

# LIVING DIVERSITY: LESSONS LEARNED FOR SYRIA

## A STATEMENT BY **KARAM DAWLI**

First of all, I would like to thank the administration of the European Center for Kurdish Studies for the good choice of this place and model, as there were many lessons learned and practical experiences.

The first lesson is that the democracy, democratic governance, and the democratic system is a necessary condition, but not sufficient or enough. It is a necessary condition as an environment for freedom, citizenship, and rights of individuals, but not sufficient or enough to achieve real democratic management of diversity and rights of group.

What surprised me was the experience of Ladin group, as they are a small minority, and as a result of the environment that provided, they were able to achieve a typical experience in a very small geographical area. They were able to achieve economic development and were able to live themselves and their cultural identity. Perhaps this was the dream of the Ladin which they had been aspiring to for hundreds of years.

I am satisfied with this much.