



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

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REFERENCE:KF/fup-113

9 June 2015

Excellency,

In my capacity as Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee, I have the honour to refer to the follow-up to the examination of the first periodic report of Turkey.

At the end of its 106th session, the Committee transmitted its concluding observations to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that, in paragraph 26 of the concluding observations, the Committee requested the State party to provide within one year further information on the specific areas of concern identified in paragraphs 10, 13 and 23 of the concluding observations.

On 22 July 2014, the Committee received the reply of the State party. At its 112th session, held in October 2014, the Committee analysed this information and adopted the following decisions:

- Paragraph 10: **[C2]**: The State party has not implemented the Committee's recommendation. Additional information is required on:
 - (a) measures taken to state clearly and officially that the State does not tolerate any form of stigmatization of homosexuality, bisexuality or transsexuality or harassment of or discrimination or violence against persons because of their sexual orientation or gender identity;
 - (b) the investigation and prosecution of potential discrimination or violence against LGBTI person in 2013 and 2014; and
 - (c) awareness-raising activities conducted by the State party to promote tolerance and respect for diversity.
- Paragraph 13: **[C2]**: With regard to amendments to the Penal Code, the State party has repeated its original response and has not provided information on amendments to Article 82 of the Penal Code. The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

His Excellency
Mr. Mehmet Ferden ÇARIKÇI
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
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[C2]: Information is required on the investigations and sanctions of "honour killings". Please provide statistical data on the sentences imposed on perpetrators in the last three years, specifying if de facto reduction of sentences was applied.

[D1]: No information was received on measures taken to disseminate information on the gravity of "honour killings". The Committee reiterates its recommendation.

- Paragraph 23: [E]: The State party's reply indicates that there are no plans to introduce a civilian alternative to compulsory military service. The Committee's recommendation has not been implemented and the Committee reiterates its recommendation.

During the 113th session of the Committee, held in Geneva in March 2015, the Committee noted that information sought by the Committee had not yet been provided. Therefore, I write to request that the above-mentioned additional information be submitted at Your Government's earliest convenience.

The next follow-up report of the Human Rights Committee will be adopted in October 2015. If the State party wishes the information referred to be taken into account on that occasion, the reply should be sent in a Word electronic version to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee by **1 August 2015** (Kate Fox: kfox@ohchr.org and Fernanda Santana: fsantana@ohchr.org).

The Committee looks forward to pursuing its constructive dialogue with the authorities of Turkey on the implementation of the Covenant.

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

Sarah Cleveland
Special Rapporteur for Follow-up to Concluding Observations
Human Rights Committee