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**STATEMENT OF THE SPOKESPERSON OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ONCU  
KECELI, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION REGARDING THE POPULATION MOVEMENTS  
TOWARD KIRKUK REGARDING THE CENSUS IN IRAQ**

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25.11.2024

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs (22 November 2024)

*As Türkiye, with all our institutions, we stand by the Iraqi Turkmen and protect their rights and interests.*

In this framework, the peace and security of our Turkmen brothers and sisters, who constitute a significant portion of Kirkuk's population and serve as a bridge of friendship between Türkiye and Iraq, are among our main priorities in bilateral relations with this country.

We have been closely following the recent developments regarding the mass movement of Kurds from the KRI to Kirkuk for the census conducted in Iraq after many years.

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