

Kurdish Nationalism Needs a New Start

by [Bilal Wahab \(/experts/bilal-wahab\)](#)

Mar 16, 2018

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Kurdish leaders should embrace a more pragmatic approach in which they prioritize rather than jeopardize the well-being of their citizens, even if this means accepting something less than formal statehood.

This week, Kurds mark one of the darkest days in our recent history: the chemical weapons attack on the village of Halabja, launched by Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein as retaliation for Kurdish resistance to his regime. It is the memory of such atrocities, committed against us again and again by the governments of the countries in which we live, that has made Kurds so eager to pursue the long-held dream of a state of our own. Last year, this passionate longing for a Kurdish homeland backfired dramatically. Yet there is a way forward...

[Read the full article on the Washington Post website. \(https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/democracy-post/wp/2018/03/16/kurdish-nationalism-needs-a-new-start/\)](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/democracy-post/wp/2018/03/16/kurdish-nationalism-needs-a-new-start/) ❖

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