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April 20, 2015

## GJC Editorial Urges International Recognition of Gender Based Abduction as Genocide

Dear Friends,

Last week, United Nations news outlet PassBlue published the Global Justice Center's [editorial](#) on the one year anniversary of the kidnapping of 276 Nigerian schoolgirls by Boko Haram. Our editorial identified the crimes committed by Boko Haram as an act of genocide, called "the forcible transfer of children," as defined by the Genocide Convention.

One year later, GJC is not only demanding that the international community bring back our girls, but that the International Criminal Court (ICC) holds Boko Haram accountable for its crimes. GJC is calling on the Chief Prosecutor of the ICC, Fatou Bensouda, to investigate Boko Haram's forcible abduction of Christian schoolgirls in Nigeria as an act of genocide.



Now is the time for the International Criminal Court and the international community to speak out against genocide and demonstrate that it will not be condoned. As I state in the editorial, investigating the gender based abductions as

genocide:

"Would put all countries unequivocally on notice that genocide may be occurring in Nigeria, propelling them to action; it will make clear Nigeria's own obligations to stop this conduct and to prosecute it vigorously; it will send a message to other perpetrators, including those currently targeting Yazidi women and girls in Syria and Iraq, that genocide will not be tolerated; it will fulfill the prosecutor's own commitment to fully prosecute crimes aimed at women and girls and to integrate a gender perspective into every stage of its work; and finally, it will trigger the international community's responsibility to protect the Nigerian population."

The abducted Chibok schoolgirls will continue to suffer as long as the world fails to act.

GJC's letter to the Prosecutor can be found [here](#). GJC's accompanying Article 15 communication can be found [here](#). GJC's supporting Annex found [here](#).

Sincerely,



Janet Benshoof, President  
Global Justice Center

The Global Justice Center works for peace, justice, and security by enforcing international laws that protect human rights and promote gender equality. We rely on people like you to make change happen in the parts of the world most in need. Thank you for your continued support of GJC's work. **Any donation of yours will be augmented \$1 for every \$3 you give by an anonymous donor.**

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