

GENOCIDE CONVENTION - 1963

A Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide was adopted at the Third General Assembly of the United Nations meeting in Paris in November, 1948. The Convention defined genocide as “the committing of certain acts with intent to destroy in whole or in part a national, ethnic, racial or religious group as such.” Sixty-six nations of the world of such varying size and political influence as Australia, Argentina, Belgium, Canada, El Salvador, France, Germany, Honduras, India, Israel, Italy, Monaco, Panama, Pakistan and the Soviet Union ratified the convention. The United States so far has not acted.

Resolutions urging the United States Senate to ratify this convention have been passed repeatedly by the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods. We, the delegates to the XXIVth Biennial Assembly held in Chicago, Illinois, November 17-20, 1963, mindful of the sanctity of all life and of the dreadful tragedy that swept over six million of our brethren in Europe during the Hitler era, as well as of the critical current need to affirm the dignity and equality of all people, again urge, in the name of the United States members of The National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, that the Senate of the United States promptly ratify the Genocide Convention of the United Nations.