



NADIA's **INITIATIVE**

Advocacy Overview



About Nadia's Initiative

Nadia's Initiative is dedicated to rebuilding communities in crisis and advocating globally for survivors of sexual violence. Nadia's Initiative's current work is focused on the sustainable re-development of the Yazidi homeland in Sinjar, where Nadia grew up. When ISIS launched their genocidal campaign, they not only killed and kidnapped Yazidis, but also destroyed the Yazidi homeland to ensure the community could never return.

Nadia's Initiative works with the local community and a variety of implementing partners on the ground in Sinjar to design and support projects that promote the restoration of education, healthcare, livelihoods, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), and women's empowerment in the region. All Nadia's Initiative programs are community-driven and survivor centric, and work to promote long term peace-building. Nadia's Initiative advocates for governments and international organizations to support efforts to rebuild Sinjar, seek justice for Yazidis, improve security in the region, and support survivors of sexual violence worldwide.



Nadia's Initiative is on a mission to create a world where women are able to live peacefully, and where communities that have experienced trauma and suffering are supported and redeveloped.

A Global Strategy

Nadia's Initiative advocates globally on behalf of survivors of sexual violence and women in conflict-settings. We work to end the use of women and girls as weapons of war and to ensure survivors' voices are heard. We seek justice by fighting to hold perpetrators accountable for their crimes and enabling survivors to heal and rebuild their lives. Nadia's Initiative also advocates to ensure that communities in crisis are not forgotten by working to restore basic resources, services, and security.



2018 Advocacy

SECURITY

DEMINING OF SINJAR, IRAQ

In 2014, ISIS deployed improvised explosive devices and landmines on an industrial scale in Iraq. ISIS targeted vast areas of agricultural lands around villages, as well as key infrastructure. Explosives were placed in peoples' homes, schools, and medical facilities. Nadia's Initiative works with the Mine's Advisory Group (MAG) to de-mine more than 2.6 million square meters of land in Sinjar, Iraq.

ACCOUNTABILITY

UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2379

Nadia Murad and the Nadia's Initiative team were instrumental in drafting and passing of UN Security Council Resolution 2379. The resolution called for the creation of an Investigative Team, headed by a Special Adviser, to support domestic efforts to hold ISIL (Da'esh) accountable by collecting, preserving, and storing evidence in Iraq of acts that may amount to war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide committed by the terrorist group ISIL (Da'esh).

- [Watch](#) Nadia Murad's UN speech calling to bring ISIS to justice

2019 Advocacy

ACCOUNTABILITY

PROSECUTION OF ISIS MILITANT'S WIFE IN GERMANY

Nadia's Initiative worked with Barrister Amal Clooney to represent the mother of a Yazidi child who was held as an ISIS slave and murdered. The wife of the ISIS militant was tried in Germany for letting the child die of thirst in the scorching heat. In April 2021, the defendant was convicted for abetting crimes against humanity. The trial is part of Nadia's Initiative's ongoing work with Amal Clooney and her legal team to hold ISIS perpetrators accountable.

- [Read](#) about the trial
- [Read](#) about the verdict

EVIDENCE COLLECTION OF ISIS CRIMES

Nadia's Initiative is working closely with the UNITAD team to push for the exhumation of mass graves in Sinjar, Iraq to collect evidence of ISIS' crimes against the Yazidi people. While over 82 mass graves have been discovered in Sinjar so far, only 14 have been exhumed. Nadia's Initiative advocates for the ongoing and expedited exhumation of the graves.





GENDER EQUALITY

UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2467

Nadia's Initiative worked with the German Mission to the UN to help draft and pass UN Security Council Resolution 2467 in April 2019. The resolution expands the UN's commitments to end sexual violence in conflict and emphasizes a survivor-centric approach to justice and accountability.

- [Watch](#) Nadia Murad's UN speech in support of the resolution

SURVIVORS OF CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Nadia's Initiative worked with the Mukwege Foundation to establish the Global Survivors Fund, of which both Nadia Murad and Dr. Denis Mukwege are co-founders and board members. The Fund, which was officially launched in October 2019, works to ensure that survivors of conflict-related sexual violence globally have access to reparations and other forms of redress.

- [Learn](#) more about the Fund

FRANCE'S GENDER ADVISORY COUNCIL

Nadia Murad is a member of France's Gender Advisory Council. Nadia, with the support of the Nadia's Initiative team, advocates G7 member states to adopt legislation that protects and promotes women's rights.

- [Learn](#) more about the GEAC



2020 Advocacy

GENDER EQUALITY

MURAD CODE

Nadia's Initiative is working with the Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IICI) and the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative (PSVI) of the UK government to establish the Murad Code, named after Nadia Murad. The Code is a global consultative initiative aimed at building and supporting a community of better practice for, with, and concerning survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Its key objective is to respect and support survivors' rights, ensuring work with survivors to investigate, document, and record their experiences is safer, more ethical, and more effective in upholding their human rights.

- [Learn](#) more about the Murad Code

SECURITY

SINJAR AGREEMENT

In October 2020, the governments of Iraq and the Kurdistan Region reached an agreement to settle disputes over Sinjar District and establish robust security and civil administrations in the region. Political gridlock has delayed the reconstruction of Sinjar and prevented Yazidi survivors from returning to their homeland. Nadia Murad has worked for many years with the Iraqi governments, United States, and international organizations to improve Sinjar's local governance and security. Nadia's Initiative continues to advocate for meaningful implementation and international monitoring of this agreement.

2021 Advocacy

ACCOUNTABILITY

KOCHO BURIAL

On 6 February 2021, the Yazidi community buried 104 victims of the Kocho massacre, including two of Nadia's brothers. The ceremony was marked by both grief and closure, as many survivors were finally able to lay their family members to rest over six years after the genocide. It was also a visceral reminder of the urgent need to exhume and identify victims who remain in mass graves throughout Sinjar. Nadia's Initiative continues advocating authorities to exhume all mass graves throughout Sinjar.

- [Watch](#) this recap of the ceremony
- [Read](#) Nadia's statement

YAZIDI FEMALE SURVIVORS LAW

The Iraqi Parliament passed the long-awaited Yazidi Female Survivors Law in March 2021. The law formally acknowledges the Yazidi genocide and the gender-based trauma of sexual violence against Yazidi women and other ethnic minorities. It lays the groundwork for paying reparations, and guarantees land and job opportunities to survivors of ISIS captivity. Nadia's Initiative worked with Iraqi authorities and the Coalition for Just Reparations to draft and advocate for the law, as well as its ongoing implementation.

- [Read](#) more about this law



ACCOUNTABILITY

UNITAD EVIDENCE OF ISIS CRIMES

In May 2021, the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIS (UNITAD) presented landmark findings to the UN Security Council. UNITAD's Special Advisor, Karim Khan, reported to the Security Council that "there is clear and convincing evidence that the crimes against the Yazidi people clearly constituted genocide." Nadia joined the proceedings to call on member states to establish international trials and support national efforts to prosecute ISIS members for their crimes of genocide and sexual violence. Legal accountability is critical for the healing of Yazidi survivors, as well as the prevention of future violence. With clear evidence that ISIS' crimes constitute genocide, Nadia's Initiative is working to ensure that justice no longer be delayed.

- [Watch](#) Nadia's address



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BETTER, SAFER, AND
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FUTURE
GENERATIONS.

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