

MOTION

In 1915, the leaders of the Ottoman Turkish government set in motion a plan to expel and massacre Armenians living in the Ottoman Empire. From 1915 to 1923, approximately 1,500,000 Armenians were tortured, starved, and brutally killed in a campaign of violence and destruction that is widely recognized by historians and scholars throughout the world as the first genocide of the Twentieth Century.

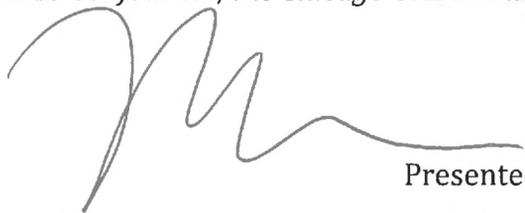
The Armenian Genocide became a model for future genocides, but it is also one of the few modern massive crimes against humanity that continues until this day to be denied by the perpetrators, who continue to escape any accountability whatsoever for their horrendous crime. Worse, the modern Republic of Turkey spends millions of dollars in a global campaign of historical revisionism through lobbying and public relations throughout the world to distort public perceptions.

On April 20, 2016, just days before the annual worldwide remembrance of the Armenian Genocide, the *Wall Street Journal* published a full-page advertisement from a shadowy group that is dedicated to denying the Armenian Genocide. The ad also contained a link to "Fact Check Armenia," a website that declares as "false" the idea that "the events of 1915" constitute a genocide against the Armenian people, and calls efforts to gain recognition of the genocide "propaganda."

The decision by the *Wall Street Journal* to accept the outrageous advertisement promoting historical revisionism and genocide denial is inexcusable, and it drew immediate and withering criticism within academic and journalistic circles. By contrast to the *Wall Street Journal's* craven decision, the advertising policy of the *New York Times* expressly prohibits acceptance of advertising that denies major historical atrocities, specifically including the Armenian Genocide. The *Wall Street Journal* avoided any such moral principle, stating only "we accept a wide range of advertisements, including those with provocative viewpoints. While we review ad copy for issues of taste, the varied and divergent views expressed belong to the advertisers." In addition to the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Chicago Tribune* and the *San Jose Mercury News* also accepted similar advertisements from the same denialist organization.

No corporation should profit from genocide denial, and the City of Los Angeles should not support genocide denial with the taxpayers' money. The City of Los Angeles should not support and enrich publications that provide a platform to denialist propaganda that is inflammatory, insensitive and offensive.

I THEREFORE MOVE that all City offices immediately cancel any and all subscriptions they have to the following publications: the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Chicago Tribune* and the *San Jose Mercury News*.



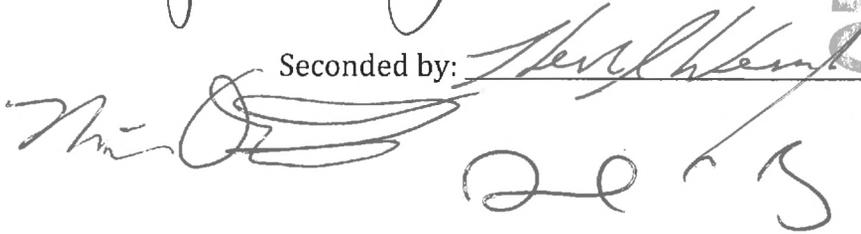
Presented by:



PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District



Seconded by:



APR 22 2016

ORIGINAL