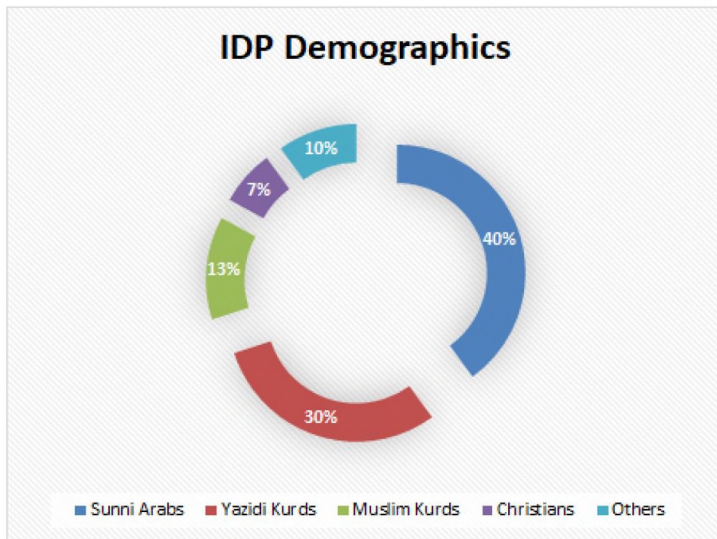
Moreover, thousands of new refugees continue to cross into the Kurdistan Region from northeast Syria (Rojava). Since the beginning of the Turkish military incursion into Rojava on 9 October 2019, more than 21,650 Syrian Kurds have crossed into the Kurdistan Region. Additionally, the ongoing turmoil continues to affect the physical and mental well-being, living standards and recovery of millions of IDPs and refugees. The recent escalation of violence by the remnants of ISIS in the disputed areas and the Sunni triangle has also led to an increase in the return of IDPs to Kurdistan.

- More than 1,052,425 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.
- More than 1,600 displaced people arrived to the Kurdistan Region in February 2020
- More than 1,482 displaced people returned to their place of origin or migrated to another country.
- More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

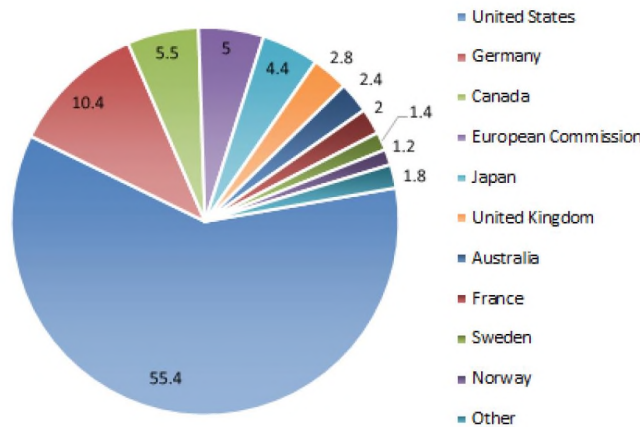


About 40% of the refugees live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region: 47.5% are in Erbil, 33% in Duhok, and 19.5% in Slemani.

According to KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC), 787,367 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are registered in Kurdistan.



Share of Funding by Country in Iraq



The total incoming humanitarian funding in Iraq for 2019 was about 647.5 million USD. The United States was the largest donor country—followed by Germany, Canada, the European Commission, Japan, United Kingdom, Australia, France, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, Italy, Kuwait, South Korea, Ireland, Qatar, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Poland, and Malaysia.

[Text Link](#)

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN Agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and their dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable displaced people in Kurdistan and the rest of Iraq.

Funding Gaps: The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the displaced people in Kurdistan. Approximately 25 percent of the funding is covered and managed by the United Nations Agencies and US Department of State bureaus and 5 percent by International and local NGOs. The KRG provides about 70 percent of funds out of its budget to sustain current basic services, which has exhausted its resources. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian partners to either reduce or completely terminate services and ongoing projects. This threatens the welfare and lives of the IDPs and refugees.

Refugees and IDPs are particularly more vulnerable to the coronavirus and other diseases because of their living conditions and insufficient sanitation and healthcare services. Thus, the KRG calls on the international community, international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), and philanthropists to pay greater attention to the vulnerable displaced people.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support the vulnerable displaced people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Humanitarian Affairs at the KRG US Representation.

Delovan Barwari

Director of Humanitarian Affairs

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

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Thu, Apr 23, 2020 at 11:43 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
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Washington D.C.***

Welcome to our April 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



The KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (KRG-JCC) office in Duhok distribute aid provided by the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) and IKL to the victims of the flash flood in Duhok province.

HIGHLIGHTS

As the coronavirus pandemic spreads around the world, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) has also felt the tragic impact of the outbreak. It has caused hardship to both the local population and displaced people. Further, devastating flash floods swept through parts of the Kurdistan Region in late March, sustaining property and other damage.

The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. Host communities are also experiencing hardship, with some local NGOs delivering food to families facing difficulties. We call on our friends in the United States and the international community to help at this time of crisis.

In response to the pandemic, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has proactively taken measures to contain the invisible enemy. As part of its social distancing strategy, it extended holidays, canceled religious services and other public gatherings, suspended school and flights, and imposed a curfew across Kurdistan. Further, as of April 18th, the KRG Ministry of Health (MOH) has tested about 24,850 people for COVID-19, of which, a total of 338 confirmed cases have been recorded. So far, 312 people have recovered, four have lost their lives, and 22 are still active.

No new cases have been reported in recent days and most of the active cases are expected to recover in the coming days. Therefore, KRG is planning to ease restrictions on essential movements as early as April 24th in most cities. Moreover, the people of Duhok celebrated their victory over COVID-19 by turning their home lights off and lighting candles on their rooftops for five minutes.

Additionally, the KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC) has also taken precautions in the camps housing internally displaced persons (IDP) and refugees to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, while coordinating their activities with the relevant international organizations. Fortunately, no coronavirus cases have been reported in the camps, but travel restrictions have impacted prices and the movement of aid deliveries to the camps. The lockdown has also devastated the local economy, especially after the sharp drop in oil prices. Hence, the situation will likely further limit KRG's ability to meet the needs of nearly 1.1 million displaced people, which amounts to 20 percent of Kurdistan Region's population. The KRG has been shouldering 70% of the nearly 1 billion USD annual cost for providing basic services to the refugees and IDPs.

COVID-19 in Kurdistan:

Total cases tested: 24,850

Total Positive cases: 338

Total Recovered: 312

Total deaths: 4

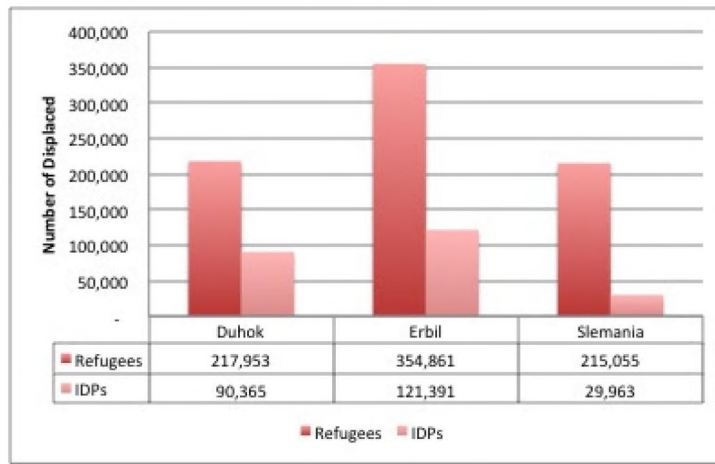
Total active cases: 22

More than 1,052,425 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.

More than 1,600 displaced people arrived in the Kurdistan Region since February 2020.

More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

According to the JCC, about 40% of the refugees live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region. Further, 787,367 IDPs are registered in Kurdistan: 40% are Sunni Arabs, 30% Ezidi Kurds, 13% Muslim Kurds, 7% Christians, and 10% others.



Nonetheless, new refugees and IDPs continue to cross into the Kurdistan Region from northeast Syria (Rojava). Additionally, the political gridlock in Baghdad, compounded with sounds of a resurgence of ISIS in some Sunni areas and the disputed territories (Kirkuk, Sinjar, and Khaniqin) continues to affect the mental and physical health, living conditions, and recovery of millions of displaced people. It has also led to an increase in the return of IDPs to Kurdistan.

The Kurdistan Regional Government is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN Agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable people in Kurdistan and the rest of Iraq.

The KRG, however, is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the IDPs and refugees. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian partners to either reduce or completely terminate services and ongoing projects. Fortunately, the USAID is donating \$670,000 to Iraq, including the Kurdistan Region, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

The refugees and IDPs are particularly vulnerable to the virus and other diseases because of their living conditions and insufficient sanitation and healthcare services. The KRG calls on the international community, international non-governmental organizations, and philanthropists to pay greater attention to their situation.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support the vulnerable people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Humanitarian Affairs at the US Representation.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Sat, May 23, 2020 at 10:34 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com



Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.

Welcome to our May 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



USAID donated two ambulances to the Rizgary Hospital to support Erbil Health Directorate's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) lifted the coronavirus lockdown on May 18 to allow businesses to reopen and eased the ban on traffic within provinces. However, due to new confirmed cases, the Ministry of Interior announced a complete lockdown

HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 in Kurdistan:
Total cases tested: 63,282
Total Positive cases: 442

during the Ramadan Eid holiday this weekend to prevent further outbreaks.

The COVID-19 lockdown, coupled with the sharp drop in oil prices and Baghdad's budget cuts have devastated the Kurdistan Region's economy, causing hardship to both the local population and displaced people as they face reduced employment and livelihood opportunities.

According to a recent Emergency Livelihoods Cluster report published by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), about 29 percent of IDP and refugee livelihood activities in Iraq have stopped or are inactive, a significant increase in the level of activity compared to 65 percent noted in early April. It is primarily due to the easing of lockdown restrictions, but close to 56 percent of the beneficiary targets remain unmet. These include suspensions in vocational training, halting of work placements and cash for labor, delays in asset replacements and grant disbursements, and closure of business set-ups.

Subsequently, the situation will likely constrain the KRG's ability to meet the needs of about 1.1 million internally displaced persons and refugees, which amounts to nearly 20 percent of the Kurdistan Region's population. The KRG has been shouldering around 70% of the 1 billion USD in annual cost to provide essential services to the displaced people. The KRG calls on the United States and the international community to help at this time of crisis.

Total Recovered: 383

Total deaths: 5

Total active cases: 54

Source: KRG Situation Update

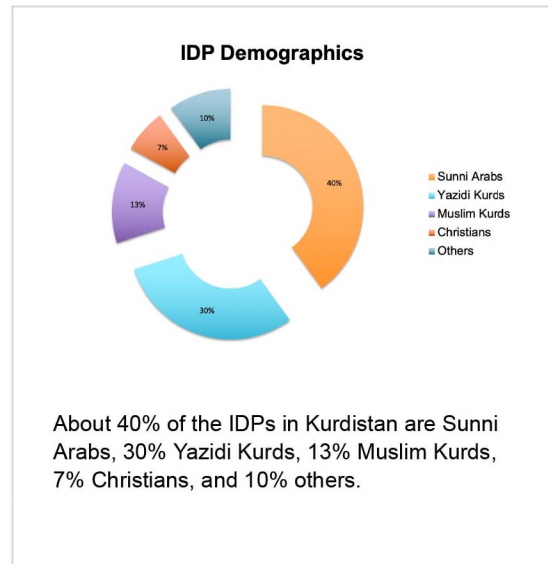
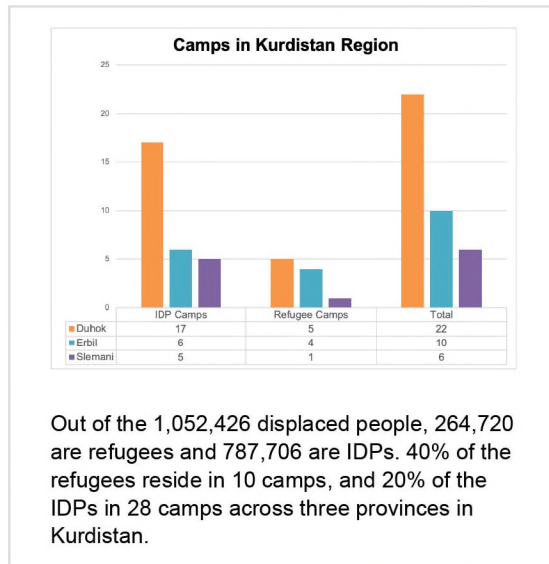
More than 1,052,426 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.

Only about 30–50 percent of Christians in the Kurdistan Region have returned to their places of origin.

Only 3 percent of Yazidi IDPs plan to return to the Sinjar region.

More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

Source: KRG-JCC and USCIRF



Source: The Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (JCC) of KRG

Moreover, according to the United States Commission for International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) 2020 Annual Report, only about 30–50 percent of the Chaldeans, Assyrians, and other Christians in the Kurdistan Region have returned to their areas of origin since the fall of ISIS in 2017. It is mainly because the Christian community is concerned about security.

Similarly, in a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) survey in February 2020, only 3 percent of Yazidi IDPs planned to return to Sinjar because of security concerns.

Nevertheless, the refugees and IDPs are more vulnerable to the coronavirus and other diseases because of their living conditions and inadequate sanitation and healthcare services. Therefore, the KRG calls on the international community, international non-governmental organizations, and philanthropists to pay greater attention to their situation.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support the vulnerable people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Public and Humanitarian Affairs at the US Representation.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin

1 message

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Thu, Jun 18, 2020 at 9:41 AM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com



**Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.**

Welcome to our June 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



In a collaborative project with the Barzani Charity Foundation, the LDS Charities provides food parcels for more than 7,500 IDP and refugee families in June 2020.

In recent days, the Kurdistan Region has seen an alarming spike in COVID-19 cases. More than 2,821 cases have been reported across Erbil, Slemani, Duhok, and Halabja governorates, an increase of 2,076 cases since June 1. Consequently, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has issued new measures to contain the pandemic.

HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 in Kurdistan:
Total cases tested: 108,001
Total Positive cases: 2,821
Total Recovered: 1,127
Total deaths: 75

The KRG's health guidelines will remain in place, including quarantine, treatment, delivering health services to the infected, and contact-tracing. Further, it will intensify the awareness campaign about the disease and on public health instructions to ensure compliance. Moreover, wearing masks is now mandatory in public places and government offices.

The KRG has also allocated an additional 5 billion Iraqi dinars to the Ministry of Health to meet the growing needs of the directorates of health in the four KRI governorates. It will assist factories producing PPE and masks in ensuring quality and affordable production. The travel bans in the Kurdistan Region and between other parts of Iraq will also continue.

The pandemic, along with the sharp decline in oil prices, and Baghdad's budget cuts have devastated the economy, causing hardship to both the host and displaced communities. On June 11, the Barzani Charity Foundation reported that 429 Syrian refugees living in the Bardarash refugee camp are returning to their places of origin in northeastern Syria (Rojava), mainly because of the coronavirus pandemic and unemployment. Bardarash camp is home to more than 6,500 Syrian refugees, predominately Kurds.

The economic situation has constrained the KRG's ability to meet the needs of more than 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees. The KRG has been funding about 70% of the 1 billion USD in annual cost to provide essential services to the displaced people. The KRG calls on the United States and the international community to help during this crisis, which is likely to continue to impact Kurdistan and Iraq for the foreseeable future.

Total active cases: 1,619

Source: KRG Coronavirus Dashboard

More than 1,008,878 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.

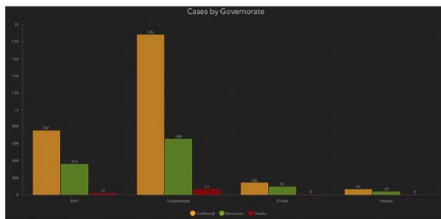
429 Syrian refugees residing in Bardarash refugee camp have begun returning to their place of origin.

Security is the top concern for 70% of IDPs in camps and 80% of IDPs outside of camps.

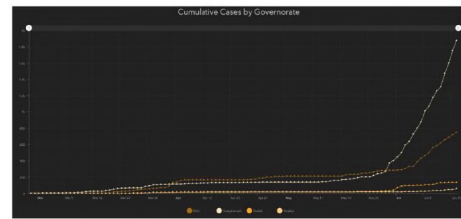
More than 30% of IDPs cited services and reconstruction as major concerns.

More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

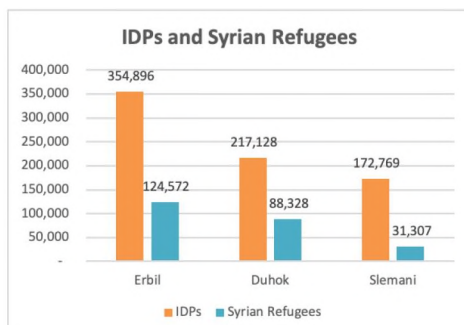
Source KRG-JCC, HHI, USIP



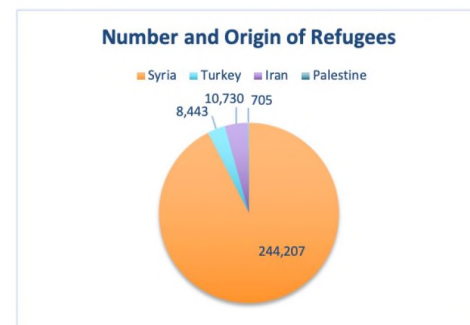
The ratio of COVID-19 cases across the four KRI governorates.



The KRG is experiencing a rapid spike in the number of COVID-19 cases.



The geographical distribution of IDPs and refugees in KRI



The number of refugees per country of origin

Source: KRG Coronavirus Dashboard & Joint Crisis Coordination Center

The results of a study by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) about the needs, perceptions, and attitudes of conflict-affected communities, which included IDPs living in Erbil, Duhok, and Nineveh governorates, indicate that security, livelihood, and basic needs as the top priorities. When asked what should be done for the Yazidis and other minorities, 70% of IDPs in camps and 80% of IDPs outside of camps mentioned security, while more than 30% of IDPs also stressed services and reconstruction as major concerns.

They also expressed a strong desire for accountability and truth, while denial of justice was also among the survivors' prevailing sentiment. Moreover, although over 93% believed there was a need for reconciliation in Iraq, most were not optimistic about peace prospects.

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) also released a study to understand the relationship and dynamics in the post-ISIS period in the conflict-affected communities in Hamdaniya, Sinjar, Tal Afar, and Tal Keif. Similarly, most participants recognize "the need for reconciliation, but Christians and Yazidis have significant doubts that it is possible."

The Kurdistan Regional Government is grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to all of the countries, UN agencies, and international and local NGOs for their financial support and dedication to alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable people in the Kurdistan Region and the rest of Iraq. Nevertheless, the refugees and IDPs are more vulnerable to the coronavirus and other diseases because of their living conditions and inadequate sanitation and healthcare services.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support vulnerable communities in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Public and Humanitarian Affairs at the US Representation.

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KRG's Humanitarian Bulletin: Correction on IDP and Refugee Figures and Updates on Coronavirus

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Sat, Apr 25, 2020 at 12:20 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com



Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.

Welcome to our April 2020 Humanitarian Bulletin



The KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (KRG-JCC) office in Duhok distribute aid provided by the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) and IKL to the victims of the flash flood in Duhok province.

As the coronavirus pandemic spreads around the world, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) has also felt the tragic impact of the outbreak. It has caused hardship to both the local population and displaced people. Further, devastating flash floods swept through parts of the Kurdistan Region in late March, sustaining property and other damage.

The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. Host communities are also experiencing hardship, with some local NGOs delivering food to families facing difficulties. We call on our friends in the United States and the international community to help at this time of crisis.

In response to the pandemic, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has proactively taken measures to contain the invisible enemy. As part of its social distancing strategy, it extended holidays, canceled religious services and other public gatherings, suspended school and flights, and imposed a curfew across Kurdistan. Further, as of April 18th, the KRG Ministry of Health (MOH) has tested about 33,067 people for COVID-19, of which, a total of 344 confirmed cases have been recorded. So far, 318 people have recovered, four have lost their lives, and 22 are still active.

Five new cases were reported in the past few days and most of the active cases are expected to recover in the coming days. Therefore, KRG is planning to ease restrictions on essential movements as early as April 24th in most cities. Moreover, the people of Duhok celebrated their victory over COVID-19 by turning their home lights off and lighting candles on their rooftops for five minutes.

Additionally, the KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC) has also taken precautions in the camps housing internally displaced persons (IDP) and refugees to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, while coordinating their activities with the relevant international organizations. Fortunately, no coronavirus cases have been reported in the camps, but travel restrictions have impacted prices and the movement of aid deliveries to the camps. The lockdown has also devastated the local economy, especially after the sharp drop in oil prices. Hence, the situation will likely further limit KRG's ability to meet the needs of nearly 1.1 million displaced people, which amounts to 20 percent of Kurdistan Region's population. The KRG has been shouldering 70% of the nearly 1 billion USD annual cost for providing basic services to the refugees and IDPs.

HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 in Kurdistan:

Total cases tested: 33,067

Total Positive cases: 344

Total Recovered: 318

Total deaths: 4

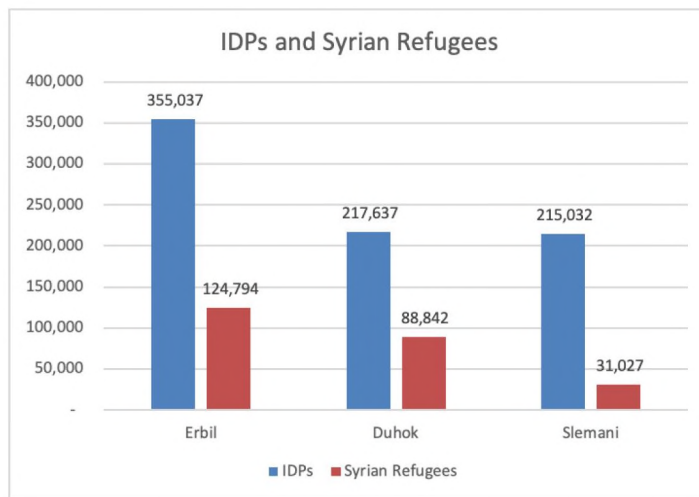
Total active cases: 22

More than 1,052,426 refugees and IDPs are registered in the Kurdistan Region.

More than 1,600 displaced people arrived in the Kurdistan Region since February 2020.

More than half of the displaced people are women and children.

According to the JCC, about 40% of the refugees live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region. There is a total of 264,720 refugees throughout the Kurdistan Region: 244,663 are Syrian Kurds, 10,844 are Iranian Kurds, 8,513 are Kurds from Turkey, and 700 are Palestinians. Further, out of the 787,706 IDPs that are registered in Kurdistan,



40% are Sunni Arabs, 30% Ezidi Kurds, 13% Muslim Kurds, 7% Christians, and 10% others.

Nonetheless, new refugees and IDPs continue to cross into the Kurdistan Region from northeast Syria (Rojava). Additionally, the political gridlock in Baghdad, compounded with sounds of a resurgence of ISIS in some Sunni areas and the disputed territories (Kirkuk, Sinjar, and Khaniqin) continues to affect the mental and physical health, living conditions, and recovery of millions of displaced people. It has also led to an increase in the return of IDPs to Kurdistan.

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The KRG, however, is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting the displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the IDPs and refugees. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian partners to either reduce or completely terminate services and ongoing projects. Fortunately, the USAID is donating \$670,000 to Iraq, including the Kurdistan Region, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

The refugees and IDPs are particularly vulnerable to the virus and other diseases because of their living conditions and insufficient sanitation and healthcare services. The KRG calls on the international community, international non-governmental organizations, and philanthropists to pay greater attention to their situation.

To learn more about the humanitarian situation or how you can help support the vulnerable people in Kurdistan, please contact the Director of Humanitarian Affairs at the US Representation.

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KRG-US April 2020 newsletter

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Thu, Apr 30, 2020 at 4:25 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

*Washington, D.C.
April 2020 newsletter*

Welcome to our April 2020 newsletter

As COVID-19 rocks communities around the world, Kurdistan Region remains vigilant for potential cases. After a period of total lockdown, a limited number of businesses are reopening as Muslims in the region mark Ramadan, although the majority of establishments and government offices remain closed. For the time being, the KRG seems to have contained the virus through



rigid quarantine and lockdown policies. The total number of active cases today [stands at 37, with five deaths](#). Even so, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani is urging citizens to be vigilant and take precautions.

The economic toll that now faces the Kurdistan Region is immense. The price of oil has crashed, and the lack of economic activity has severely impacted businesses and diminished government revenues. The effect of the pandemic and oil prices on the rest of Iraq is just as extreme. At this critical time, the Iraqi government has said it will no longer make monthly budget transfers to the Kurdistan Region, a move that President Nechirvan Barzani has called "unconstitutional and unlawful". In a meeting with United Nations Secretary-

General's Special Representative for Iraq, Jeanine Hennis- Plasschaert, the President asked the UN to mediate in resolving the dispute.

This week, [Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani is in Baghdad meeting with federal government officials and political leaders](#) in an attempt to seek a solution. In the meantime, we approach the deadline for the formation of a new Iraqi cabinet by Prime Minister-designate Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, who has the support of the Kurdistan Region as well as that of other, but not all, groups in Iraq.

As we contemplate the new complex of challenges facing Kurdistan Region, we are grateful for the support of our partners and allies around the world, including the United States which has provided medical assistance for COVID-19 through USAID and is supporting some peshmerga brigades through stipends, which are critical at this trying time.

We also appreciate the support of NGOs like [Spirit of America](#) which recently provided personal protective equipment to the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs in order to combat the COVID-19 outbreak. This month, the ["Kurdistan in America" podcast interviewed Zack Bazzi](#), Regional Director for the Middle East and Central Asia for the Spirit of America. In concert with the financial and technical support provided by the US Government, organizations like Spirit of America will remain essential for Kurdistan's success in the coming difficult months.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States
Kurdistan Regional Government

KRG US Representation Office Closure

As the impact of the corona virus continues to evolve, we at the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States remain focused on the health and safety of our staff and communities.

As a result of concerns over the spread of the virus and in line with guidance by local authorities, our office in Washington, DC is closed to visitors until further notice. The Representative and staff of the Mission are teleworking and remain active and available digitally.



Community services, including Proof of Life certificates and Power of Attorney authorizations can still be processed by mail, but applicants should keep in mind that the documents may not be processed in Kurdistan Region for some time due to the curfew and shutdowns experienced there.

Read a press release with relevant contact information here: [\[English\]](#) / [\[Kurdish\]](#)

Prime Minister Barzani meets with UNAMI and WHO representatives, describes Baghdad's cut of Erbil budget as political pressure

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met with representatives from the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in Erbil, to discuss ongoing efforts to form Iraq's new cabinet as well as Baghdad's recent move to cut the Kurdistan Region's share of the federal budget.

Prime Minister Barzani described the federal government's budgetary decision as political pressure against the people of the Kurdistan Region. This allocation accounts for half of the money used by

the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) to pay public sector salaries.

[Read a press release here.](#)

[Read a press releases from Deputy Prime Minister's meeting with the representatives.](#)



Deputy Prime Minister Talabani discusses formation of new Iraqi cabinet with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq Affairs

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani stressed the importance of forming a new government in Iraq quickly, in a telephone conversation with David Copley, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq Affairs in the US Department of State.



Deputy Prime Minister Talabani said the federal government and the KRG should step forward to resolve outstanding problems together. He wished success to Iraq's Prime Minister-designate Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, and expressed the Kurdistan Region's readiness to cooperate with the federal government in overcoming Iraq's economic, security and health issues.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Spirit of America's Zack Bazzi speaks with "Kurdistan in America" podcast

The "Kurdistan in America" podcast published its third episode this month, featuring an interview with Zack Bazzi, the Regional Director for the Middle East and Central Asia for the NGO Spirit of America.



The podcast explores the rich relationship between the US and Kurdistan Region. The latest episode focused on Spirit of America's work in the Kurdistan Region, including their recent delivery of critical medical supplies to protect Peshmerga forces from COVID-19. We also discussed the role of the US government and NGOs in supporting the humanitarian crisis, as well as Zack's first introduction to Kurdistan as a US Army Sergeant during the Operation Iraqi Freedom.

[Listen to the latest episode of the podcast here.](#)

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Prime Minister Barzani expresses support for Iraq's new Prime Minister-designate Mustafa Al-Kadhimi

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani spoke by telephone with Iraq's Prime Minister-designate Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, and offered his support in the formation of a new federal government.

Prime Minister Barzani underlined the importance of working together to resolve disputes between the Kurdistan Regional Government and Baghdad in accordance with Iraq's Constitution.



Head of DFR receives a phone call from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq Affairs at the State Department

Minister Safeen Dizayee, Head of KRG's Department of Foreign Relations, received a phone call from David Copley, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq Affairs at the US Department of State's Near Eastern Affairs bureau.



In the phone call, Minister Dizayee congratulated Deputy Assistant Secretary Copley on assuming his new post and wished him success. He also expressed his optimism for a good working relationship as they work to further develop bilateral ties in the many areas of mutual interest and cooperation between the United States and Kurdistan Region.

[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG Representative holds call with US Energy Department PDAS Dr. Matt Zais

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman had a call with Dr. Matt Zais, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of International Affairs at the US Department of Energy (pictured here in January 2020).



During the call the two officials discussed a range of issues including the Iraqi federal government formation, the KRG's handling of the global COVID-19 pandemic, and the ways that the recent collapse in oil prices and decreased demand for energy will impact Kurdistan Region and Iraq.

Read a press release here: [English](#) // [کوردی](#)

Deputy Prime Minister Talabani meets with government delegation for federal budget affairs, urges continued efforts to secure region's fair share

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani with the KRG's delegation for federal budget affairs in Erbil, to discuss the latest developments concerning the region's share of the budget.



The Deputy Prime Minister stressed that the priority of the KRG is to protect the public from the coronavirus pandemic and ensure government employees receive their salaries on time. He said ongoing discussions with Baghdad on the region's share of the federal budget will continue.

In the meeting, the KRG delegation for federal budget affairs briefed the Deputy Prime Minister on the outcome of their recent visit to Baghdad, as well as the current economic conditions in Iraq.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman and officials at State Department and National Security Council discuss challenges facing Kurdistan and Iraq

KRG Representative to the United States Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman spoke with David Copley, the newly-appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Iraq Affairs.

The two officials spoke via telephone about the growing challenges facing Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, including the outbreak of COVID-19, ongoing humanitarian crisis, and the issues around forming a new federal Iraqi government. They also discussed the opportunities for greater cooperation presented by these difficulties.



The previous week, Representative Abdul Rahman spoke with Erik Olson (pictured here, December 12, 2019), Director for Iraq Affairs at the National Security Council, to update him on recent developments in the region, including the KRG's response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Read a press release here: [English](#) // [کوردی](#)

Prime Minister Barzani chairs cabinet meeting on coronavirus, warns disease still a threat

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on April 22 chaired a cabinet meeting via video conference to discuss the ongoing coronavirus threat. He thanked the public for their resilience and commitment to the lockdown measures aimed at containing the disease and urged continued compliance.



Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani also attended the meeting, in which the Prime Minister said the KRG proactive measures to fight the coronavirus have worked.

The Prime Minister said local authorities have taken steps in lifting some social distancing measures to normalize peoples' lives, while key mitigation measures remain in place to prevent a rebound of the disease. These efforts will continue to ensure life goes back to normal in a phased manner.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Two Peshmerga killed in attack by ISIS terrorists

Under cover of darkness, on April 15 ISIS terrorists attacked Peshmerga defensive positions in the town of Kalajo, Garmiyān district. Two brave Peshmerga from the 5th Infantry Brigade, Ismael Fars Rasul and Sarkew Hama Rasheed, were martyred.

We extend our condolences to the families of those brave martyrs, who paid the ultimate price as they defended Kurdistan Region.

In a press release, the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs reminded the people of Kurdistan that despite the current unfavorable conditions and COVID-19 outbreak, the Peshmerga are prepared and working hard at defending the land and people of Kurdistan.



[Read a press release here.](#)

President Barzani hosts wide-ranging discussion with

Kurdistan's Vice Presidents

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani held a meeting on April 20 with his Vice Presidents and a number of senior aides at the Kurdistan Presidency to discuss the latest developments in the Kurdistan Region and Iraq.



The meeting focused on containment efforts of COVID-19 outbreak, the protective measures that were set by the KRG and their impacts on the people's lives and livelihoods, the issue of the deployment of troops in the Zini Warté area, the formation of the new Iraqi Cabinet and Kurdistan Region's share of ministerial posts, and the dangers of ISIS threats and the ways to confront them, particularly in the disputed territories.

[Read a detailed readout of the meeting here.](#)

KRG-US issues April Humanitarian Bulletin

The KRG Representation in Washington issued its monthly humanitarian bulletin, highlighting the ongoing humanitarian crisis and delivering up-to-date information and statistics about the situation.

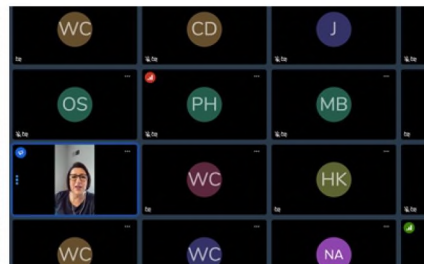


According to KRG's Joint Crisis Coordination Center, about 40% of the refugees in Kurdistan Region live in 10 camps and 20% of the IDPs live in 28 camps across three provinces in the Kurdistan Region. There is a total of 264,720 refugees throughout the Kurdistan Region: 244,663 are Syrian Kurds, 10,844 are Iranian Kurds, 8,513 are Kurds from Turkey, and 700 are Palestinians.

[Click here to read the Bulletin.](#)

Refugees International hosts virtual event about COVID-19 outbreak and humanitarian efforts in Kurdistan Region and northeast Syria

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman spoke at a virtual event about the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Kurdistan Region and the humanitarian response.



Representative Abdul Rahman outlined the KRG's robust and swift response to the outbreak and the difficulty with providing aid for the more than one million displaced people in Kurdistan Region in such a crisis. She also spoke about the secondary effects that the outbreak has had on the local economy, governmental budgets, and the fight against ISIS.

Ms Abdul Rahman noted that job losses due to the lockdown had resulted in some families in both the host and displaced communities needing food packages. She also warned about the impact of the weakening economy on funding for Peshmerga operations.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Representation Abdul Rahman holds round of calls with US officials

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman held a series of calls with US administration officials this week from the Department of Defense, Office of the Vice President, and Department of State. In each call, Representative Abdul Rahman thanked the US for its going support to the

Kurdistan Region and Iraq.

The Representative had a call with Simone Ledeen (pictured here), who began earlier in the month as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East. In their first call, Representative Abdul Rahman congratulated Deputy Assistant Secretary Ledeen on her new post and expressed the Kurdistan Region's appreciation for the close partnership between US forces and the Peshmerga, as well as the US' leadership in the international Coalition against ISIS. They discussed the challenges facing the Peshmerga, including a resurgent ISIS. They also discussed the economic difficulties facing Kurdistan Region, and Iraq as a whole, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and fall in oil prices.

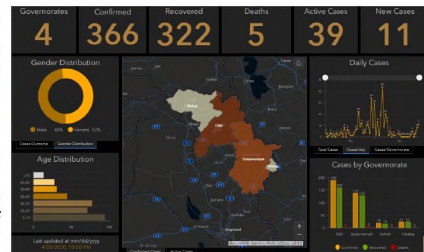


[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG hosts portal for information about COVID-19

The website of KRG's Council of Ministers hosts an information portal about the COVID-19 outbreak in Kurdistan. The portal includes the latest data on daily infection rates, as well as infections by governorate, gender, and age.

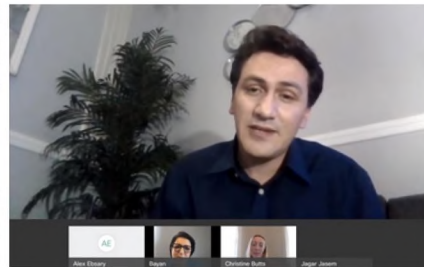
As of April 30, Kurdistan Region had registered a total of 380 confirmed cases, although 325 of those had recovered. There have been five deaths, leaving the total number of active cases at 50.



[Visit KRG's COVID-19 information portal here.](#)

KRG-US hosts COVID-19 discussion with medical professionals

The KRG Representation in Washington hosted a videoconference discussion with doctors working on the front lines of the battle against the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States.



There were two doctors on the call. Dr. Christine Butts, Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine at Louisiana State University, who has previously visited Kurdistan where she has met and worked with Kurdish doctors.

She was joined by Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, originally from Duhok in Kurdistan Region and a Fellow at Johns Hopkins University Hospital working on cancer cure and an international COVID-19 advisor who also holds a Masters of Public Health with distinction in Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman moderated the discussion and took questions from the online audience.

[Video of the discussion is archived here.](#)

Read a press release: [English](#) // [کوردی](#)

Kurdistan Parliament decides on work priorities, special committee to scrutinize Coronavirus measures and their impact

Kurdistan Parliament's presidency and the heads of the parliamentary blocks held a special meeting on 4 April, as the nation tackles the Corona virus outbreak and its consequences. They decided to continue coordinating with the KRG on implementation of the Reform Law; to scrutinize border points, food and medicine imports; and to monitor the work of the special bodies tackling the Coronavirus outbreak.

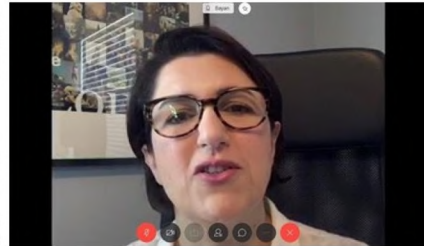


The meeting was chaired by Parliament Speaker Dr. Rewas Faiq, and included Deputy Speaker Hemin Hawrami, Secretary Muna Kahveci, and the heads of the parliamentary blocks (KDP, PUK, Gorran, New Generation, Kurdistan Islamic Group, Kurdistan Islamic Union, Social Democrats, Communist Party, and the Christian and Turkmen parties).

[Read a summary of the committee's decisions here.](#)

Columbia University hosts discussion with Representative Abdul Rahman

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman joined a videoconference with students from Columbia University's International Fellows Program in the School of International and Public Affairs.



During the discussion, which was also joined by advocates from Russia and South America, Representative Abdul Rahman discussed the security, political, and economic situation in the Kurdistan Region, focusing on the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. She also answered questions from students during the off-the-record discussion.

Read a press release: [English](#) // [کوردی](#)

Kurdistan in the media

[Coronavirus: Iraq's Kurdistan region warns of 'humanitarian catastrophe'](#) - The National

April 6, 2020

Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region on Monday warned of a "humanitarian catastrophe" from the coronavirus as the government in Baghdad offered to transfer funds to citizens stranded abroad.

[The Anfal files: survivors recount the genocide](#) - Rudaw

April 14, 2020

Rudaw has collected the testimonies of several survivors to be released in a seven-part series, entitled "The Anfal Files".

[UN envoy commends Kurdistan Region health authorities for "job well done" against COVID-19](#) - Kurdistan24

April 27, 2020

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, commended health authorities in the Kurdistan Region on Monday for "doing a good job" in combating COVID-19 so far.

[KRG delegation in Baghdad to discuss oil and budget share dispute](#) - Rudaw

April 29, 2020

A delegation of Kurdish officials led by Qubad Talabani, deputy prime minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) - met with US and Iraqi officials in Baghdad on Wednesday to discuss outstanding oil and budget issues between Erbil and Baghdad.

[German Trial Accuses Iraqi of Genocide in Killing of Yazidi Girl](#) - New York Times
April 25, 2020

The Frankfurt trial of the 27-year-old man accused of being an ISIS member is believed to be the first that carries the charge of genocide in relation to the Yazidis.

[Baghdad is cutting KRG budget to 'punish' Kurds, PM Barzani tells UNAMI chief](#) - Rudaw

April 27, 2020

Baghdad is withholding the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG)'s share of the Iraqi federal budget to "punish" the Kurdish people, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani told the United Nations special representative to Iraq during her visit to Erbil on Monday.

[WHO provides supplies and equipment to Kurdistan to fight COVID-19](#) - WHO News

April 19, 2020

WHO has provided medical supplies and equipment to the Ministry of Health of the Kurdistan region of Iraq to support response efforts in fighting COVID-19.

[Erbil photographers capturing the city under lockdown](#) - Rudaw

April 14, 2020

Photographers in Erbil have continued to document city life despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which has seen daily life grind to a halt.

[Kurdish doctors use social media to educate diaspora on COVID-19](#) - Rudaw

April 25, 2020

As the coronavirus pandemic continues, people all over the world are struggling. More than 197,500 people have died worldwide. While healthcare providers continue to risk their lives on the front lines in hospitals, there is another arena of public health education that needs to be addressed.

[Growing up in Iraq, I longed for a life without lockdowns. Now the world has become Baghdad.](#) - Washington Post

April 28, 2020

Lockdown. For most people, it probably wasn't a very familiar concept. When the American tanks first rolled into Baghdad, I hadn't heard of such strict curfews either. But now, as a 29-year-old Iraqi, I'm seeing events outside my window that feel like *deja vu*.

[Kurdistan challenges Iraq's budget payment freeze as KRG delegation meets with Baghdad officials](#) - Kurdistan24

April 29, 2020

On Wednesday, the cabinet of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) sent a 10 point letter to its federal counterpart with documents, statistics, and legal arguments that challenged a recently-announced plan to suspend monthly payments of the region's share of the national budget that is crucial to paying salaries of government workers.

[Erbil artisans reopen businesses squeezed by lockdown](#) - Rudaw

April 28, 2020

Forty days after the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) ordered all non-essential businesses to close, Erbil's artisan craftsmen have pulled open their shutters once more to resume work, just in time for the holy month of Ramadan.

[Iraqi Kurdistan rejects NGO accusations of blocking aid to Syrian Kurds](#) - Al Monitor

April 22, 2020

The government of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region is responding with anger to relief organizations' claims that it is blocking aid to the northeast Syria as COVID-19 rages, with officials saying it has "bent over backward" to help.

[As infections fall, Kurdistan PM stresses COVID-19 restrictions still crucial](#) - Kurdistan24

April 22, 2020

Kurdistan Region Prime Minister Masrour Barzani warned on Wednesday that the coronavirus remains a serious danger and called on the public to continue to abide by precautionary measures now still in place to prevent new outbreaks as the number of hospitalized patients falls by the day.

[COVID-19 news coverage praised on Kurdish Journalism Day](#) - Rudaw

April 22, 2020

Coronavirus has become the defining news story of the year - perhaps even the decade. Kurdish leaders have used the occasion of Kurdish Journalism Day to thank the Kurdistan Region's media workers for keeping the public informed through the crisis.

[Iran and the U.S. agree on Iraq's latest nominee for prime minister. But will Iraqis](#) - Washington Post

April 10, 2020

When Iraq's sharp-suited intelligence chief accepted his nomination for prime minister Thursday, 17 years to the day that U.S. troops marched into Baghdad, the challenges ahead seemed steeper than at any point since the invasion transformed Iraq.

[US-led coalition to resume training of Peshmerga next month as ISIS threat looms](#) - Rudaw

April 13, 2020

The US-led coalition will resume military training for Peshmerga forces in the Kurdistan Region by the end of May, a coalition spokesperson told Rudaw on Sunday.

[Iraq's Kurdistan region to defer Nov-Feb oil payments](#) - Genel Energy - Reuters

April 17, 2020

Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region will postpone payments for oil sales made between November 2019 and February 2020 while committing to paying regularly for the following months, London-based Genel Energy said on Friday.

[Kurdistan announces e-school initiative to restart classes amid COVID-19 curfew](#)

- Kurdistan24

April 25, 2020

The Kurdistan Regional Government's (KRG) Minister of Education announced in a televised speech on Thursday that an e-school program for grades one through twelve was now being implemented to help students keep up their studies during the anti-coronavirus curfew that has closed centers of learning throughout the autonomous region.

[Erbil churches livestream Mass amid coronavirus lockdown](#) - Rudaw

April 22, 2020

Ainkawa churches have resorted to live streaming Mass services as the coronavirus lockdown continues.

[Top Kurdistan Region officials mark Qaladze bombardment anniversary](#) - Kurdistan24

April 24, 2020

Senior officials of the Kurdistan Region, on Friday, marked the 46th anniversary of the bombardment of Qaladze by the former Iraqi regime, issuing statements which honored and commemorated the victims and survivors of that atrocity.

[The Red Prison: My Photo Exhibition in a Saddam-Era Jail](#) - PetaPixel

April 7, 2020

When people ask me my favorite places on Earth, typically I respond like this: the best food is in Ethiopia, the best historical sites are in India, but the best people are in Kurdistan. For that reason, I have been pulled back to Kurdistan as a photographer again and again.

[Iraq: Oil dispute reignites between Baghdad and Kurdistan](#) - The National

April 26, 2020

Feud resurfaces as a Kurdish ally could become the country's next prime minister

[Iraq: President says constitution is basis to solve Kurdistan issues](#) - Middle East Monitor

April 21, 2020

Iraq's President Barham Salih stressed on Monday the importance of relying on the constitution and the national interest to solve outstanding issues between the federal government in Baghdad and the Kurdistan region in northern Iraq.

[Iraq's Kurdistan region committed to OPEC+ oil output deal](#) - Reuters

April 19, 2020

Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan Region said on Sunday it is committed to its share of an OPEC+ deal to reduce oil output to support prices and curb oversupply, Iraq's state news agency reported.

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KRG-US February 2020 newsletter

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Sat, Feb 29, 2020 at 6:52 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

*Washington, D.C.
February 2020 newsletter*

Welcome to our February 2020 newsletter

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani led the KRG delegation at the Munich Security Conference earlier this month where he had meetings with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (pictured), Secretary of Defense Mark Esper and Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette as well as a congressional delegation headed by Senator Lindsay Graham.



The meetings with US leaders were productive and underscored the mutual interests of both sides in maintaining regional stability and expanding economic cooperation. Following the Munich conference, Prime Minister Barzani visited the Vatican where he met His Holiness Pope Francis and discussed the role of Kurdistan Region as a haven for refugees and persecuted religious minorities.

Also this month, Senator Jim Inhofe, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and Congressman Ralph Abraham, Co-Chair of the Kurdish American Congressional Caucus, travelled separately to Erbil to meet with officials.

Meanwhile in Baghdad, attempts by Iraq's Prime Minister-designate, Mohamed Allawi, to form a new federal government have so far been met with resistance from several quarters including the Kurdish block who insist on protecting the constitutional entity of the Kurdistan Region and its rights. They continue to engage in dialogue with Mr Allawi.

Like much of the world, Iraq and the Kurdistan Region are on high alert because of the global coronavirus outbreak. With infections popping up in Iran and parts of Iraq, KRG health services are working to educate the public and prepare to handle any infections that may happen. So far, there are no known cases of infection in the Kurdistan Region. KRG authorities are restricting border crossings to prevent transmissions from infected areas and schools are closed until after the Newroz holidays.

Here in Washington, this month we were excited to launch "[Kurdistan in America](#)", the official podcast of the KRG Representation in the United States, and the first official podcast of the Kurdistan Regional Government in general. In March, we hope to have an interview with a senior State Department official who knows Kurdistan and Iraq well. You can stay posted by subscribing to the podcast through [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Stitcher](#), [iheartradio](#), and other podcast services.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States
Kurdistan Regional Government

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met with the US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper during the second day of the Munich Security Conference.



During their discussion of the latest developments in Iraq and the wider region, Prime Minister Barzani thanked the US for its vital role within the Global Coalition and for its ongoing support to the Kurdistan Region in the fight against ISIS. He said that the strong ties between the KRG and the US are crucial for regional stability and security.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan Mission in DC launches KRG's first podcast - "Kurdistan in America"

The KRG Representation in Washington has launched a new podcast aimed at exploring the rich relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region. The podcast is the first official podcast from the Kurdistan Regional Government.

Episodes of the "Kurdistan in America" podcast will be released monthly. Each episode includes a short summary of the latest news about the relationship, as well as interviews with people working at the intersection of the people, goals, and interests of the Kurdistan Region and the United States.

[Listen to the podcast here.](#)



President Nechirvan Barzani meets with US Special

Representative James Jeffrey

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received the US Special Representative to Syria James Jeffrey and his accompanying delegation in Erbil.

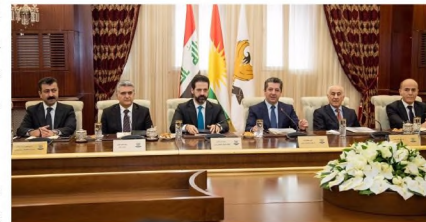
In the meeting, the latest developments in Syria and the international efforts to resolve the Syrian crisis were discussed. The President and Ambassador Jeffrey also spoke about the ongoing efforts to restore peace and stability in Syria and bringing an end to the war and bloodshed in the country. The role and the impact of the regional and global powers and their presence in Syria and the need for cooperation and coordination among all sides aimed at finding peaceful political solutions and safeguarding the peace and stability in the wider region were also highlighted.



[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG takes action to prevent coronavirus outbreak in Kurdistan

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani and Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani chaired a cabinet meeting with governors from the Kurdistan Region to discuss recent developments, along with the steps the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is taking to prevent an outbreak of the coronavirus.



Minister of Health Saman Hussein Muhammed updated the Prime Minister and his cabinet on the latest data regarding the spread of the coronavirus around the world and across the region, and presented immediate actions and measures the KRG is undertaking to prevent the virus from entering the Kurdistan Region.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan Region President meets with US Congressional delegation

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani met with the US Congressional lawmaker Ralph Abraham and his accompanying delegation. President Barzani underlined that since 1991 the Kurdistan Region has remained a safe haven for both Iraqi opposition groups, in the past, and for the displaced people and refugees who have fled war and terrorist groups in recent times, as people in need of urgent assistance and asylum have found safety in the Kurdistan Region.



President Barzani expressed gratitude for the U.S. support of the people of Kurdistan and the Peshmerga forces and emphasized that the threat of ISIS is against all humanity; therefore, it is imperative that the international community considers the resurgence of terror threats seriously, the president remarked.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Justice for Kurds hosts Minister Sinjari and Representative Abdul Rahman at Yale University

The organization Justice for Kurds and the Jackson Institute for Global Affairs hosted a high-level conference at Yale University titled "The Kurds in Crisis" to discuss issues facing Kurdish people throughout the Middle East.

Minister Karim Sinjari, who serves as the Chief of Staff to President Nechirvan Barzani, and KRG Representative to the United States Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman were both guests at the event.

Minister Sinjari delivered a keynote address, and Representative Abdul Rahman sat on a panel discussion about KRG-US relations. The conference operated under Chatham House rules.

[Read a press release here.](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets Pope Francis at the Vatican

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met His Holiness Pope Francis at the Pope's official residence in the Vatican City.

Prime Minister Barzani discussed with His Holiness the Pope the critical role the Kurdistan Regional Government has played in protecting minorities in the Kurdistan Region, including Christians, from terrorism and persecution, and updated him on the latest developments in Iraq. They also discussed the legal and constitutional protections existing today in the Kurdistan Region to ensure the freedom of worship of all citizens and invited His Holiness to visit the Kurdistan Region the next time he travels to Iraq.



Prime Minister Barzani also had detailed discussions with the Vatican's Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin during his visit.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Head of DFR Safeen Dizayee and US Consul General discuss issues of mutual concern

At the KRG Department of Foreign Relations (DFR) Minister Safeen Dizayee Head of DFR met with the US Consul General, Mr Steve Fagin in the Kurdistan Region.

At the meeting, Minister Dizayee and US Consul General exchanged views on the latest political situations and developments in the country, promoting Kurdistan and USA bilateral relations, and engaging in various areas of cooperation, as well as economic, humanitarian and health issues.



[Read a press release here.](#)

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo at the Munich Security Conference.

The Prime Minister and Secretary of State discussed ways of further expanding the strong bilateral relations between the Kurdistan Region and the US, particularly regarding the economy. Prime Minister Barzani and Secretary Pompeo agreed that the US Forces continue to be a vital part of the Global Coalition and should remain in Iraq to continue to support the ongoing campaign against the threat of ISIS.



[Read a press release here.](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman wraps up busy week of meetings with senior US Administration officials

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman met with senior US Administration leaders to discuss a range of humanitarian, security, and political issues.



The Representative visited the US Department of State for separate meetings with the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iran and Iraq Robert Waller and Special Advisor for Religious Minorities in the Near East and South / Central Asia Knox Thames. The latter meeting (pictured) particularly focused on the situation of religious and ethnic minorities in the Kurdistan Region. They discussed the International Religious Freedom Alliance that was announced last week and the initiative's guiding principles.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets US Secretary of Energy at the Munich Security Conference

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met the US Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference.



They discussed ways of further strengthening bilateral relations between the Kurdistan Region and the US, particularly in the energy sector. They also spoke of the importance of US investment in the Kurdistan Region and the need to increase trade. Secretary Brouillette described the Kurdistan Region's economic development as 'a miracle' and praised Prime Minister Barzani's leadership.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman attends National Prayer Breakfast

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman attended the National Prayer Breakfast this year, joining American and international political and religious leaders at the event in Washington, DC.



US President Donald Trump delivered a speech at the annual gathering. Vice President Mike Pence, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, and many other members of Congress, the US Administration, as well as foreign government representatives were in attendance.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan's three presidencies and heads of political parties on Iraqi government formation

Kurdistan Region's three presidencies and heads of Kurdistan's political parties met on February 24 to discuss the outcome of the recent talks on the formation of the next Iraqi cabinet. The Kurdistan Regional Government's negotiating team on the formation of the Iraqi cabinet also participated in the meeting.



The meeting discussed the outcomes of the recent visit made by the representatives of Kurdistan political parties to Baghdad, their talks with the Iraqi political parties and Prime Minister-designate Mr. Muhammad Allawi.

[Read a press release and a joint statement here.](#)

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani receives Iraq's Foreign Minister

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani received the Foreign Minister of Iraq, Mohammed Ali al-Hakim. They discussed the recent developments in Iraq and the region. Prime Minister Barzani called for a de-escalation of tensions and affirmed that the Kurdistan Region is committed to ensuring the stability of the country.



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani stated that the Kurdistan Regional Government will continue to engage constructively with the federal government of Iraq, within the context of a mutually respectful relationship that recognizes the rights of the Kurdistan region as laid down in the constitution.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Speaker Dr. Rewas Faiq welcomes Iraq Director of National Democratic Institute

Speaker of the Kurdistan Parliament Dr. Rewaz Faiq welcomed Ms. Ancuta Hansen, Iraq Country Director of the National Democratic Institute (NDI), and her colleagues.



Speaker Faiq commended NDI on their work and efforts and said, "In general we value the work of civil society organizations, especially your Institute, which has expertise in parliamentary work. The Kurdistan Parliament would welcome more cooperation with NDI."

Ms. Hansen thanked the Speaker and also welcomed more coordination with the Kurdistan Parliament. At the meeting it was decided that NDI, in collaboration with the Parliament's Research Centre, should prepare a training program for Parliament's news reporting staff.

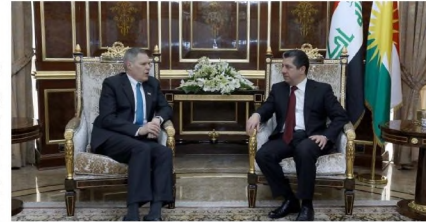
[Read a press release here.](#)

US Ambassador to Iraq Matthew Tueller visits Kurdistan Region

US Ambassador to Iraq Matthew Tueller traveled to the Kurdistan Region to meet with KRG leadership, including KRG Prime Minister and the President of the Kurdistan Region, and discuss

the latest developments in Iraq and the Middle East.

In his meeting with Prime Minister Masrour Barzani, the two discussed the need for a strong partnership between the federal government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government. Prime Minister Barzani said that the KRG will continue to engage constructively with the new government in Baghdad in order to have a mutually respectful relationship.



During his visit, Ambassador Tueller also made a stop in the Christian town of Al-Qosh, where the tomb of the prophet Nahum is being restored by US-based organization ARCH International with funding from the KRG, US Government, and private donors.

[Read a press release about Amb. Tueller's meeting with Prime Minister Barzani here.](#)
[Read a press release about Amb. Tueller's meeting with President Barzani here.](#)

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets US Congressional delegation

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met with a US Congressional delegation led by Senator Lindsey Graham at the Munich Security Conference.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Barzani thanked the US for their enduring friendship. He recognised the US's support in the fight against ISIS that has helped the Kurdistan Region to become a safe haven for Arabs, along with Christians, Yezidis and people of other faiths.



He stressed that the KRG will continue to support peace, stability, and security in the region.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan in the media

[Iraqi Kurdistan PM Barzani warns 'great possibility' of IS group returning - France24](#)

February 4, 2020

Exclusive interview with Prime Minister Masrour Barzani

[KRG Humanitarian Bulletin - KRG Representation in the United States](#)

February 8, 2020

Updates on the humanitarian crisis in the Kurdistan Region.

[New Jersey woman takes on traffickers in Iraq's Kurdistan region - Al Monitor](#)

February 12, 2020

The KRG, with the help of a former US State Department official, is fighting human trafficking.

[Killing of ISIS leader has not hurt group's operations, says Iraqi Kurdish prime minister - Washington Post](#)

February 15, 2020

Iraqi Kurdistan's prime minister says the U.S. killing of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi has not affected the extremist group's ability to operate and is warning that the militants are resurgent.

[WATCH: Pope Francis praises Kurdistan's tolerance during Vatican meeting with](#)

[PM Barzani](#) - Kurdistan24

February 19, 2020

During his official visit to the Vatican, Kurdistan Region Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met on Wednesday with Pope Francis, who praised the region's culture of tolerance towards ethnic and religious minorities, according to a statement from Barzani's office.

[The Inconvenient Truth About ISIS](#) - The Atlantic

February 14, 2020

The group is bigger now than when it founded its self-styled caliphate, and America's conflict with Iran is only making the fight against it more complicated.

[Kurdistan President, Baydemir Meet in Erbil](#) - Bas News

February 20, 2020

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received on Wednesday the Kurdish politician and former member of the Turkish parliament, Osman Baydemir, in Erbil.

[CNN correspondent Arwa Damon wins second annual Shifa Gardi International Award](#) - Rudaw

February 22, 2020

Senior CNN correspondent Arwa Damon was awarded the second annual Shifa Gardi International Award in Erbil on Saturday, in honour of her reporting in Syria.

[Germany shooting: 'It was a shock but not a surprise'](#) - BBC

February 20, 2020

A number of the victims are reported to be of Kurdish descent.

[President of the Kurdistan Region congratulates the joint leaders of the PUK \(in Kurdish\)](#) - KDP.info

February 26, 2020

President Nechirvan Barzani congratulated Bafel Talabani and Lahur Talabany on their election as co-leaders of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan earlier this month.

[A US withdrawal from Iraq will hurt American interests but also ring alarm bells in Kurdistan](#) - The National

February 2, 2020

Troop presence prevents Iran from dominating the region and ISIS from resurfacing, but it also secures goodwill from its partners on the ground

[Iraqi Kurdistan agrees with Baghdad on 2020 budget share: state media](#) - Reuters

February 5, 2020

The government of Iraq and the semi-autonomous region of Kurdistan have reached an agreement on Erbil's contribution to the 2020 federal budget, state news agency INA reported on Wednesday.

[Can this veteran singer save Kurdish people's forgotten tunes?](#) - Al Monitor

February 27, 2020

Age has not stopped Mazhar Khaliqi, the legendary Iranian Kurdish singer who heads the Sulaimaniyah-based Kurdish Heritage Institute, a nongovernmental

institute for preserving Kurdish national heritage and music.

[Britain should send more spies and military hardware to Kurdistan, regional Prime Minister says](#) - Telegraph

February 15, 2020

The long-standing ally of the UK says it was premature to declare victory over Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant

[A Kurdish artist memorialises the experiences of his people](#) - The Economist

February 22, 2020

Osman Ahmed trekked with the Peshmerga, armed only with a pencil and a sketch-book

[Duhok to establish first solar energy park for clean energy](#) - Kurdistan24

February 5, 2020

The Kurdistan Region's Duhok governorate has made a significant step toward becoming a low-carbon province after news it will soon have its first solar energy park, setting an example of sustainable renewable energy for the rest of the autonomous Kurdish region and Iraq, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) said in a statement on Tuesday.

[WHO delivers ambulances to strengthen referral pathways in Kurdistan region of Iraq](#) - WHO News

February 17, 2020

The World Health Organization (WHO) today handed over a new batch of fully equipped ambulances to the Ministry of Health in Kurdistan Region of Iraq to support the needs of internally displaced persons (IDP) and the host community.

[The Kurdistan Region of Iraq to develop Vision 2030 supported by UNDP](#) -

ReliefWeb

February 3, 2020

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Kurdistan Region of Iraq's Ministry of Planning, in order to provide strategic guidance and technical support for the development of KRG Vision 2030.

[Coronavirus: Kurdish doctors separate myths from facts](#) - Rudaw

February 26, 2020

Rudaw has brought together a panel of Kurdish medical experts to separate the myths from the facts.

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KRG-US March 2020 newsletter

1 message

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

*Washington, D.C.
March 2020 newsletter*

Welcome to our March 2020 newsletter

March in Kurdistan's calendar is a month filled with significant dates and events, including the somber anniversary of the genocide in Halabja in 1988 and the more joyful celebrations of Newroz, the Kurdish new year.



This year, due to the coronavirus, there were almost no public events in Kurdistan or among the diaspora in North America as gatherings were cancelled in observance of curfews in Kurdistan and social-distancing followed by lockdowns in the United States. In both places, heroic healthcare professionals, key workers and law enforcement have won the praise and gratitude of the public.

As of March 30, there are [161 confirmed cases of COVID-19](#) in the Kurdistan Region, with two people killed by COVID-19. Across Iraq, [the number of confirmed cases is 630](#) with 46 losing their lives. In Kurdistan Region, some communities were also hit by flash floods, while the economy is taking a hit as oil prices fall sharply.

In observance of advice by the CDC, the KRG US Representation closed to visitors earlier this month and we are conducting meetings via the telephone and video-conferencing, the new reality for many diplomatic missions, businesses and schools.

Amid the gloom and deep worry caused by the coronavirus, there is some happier news. [USAID is donating \\$670,000 to Iraq](#), including the Kurdistan Region, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and President Donald Trump congratulated President Nechirvan Barzani on the occasion of Newroz.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States
Kurdistan Regional Government

PM Masrour Barzani speech on the coronavirus

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani delivered a speech on March 14, outlining the KRG's response to the ongoing threat posed by the global outbreak of the coronavirus.



In his speech, the Prime Minister said,

"It is clear that the Kurdistan Region, alongside the rest of the world, faces an unprecedented threat."

"The Kurdistan Regional Government was one of the first in the world to take protective and health measures. We put in place an early emergency budget and immediately took steps to contain and delay the virus as soon as the danger became apparent, for instance by closing schools and universities, and cutting back and in some cases suspending government bodies; restricting border crossing movements; limiting public events and gatherings, and enforcing strict temperature controls at borders and airports. After assessing the situation, we have now restricted movements between provinces in Kurdistan and with the rest of Iraq. We are now at a stage where it is necessary to further restrict movements within cities and towns."

[Read and watch the speech here \[in Kurdish, subtitled in English\]](#)

US President extends Newroz greetings to the people of Kurdistan

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received a congratulatory letter from President Donald Trump of the United States on the occasion of Newroz.



President Trump wrote:

"On behalf of the American people, I wish you and the people of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region a warm and joyous Nowruz.

We have made great progress together against ISIS, and I look forward to new opportunities to strengthen our economic and security relations with your government."

[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG US Representation Office Closure

As the impact of the corona virus continues to evolve, we at the Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States remain focused on the health and safety of our staff and

communities.

As a result of concerns over the spread of the virus and in line with guidance by local authorities, our office in Washington, DC is closed to visitors until further notice. The Representative and staff of the Mission are teleworking and remain active and available digitally.



Community services, including Proof of Life certificates and Power of Attorney authorizations can still be processed by mail, but applicants should keep in mind that the documents may not be processed in Kurdistan Region for some time due to the curfew and shutdowns experienced there.

Read a press release with relevant contact information here: [\[English\]](#) / [\[Kurdish\]](#)

President Nechirvan Barzani receives US delegation

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received U.S. Deputy Special Envoy to the International Coalition, Ambassador William Roebuck.



The latest developments in Iraq, including the recent rocket attack on the international coalition forces in Al-Taji near Baghdad were discussed during the meeting.

The two sides also discussed the recent political developments in Iraq and the ongoing efforts to designate a new candidate for Iraq's prime minister.

[Read a press release here.](#)

'Spirit of America' supports Ministry of Peshmerga in fighting coronavirus

The Spirit of America organization has donated over \$18,000 worth of protective gear and equipment for use in efforts against the coronavirus to the Ministry of Peshmerga.



Brigadier General Hazhar Omar, Ministry of Peshmerga Director of Cooperation and Communication said, "We found it necessary to request help from the 'Spirit of America' organization in order to better prepare us protect our forces against this virus. Consequently, through cooperating with the Joint Security Office at the U.S. Consulate in Erbil and Ministry of Peshmerga's General Directorate of Health, we were able to approve and receive the donation from the mentioned organization."

[Read a press release here.](#)

US 2020 Census includes option to write in Kurdistani heritage

Every ten years the US government conducts a survey of all people living in the United States. This year the Census includes the ability for people to write in their own race. This means that if your heritage is from Kurdistan, you can say so on the Census form.

It's time to be counted!

Census forms should have been mailed to every address by now. The Census is the opportunity to know how many people originally from Kurdistan are now living in the United States. It will help the community to be counted when it matters. Census results help the US federal government allocate

funding for health clinics, schools, jobs and education, among other resources and facilities.

[Click here for information on how to indicate Kurdistan heritage.](#)

[Click here for a Facebook group about the Census, run by the Kurdish community.](#)

9. What is Person 1's race?
Mark one or more boxes AND print origins.

White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. **KURDISH**

Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.

American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo, Navion, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow, Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.

Chinese Vietnamese Native Hawaiian

Filipino Korean Samoan

Asian Indian Japanese Chamorro

Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.

Some other race – Print race or origin. **KURDISH**

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Joey Hood speaks with "Kurdistan in America" podcast

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joey Hood spoke with the "Kurdistan in America" podcast about the close relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region. He also talked about his family's history with Operation Provide Comfort and his dream of seeing Kurdish products like *leben Erbil* in American supermarkets.

This was the second episode of the podcast, which is released monthly.

[Listen to the latest episode of the podcast here.](#)

or on your favorite podcast app:



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani statement in response to attack on Taji base

In response to the death of US and British servicemen in a rocket attack on Iraq's Taji military camp, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani expressed his condolences:

"I strongly condemn this attack on our Coalition partners and express condolences to the victims' families and wish the wounded a speedy recovery."



"This attack, at a time when ISIS remains a serious threat in Iraq and the region, will only strengthen extremist groups. Our joint efforts should be focused on defeating the terrorist threat. Iraq already faces health, economic and security obstacles. Any further escalation will simply harm Iraq and the whole region."

[Read a press release here.](#)

KRG US issues March Humanitarian Bulletin

The KRG US Representation issued a humanitarian bulletin in March, providing the latest information on the humanitarian crisis, including official figures and updates on the COVID-19 outbreak and the KRG's mitigation strategies.



The KRG is experiencing a huge funding gap for supporting displaced people, and the current outbreak will further complicate things. On average, it costs about \$2.7 million US dollars per day (\$81 million per month) to provide basic civic services to the displaced people in Kurdistan. Approximately 25 percent of the funding is covered and managed by the United Nations Agencies and US Department of State bureaus and 5 percent by International and local NGOs. The KRG provides about 70 percent of funds out of its budget to sustain current basic services, which has exhausted its resources.

[Click here to read the Bulletin.](#)

President Barzani's statement on Halabja chemical attack anniversary

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani issued a statement on the anniversary of Saddam Hussein regime's chemical attack against the town of Halabja. He said,



"Today, 32 years have passed since the former Iraqi regime launched a chemical attack on Halabja, killing 5000 innocent civilians, wounding thousands and displacing many more. The horrors of the horrendous attack still haunt the survivors and their families who bear the physical and emotional scars up to the present time. The chemical attack continues to have a devastating impact on the environment of the city and its neighboring areas."

"As we mark this unforgettable crime, we honor those who made sacrifices for our nation, particularly the fallen heroes who lost their lives in the attack. At the same time, we continue to reiterate that such atrocities must be prevented in the future. The genocide of the people of Kurdistan or civilians anywhere in the world, regardless of their faith, ethnicity or political affiliations should not be allowed. This important and sacred principle calls for more unity and tolerance among us."

[Read the full statement here.](#)

HDP Foreign Affairs Co-chair visits KRG Mission in Washington

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman hosted a meeting with Hisyar Ozsoy, the People's Democratic Party (Halkların Demokratik Partisi) Co-chair of Foreign Affairs, and Giran Ozcan, the Party's Representative in Washington. They discussed a range of issues related to the status of the security, prosperity, and rights of the Kurdish people in the Middle East.

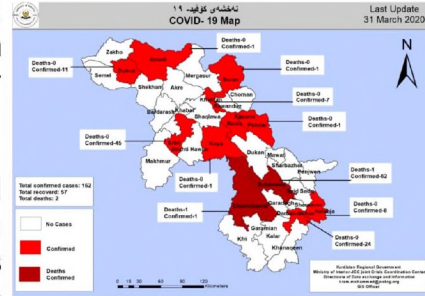


Earlier in the week, Representative Abdul Rahman visited Congress to meet with Senator Angus King and discuss the latest political and humanitarian developments in the region, as well as the resurgence of ISIS in Iraq and the importance of the US-Kurdistan security partnership.

[Read a press release here.](#)

US provides additional assistance to Iraq to respond to novel coronavirus COVID-19

The United States Government has provided \$670,000 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Iraq from the Emergency Reserve Fund for Contagious Infectious Diseases at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). USAID is providing these funds to the World Health Organization (WHO) to support Iraq's COVID-19 readiness and response. These funds will contribute to the goals of the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan to stop further transmission of COVID-19 in affected or at-risk countries, and to mitigate the impact of the outbreak in all countries.



"Today's announcement shows the strength of the US and Iraqi partnership; and we are committed to fighting this pandemic alongside the Iraqi people," said Ambassador Matthew Tueller. "Support provided through the WHO will directly enhance the country's ability to combat the spread of COVID-19."

[Read a US Government press release here.](#)

Speaker of Parliament Dr. Rewas Faiq's message on International Women's Day 2020

On March 8, International Women's Day, the Speaker of Kurdistan's Parliament issued the following message:

On the occasion of March 8th, International Women's Day, my best wishes go out to all the women of Kurdistan and the world. I hope that this symbolic occasion is a new start for women to achieve their goals. We are glad that this occasion coincides with the Kurdish Uprising, when Kurdish women played a significant role together with the Peshmerga forces.



Throughout the history of the Kurdish people's struggle, women have participated in political and civil struggle. However, history has not been fair in recording the role of women in any era.

[Read the full statement here.](#)

President Barzani and Deputy Prime Minister Talabani receive the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Iraq

President Nechirvan Barzani and Deputy Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Region Qubad Talabani separately received the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Iraq, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert.



In the meeting with President Barzani, the two sides reiterated the importance of political stability and a new Iraqi government that addresses the legitimate grievances of the people and safeguards the constitutional rights of all groups and communities. In that regard, they highlighted the constructive role of the United Nations.

In the meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Talabani, which was attended by the representative of the World Health Organization, the Deputy Prime Minister stressed that the KRG has taken many measures to prevent the outbreak of the coronavirus, and expressed optimism in the cooperation between citizens and the government to move beyond this crisis with minimal loss of life.

[Read a press release about the meeting with President Barzani here.](#)

[Read a press release about the meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Talabani here \[Kurdish\].](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman holds virtual meetings with senior administration officials

Keeping with the isolation guidelines issued in March, Representative Abdul Rahman held a number of telephone meetings with senior US administration officials, to discuss the rapidly evolving situation in Iraq around the global outbreak of novel coronavirus and other pressing issues.



She met virtually with Assistant Administrator of USAID's Middle East Bureau Mike Harvey (pictured, photo from July 2019) to discuss the particularly concerning nexus of the expanding coronavirus outbreak and the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Iraq, which has left more than one million refugees remaining displaced in the Kurdistan Region. Representative Abdul Rahman thanked Assistant Administrator Harvey for his leadership and USAID's continuing programming in Iraq.

Representative Abdul Rahman held meetings with officials from the Department of State as well, including Ambassador James Jeffrey, who serves as the US Special Representative for Syria Engagement and the Special Envoy for the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIL. She also met with Robert Waller, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iran and Iraq, and Director of Iraq Affairs.

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani chairs cabinet meeting on reforms, electricity production

Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani chaired a cabinet meeting on the implementation of the Reform Law, a flagship initiative of the government, as well as the latest measures taken to contain the outbreak of coronavirus in the Kurdistan Region.



Deputy Prime Minister Talabani stressed the need to continue the ongoing reform process, including diversifying the economy, as one of the government's top priorities. The cabinet requested Minister of Finance and Economy, Awat Janab Noori, to present a detailed report next week on the progress achieved thus far in terms of the implementation of the Reform Law.

[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan Region President meets with UN delegation

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani met with the United Nations' Under-Secretary General and Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Adama Dieng and Special Adviser and Head of the Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by ISIS/Da'esh (UNITAD) Karim Khan.

In the meeting, also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani and a number of Kurdistan Region officials, President Nechirvan Barzani reiterated Kurdistan Region's support and readiness to cooperate with the

United Nations in investigating the crimes committed by ISIS terror group against the peoples of Iraq in general, especially Yezidi and Christian citizens.

[Read a press release here.](#)



Representative Abdul Rahman meets Senators Grassley, Casey and King

Earlier this month, Representative Abdul Rahman met with members of Congress to continue the KRG's outreach.

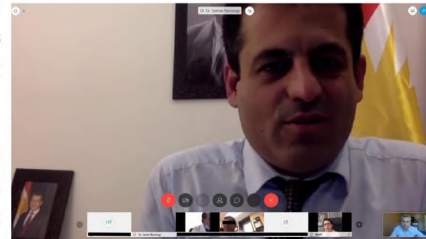
The Representative met with Senator Bob Casey (D-PA, pictured), Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Senator Angus King (I-ME). She discussed security and economic partnerships between Kurdistan and the US, as well as recent developments in Kurdistan and Iraq, including protests, the challenges posed by COVID-19, and plunging oil prices.



KRG Minister of Health in video-conference with American doctors

KRG Minister of Health, Dr Saman Berzinji, spoke to several American doctors to explain the steps the KRG has taken to suppress the spread of COVID-19 and the Region's urgent need for medical equipment and supplies.

The video-conference was organized by the KRG-US Representation and included American doctors who have previously spent time in Kurdistan carrying out operations, as well as physicians who had never visited the Region.



During the video conference, Minister Berzinji said that Kurdistan's healthcare infrastructure had been weakened after 2014 when ISIS terrorists attacked and the Region received close to 2 million refugees and displaced people. He said that the KRG's response to the COVID-19 pandemic is focused on preventing the spread of the virus, which by and large the public in Kurdistan has adhered to.

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani speaks with United States Assistant Treasury Secretary Marshall Billingslea by phone

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani spoke by phone to US Assistant Treasury Secretary for Terrorism Financing Marshall Billingslea to discuss US-Kurdistan Region bilateral relations.

In the call, the PM and Assistant Secretary discussed the KRG's response to the coronavirus pandemic and ways that the United States Government can help. Prime Minister Barzani also updated the Assistant Secretary on the detailed domestic reform agenda that the KRG continues to implement, as well as discussing ways to increase US investment in, and trade with, the Kurdistan Region.



[Read a press release here.](#)

Kurdistan in the media

[WHO praises Kurdistan Region's anti-coronavirus efforts](#) - Kurdistan24

March 21, 2020

The World Health Organization (WHO) in Iraq on Thursday praised the measures enacted and leadership role played by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) in facing the ongoing outbreak of the coronavirus.

[How to Serve U.S. Interests by Saving Kurdistan's Economy](#) - Washington Institute for Near East Policy

March 30, 2020

Unless Washington intervenes with cost-effective, forceful measures, Iraqi Kurdistan could be the first Middle Eastern economy to implode under the pressure of coronavirus and low oil prices.

[Women on the Rise in Kurdistan](#) - Wilson Center

March 8, 2020

Representative Abdul Rahman: "There is no silver bullet to advance women's rights in the Middle East. As we in the Kurdistan Region in Iraq have discovered, building a society in which women and girls enjoy equal rights to men and boys requires a combination of progressive policies and laws and targeted public campaigns aimed at changing cultural mindsets."

[WATCH: Foreign diplomats in Kurdistan Region send Newroz greetings](#) - Rudaw

March 20, 2020

As Kurds prepare to mark the Newroz holiday under coronavirus lockdown, the heads of Erbil's foreign diplomatic missions shared their warm new year's greetings in a series of videos.

[As Planned, US-Led Coalition Pulling Out of 2nd Iraqi Base](#) - New York Times

March 26, 2020

The U.S.-led coalition on Thursday started pulling out of a second base in Iraq, in line with a planned drawdown of troops, hours after two rockets hit inside Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone.

[U.S.-backed Kurdish-led group says militants riot in jail in northeast Syria](#) - Reuters

March 29, 2020

March 29, 2020

Islamic State prisoners on Sunday seized control of the ground floor of a major prison in northeastern Syria run by the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), with some of the militants managing to escape, an SDF spokesman said.

[Iraq ex-governor named PM-designate as Baghdad awaits curfew](#) - ABC News

March 17, 2020

Iraq's president has named a former governor of the city of Najaf as prime minister-designate, following weeks of political infighting and a looming crisis amid a global pandemic

[Heavy rainfall, flash floods cause severe damage in Duhok governorate](#) - Kurdistan24

March 19, 2020

March 19, 2020

Hundreds of homes and shops in the Kurdistan Region's Duhok governorate were damaged on Wednesday, and dozens of cars were swept away and

crushed as a result of heavy rain over the past two days.

[Iraq extends suspension of commercial flights again](#) - Kurdistan24

March 29, 2020

The Iraqi Civil Aviation Agency has informed the Ministry of Transportation of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) that the suspension commercial flights to and from all Iraqi airports would continue until April 11.

['Family men, adoring husbands and fathers': Two NC-based Marines killed in Iraq](#) - Stars and Stripes

March 10, 2020

A Marine special operations captain and gunnery sergeant were both killed Sunday during a joint U.S.-Iraq raid to destroy an Islamic State hideout in a mountainous area in northern Iraq, the military said Tuesday.

[Iraqi semi-autonomous Kurdistan region bans New year festivals due to coronavirus](#) - Reuters

March 11, 2020

Iraqi semi-autonomous Kurdistan region has banned the Nowruz New Year festivals due later this month due to coronavirus fears, a statement said on Wednesday.

[Kurdistan arrests over 100 for smuggling people from Iran to avoid quarantine](#) - Kurdistan24

March 29, 2020

Local Asayish (security) in the Kurdistan Region's Sulaimani province have so far arrested over 100 individuals for attempting to smuggle people from Iran to the Kurdish autonomous region illegally to avoid being quarantined amid the outbreak of coronavirus in the region.

[Coronavirus and Refugee Populations: An Imminent Humanitarian Catastrophe](#) - Middle East Centre

March 19, 2020

The new coronavirus pandemic continues to spread across the world, raising alarm for refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who are already devastated by acute and ongoing conflicts.

[21 stunning images from a photojournalist's harrowing ordeal in Iraqi Kurdistan](#) -

The National

March 24, 2020

Sebastian Meyer's business partner was shot and left for dead, but later called from captivity

[Unsung Women | Asenath Barezani, a 16th-century female sage](#) - Forward

March 8, 2020

Asenath Barzani was the daughter, wife, and mother of rabbinic leaders, but she surpassed them all.

[The US census and the Kurdish diaspora](#) - Rudaw

March 18, 2020

Amid fears and mounting uncertainty about Coronavirus, the U.S 2020 census will soon be underway on April 1.

[BCF provides food baskets, supplies to low-income families in Kurdistan amid COVID-19 pandemic](#) - Kurdistan24

March 17, 2020

The Barzani Charity Foundation announced on Monday that it would provide food baskets to low-income families amid the curfews imposed across cities in the Kurdistan Region.

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KRG-US May 2020 newsletter

1 message

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To: farakrg@gmail.com



**Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States
Washington D.C.**

Welcome to our May 2020 Newsletter



This month saw the successful formation of a new government in Iraq, headed by Prime Minister Mustafa Kadhimi, whose candidacy was supported by the main Kurdish parties. Prime Minister Kadhimi was the Director of the Iraqi National Intelligence Service and previously worked as a journalist and human rights activist. His government will include three ministers from the Kurdistan Region, one of whom is the only woman in the cabinet – Nazanin Mohammed Wassu, the Minister of Reconstruction and Municipalities. There is cautious optimism that Prime Minister Kadhimi will be able to lead Iraq through the current challenging phase and to early elections, as demanded by protesters for several months.

The immediate challenges facing Iraq and Kurdistan include security, public health, and

In terms of public health, similar to the rest of the world, the COVID-19 pandemic has hit our country. Kurdistan's lockdown was recently eased, which has caused the number of positive cases to spike. Prime Minister Masrour Barzani this week called on the public to remain vigilant and follow public health guidelines.

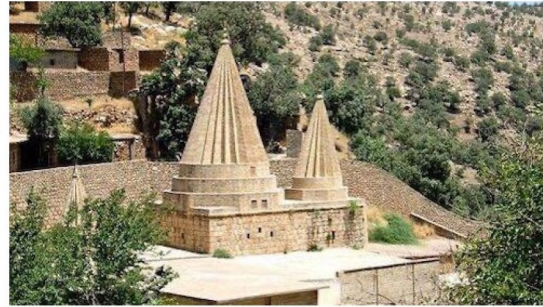
The economic challenges are deep and alarming. Both Kurdistan Region and Iraq as a whole rely on oil for much of their revenues. The fall in oil prices and the sizeable global oversupply means that it's difficult for both governments to make ends meet. The KRG leadership hopes that it can reach both a short-term and long-term agreement with Baghdad on budget-related issues, which have dogged their relations for several years. We hope that the IMF and World Bank will be able to assist Iraq and Kurdistan Region through these difficult times.

As we look ahead to next month, we look forward to the strategic dialogue between Iraq and the United States. We see this as an opportunity to review the status of the relationship to forge a more robust partnership that includes Kurdistan as a factor for peace and stability.

Don't forget to listen to our podcast, which features an interview with Hoshang Mohamad, the Director of the KRG Joint Crisis Coordination Center, and read the humanitarian bulletin included in this newsletter.

the economy. ISIS remains a threat, and we are grateful to the Peshmerga and other forces in Iraq and among our Coalition allies who are staying the course to ensure a caliphate isn't created again.

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman
Representative to the United States
Kurdistan Regional Government



Representative Abdul Rahman and USAID Assistant Administrator Harvey discuss challenges facing Kurdistan

Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman and Michael Harvey, USAID Assistant Administrator in the Middle East Bureau, spoke by phone on Thursday about recent developments in the Kurdistan Region.

[Read the press release](#)

KRG US Representation Participates in International Religious Freedom Roundtable

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States participated in an International Religious Freedom (IRF) Roundtable focused on the Kurdistan Region on Thursday, May 21, 2020.

[Read the press release](#)



US-Kurdistan Business Council hosts discussion with Representative Abdul Rahman

Members of the US-Kurdistan Business Council gathered on videoconference on Wednesday to hear from KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman about the economic outlook in Kurdistan Region and other critical issues.

[Read the press release](#)

Representative Abdul Rahman praises the work of MAG in helping Yazidis in Sinjar

KRG Representative Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman participated in a virtual panel discussion organized by the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), which focused on a film that highlights the impact of mines and unexploded bombs in Sinjar.

[Read the press release](#)



KRG-US Representation continues Congressional outreach despite lockdown

Representative Abdul Rahman and members and staff of the U.S. Congress have been holding meetings and phone calls instead of face-to-face meetings due to the pandemic.

[Read the press release](#)

KRG Sincerely Appreciates Alex Ebsary's Services

The Kurdistan Regional Government expresses deep appreciation to Alex Ebsary for his years of service at the KRG US Representation in Washington. He was instrumental in fostering a relationship between Kurds and Americans. We wish him the best of luck in his new endeavors.



PM Masrour Barzani speech on the current financial situation

My fellow citizens,

On the occasion of our Ramadan feast, I extend my warmest wishes to you all. At this time, I call upon you to continue to comply with our health guidelines in order to protect yourselves and your loved ones from the coronavirus pandemic while observing this holy feast.

The whole world, including the Kurdistan Region, is going through a difficult economic period due to the implications of the outbreak and falling oil prices. These are challenging times for the Kurdistan Regional Government. From the outset of this economic crisis, we have been doing our best to ease the financial burden on people throughout our region.

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani receives commander of coalition's anti-ISIS campaign, urges concerted effort to defeat terror

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Saturday met with Major General Eric Hill, Commander of Coalition's Special Operations Forces to defeat ISIS in Iraq and Syria, and discussed the ISIS resurgence and the group's activities in the region.

The two sides spoke about the latest developments in Iraq as well as the need to strengthen coordination between the Peshmerga and Coalition Forces. They stressed the importance of continued coordination in order to eliminate the ISIS threat.

[Read the press release](#)



Readout of PM Masrour Barzani's call with U.S. Secretary of Energy

Erbil, Kurdistan Region, Iraq (GOV.KRD) - Prime Minister Masrour Barzani yesterday spoke to U.S. Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette about the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on the economies of the Kurdistan Region and the United States. During the call, the Prime Minister expressed his condolences for those in the U.S. who have died as a result of the coronavirus.

Prime Minister Barzani and Secretary Brouillette agreed on the importance of increasing U.S.-Kurdistan energy investments. They also discussed the new federal government in Baghdad and how the U.S. can continue supporting Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, including the unlocking of international financial assistance.

[Read the press release](#)



President Nechirvan Barzani reiterates support for rights of ethnic and religious communities

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani met with the representatives of ethnic and religious groups who have members in the Kurdistan Parliament and who are participating in the Kurdistan Regional Government.

At the meeting, the delegates shared their views on the current state of affairs in the Kurdistan Region and discussed the role and position of the ethnic and religious communities in the Region's political and administrative affairs. The representatives also reiterated the importance of safeguarding their communities' rights and fair representation in the Kurdistan Region's public institutions and administrative bodies.

[Read the press release](#)



President Nechirvan Barzani meets with U.S. Consul General Steven Fagin

Kurdistan Region President Nechirvan Barzani received U.S. Consul General Steven Fagin in Erbil on Wednesday. At the meeting, President Barzani reiterated Kurdistan Region's support to Iraq's newly formed government led by Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi. The latest political and economic developments in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, the challenges ahead of Iraq's new government and its future duties were also discussed.

The topic of the US-Iraq dialogue and the role of the Kurdistan Region in it were also highlighted. The two sides also spoke about Erbil-Baghdad relations and efforts to resolve the disputes in accordance with the constitution.

[Read the press release](#)

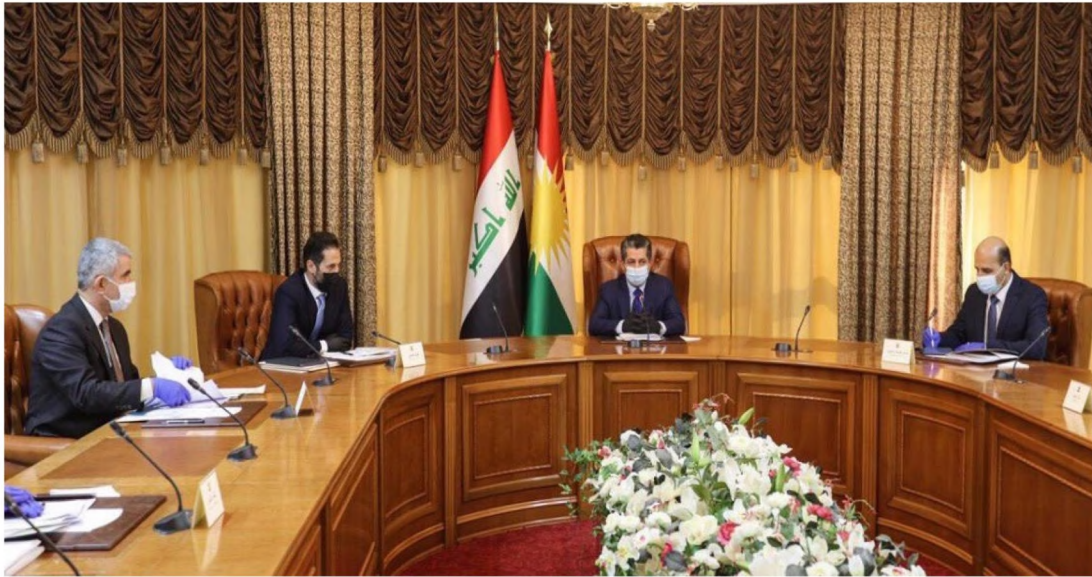


KRG delegation meets Iraqi Parliament's Finance Committee, seeks support to settle disputes with Baghdad

Baghdad, Iraq (GOV. KRD) - The Kurdistan Regional Government' (KRG) delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani on Friday met with Iraqi Parliament's Finance Committee in Baghdad, to discuss ongoing financial problems with the federal government.

In the meeting, the KRG delegation shared proposed solutions to disputes with Baghdad, in particular regarding oil exports and KRG's share in the 2019 federal budget. They also exchanged views on approaches to cope with the 2020 fiscal year.

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Masrour Barzani meets investment board, reiterates commitment to diverse economy

Erbil, Kurdistan Region, Iraq (GOV.KRD) – Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the High Council for Investment to discuss current economic situation and the need to further develop investment in the Kurdistan Region.

In the meeting attended by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani and other cabinet members, Prime Minister Barzani stressed that the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is working to build a stronger economy.

[Read the press release](#)



Speaker Rewas Faiq congratulates Iraq's new Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi

Kurdistan Parliament Speaker Dr. Rewas Faiq on 12 May wrote to Iraq's new Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi on his appointment, after winning the vote of confidence of Iraq's Council of Representatives:

Mr. Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, Prime Minister of the Federal Government, I congratulate you on your inauguration and on gaining the approval of the Council of Representatives for your cabinet.

[Read the press release](#)



Speaker Rewas Faiq welcomes UNSG's Special Representative to Iraq Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert

The Speaker of the Kurdistan Parliament, Dr. Rewas Faiq, welcomed the UNSG's Special Representative for Iraq, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert on 9 May. They discussed the current situation in the region and the formation of the new Iraqi cabinet, as well as the economic impact of the Coronavirus on Kurdistan Region.

Regarding relations between the Kurdistan Region and the Iraqi Federal Government, Speaker Faiq said, "In the current situation, our priority is to serve the citizens of Kurdistan."

[Read the press release](#)



Prime Minister Barzani chairs cabinet meeting, calls for constitutional solution to problems with Baghdad

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani chaired a cabinet meeting in Erbil on Wednesday to discuss economic conditions in the Kurdistan Region and outstanding problems with the federal government.

In the meeting, which was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani, the Prime Minister wished success to the new Iraqi cabinet, and stressed the need for a constitutional solution to ongoing issues between Erbil and Baghdad.

[Read the press release](#)



Deloitte report on Oil and Gas review in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region, with newly added disclosures on prepayment balances - 2019

The KRG's Regional Council of Oil and Gas Affairs has published a report containing verified statistics covering the Kurdistan Region's oil exports, consumption and revenues for 2019.

The report, available in Kurdish, English and Arabic, provides a quarterly analysis of oil export information and average prices, together with a consolidated annual overview.

[Read the press release](#)

KRG-US May Humanitarian Bulletin

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) lifted the coronavirus lockdown on May 18 to allow businesses to reopen and eased the ban on traffic within provinces. However, due to new confirmed cases, the Ministry of Interior announced a complete lockdown during the Ramadan Eid holiday this weekend to prevent further outbreaks.

[Read the bulletin](#)



Kurdistan in America

Episode 4 - KRG-JCC's Hoshang Mohammed

MAY 16, 2020

KURDISTAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION IN THE UNITED STATES

SEASON 1

EPISODE 4



Humanitarian challenges and an American encounter

This month, the Kurdistan In America podcast interviews Hoshang Mohamed, Director of the KRG Joint Crisis Coordination Center. Hear him discuss the humanitarian challenges facing Yazidis, Christians and other displaced and refugee communities, as well as Hoshang's childhood encounter with Americans coming out of a helicopter.

[Listen to the latest episode of the podcast here or on your favorite app below](#)

[Spotify](#) [Apple Podcasts](#) [iHeartRadio](#)

Kurdistan in the Media

KRG announces major investment plan as economic challenges loom

A senior Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) official on Sunday announced over a thousand investment projects in various sectors across the region.

[Read the article](#)

Kurdish artist NOURI's latest single tops New Zealand iTunes charts

Kurdish pop artist NOURI's latest single "miss all ur jokes" stormed to the top of iTunes streaming rankings in New Zealand, surpassing the likes of Ariana Grande, Justin Bieber, and Dua Lipa.

[Read the article](#)

Iraq's prime minister renews vow to reform system amid setbacks

Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al Kadhimi sought to brush aside early setbacks a mere two weeks into his job on Tuesday, vowing to pursue reforms despite a lack of embedded support from the legislature.

New Iraq prime minister after five months of deadlock

Iraq's parliament has approved a new government, ending months of deadlock as the country battles an economic crisis and the coronavirus pandemic.

[Read the article](#)

Ninewa: Barriers to Return and Community Resilience

The sustainable return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Iraq occupies many international donor projects and resources.

[Read the article](#)

From Xenophon to Kurdistan: The story of the Dutch Grandfather of the Kurds

Piet Muller, the Dutch "Grandfather of the Kurds", passed away. He was one of the first Dutch citizens to support the Kurds, notably discovering them by following the footsteps of Greek historian Xenophon.

[Read the article](#)

Norway's DNO, ExxonMobil continue to explore for oil, gas in Kurdistan

Norway's DNO and ExxonMobil, partners in the Baeshiqa license in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region, continue to explore for oil and gas in the area.

[Read the article](#)

DoD Inspector General publishes quarterly report on Operation Inherent Resolve

The US Department of Defense published the Lead Inspector General's quarterly report on Operation Inherent Resolve, the operation to combat ISIS.

[Read the article](#)

[Read the article](#)

ISIS Makes A Comeback During The Coronavirus Pandemic

The terrorist organization has ramped up attacks while also taking advantage of changes caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

[Read the article](#)

Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIL (UNITAD)

The fourth report on the activities of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State...

[Read the article](#)

For inquiries, please contact Delovan Barwari, the Director of Public and Humanitarian Affairs, at: delovan.barwari@us.gov.krd

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Kurdistan in America Podcast

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**Kurdistan Regional Government
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Washington D.C.**

Welcome to our Kurdistan in America Podcast

Episode 5 - Interview with Amb. Robert Ford

JUNE 20, 2020

KURDISTAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION IN THE UNITED STATES



Check out the latest episode of our podcast "Kurdistan in America". We interview Ambassador Robert Ford, the former US Ambassador to Algeria and Syria, and former deputy Ambassador to Iraq from 2008 to 2010. Ambassador Ford discusses his experience in Iraq and shares his views about developments in the region.

"Kurdistan in America" is the official podcast of the KRG Representation in the United States, and explores the rich relationship between the United States and the Kurdistan Region.

Listen to it on your favorite podcast app below



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SAVE THE DATE | MARCH 10 | Bearing Witness to Genocide

1 message

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC



SAVE THE DATE

Bearing Witness to Genocide:

*a commemoration of the 32nd anniversary of the chemical bombing of
Halabja*

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

George Washington University

[City View Room](#)

[1937 E St NW](#)

[Washington, DC](#)

On March 16, 1988, Iraqi aircraft attacked the city of Halabja with chemical weapons. Children were lost in the chaos that followed, families were decimated as 5,000 people died and thousands more were injured with poison gas.

This genocide was one of many atrocities committed against the people of Kurdistan by the dictator Saddam Hussein. During his rule, 182,000 Kurds were killed in the Anfal genocide campaign; 8,000 Barzani men and boys were murdered in 1983; thousands of Faylee Kurds disappeared, and thousands more were oppressed, abused, and killed by the Ba'athist regime. The genocide also saw the destruction of 4,500 villages and the razing of cities such as Qala Diza, tearing at the fabric of Kurdish society and economy.

The suffering of the people of Halabja has come to symbolize all of the atrocities committed against the people of Kurdistan. In Iraq, violence and genocide is cyclical, and in 2014 we again witnessed a genocide against the Yezidis, Christians and others in Nineveh.

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These materials are being distributed by the Kurdistan Regional Government - Liaison Office - USA on behalf of the Kurdistan Regional Government, and additional information is on file with the Department of Justice, Washington, District of Columbia.

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State Dept PDAS Joey Hood featured in this month's "Kurdistan in America" podcast

1 message

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Tue, Mar 17, 2020 at 4:31 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

Check out this month's episode of "Kurdistan in America", featuring an interview with the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joey Hood! Mr. Hood served as deputy head of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad from 2017-2019 and has visited Kurdistan many times.

Learn about Mr. Hood's perspectives on the Kurdistan - US partnership, as well as his family's connection to Operation Provide Comfort and his dream of seeing Kurdish products on the shelves of American supermarkets. You'll also hear a quick news update about KRG - US relations.



Catch [the episode here](#) or on your favorite podcast app including Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, and iheartradio.

If you would like to be informed about new episodes by email each month, click the link below:

[Get the podcast by email](#)

If you or someone you know would like to be featured on the podcast, you can email us at kurdistan.in.america@gmail.com.

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TODAY @ 2:30 PM EST - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in Washington, DC invites you to a COVID-19 webinar with two renowned doctors based in the United States, working on the front lines of the pandemic.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it a wave of information, where reliable recommendations are often difficult to differentiate from misinformation. The virus has shutdown life in both North America and the Kurdistan Region, with both experiencing different degrees of lockdown.

In this webinar, two prominent doctors working on the crisis will answer your questions about the virus. How and when can we expect governments and economies to reopen? Is immunity from the virus possible? How close is the vaccine from reaching the general public? These questions along with yours will get answered during this webinar.

Speakers:

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

Director of Emergency Ultrasound Division and Clinical Professor of Emergency
Medicine at Louisiana State University

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

Hematology and Internal Medicine Board Certified, Fellow at Johns Hopkins
University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in
Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

=====

کۆفید-۱۹: گەران له دووی پیکوته و گەرانەوه بۆ ئاسایی

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان له ویلایەتە یەکگرتووەکان، واشنگتۆنی پایتەخت، بانگهێشتی بەرێزتان دەکات بۆ وێبپاڕی کۆفید-۱۹ لەگەڵ دوو دوو دکتۆری بەناوبانگ له ویلایەتە یەکگرتووەکان، که له بەرهکانی پێشەوه کار لەسەر پەتاکە دەکەن

سێشەممە، ۲۱ ی نیسانی، ۲۰۲۰

بە کاتی واشنگتۆن و نیویۆرک: ۲:۳۰ تا ۳:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی ناشفیل ۱:۳۰ بۆ ۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی ساند دییەگو ۱۱:۳۰ ی بەیانی بۆ ۱۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی هەولیر ۹:۳۰ شەو بۆ ۱۰:۳۰ شەو

ئێفینتەکه بە یوتیوب لایف بە زیندی پەخش دەکریت و لەسەر تویتەر و فەیسبوکی نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان له ئەمریکا، پەخش دەکریت

[ئێره کلیک بکه بۆ پەخشی راستەوخۆ.](#)

پەتای کۆفید-۱۹ لەگەڵ خۆی شەپۆلێک زانیاری هیناوه که تیندا راسپاردە ی جێی متمانه زۆر بەی جار بە زەحمەت جیا دەکریتەوه له بەدزانیاری. فایرۆسەکه ژیانی داخستوو له باکووری ئەمریکا و هەریمی کوردستان، و هەردوکیان له ئاستی جۆراوجۆردا شەت داونیان بەخۆوه دیوه.

لەم وێبپاڕەدا، دوو دکتۆری بەناوبانگ که کار لەسەر پەتاکە دەکەن، وەلامی پرسپاڕەکانت دەدەنەوه لەسەر فایرۆسەکه. چۆن و له کوێ پێشینی کرانەوهی حکومەت و ئابوورییەکان بکهین؟ ئایا پارێزراوی-مەناعە- له فایرۆسەکه هەیه؟ دەستگەیشتی گشتی به پیکوته یەک، تا چەند نزیکه؟ ئەم پرسپاڕانە و تۆش هەر پرسپاڕیکت هەبیت، له وێبپاڕەکه دا وەلامی دەدریتەوه.

ئاخیره رهکان

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

به ریۆه بهری هۆبهی ناكاوی و پروفیسۆری كلینكی چاره سهری ناكاوی

زانكۆی دهوله تیی لویزیانا

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

هه قالی هیماتۆلۆجی له نه خۆشخانهی زانكۆی جۆنز هۆپكنز، ماسته ر له تهن دروستی گشتیی و له گه ل
تایبه تمه ندی له ئیپیدیمیۆلۆجی له بنكه ی پزیشکی زانكۆی نیبراسكا

رێكخه ر/مۆدییره تیه ر

خاتوو به یان سامی عبدالرحمن

نۆینه ری حکومه تی هه ری می کوردستان له ویلایه ته یه کگرتوو هکانی ئەمریکا

پرسیار و وه لاهه کان

هه ر پرسیارکت هه بوو، تکایه په یوه ندی بکه به کاک کاروان زیباری

ئیمه یل: karwan.zebari@gov.krd ته له فون: (202)821-1860

پتویست به حجزکردن و ناو تۆمارکردن ناکات

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TOMORROW, 9:00 AM -- COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and a Way Forward

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 3:22 PM

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***Kurdistan Regional Government
Representation in the United States***

Washington, DC

Virtual event, hosted by Refugees International

**COVID-19: A New Threat to Kurds in Syria and Iraq and
a Way Forward**

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

[Click here to join this virtual event](#)

or join by phone: +1 209-844-4600, Passcode: 134607577#



As the COVID-19 epidemic spreads across the Middle East, the population in Northeast Syria and Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) face similar challenges. Both Kurdish majority regions host large populations of displaced people who have fled civil war and the conflict with the Islamic State. Even before the COVID-19 crisis, the total number of those in need of humanitarian assistance figured in the millions. The United Nations warns that access to healthcare in Northeast Syria and in KRI for the displaced is increasingly limited. COVID-19 has the potential to devastate these already-vulnerable communities.

Refugees International and the Columbia University Institute for the Study of Human Rights invite you to an on-the-record web event exploring the COVID crisis in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and in Northeast Syria, the effects of this crisis on the displaced people in these regions, and a way forward.

Host

Hardin Lang

is Vice President for Programs and Policy at Refugees International.

Speakers

Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

is the Representative of the Kurdistan Regional Government to the United States.

Sinam Mohammed

is Representative of the Syrian Democratic Council to the United States.

Rapporteur

David L. Phillips

is the Director of the Program on Peace-building and Rights at Columbia University's Institute for the Study of Human Rights.

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Arden Bentley at arden@refugeesinternational.org with any questions.

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Tuesday @ 2:30 PM - COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 1:13 PM

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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

Washington, DC

تکایه برۆ خوار هوهی لاپههکه بو نوسخه کوردییهکه

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

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Tuesday, April 21, 2020

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST (DC, New York City)

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CST (Nashville)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT (San Diego)

9:30 PM- 10:30 PM Erbil time

This event will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and available on KRG-USA
Twitter and Facebook pages.

[Click here for the livestream.](#)

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Hematology and Internal Medicine Board Certified, Fellow at Johns Hopkins
University Hospital, Masters of Public Health (MPH) with distinction in
Epidemiology from University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Host/Moderator:

H.E. Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman

Kurdistan Regional Government Representative to the United States

Q&A will follow.

Please contact Karwan Zebari at karwan.zebari@gov.krd or [\(202\)821-1860](tel:2028211860) with
any questions.

No RSVP is required.

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کۆفید-۱۹: گەران له دووی پیکوته و گەرانەوه بۆ ئاسایی

COVID-19: Searching for a vaccine and a return to normal

نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان له ویلایەتە یەكگرتووەکان، واشنگتۆنی پایتەخت، بانگهێشتی بەرێزتان دەکات بۆ وێبیناری کۆفید-۱۹ لەگەڵ دوو دوو دکتۆری بەناوبانگ له ویلایەتە یەكگرتووەکان، که له بەرهکانی پێشەوه کار لەسەر پەتاکە دەکەن

سێشەممە، ۲۱ ی نیسانی، ۲۰۲۰

بە کاتی واشنگتۆن و نیویۆرک: ۲:۳۰ تا ۳:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی ناشفیل ۱:۳۰ بۆ ۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی ساند دییەگو ۱۱:۳۰ ی بەیانی بۆ ۱۲:۳۰ پاش نیوه‌ڕۆ

بە کاتی هەولیر ۹:۳۰ شەو بۆ ۱۰:۳۰ شەو

ئێفینتەکه به یوتیوب لایف به زیندی پەخش دەکریت و لەسەر تویتەر و فەیسبوکی نوینەرایەتی حکومەتی هەریمی کوردستان له ئەمریکا، پەخش دەکریت

[ئێره کلیک بکه بۆ پەخشی راستەوخۆ.](#)

پەتای کۆفید-۱۹ لەگەڵ خۆی شەپۆلێک زانیاری هیناوه که تیندا راسپاردەوی جێی متمانه زۆر بەی جار بە زەحمەت جیا دەکریتەوه له بەدزانیاری. فایرۆسەکه ژیانی داخستوو له باکووری ئەمریکا و هەریمی کوردستان، و هەردوکیان له ئاستی جۆراوجۆردا شەت داونیان بەخۆوه دیوه.

لەم وێبینارەدا، دوو دکتۆری بەناوبانگ که کار لەسەر پەتاکە دەکەن، وەلامی پرسپارەکانت دەدەنەوه لەسەر فایرۆسەکه. چۆن و له کوی پێشینی کرانەوهی حکومەت و ئابوورییەکان بکهین؟ ئایا پارێزراوی-مەناعە- له فایرۆسەکه هەیه؟ دەستگەیشتی گشتی به پیکوتهیهک، تا چەند نزیکه؟ ئەم پرسپارانە و تۆش هەر پرسپاریکت هەبیت، له وێبینارەکه‌دا وەلامی دەدریتەوه.

ئاخیره رهکان

Dr. Christine Butts, MD

به ریۆه بهری هۆبهی ناكاوی و پروفیسۆری کلینکی چاره سهری ناكاوی

زانكۆی دهوله تیی لویزیانا

Dr. Jagar A. Jasem, MD, MPH

هه قالی هیماتۆلۆجی له نه خوشخانهی زانكۆی جۆنز هۆپکنز، ماستەر له تهن دروستی گشتیی و له گه ل
تایبه تمهندی له ئیپیدیمیۆلۆجی له بنکهی پزشکی زانكۆی نیبراسکا

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