

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION**

**Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture
(Extracts for follow-up of CAT/C/TUR/CO/4)**

TURKEY

(...)

C. Principal subjects of concern and recommendations

(...)

Impunity for acts of torture and ill-treatment

(...)

10. The Committee urges the State party to:

(...)

- (c) **Ensure that state officials do not use the threat of countercharges as a means of intimidating detained persons or their relatives into not reporting torture;**

(...)

Allegations of extrajudicial killings and ill-treatment in the course of counter-terrorism operations

(...)

14. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) **Ensure that prompt, impartial and effective investigations are undertaken into all allegations of extrajudicial killing by the State party's authorities, including the alleged killing of Maşallah Edin and Zeynep Taşkın by police snipers in Cizre on 8 September 2015, and that the perpetrators of such killings are prosecuted and held accountable;**

- (b) **Ensure that in all cases the family members of individuals killed in the course of counter-terrorism operations are given notice and a reasonable opportunity to retrieve their bodies, and investigate allegations that family members have been denied this opportunity in recent cases;**

- (c) **Promptly, impartially and effectively investigate allegations that the State party's imposition of curfews during security operations has had the effect of depriving affected persons of access to food and health care, causing severe suffering; discipline or prosecute those responsible for the**

imposition of such ill-treatment; and take measures to ensure that measures taken in the course of future security operations do not have such effects.

(...)

Agreement of 18 March 2016 between the European Union and Turkey

(...)

26. **The State party should:**

(...)

(d) Ensure that all returnees have the opportunity for an individual review and are protected from refoulement and collective returns.

(...)

Human rights defenders, journalists and medical doctors

(...)

44. **The Committee urges the State party to:**

(...)

(b) Refrain from detaining and prosecuting journalists and human rights defenders as a means of intimidating them or discouraging them from freely reporting on human right issues;

(...)

Follow-up procedure

49. The Committee requests the State party to provide, by 13 May 2017, information on follow-up to the Committee's recommendations relating to the following: the use of countercharges as a means of intimidating detained persons, or their relatives, into not reporting torture (para. 10 (c)); allegations of extrajudicial killings and ill-treatment in the course of counter-terrorism operations (para. 14); measures to ensure that all returnees under the agreement of 18 March 2016 between the European Union and Turkey have the opportunity for an individual review and are protected from refoulement and collective returns (para. 26 (d)); and the detention and prosecution of journalists and human rights defenders as a means of intimidating them or discouraging them from freely reporting (para. 44 (b)). In that context, the State party is invited to inform the Committee about its plans for implementing, within the coming reporting period, some or all of the remaining recommendations in the concluding observations.

(...)