



2009-07

The Assembly of Delegates of the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN), at its session on 2 October 2009 in Brussels, adopts the following resolution:

Submitted by the Meshketian Turks - Milletlerarasi Meshet Turkleri Cemiyeti »Vatan«

The Assembly of Delegates underlines the significant progress made in the issue of Meskhetian Turks repatriation.

The repatriation question has been on FUEN agenda for many years and resolutions have been adopted on a regular basis. In 2007 the parliament of Georgia issued a law “On the Repatriation of the Persons Forcedly Resettled from Georgia by the ex-USSR in the 40-ies of the 20th century” that shows Georgia’s commitment to repatriation of Meskhetian Turks after their forceful deportation in 1944.

In the meantime the FUEN Assembly expresses its concern that despite the strong suggestions and criticism by organizations as the Council of Europe and the mission of OSCE in Tbilisi the discriminating and restrictive articles of the law still remain in place.

The Assembly of Delegates of FUEN considers that the existing law does not create any suitable conditions for the repatriation of Meskhetian Turks back to Georgia and hence can not be regarded as a basis of the repatriation despite the extension of the law until 2010.

FUEN`s

Assembly finds that the adoption of such a law does not correspond to the implementation of Georgia’s commitments undertaken in 1999 within the accession to the Council of Europe.

The FUEN Assembly appreciates the positive attitude and genuine interest of the acting President of Georgia and the current state authorities to resolve the issue of the Meskhetian Turks’ repatriation to their homeland.

The Assembly of Delegates addresses the President of Georgia, the Parliament of Georgia and the Georgian authorities:

- to create suitable real conditions for repatriation of the Meskhetian Turks as one of the peoples of Georgia who were forcefully deported by the Soviet regime;
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- to show consistency and genuine support to Meskhetian Turks as well as to the former Georgian citizens who wish to apply for repatriation with no time limitation;
- to issue amendments to the existing law in order to eliminate discriminating articles
- to leave repatriation application time limits for those applicants who need financial support from the government bodies
- to eliminate repatriation application time limits for those applicants who do not seek financial support from the government bodies.