

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON CITIZENSHIP
AND IMMIGRATION**



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

**COMITÉ PERMANENT DE LA
CITOYENNETÉ ET DE L'IMMIGRATION**

Dear Mr. Mehmet Tohti,

Thank you for raising your concerns about the omission of Uyghurs from the 6 April 2022 [news release](#) by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration on extending the immigration measures afforded to Ukrainian nationals to other regions faced with a humanitarian crisis. As chair of the Committee, I want to assure you that any impression of omission was not intentional. In naming a list of examples of humanitarian crises, we did not and do not consider this list to be exhaustive.

This committee unequivocally recognizes and deplores the genocide against the Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims. On 29 April 2022, I tabled on behalf of the committee a report entitled [Supporting Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims to find safety in Canada](#). The motion calls on the federal government to

- a) extend existing special immigration measures to Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims, including the expansion of biometrics collection capabilities in third countries and the issuance of Temporary Resident Permits and single journey travel documents to those without a passport;
- b) allow displaced Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims in third countries, who face risk of detention and deportation back to China, to seek refuge in Canada;
- c) waive the UNHCR refugee determination;
- d) and that the government provide a comprehensive response by letter to the committee within 30 days.

The House of Commons also unanimously passed a [motion](#) on 22 February 2021 recognizing this genocide.

I hope this additional information brings clarity about intentions of the Committee, and our continued support.

Please accept my deepest regards,

Salma Zahid

Chair