

Hellenic Electronic Center (HEC)

A Non-Profit Organization Registered in the US

with 38,000 Hellenes as members and 36 Hellenic

associations in the US and abroad

April 25 ,2010 The April 24 article "Obama Cites Devastating Chapter in Armenian Past", accurately criticizes President Obama for going back on his promise regarding recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

The Obama administration has pursued an active policy of appeasement in foreign policy in general,

but specifically toward the continuing human rights violations in Turkey. President Obama has disrespected the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Greek Orthodox minority in Turkey

through comments he has made and by his failure to meet the Patriarch in a public forum on his

visit to Turkey last year.

It has been very clear about this administration that the status of Christians in Turkey and elsewhere

have very little priority for Obama. Between the period of 1914 and 1923, in addition to the Armenians,

the Turks waged genocide against Greek Orthodox and Assyrian Christians as well. In 1955, the

Turkish government ordered a vicious pogrom against the Greek population of Constantinople, and in

1974 the Turkish military invaded the Republic of Cyprus, bringing about the ethnic cleansing of

200,000

Greek Cypriots.

Turkey to this day is a sponsor of terrorism. In 2007, Turkish Army officers were arrested for planning

the murders of Armenian Patriarch Mesrob II and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I. It is surely not

coincidence that Turkey has been targeting the spiritual leadership of two ancient communities that were

decimated in the Genocide of the early twentieth century. Most recently, Prime Minister Erdogan

threatened 100,000 Armenians living in Turkey. The Obama administration's succumbing to Turkish

pressure is despicable.

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