

Genocide Watch

The Alliance Against Genocide

Annual Report 2024

In a year that has seen over 234,000 people murdered in violent conflicts around the globe, we know that Genocide Watch's work is more important than ever. We are building a global movement to predict, prevent, stop, and punish genocide. From Sudan to Gaza to Ukraine, we are proud of the work that we have done this year to raise awareness and influence public policy concerning potential and actual genocides.

We have expanded our all-volunteer staff to include over 30 members from the US, Canada, the UK, Ireland, the Netherlands, Kenya, Sweden, Finland, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Rwanda, Spain, Italy, and India. Our Alliance Against Genocide gained 24 new member organizations from around the world this year.

As an all-virtual organization, not a single penny has been spent on rent, travel, meetings, meals, parties, or conferences in 2024. All our funding this year has gone to pay for the internet technology necessary to do the work that we do. Compared to other major human rights and genocide prevention organizations, our expenses are very low. We have done our work this year on only \$13,000. The former head of Human Rights Watch has said, "Genocide Watch gets the most bang for the buck of any human rights NGO."

Because Genocide Watch uses constant event-based monitoring, and a processual model of the development of genocide, rather than an annual statistical model based on abstract variables, it is usually the first NGO to predict a genocide.

Now 25 years old, Genocide Watch was the first and is still the world's most effective anti-genocide NGO. Genocide Watch has worked with NGO coalitions to persuade regional organizations to intervene and stop genocides in East Timor, Kosovo, Macedonia, Côte d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burundi, and Iraq. We are continuing our efforts to prevent or stop current genocides.

Genocide Watch's operational methodology to maintain timely and reliable information on threats of genocide has four pillars: Advocacy, Awareness and Education, Legal Prosecution, and the Alliance Against Genocide.

Advocacy:

One of Genocide Watch's major advocacy projects has been stopping the genocide in Sudan that has claimed 130,000 lives in this year alone. In conjunction with the International Religious Freedom Roundtable, we created an international **Genocide Working Group** to demand UN intervention to stop the genocide in Sudan.

We drafted a UN Security Council Resolution to re-establish a joint UN/African Union Mission in Sudan with 10,000 troops and 715 police. Its mandate would be to protect civilians, not just observe atrocities against them. For the first time, it would be authorized to arrest leaders charged by the International Criminal Court. We sent this resolution to all members of the UN Security Council. Dr. Stanton met with three Presidents of the Security Council from the UN Missions of Slovenia, Switzerland, and France. All favored our strong resolution but were unwilling to introduce the resolution because "the UK holds the pen" for resolutions on Sudan. Such diplomatic niceties took precedence over protecting the people being killed in Sudan.

The United Kingdom blocked the working group's draft resolution and substituted its own, which urged UN members to send more humanitarian assistance, but provided for no armed force to get such assistance to the people now under attack from both sides in the Sudanese civil war. Even that resolution was vetoed by Russia. In the coming year, we will not cease our efforts to get the UN to authorize a peacemaking mission to stop the genocide in Sudan. We are diplomatic but relentless.

We have pursued other avenues to advocate for the victims of this genocide, as well. Genocide Watch Founding President Dr. Gregory Stanton spoke at <u>congressional briefings</u> on Nigeria and Sudan and spoke in webinars about the genocide in <u>Sudan</u>.

In 2024, we restructured our advocacy efforts to make them more targeted and effective. Coordinated by Sanaea Suntok, we have seven advocacy taskforces, each working on a current genocide:

Grace Condon and the **Gaza Taskforce** have spearheaded our many alerts and reports about the genocide in Gaza, making sure that we are providing accurate, unbiased, and informative analysis in a timely manner. Our official statements on the Israel-Hamas war can be found <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>

Areeka Khan and her team have worked tirelessly to draw attention to the genocide occurring right now in Sudan. Our **Sudan Taskforce** has released a variety of advocacy materials, including publications such as <u>Genocide Emergency Alert</u>, <u>Special Report on Genocide in Sudan</u>, <u>Special Report on Genocidal Rape in Sudan</u>, <u>Silenced Screams: Genocidal Rape in Sudan</u> (blog), <u>Why Rape Survivors' Testimonies are Rare in Sudan</u> (blog), <u>UAE and Egypt are Violating the Sudan Arms Embargo</u>, <u>Genocide in Sudan</u>, <u>Rape as a Weapon of War and Genocide in Sudan</u>, and <u>Sudan Humanitarian Aid Blocked and Looted</u>.

Our **India Taskforce**, led by Areeka Khan and Thejashri Madhav Supriya, is in the process of publishing a <u>10-part blog series</u> on the stages of genocide in India. Three installments have already been released.

Our **Iran Taskforce**, led by Veronica Buckley, has focused this year on accountability by identifying and analyzing strategies for holding individuals who are complicit in Iranian human rights abuses accountable in countries that have universal jurisdiction for crimes against humanity. The Iran task force is focused on warning of Iran's international genocidal intentions against Israel and Jews. It will publish an op-ed warning of Iran's development of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

Under the leadership of Alexander Cook, our **Nigeria Taskforce** has been working on producing a podcast series focused on two topics: the role of faith and civil society in genocide prevention, and the challenges of investigating and prosecuting genocidal massacres of Christians in Nigeria. Cook met with Lord David Alton in the UK Parliament in London to plan potential joint initiatives.

Emily Mullin and her team, the **Ukraine Taskforce** has kept the war in Ukraine in the global spotlight through *Unseen Ukraine*, a report series examining the under-reported aspects of the war in Ukraine using Genocide Watch's powerful 10-stage model of genocidal processes.

Grace Harris and the **DRC/Rwanda/Burundi Taskforce** have focused on genocide denial in Rwanda. The Taskforce worked with several Rwandan organizations to organize a webinar on the impact of genocide denial on genocide survivors. The Task Force is also focusing on how women-led grassroots organizations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo can uplift women struggling against a culture of rape by genocidal militias. The project includes interviews with women who run rape crisis centers in the DRC.

The **Balkans Taskforce**, led by Bekir Hodzic, is preparing two reports: one on conflict-related sexual violence against men in the Bosnian war and the other on glorification of Serb war criminals in the former Yugoslavia. The projects will combine fieldwork, expert interviews, and photography to examine Serb "triumphalism" in Bosnia and Yugoslavia. Other projects include an analysis of Republika Srpska President Milorad Dodik's rise and his use of genocide denial to increase his support among Serbs.

Awareness and Education:

Genocide Watch is reaching more people than ever before. Our website saw over 712,000 sessions from over 550,000 unique visitors – both 50% increases from last year's numbers. Our social media presence across Facebook, Instagram, X, and LinkedIn has increased to over 10,000 views per post this year.

We have continued to publish our Country Reports on the risks and realities of genocide in countries around the world, highlighting emergent situations and exposing ones that have flown under the radar for too long. In 2024, Grace Condon and the research team also published 13 longer detailed reports. For a complete list of Genocide Watch reports and alerts, please visit our website.

We have closely followed genocides in progress and have published five emergency alerts this year on Israel's genocide of Palestinian civilians; the systematic massacres of Christians in Nigeria; the murder of tens of thousands of people by the Rapid Support Forces in Sudan; Azerbaijan's invasion of Nagorno-Karabakh in Armenia and its blockade of the Lachin Corridor; the deadly ethnic clashes in Manipur, India; Israel's massive aerial bombing campaign and invasion of Lebanon; and the Arakan Army's forcible seizure of Maungdaw, Myanmar, which killed hundreds and displaced thousands of Rohingyas.

Our podcast series, <u>Conversations on Genocide</u>, released 12 episodes this year on topics ranging from anti-Muslim hate in India to Italy's forgotten genocide in Libya to documenting the genocide occurring right now in Ukraine. The episodes feature activists, academics, and experts from around the globe.

Genocide Watch published 24 detailed articles on a wide range of issues this year. We strove to bring attention to the <u>ongoing Hazara genocide in Afghanistan</u>, <u>why conversion therapy for LGBTQ+</u> <u>individuals should be banned</u>, <u>the unjust treatment of Dalits in Nepal</u>, and other underreported crimes against humanity and acts of genocide currently underway worldwide.

Our newly formed Mapping Team led by Béla Müller has published four maps of fatalities in ongoing conflicts this year. They are an invaluable resource for our advocacy efforts. They include a map of conflict fatalities in Gaza since October 7, 2023; a map of fatalities in the Sahel due to jihadism between 2009 and 2024; a map of fatalities in Ukraine since Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022; and a map of fatalities in Sudan between 2023 and 2024.

Genocide Watch held two webinars this year in collaboration with experts, journalists, activists, and members of the Alliance Against Genocide. One was on genocide denial in Rwanda. The other was on the obligations of businesses and governments to sanction forced organ harvesting in China.

Dr. Stanton helped lead a workshop with 45 African leaders in genocide prevention on Ethnicity and Genocide in Kigali, Rwanda, on November 8 and 9. It was sponsored by the UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide and the Aegis Trust. Dr. Stanton was the co-author with Kenyan Professor Kimani Njogu of the <u>Policy Guidance on Preventing Ethnic Genocide</u> that was the main document used for the workshop. It is now an official document published by the United Nations.

Dr. Stanton gave several public presentations and numerous interviews this year to raise awareness of the risks of genocide around the world. They included topics such as Israel's air strikes on Rafah and its refusal to heed UN Security Council resolutions calling for cessation of its invasion of Gaza; The Cost of Denial of the Bangladesh Genocide; and The Ten Stages of Genocide that Threaten India.

During the IAGS/Educators Institute for Human Rights/Alliance Against Genocide's Conference on Teaching About Genocide, Dr. Stanton presented a proposal for an Artificial Intelligence corporation to build AI to answer hate speech. At the same conference, he also gave a keynote address entitled "Looking Backward into the Future" which analyzed why the United Nations has failed to prevent war or genocide. He published an article in The Cairo Review entitled "Why the UN has failed to prevent genocide," in which he advocated using Article 109 of the UN Charter to call a General Conference to amend the UN Charter to eliminate the Perm-5 veto that has paralyzed the UN Security Council since its founding.

Legal Team:

Genocide Watch **Legal Team** member Subash Jai Devaraj prepared an Application of Intervention for Bangladesh to submit in the *Gambia v Myanmar* case at the International Court of Justice. Legal Team member Brenda Salazar also drafted a Declaration of Intervention for Rwanda to intervene in the *Gambia v. Myanmar* genocide case. Dr. Stanton met personally with the Minister of Justice of Rwanda to plan submission of the Intervening Party Declaration for Rwanda.

Dr. Stanton incorporated the Word Institute, which will work with artificial intelligence and social media companies to develop software to be embedded in their platforms to recognize and answer hate speech. Genocide Watch has concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide to pursue this project.

The Alliance Against Genocide:

The Alliance Against Genocide was the world's first international anti-genocide coalition. It remains the largest. The Alliance has been expanded and revitalized this year under the dynamic leadership of Brooklyn Quallen. Twenty-four new member organizations have joined the Alliance, bringing our membership to 130 organizations in over 31 countries.

Collaborations between member organizations and Genocide Watch's Advocacy Taskforces have flourished. Together, we have written reports, held webinars, and added initiatives to further our mission to create the international institutions and the political will to prevent genocide.

Genocide Watch actively incorporates the voices and perspectives of genocide victims and survivor communities. Genocide Watch consults Alliance members to research and validate our reports with genocide-impacted communities. We have collaborated with institutions inside and outside the Alliance to check and validate Genocide Watch's reports on Sudan, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, India, Myanmar, China, Kurdistan, and the Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities.

Hope:

It is easy to look at the state of the world and lose hope. Seemingly endless genocides rage on in Sudan, Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, China, and other countries. The "international community" seems to have forgotten its responsibility to protect people being slaughtered by their own genocidal leaders. It may feel like there is nothing to be done.

But the world is never as dark as it seems. Not when there are people willing to stand up in the light and refuse to accept genocide as the unavoidable fate of the human race.

Genocide Watch's dedicated volunteer staff work tirelessly for a better world, but we cannot do this alone. We need your support to build a world free of genocide, where all people can live without fear of being massacred because of their nationality, ethnicity, race, or religion.

That is our purpose and our calling.

As John F. Kennedy said, "On earth, God's work must truly be our own."

Thank you for helping us. We could not do this without you.