Submitted via: Library of Congress website

December 4, 2019

Dr. Carla D. Hayden
Librarian of Congress
Library of Congress
101 Independence Ave SE
Washington, DC 20540

Dear Dr. Hayden:

We recommend changing the terminology for the Library of Congress Subject Heading (http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85007296) from "Armenian massacres, 1915-1923" to: "Armenian Genocide, 1915-1923."

In the wake of the near unanimous passage of H.Res.296 (405-11) by the U.S. House of Representatives on October 29th of this year, the Library of Congress should bring this great American institution’s policies and practices into alignment with this resolution’s recognition of the Armenian Genocide and its clearly stated rejection of any and all efforts to enlist, engage, or otherwise associate the United States Government with denial of the Armenian Genocide.

In addition to converting the Library of Congress Subject Heading from “Armenian Massacres, 1915-23” to “Armenian Genocide, 1915-23,” we ask you to also:

1) Direct the Congressional Research Service to end the practice of using euphemistic, equivocal, or evasive language to avoid directly recognizing the Armenian Genocide. The Congressional Research Service should henceforth use the accurate term Armenian Genocide in relevant reports and other internal or external products and communications, consistent with the resolved clause of H.Res.296 calling for the United States to “reject efforts to enlist, engage, or otherwise associate the United States Government with denial of the Armenian Genocide or any other genocide.”
2) Direct all libraries, offices, services and other entities within the Library of Congress to end the practice of using euphemistic, equivocal, or evasive language to avoid the term Armenian Genocide. These entities should, instead, use the accurate term Armenian Genocide in relevant displays, exhibitions, presentations, conferences, lectures, websites, brochures or other official events and publications.

Thank you for your attention to this request. We stand ready to meet with you or other relevant Library of Congress officials to discuss in detail the vast body of scholarly work that supports our suggested change in terminology.

Sincerely

Aram Suren Hamparian
Executive Director

cc: Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues