



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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17 May 2017

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 92nd session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Turkey, pursuant to Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the timely submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 10, 20, 34 and 45 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/TUR/CO/4-6), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> periodic reports, at its 88<sup>th</sup> session in November-December 2015.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> periodic reports to be submitted in a single document on 15 October 2019.

**Paragraph 10 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee welcomes information provided by the State party on the Law on Turkish Human Rights and Equality Institution which took effect in 20 April 2016. The Committee also welcomes information on the establishment of the Turkish Human Rights and Equality Institution and requests further information on whether the Institution will have adequate resources to fulfil its mandate. It further welcomes information that the State party has adopted the Law on the Establishment of the Law Enforcement Monitoring Commission of 20 May 2016, and requests further information on the implementation of Article 7 on the establishment of a central registry system, which has not yet taken effect. The Committee requests information on the implementation and impact of these two new laws on the situation of minority groups in the State party.

Her Excellency Mr. Ali Naci Koru  
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**Paragraph 20 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee notes information provided by the State party on efforts to reconcile the work of the Turkish Human Rights and Equality Institution and the work of the Ombudsman. The Committee requests further information on how the two bodies will cooperate or compliment the work of one another on violations of the Convention, and whether both institutions are provided with sufficient resources to ensure that they can effectively and independently implement their mandates. The Committee further recommends that the State party take necessary measures to ensure that its national human rights institution is in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

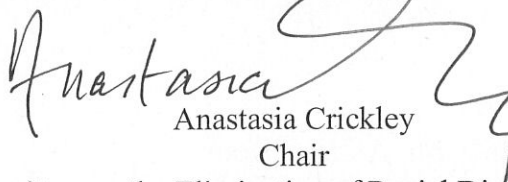
**Paragraph 34 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee welcomes information by the State party on its efforts to protect the human rights of Syrian and Iraqi refugees, in particular on its work against human trafficking and violence against refugee women, the enactment of the Law on Foreigners and International Protection, the provision of work permits to refugees, and efforts to educate Syrian refugee children in their mother tongue in temporary education centers. The Committee regrets, however, that this recommendation has not been fully implemented. In particular it regrets the lack of information on efforts to protect refugees from racial discrimination or incitement to hatred in the State party. It also regrets that mother tongue education is not provided to Syrian and Iraqi refugee children outside of temporary education centers. The Committee recommends that the State party continue its efforts to protect the human rights of Syrian and Iraqi refugees, and that the State party take necessary measures to fully implement this recommendation. The Committee requests updated information on efforts to implement this recommendation in its next periodic report.

**Paragraph 45 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee regrets the lack of information on paragraph 45 of the concluding observations (CERD/C/TUR/CO/4-6) on the Amendment to article 8 of the Convention and reiterates its recommendation that the State party ratify the amendment to article 8 (6) of the Convention adopted on 15 January 1992 at the fourteenth meeting of States parties to the Convention and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Turkey, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

  
Anastasia Crickley  
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination