



## **Initiative: Iraq Children and Women Relief**

### **Who are we and what do we want**

We, an initiative of German-Iraqi and German-Austrian citizens want to help Iraqi children and women who were driven from their homes by the terrorist organization IS. For over a year they live under extremely harsh conditions in dozens of camps, scattered all over Iraq, on the outskirts of cities and in some cases even in the desert. And there are more and more new refugees in these camps, according to UN figures; the number of refugees has already exceeded 3 million. The majority of them are women and children, including many widows and orphans. The Iraqi government and the international organizations are overwhelmed by the task in helping the large amount of refugees sustainably. We want to help the refugees on spot in Iraq and avoid their exodus out of their country. We shall be focusing on the most vulnerable among them, the widows and orphans, but do not rule out other people in need!

### **How we do it:**

As a first step we want to inform the German and Austrian public on the situation of Iraqi refugees and to organize awareness campaign. Secondly, we act as an intermediary between the Iraqi and German civil society organizations (NGO). Thanks to our good knowledge of the Iraqi NGO scene, we have the ability to assess the seriousness and effectiveness of Iraqi NGOs at the scene and to recommend a collaboration with a suited German NGO. We are willing to accompany German and Austrian NGOs field trips to Iraq, or even, perform it on their behalf. We are also able to organize the transport of in-kind donations sending it directly to those who are affected in Iraq. We plan

to collect donation in-kind such as toys for kids, medicine, clothes etc. However, we do not accept money donation.

The initiator of our action group, economist Dr. Barik Schuber, has already gained a lot of experience in organizing relief efforts for Iraqi children during the economic embargo against Iraq from 1990 to 2003. Together with Prof. Ulrich Gottstein he has collected with a group of German and Iraqi doctors "Iraq children aid IPPNW - Irak Kinderhilfe bei der IPPNW " donations and organized the delivery of several relief consignments from baby milk to medicines for patients and hospitals. After 2003, he has been involved in financing the treatment of Iraqi children in German hospitals through fundraising.

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