

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Paul Sarbanes (#1 and #2)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

How many people died, and during what period, in the Armenian Genocide?  
What were the causes of these deaths?

**Answer:**

As many as 1.5 million Armenians were killed or forcibly exiled in  
the tragic events that took place in the final years of the Ottoman Empire.  
Many of these individuals were the victims of massacres or starvation.

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Paul Sarbanes (#3)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

What actions were taken by U.S. diplomats in Turkey at that time to warn and report on the events?

**Answer:**

U.S. diplomats serving in the Ottoman Empire in the final years of the Empire reported on events and expressed their concern about forced exiles and massacres which took place at that time. There is an extensive and publicly available historical record which documents this communication.

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Paul Sarbanes (#4)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

What steps were taken to punish perpetrators of the Armenian genocide?

**Answer:**

In 1919, former Ottoman Minister of War Ismael Enver, former Minister of Interior Mehmet Talaat, former Minister of the Navy Ahmed Djemal, and former Minister of Education Nazim Effendi were tried in absentia by an Ottoman tribunal for their command responsibility for “the disaster befalling the deported Armenians.” They were sentenced to death for murder, pillage, robbery and crimes of enormous magnitude. All four had fled the country prior to their trials. Talaat and Djemal were assassinated in Europe in 1921 and 1922, respectively. Enver died in combat in Bukhara in 1922.

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Paul Sarbanes (#5)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

How does the U.S. define "genocide"?

**Answer:**

Under the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, to which the United States is a party, genocide occurs when the following three criteria are met:

1. Specified acts are committed:
  - Killing;
  - Causing serious bodily or mental harm;
  - Deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about physical destruction of a group in whole or in part;
  - Imposing measures to prevent births; or
  - Forcibly transferring children to another group;
2. These acts are committed against members of a national, ethnic, racial or religious group; and
3. They are committed "with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, [the group] as such".

When ratifying the Convention against Genocide, the United States expressed its understanding that genocidal intent (the third element above) meant a "specific intent to destroy, in whole or in substantial part," the group as such.

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Paul Sarbanes (#6)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

Does the United Nations consider the atrocities against Armenians to be a "genocide"?

**Answer:**

To our knowledge, the United Nations has not stated that it considers these atrocities to have been a “genocide”

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Paul Sarbanes (#7)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

Since the Ottoman Empire is long gone, why does Turkey view discussion of the genocide as a reflection on its own government and people?

**Answer:**

The United States has actively encouraged and funded scholarly, civil society, and diplomatic discussions about this tragedy to help all come to terms with this tragedy. The Administration believes that establishing a productive dialogue on these events is the best way to achieve reconciliation, peace and stability in the region, and help encourage a full appreciation of these terrible events. For the Turkish point of view on this issue, I would kindly refer you to the Government of Turkey for an explanation of its position.