

## WELCOME NOTE

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### Dear reader,

After the first issue of the International Journal of Armenian Genocide Studies (IJAGS) was printed we understood the whole seriousness of this undertaking. High quality academic articles and strict timetable of release of each new volume was the main tasks we expected to face with. The current issue comes to confirm the statement that we are on the right way.

When the Armenians worldwide launched their preparations for 2015 none could even imagine that in the very year of the centennial of the Armenian Genocide the attention of the whole world would be focused exactly on the same areas, where hundreds of thousands of Armenians were perished between 1915 and 1916.

Deir el-Zor, Rakka, Hama... Those were the names creating pain and sorrow for every Armenian. Exactly hundred years later the very same names come back to symbolize new genocidal crimes of ISIS and countries supporting this terrorist network. Although many prefer to say that Turkey unmask herself openly as one of the sponsors of ISIS, in fact it will be correct to say that from the very beginning there were no masks to cover intentions and far reaching realpolitik calculations. Again many thousands of Christian and Muslim victims and casualties, hundreds of thousands of displaced from their native lands creating disastrous humanitarian crisis in the Middle East.

Remembrance and dealing with the consequences of the Armenian Genocide is not and must not be a pure Armenian-Turkish issue. This is a problem of global justice and security. Unfortunately past and modern political calculations and interests live no place for humanitarian approaches and honest discussions of the topic.

The centennial of the Armenian Genocide is not the end of the chapter. On the contrary, it is a new beginning and starting point for everyone caring about the history, memory and justice. The task of academicians is twofold: to continue fight against state-sponsored denial and further the research and analysis of the Armenian Genocide in order to understand the subsequent crimes of the XX century as well as crimes in our days.

From this standpoint IJAGS has an important mission to complete having many of our colleagues involved in Genocide studies as brothers in arm in these crucial battles.

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the Armenian Genocide