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## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WESTERN ARMENIA

RESOLUTION N° 03/29/2011

In accordance with the

CONVENTION (V) RESPECTING THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF NEUTRAL POWERS AND  
PERSONS  
IN CASE OF WAR ON LAND  
The Hague, 18 October 1907

Makes a

**DECLARATION OF NEUTRALITY  
POSITIVE, ARMED AND PERMANENT  
FOR THE WESTERN ARMENIA  
AND  
ARMENIANS OF WESTERN ARMENIA**

### P R E F A C E

« Fides etiam hosti servanda »

*Considering* the losses that humanity and the Armenians have suffered in terms of human, spiritual, cultural, material and territorial, during the first and the second World War,

*Considering* the truth of the fact that humanity and the Armenians are now in deep crisis of psycho cultural, moral, psychological, economical and political, which poses a threat of collision of civilizations, and the outbreak of a third World War,

*Considering* the International Convention on neutrality at The Hague, October 18, 1907, “Convention (V) respecting the Rights and Duties of Neutral Powers and Persons in Case of War on Land”, as a legal path for the humanity and the Armenians, to avoid intrastate and religious conflicts, and antagonisms and wars,

*Taking* into account that the absence of state power in Western Armenia, has deprived the Armenians of Western Armenia to have the opportunity to be part of the Convention (V) of The Hague, “respecting the Rights and Duties of Neutral Powers and Persons in Case of War on Land”, of October 18, 1907, and from its natural right in the organization of a complete self-defence, given that if the Armenian State had existed as an independent authority, it would certainly have benefited from the conditions of the “Convention (V) respecting the Rights and Duties of Neutral Powers and Persons in Case of War on Land”, The Hague, October 18, 1907, including those of the first International Peace Conference of 1899,

*Considering* it necessary to emphasize the fact that deserves to be remembered with a particular attention, when on May 24, 1915, the Triple Entente, namely Great Britain, France and Russia, manifested themselves in a joint declaration against the policy of extermination of the Armenians by the Ottoman government, describing the atrocities committed against Armenians, as; “**these new crimes against humanity and civilization**”, (1)

*Based* on the historical fact that the Armenian Cilicia proclaimed its independence on August 4, 1920, but France, bypassing the agreements of October 27, 1915, between the representative of the National Council of Western Armenia Boghos Nubar Pasha and François Georges-Picot (Head of the Eastern Division of the French Ministry of Foreign affairs) on self-determination of Armenian Cilicia, disarmed and abandoned the Armenians of Cilicia, for which reason, the independence of Cilicia did not survive. (2)

This year is the period, when on the basis of international standards, the Ottoman Empire was dismembered, resulting in the creation of independent Arab states,

Also *based* on the fact that from 1918-1920, the liberation struggle of the Armenian world that is to say the provinces of Nakhitchevan, Zanzezour, Artsakh, Djavakhk and the Armenian Republic have been subject of encroachment by the Turkish and Azerbaijaneese armed forces,

And the fact that, when the Republic of Armenia was awaiting the acceptance of its request as a state member to the League of Nations in 1920, the Kemalist Turkey was carrying out the aggression against the Armenian people in Armenia, to make inapplicable the Treaty of Sèvres, but also the Arbitral Award of the President of the United States of America, Woodrow Wilson, about the demarcation of Turkish and Western Armenian boundaries, and the creation of a sovereign Armenian State,

And other historical events, which for decades has prohibited the Armenians’ right to develop autonomously and freely on their own territory as indigenous people,

And finally, according to the UN declaration on the principles and basic international standards, which reaffirm our commitment to the principle of a peaceful settlement of conflicts in order to contribute to regional peace and security, guaranteeing the right of peoples to develop freely,

## By this decision the National Council of Western Armenia

### Declares

1. The Positive Neutrality, Armed and Permanent of the Armenians of Western Armenia, in the occupied territories *de jure* and *de facto* of Western Armenia, taking into account first of all,
  - a) the Arbitral Award of the 28<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, November 22, 1920, with respect to the demarcation between Western Armenia and Turkey, (3)
  - b) As well as the Armenian Cilicia, his status consistent with the statement of “the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples” of the UN General Assembly of 14 December 1960, resolution 1514,
  - c) And finally, towards the Armenians of Western Armenia, which have the ancestral rights, also historical, cultural, civilized, state founder, undeniable, irrevocable, and imprescriptible in accordance with the UN declaration on the “rights of indigenous peoples”, September 13, 2007,
2. The declaration of Positive Neutrality, Armed and Permanent of the National Council of Western Armenia applies towards the Armenians which have been granted citizenship and those who have not yet, based on the fact that they are not Armenians of Diaspora, as presented so far, but Armenians of Western Armenia, who have established residence in various parts of the world as a result of deportations and the genocide of the Armenians.
3. Armenians of Western Armenia, that is to say, Armenian population including Armenian households of emigration, have the right to not participate in wars of aggression, the overthrow of States, in the national and religious conflicts, in the so called clash of civilization, and violence that arise, massacres and genocides, even in chaotic situations fuelled and pushed, according to the “Convention (V) respecting the Rights and Duties of Neutral Powers and Persons in Case of War on Land”, The Hague, 18 October 1907,
4. Armenians of Western Armenia, that is to say, Armenian population including Armenian households of emigration, have the right to defend themselves from repeated violence, assaults and deportations, and the right to defend their home country against external aggressions, according to the article 51 of the United Nations Charter concerning the “right of individual and collective self-defence”.
5. Armenians of Western Armenia, that is to say, Armenian population including Armenian households of emigration, have the right not to take part in the aggression carried out by their home country against another country or in the internal political conflicts, and have the right not to take part in civil wars, according to the “Convention (V) respecting the Rights and Duties of Neutral Powers and Persons in Case of War on Land”, The Hague, 18 October 1907,  
Given the joint statement of the main political forces of the Armenian community in Lebanon as an example of the willingness of the Armenians of Western Armenia who want to live and to grow in peace and safe. During the civil war of 1975-1990, in order to overcome the political crisis inside the country, these forces had taken the decision to apply the “Positive Neutrality of the Armenians of Lebanon”.
6. Armenians of Western Armenia, in all circumstances when they are forced to protect their Positive Neutrality, Armed and Permanent, organize Armed Forces to maintain peace throughout the country, in accordance with the defence of public order and the safety of the populations, according to the “Convention (V) respecting the Rights and Duties of Neutral Powers and Persons in Case of War on Land”, The Hague, 18 October 1907,
7. Similarly, the Armenians of Western Armenia, the Armenians that have been deported or emigrated from their homeland by force during different periods and for various reasons, all have legitimate rights, moral, historical, civil, political and civic to implement the policy of Positive Neutrality, Armed and Permanent, because the League of Nations, then the UN and the International Community have not adequately defended the natural rights, permanent and inalienable of the Armenians and Armenia.

8. It has been notified in this regard, on the basis of the dispositions containing in the documents of the International Advisory Committee created by the League of Nations, on its deliberations in a report on issues relating to the “ Confiscation of the Armenian refugees properties by the Turkish government” (2 August 1929), and the decision N° 60/147 on the United Nations’ Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights and of Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law” adopted on December 16, 2005.

9. Armenians of Western Armenia, that is to say, Armenian population including Armenian households of emigration, have the right not to be part in political wrangling and secondary interests in order to focus on fundamental national issues within a sphere of legal equality.

10. The 10 million Armenians dispersed throughout the world have the ability to assume a majority and establish security in Western Armenia, of which they are the rightful successors, and allowing necessarily (art. 29 of the Treaty of Sèvres) the implementation *de facto* of the Arbitral Award of pr. W. Wilson.

11. The National Council of Western Armenia recommends the Western Armenian Government in exile to carry out his legislative, legal, organizational and constructive activities according to the policy of “Positive Neutrality, Armed and Permanent of the Armenians of Western Armenia and Western Armenia” in accordance with the principles of legal policies that “Western Armenia is a sovereign democratic state, Positive, Armed, Permanent and independent”.

12. The Armenian National Councils’ statement on the “Positive Neutrality, Armed and Permanent for Armenians of Western Armenia and Western Armenia” comes into force *de jure* from the transmission of the declaration, and *de facto* 60 days after submission of the said act of Declaration to the Government of the Netherlands, according to the “Convention (V) respecting the Rights and Duties of Neutral Powers and Persons in Case of War on Land”, The Hague, 18 October 1907.

## National Council of Western Armenia

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Note ; In case of translation into other languages, The original text is Armenian

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### Annotation

1. See, the first Turkish press. Telega agency. Wolff Constantinople, June 4, 1915, the *Agence Havas* was published May, 24, the following statement after a preliminary agreement between the Governments of France, Britain and Russia.

**France, Grande-Bretagne et Russie. — DÉCLARATION DE LA TRIPLE-ENTENTE  
TENANT POUR RESPONSABLE LE GOUVERNEMENT TURC DES MASSACRES COMMIS PAR LA TUR-  
QUIE EN ARMÉNIE, EN DATE DU 24 MAI 1915.**

24 mai 1915. — Depuis un mois environ, la population kurde et turque de l’Arménie procède, de connivence et souvent avec l’aide des autorités ottomanes, à des massacres des Arméniens. De tels massacres ont eu lieu vers le 1<sup>er</sup> mai-avril (nouveau style) à Ezeroun, Dertchun, Eguine, Akn, Billis, Mouch, Sassoun, Zeitoun et dans toute la Cilicie ; les habitants d’une centaine de villages aux environs de Van ont été tous assassinés ; dans la ville même, le quartier arménien est assiégé par les Kurdes. En même temps, à Constantinople, le gouvernement ottoman sévit contre la population arménienne inoffensive. — En présence de ces nouveaux crimes de la Turquie contre l’humanité et la civilisation, les gouvernements alliés font savoir publiquement à la Sublime-Porte qu’ils tiendront personnellement responsables desdits crimes tous les membres du gouvernement ottoman ainsi que ceux de ses agents qui se trouveraient impliqués dans de pareils massacres.

“For about a month, Turkish and Kurdish population of Armenia proceed in collusion and often with the support of the Ottoman authorities, to the massacres of Armenians. Such massacres took place in mid-April (new style) in Erzurum, Terdjan, Eghine, Akn, Bitlis, Mush, Sassoun, Zeitoun and throughout Cilicia ; The inhabitants of a hundred villages near Van were all murdered, in the city, the Armenian quarter is besieged by Kurds. At the same time, in Constantinople, the Ottoman Government raging against the harmless Armenian population.

In the presence of **these new crimes of Turkey against humanity and civilization**, the Allied Governments make publicly known to the Sublime Porte that they will hold personally responsible for said crimes all members of the Ottoman government and those of its agents who would be implicated in such massacres”.

2. The Correspondence of the East (La Correspondance d’Orient) Economic Review, political and literary On 30<sup>th</sup> of January, 1920

The Supreme Council recognizes the Armenian Cilicia as a state, it was decided:

- 1 / The government of the Armenian State will be recognized as *de facto* government,
- 2 / That this recognition does not prejudice the question of borders of any State.

3. Here is the Official and complete Arbitral Award, “The decision of the President of the United States of America to determine the border between Turkey and Armenia, access to the sea of Armenia and the demilitarization of all Turkish adjacent territory”.

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**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WESTERN ARMENIA**

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