

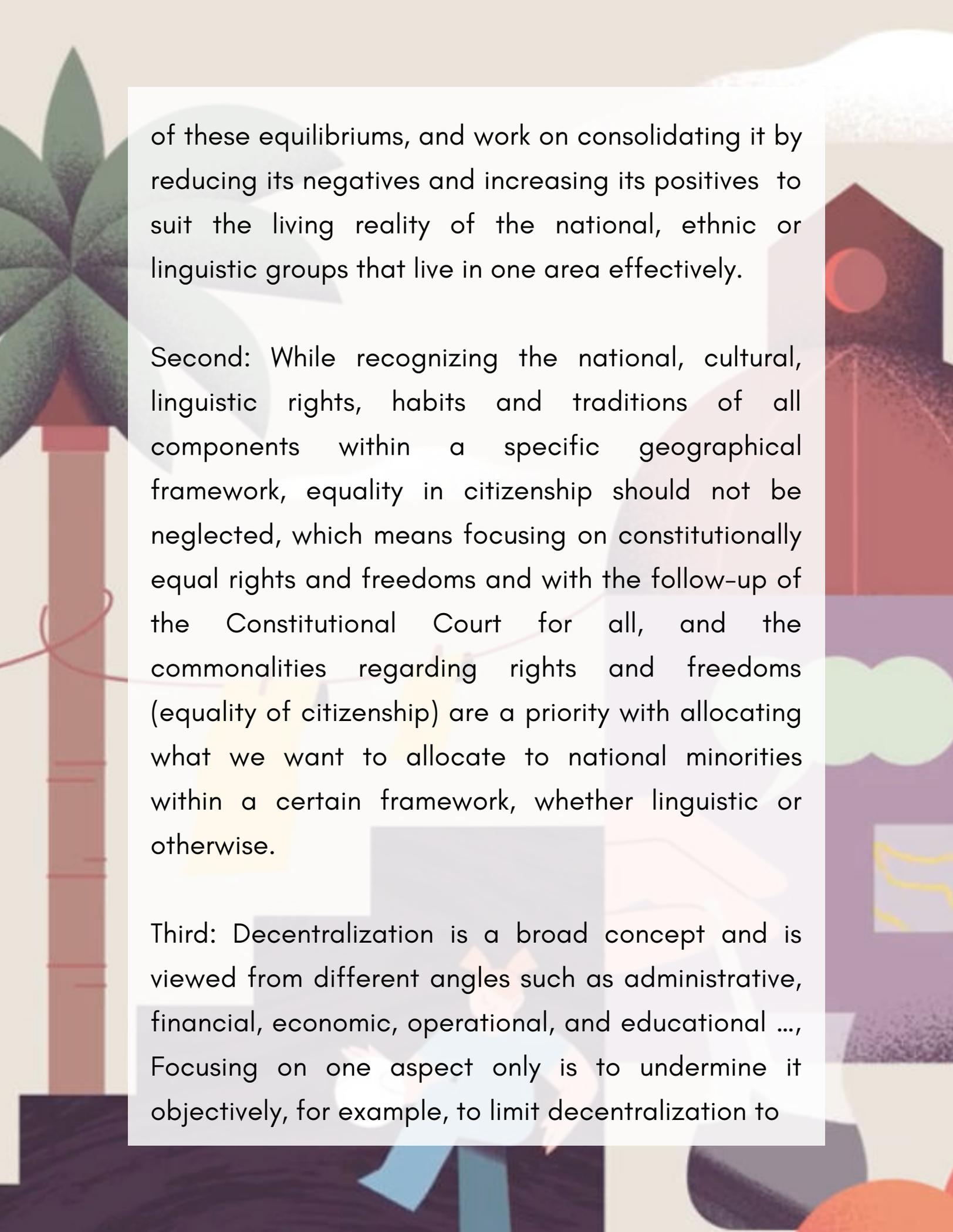
NORTH MACEDONIA: LESSONS LEARNED FOR SYRIA

A STATEMENT BY **FAEK HAWIJA**

The visit was very useful, and it is one of the rare few visits that provided useful outputs and results for me. Thanks to the European Center for Kurdish Studies for allowing me to join this activity.

Concerning the points, there are many points since the trip was beneficial. I will mention only three of them; in each point, there are many details, but I will be as brief as possible.

First: When decentralization is the product of certain regional balances or the product of certain international pressure and guaranteed by an international body the possibility of collapse at any moment is very high. Therefore it must be well preserved when the decentralization is the product



of these equilibriums, and work on consolidating it by reducing its negatives and increasing its positives to suit the living reality of the national, ethnic or linguistic groups that live in one area effectively.

Second: While recognizing the national, cultural, linguistic rights, habits and traditions of all components within a specific geographical framework, equality in citizenship should not be neglected, which means focusing on constitutionally equal rights and freedoms and with the follow-up of the Constitutional Court for all, and the commonalities regarding rights and freedoms (equality of citizenship) are a priority with allocating what we want to allocate to national minorities within a certain framework, whether linguistic or otherwise.

Third: Decentralization is a broad concept and is viewed from different angles such as administrative, financial, economic, operational, and educational ..., Focusing on one aspect only is to undermine it objectively, for example, to limit decentralization to



language only, "as it basically happens here," is to empty decentralization of its content under the banner of decentralization, in this case, it is possible for many things to fall into the framework of a broad title, which is (decentralization), which is in fact not related to decentralization. It should be noted in order to avoid problems in the future.