



## Press release on the education campaign of the Society for Threatened Peoples (STP)

In connection with the exhibition *Nobody's Listening*, the Society for Threatened Peoples has launched an educational campaign. The focus of the campaign will be to bring the history of the Yazidis and the associated genocide closer to school classes. Students and teachers will gain insight into the history of the Yazidis. This counteracts the forgetting of the serious human rights violations against Yazidis. The students learn what religious intolerance can lead to and what the positive effects of coexistence between different religious communities can bring. It is important to create space for the stories of the survivors. Therefore, the education campaign also works with prints of the artworks from the exhibition *Nobody's Listening*. These can bring the stories of the survivors to the students in a very special way. The campaign will take place during the school term 2021/22, with the option of an extension. The individual units are planned as at least a double lesson and include content input, group work with selected prints of artworks and a joint development of possibilities for action and content aspects. In order to participate, headmasters and teachers can contact the project leader Tabea Giesecke (email: [t.giesecke@gfbv.de](mailto:t.giesecke@gfbv.de)).

By educating and raising awareness among youth and young adults and by preserving and publicizing the material and non-material testimonies of religious minorities, we are making a long-term and concrete contribution against forgetting in the majority society in Germany, especially in federal states with a large Yazidi population. In addition, this framework aims to provide a forum for dialogue between the different religions of students, against forgetting genocides and human rights violations and for a common perspective for a better future. The aim is not only to increase the students and teachers own interest in religious minorities in Iraq and Syria, but also to pass on this knowledge - to their own families or to the entire school/university. Religious freedom is a central point here. Through the insights of the Yazidis, the students learn that religious freedom is not a matter of course - not even in Germany. The campaign shows that it is worthwhile to be motivated and active in a peaceful society that lives together despite differences and to stand up for human rights, both in Germany and in other countries around the world. In this way, students are encouraged to critically examine their own habits of thought, patterns of action and worldviews and can critically reflect on these within the framework of the project. It becomes clear how a conflict that is not primarily based in Germany can also have an impact on life in Germany. Diaspora communities need support from the majority society and active help for justice and a common future. Especially since Germany still has not recognized the genocide against the Yazidis, the Yazidi community is still faced with many challenges.