

To those colonies and territories which as a consequence of the late war have ceased to be under the sovereignty of the States which formerly governed them and which are inhabited by peoples not yet able to stand by themselves under the strenuous conditions of the modern world... the tutelage of such peoples should be entrusted to advanced nations ... as Mandatories on behalf of the League. The character of the mandate must differ according to the stage of the development of the people...

Certain communities formerly belonging to the Turkish Empire have reached a stage of development where their existence as independent nations can be provisionally recognised subject to the rendering of administrative advice and assistance by a Mandatory until such time as they are able to stand alone. The wishes of these communities must be a principal consideration in the selection of the Mandatory.

-Principal Allied and Associated Powers "The Versailles Treaty June 28, 1919, Part I" (1919) excerpt.