

**POPE FRANCIS
LETTER OF THE HOLY FATHER
TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION
CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRAQ**

9 August 2014

[Link](#)

[...] The violent attacks that are sweeping across Northern Iraq cannot but awaken the consciences of all men and women of goodwill to concrete acts of solidarity by protecting those affected or threatened by violence and assuring the necessary and urgent assistance for the many displaced people as well as their safe return to their cities and their homes. The tragic experiences of the Twentieth Century, and the most basic understanding of human dignity, compels the international community, particularly through the norms and mechanisms of international law, to do all that it can to stop and to prevent further systematic violence against ethnic and religious minorities [...]