



Irakische Gemeinde in Österreich

الجمالية العراقية  
النمسا/فينا



Europäische Kommission  
Vertretung in Österreich  
Mr. Wolfgang Bogensberger  
Wipplingerstraße 35  
1010 Wien

Vienna, December 24, 2020

Excellency,

I am writing to you on behalf the Iraqi expatriates in Austria regarding President Donald Trump's decision to pardon four of the infamous Blackwater mercenaries involved in the 2007 slaughter of Iraqi civilians.

The Blackwater criminals were sentenced by and American court for lengthy prison terms, including a life sentence in one case, for the Nisour Square massacre, one of the most notorious episodes in the US' war crimes in Iraq.

Fourteen Iraqi civilians, including one child, were killed and 17 others injured in the crowded Baghdad square in September 2007, after the Blackwater mercenaries opened fire on civilian Iraqis with machine guns, sniper rifles, and grenade launchers, without any reason.

With President Trump's pardon Blackwater war criminals will now walk free. This pardon caused outrage and enormously hurt Iraqi people particularly the victims' families.

Pardoning monstrous war criminals encourages the culture of impunity and leaves a dark mark on the human history.

Based on our collective and shared responsibility to preserve justice and rule of law nationally and internationally, the Iraqi expatriates in Austria call upon the European Union to react vis-à-vis this justice killing.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration

  
Mag. Dhia Aldin Shamari  
Chairman