

US House Passes Bill Declaring ISIS Atrocities Genocide

When is the last time the U.S. House of Representatives ever voted unanimously on anything. Let's see how Obama and Kerry get out of this one. [unanimously passed](#) a bipartisan resolution declaring that systemic violence committed by ISIS against Christians, Yazidis, Kurds and other ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq and Syria constitutes genocide.

[ISIL is murdering](#) and enslaving religious and ethnic minorities everywhere they gain power, and we know it" House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) told the press, according to Politico. "We know what they are doing, and if we don't say it, we should be ashamed. ISIL is committing genocide."

He also urged the Obama administration to make a similar declaration of genocide.

The vote on the resolution comes in the same week as a deadline, set last year by Congress, for Secretary of State John Kerry to make a decision on whether it will declare ISIS atrocities in Iraq and Syria to constitute genocide.

Since the summer of 2015, when rumors began to circulate that the US administration was planning to recognize the genocide of Yazidis but not to include Christians in the designation, there have been a number of attempts from NGOs and other groups to encourage the recognition of a [resolution recognizing a genocide](#) against Christians and other religious minorities and calling on the UN Security Council to refer the matter to the International Criminal Court to investigate ISIS violations.

The push for a 'genocide' designation comes because of a perceived lack of action on the part of the US and the international community, and because such a designation holds legal and moral weight, as seen with past conflicts such as Darfur.

Rep. Fortenberry spoke yesterday,