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## In Defense of Christians congratulation to the Tom Lantos Commission on their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission House Committee on Foreign Affairs 4150 O'Neill Federal Building 200 C Street SW Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James McGovern and the Honorable Randy Hultgren,

The Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission is a powerful voice in Congress for vulnerable and targeted peoples around the world. I had the honor of knowing Tom Lantos, and the privilege of calling him a friend. Working together through the years to secure Lebanon's right to be free of Syrian occupation, I came to deeply respect his courage and tenacity. His legacy is carried on by the important work of the Commission, with whom In Defense of Christians has been grateful to collaborate, most recently, to elevate concerns of human rights and religious freedom violations in Turkey. I congratulate the Tom Lantos Commission on ten years of making a difference.

Toufic Baaklini, President of In Defense of Christians