

Lord Alton of Liverpool - To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the government of Iraq about the prosecution of ISIS operatives responsible for the murder, enslavement, deportation, forcible transfer, imprisonment, torture, abduction, exploitation, abuse, rape, forced marriage, and enforced disappearance of Yazidis, Christians and other religious minorities in Iraq; and how many prosecutions have taken place.

[HL11427]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon – We regularly urge the Government of Iraq, at both official and ministerial levels, to uphold the freedoms and rights of all minorities across Iraq. We are working with the Government of Iraq to ensure that members of Daesh are held to account for their appalling crimes. The Prime Minister underlined this message with former Prime Minister Abadi during her visit to Iraq in November 2017, and both the Minister for the Middle East and North Africa and I reiterated it during our visits in March and April 2018 respectively. The Minister for the Middle East and North Africa also raised the need to protect minority communities with the new Iraqi Foreign Minister during a phone call on 14 November.

The UN Investigative Team (established under UN Security Council Resolution 2379) has deployed to Iraq to begin gathering evidence. The UK has committed £1 million to the establishment of this team. It will gather evidence of Daesh crimes, including those against the Yezidi, Christian and other minority communities; it aims to help secure justice for all Daesh's victims, regardless of their religion or belief.

The British Government does not publish details of prosecutions carried out by other governments.

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