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### **Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\***

**Turkey**

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\* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

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## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twenty-first session from 19 to 30 January 2015. The review of Turkey was held at the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting on 27 January 2015. The delegation of Turkey was headed by H.E. Mr. Bülent Arınç, Deputy Prime Minister. At its 17<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29 January 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Turkey.
2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Turkey: Cuba, Gabon and Saudi Arabia.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Turkey:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/TUR/1);
  - (b) A compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/TUR/2);
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/TUR/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherland, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Switzerland and the United States of America, were transmitted to Turkey through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

### A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Head of Delegation thanked all countries which will make recommendations in a spirit of sincere cooperation. He expressed gratitude to all relevant governmental institutions and different stakeholders for their contributions, as they were consulted during the preparation process for the UPR. He emphasized that the protection and promotion of human rights is one of Turkey's political objectives. First pillar of measures has been directed towards eliminating the problems stemming from the legislation. Second priority has constituted the establishment of new national human rights mechanisms.
6. The head of delegation noted that the Constitutional amendments of 12 September 2010 introduced positive discrimination in respect of women, children, the elderly and the persons with disabilities, enhanced protection of personal data and children's rights; expanded the scope of the right to freedom of assembly and association. The "Judicial reform packages" also introduced substantial legislative amendments to the Turkish Penal Code (TPC), Code of Criminal Procedure, Anti-Terror Law and Press Law with the aim of strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, enhancing its efficacy, facilitating access to justice, expanding the scope of freedoms and ensuring further improvements in the freedom of expression.
7. The head of delegation responded to advance written questions of some countries and stated that the Democratization Package of September 2013 enabled for political campaigning and propaganda as well as education in private schools in different languages

and dialects other than Turkish. The ban on women wearing headscarves in public service was lifted. Hate crime is included in the TPC and the penalty for the offence of discrimination and hatred is increased. A comprehensive Anti-Discrimination and Equality Law has been drafted; the Action Plan on Prevention of ECHR Violations entered into force on 1 March 2014 and the number of pending applications before the ECHR against Turkey has been considerably reduced. On 27 September 2011, Turkey became party to OPCAT and ratification is underway for the OP-CRPD signed in 2009, the OP-CRC on a Communications Procedure signed on 24 September 2012.

8. The head of delegation pointed out that Turkey's priority is the institutionalization in the field of human rights. In 2010, the right of individual application to the Constitutional Court was introduced followed by a noteworthy case-law.

9. The head of delegation emphasised that the Ombudsman became operational in December 2012. A draft amending its founding law is also prepared with a view to ensuring the implementation of more recommendations and the settlement of complaints in a more effective way. In addition the Human Rights Institution (NHRI) of Turkey was established in 2012 in accordance with the criteria set out by the UN Paris Principles. Efforts are underway to enable the Institution to apply for accreditation. The Institution is additionally designated as the "National Preventive Mechanism" (NPM) to perform tasks under the OPCAT.

10. The head of delegation noted that legislative work is in progress for the establishment of a "Law Enforcement Oversight Commission" which shall function independently from law enforcement bodies to examine and investigate allegations of ill-treatment made in respect of law enforcement officials. The "Law on Ending Terrorism and Strengthening Social Integration" entered into force on 16 July 2014.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

11. During the interactive dialogue, 116 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

12. The United States of America expressed concern about restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly, and interference in the judiciary, among others.

13. Uruguay urged Turkey to strengthen the NHRI and improve access to education, particularly of girls.

14. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the establishment of the NHRI.

15. Yemen commended achievements benefitting women, children, elderly and disabled members of society; noted the adoption of various legislative amendments.

16. Zimbabwe noted the amended Constitution, the establishment of the NHRI, awareness-raising and training programmes as well as the extension of compulsory education to twelve.

17. Afghanistan welcomed the constitutional amendment package and commended the adoption of the Law on NHRI.

18. Albania commended the legislative and judicial reforms and noted the right of individuals to appeal to the Constitutional Court.

19. Angola appreciated Turkey's cooperation with international mechanisms in the field of freedoms and fundamental rights.

20. Argentina welcomed the adoption of a strategy and plan of action on children rights (2013-2017).
21. Armenia made recommendations.
22. Australia noted international and civil society concerns about the use of force in responding to political protests.
23. Austria made recommendations.
24. Azerbaijan welcomed the establishment of the Ombudsman and NHRI and Turkey's contribution to the dialogue among civilizations.
25. Bahrain welcomed the new syllabus on human rights and democracy in education; efforts to combat human trafficking.
26. Qatar appreciated establishment of human rights institutions, specifically the Ombudsman. It commended humanitarian assistance for Syrian refugees.
27. Belarus welcomed the improvement of the national legislation to align it with Turkey's international human rights obligations.
28. Belgium inquired whether law enforcement officials were trained in conformity the UN Code of Conduct.
29. Benin praised the implementation of the recommendations from the UPR first cycle and the initiatives in promoting human rights.
30. Bosnia and Herzegovina was interested in having further information on the National Plan of Action of Gender Equality (NPAGE).
31. Botswana noted the constitutional amendments granting fundamental freedoms and the establishment of NHRI.
32. Brazil encouraged accession to the Rome Statute, following its recommendation from the UPR 1<sup>st</sup> cycle.
33. Brunei Darussalam congratulated progress on human rights' institutionalization and commended measures to promote gender equality.
34. Bulgaria appreciated the establishment of the Ombudsman and the NPM to OPCAT. It welcomed judicial reform packages, the restructuring of the Constitutional Court and the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors.
35. Canada applauded Turkey for being the first to sign and ratify the Istanbul Convention from the Council of Europe.
36. Chad noted the improvement of the legal framework and the creation of institutions to reinforce institutional human rights guarantees.
37. Chile acknowledged institutional progress but considered there were areas where implementation could be improved.
38. China commended Turkey's legislative and institutional reforms and efforts in fighting trafficking in persons.
39. Comoros appreciated the creation of independent appeal bodies for the benefit of the citizens.
40. Congo welcomed legal and institutional human rights reforms, combatting discrimination, strengthening the judiciary and legal amendments on terrorism and press.
41. Costa Rica noted the strengthening of the Judiciary to enhance its independence and capacity to protect human rights.

42. Côte d'Ivoire welcomed the dialogue launched with civil society. It encouraged strengthening measures to protect victims of domestic violence and violence at schools.

43. Croatia observed that the legislation on discrimination failed protecting against discrimination on all grounds. It noted that conscientious objection to military service was not recognised.

44. Cuba welcomed the efforts to guarantee the right to education and implement children rights.

45. Cyprus was concerned over the reflection of their previous recommendations and made new seven recommendations for Turkey.

46. Czech Republic appreciated the response to some of its advance questions.

47. Denmark welcomed the setting up of a legal framework towards a solution regarding Kurds. It noted interference by the executive in the judiciary, lack of transparency and impunity.

48. Djibouti lauded the efforts to implement the six "Judicial Reforms Package" since the first UPR.

49. Ecuador recognized the efforts to implement UPR recommendations particularly those related to persons with disabilities.

50. The head of delegation stated that consultations are conducted with representatives of the Alevite community to address their demands. Problems of Roma citizens on education, employment, housing, social policy and health have been discussed and solution-oriented approaches have been adopted. The absence of specific provisions in respect of the LGBTI does not mean that the rights of this group are not legally guaranteed. The necessary investigations are carried out upon cases of killings and acts of violence towards LGBTI persons and all kinds of hate crimes for the identification of perpetrators and to bring them to justice and the legal process is conducted with diligence by the judicial authorities.

51. Minority rights in Turkey are regulated in accordance with the Lausanne Peace Treaty in 1923, only non-Muslim citizens are recognized as "minorities". No other definition of minorities exists in Turkey. Turkish citizens belonging to non-Muslim minorities are entitled to the same rights and freedoms as other nationals on an individual basis, having their own schools, places of worship, foundations, hospitals and media organizations. Any isolated anti-Semitic statements are condemned at the highest level and the necessary judicial or administrative steps are taken. No restrictions whatsoever exist on the enjoyment of religious rights by non-Muslim citizens. Positive steps were taken in the field of education and culture for non-Muslim citizens.

52. The head of delegation responded to what the Armenian delegation raised, by saying that claims and allegations of a blockade are unfounded and do not reflect the reality on the ground and are not related to human rights. The transit transportation between Armenia and third countries can be carried out over Georgia or Iran through Turkey; and there are direct flights between Turkey and Armenia. A week ago, upon the anniversary of the death of Hrant Dink, the Prime Minister once again confirmed in his message, the importance that Turkey places on this issue and the humanitarian approach that they have in this respect.

53. The head of delegation stated that Turkey is taking necessary measures to prevent the movement of citizens of third countries who attempt to use Turkey's land to go third countries to join radical groups and that source countries are also expected to take similar steps and cooperate with Turkey in this regard.

54. The delegation stated that there are 166 non-Muslim community foundations in Turkey. Regulations have been enacted to address property issues of these foundations belonging to different faith groups. Provisional Article 11 was introduced on August 27, 2011 to the Law on Foundations no. 5737 where the Foundations Council has decided to register 333 immovable in the name of the relevant foundation and the compensation for 21 immovable was paid.

55. Egypt was concerned about deterioration in the human rights situation especially as regards freedom of expression and assembly.

56. Equatorial Guinea noted with satisfaction measures taken in favour of minorities and women's participation in the political life.

57. Estonia called on respecting the right to peaceful assembly and association. It hoped that human rights defenders and journalists could work properly and fearless of prosecution.

58. Finland commended efforts to protect refugees but noted that restrictions on media and dissenting voices have continued to increase.

59. France welcomed the Deputy Minister and his delegation.

60. Gabon congratulated the constitutional amendment recognizing positive discrimination, the judicial reform, the mediator institution, and the law on terrorism and social integration.

61. Germany welcomed developments regarding freedom of religion and belief but was concerned by restrictions to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression.

62. Ghana applauded progress and inquired about the removal of fundamental legal safeguards.

63. Greece made several recommendations.

64. Honduras acknowledged the efforts undertaken since the first review.

65. Hungary welcomed legal reforms, the creation of a NHRI and measures recognizing minorities.

66. Iceland recognised Constitutional amendments but was concerned about restrictions to freedom of expression and domestic violence.

67. India welcomed the judicial reform and democratization package, the Ombudsman and gender equality policies. It encouraged enhancing equality of women, addressing discrimination against minorities and implementing CRPD.

68. Indonesia welcomed legal and institutional reforms, the protection of children in conflict with the law and the fight against human trafficking, which could be strengthened.

69. Ireland was concerned about restrictions to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

70. Israel noted the ongoing criminalization of nonviolent dissenting speech and restriction to access to information.

71. Italy welcomed efforts to promote dialogue among religions and encouraged Turkey to continue its fighting against child labour.

72. Japan commended Turkey for accepting large numbers of refugees from neighbour countries and encouraged further implementation of legislative reforms.

73. Jordan commended sincere and ongoing efforts to further promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms.

74. Kazakhstan commended Turkey's role in strengthening cooperation among all the countries belonging to the Turkic Family, especially in the cultural sphere.
75. Kenya welcomed the recent establishment of the NHRI.
76. Kuwait commended commitment to implement previous UPR recommendations, which confirms its commitment to human rights.
77. Kyrgyzstan noted that the NHRI is designated as NPM to perform tasks within the context of OPCAT.
78. Lao People's Democratic Republic appreciated efforts for protecting and safeguarding the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.
79. Latvia commended efforts in raising girls' schooling rates and the provision of education services to refugees.
80. Lebanon appreciated the protection of basic rights and freedoms, as reflected by creating institutions and passing human rights related legislation.
81. Lithuania welcomed positive steps towards prevention of inequalities.
82. Luxemburg thanked Turkey's efforts to help Syrian refugees.
83. Madagascar welcomed the establishment of the ombudsman in accordance with the Paris Principles.
84. Malaysia appreciated progress in women's rights, particularly through the establishment of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies.
85. Switzerland noted that serious and persisting problems prevail in the field of human rights, in relation to its recommendations from the first UPR.
86. Mauritania noted Turkey's cooperation with human rights mechanisms and efforts to overcome difficulties.
87. Mauritius welcomed the introduction of compulsory education, and the Constitutional amendment providing for positive discrimination for children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities.
88. Mexico recognized legislative achievements and valued the efforts to enhance the independence of the judiciary.
89. Montenegro requested elaborating upon the measures taken to prevent early and forced marriages in an integrated manner.
90. Morocco welcomed adhesion to OP-CAT, progress made on gender equality and the introduction in the Constitution of the concept of affirmative action.
91. Myanmar appreciated efforts in reviewing and bringing laws and regulations in line with its international obligations and commitments.
92. Namibia noted positive discrimination for women, children, disabled and elderly people, and the Judicial Reform Packages.
93. The Netherlands called for further steps to be taken for the peace process with the Kurds, and expressed concern about the number of prosecuted journalists.
94. Nicaragua noted the Constitutional reforms and democratization package undertaken by the Government.
95. Niger noted positive discrimination for women, children, disabled and elderly people, and the strengthening of the judicial and institutional frameworks.

96. Norway expressed concerns about reports of increased intervention in the media and journalists self-censorship.

97. In response to Egyptian delegate, the head of delegation underlined that Turkey is open to all constructive recommendations and criticism regarding the implementation of democracy, fundamental freedoms and especially human rights; since they are universal values. However they wished to see such criticism and recommendations coming from parties who adhere to the same common universal values as Turkey do.

98. The head of delegation stated that in Turkey, freedom of expression and the media are considered an indispensable part of democratic order. The offence “making propaganda of terrorist organizations” has been redefined and amended to reflect more concrete criteria for conviction. A Working Group has been set up in the Ministry of Justice for the identification of legal provisions which may cause restrictions to the freedom of expression. A complete pluralism exists in Turkey in respect of media organizations.

99. The head of delegation clarified that the reasons for detention of persons who are referred to as “detained journalists” are not related to their journalistic activities. As of 23 January 2015, there are a total of 31 persons, 29 of whom are convicted with the remaining 2 being held on remand on charges such as being a member of an armed terrorist organization, attempting to overthrow the constitutional order, voluntary manslaughter and embezzlement.

100. The head of delegation stressed that the judiciary is independent from the legislative and executive powers. Detention on remand ceased to be a widely-used protective measure, dramatically reducing the length of detentions and detention rates in prisons.

101. The delegation updated that the Law on Assembly and Demonstration Marches has been rearranged to ensure participation in the determination of venues and routes for assemblies. Teargas weapons are only used by certified personnel. Concerning the events which are referred to as Gezi park protests, the head of delegation stated that the law enforcement intervened within the bounds of the law and as necessary in a democratic society. In respect of allegations of excessive use of force by law enforcement officials, those responsible are brought to justice. As a result of administrative investigations, a total of 149 personnel were sanctioned. As to judicial proceedings, a total of 329 investigations were launched, 59 of which resulted in non-prosecution while a number of remaining files resulted in public prosecution. Recently two police officers were sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment each. Other investigations are pending.

102. The delegation stated that electronic monitoring and enforcement in the residence via probation services are being used as alternative to imprisonment.

103. The delegation stated that with the aim of preventing the riot police from using disproportionate force and controlling the individual mistakes, devices for intra-helmet combat were procured and the helmets were enumerated. Furthermore, “Directive for Procedures and Principles on Actions of Police Forces commissioned to the riot control for Assemblies and Demonstration Marches” and “Circular on Tear Gas Weapons and Ammunition” were issued.

104. Within the framework of the “zero tolerance policy for torture and ill treatment, all relevant departments, including detention rooms, are being monitored by cameras and the records are being kept for 30 days. The number of judicial and disciplinary decisions on “Overstepping the Use of Force” and “Torture Crimes” has recently decreased as a result of the measures taken and devotion.

105. The delegation noted that certain delegations raised the issue of Cyprus earlier and that Turkey’s position on this issue was very well known and that Turkey did not need to

repeat it there. In fact, this was not the right place to speak of the realities regarding the creation and the perpetuation of the Cyprus conflict.

106. Oman lauded particular achievements for women and children; especially the right to education and girls' school enrolment.

107. Pakistan welcomed the Constitutional amendment for positive discrimination and the Law on Prevention of Violence against Women.

108. Panama congratulated Turkey for the ratification of OP-CAT and urged it to ratify CRC and CRPD optional protocols.

109. Philippines asked about Turkey's plans to strengthen its capacity to ensure that labour laws protecting migrant workers are implemented.

110. Poland acknowledged positive developments towards gender equality and combating domestic violence.

111. Portugal welcomed the adoption of the National Plan of Action for Combating Domestic Violence against Women (NPACDVAW).

112. Bangladesh noted reform process and legal and institutional measures as well as training for public officials.

113. Republic of Korea commended on Constitutional reforms, and measures taken under the Judicial Reform Packages such as the Democratization Package.

114. Moldova welcomed the establishment of the Human Rights Compensation Commission and steps taken to combat human trafficking and asked whether Turkey envisaged ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.

115. Romania noted the establishment of the NPM of prevention of torture and the efforts to fight trafficking in persons.

116. Russian Federation welcomed judicial reforms, adoption of anti-terrorism law, strengthening of social integration, establishment of the Ombudsman, and the possibility for individuals to submit complaints to the Constitutional Court.

117. Rwanda took positive note of the adoption of the (NPACDVAW) and the establishment of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies.

118. Senegal welcomed the new Constitution, the Criminal Code amendment, the democratization package, the NHRI and the OP-CAT ratification.

119. Serbia encouraged Turkey to continue efforts for gender equality in social, political and economic sphere of influence.

120. Sierra Leone expressed concern about reports of police impunity. It urged Turkey to ensure the independence of the judiciary, and to promote inter-religious integration.

121. Singapore welcomed the emphasis place on equality and non-discrimination in the Constitution and the inclusion of hate crimes in the TPC.

122. Slovakia commended the introduction of the right file individual complaints before the Constitutional Court.

123. Slovenia commended the open door policy towards Syrian refugees and noted that gender equality challenges remained.

124. Somalia commended on ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

125. South Sudan welcomed the generosity, solidarity and protection provided to Syrian refugees.
126. Spain welcomed OPCAT's ratification and expressed concerns for restrictions to freedom of opinion, association and reunion.
127. Sri Lanka commended the approach taken in the advancement of the family as a cohesive unit.
128. State of Palestine commended efforts to combat discrimination, strengthening human rights, particularly in terms of accessible education and curriculum reform.
129. Sudan welcomed measures improving human rights protections focussing on women, children and those with disabilities; and commended the Constitutional Amendments of 2010.
130. Sweden recognized the strengthening of the protection of freedom of expression but noted that authorities encouraged self-censorship.
131. Maldives recognized efforts to combat violence against women and honour crimes, and encouraged enhancing efforts to improve the education quality.
132. Syrian Arab Republic referenced international humanitarian law obligations as noted in the National Report of Turkey.
133. Tajikistan welcomed the effective application and strengthening of the legal frameworks related to human rights, and judicial reforms.
134. Thailand welcomed the adoption of the democratization package in 2013 which enhanced rights to minorities.
135. Timor-Leste noted the protection against child labor but remained concerned about violence against women, despite progress on women's rights.
136. Togo commended the global legal and political human rights reform.
137. Tunisia noted the legal human rights reforms and protection of women against violence and discrimination. It encouraged ratifying pending treaties and aligning the NHRI with the Paris Principles.
138. Turkmenistan noted the Judicial Reform Packages, aimed at strengthening the independence of the judiciary, and facilitating access to justice.
139. Ukraine commended efforts to implement UPR recommendations and the Judiciary reform package adopted by Parliament.
140. United Kingdom welcomed steps to address Kurdish issues and was concerned by restrictions on freedom of assembly and expression.
141. Algeria praised the revision of the Constitution and the establishment of a number of institutions to strengthen human rights.
142. The head of delegation underlined that equality between women and men before the law is one of the basic principles of the Turkish Constitution. A new definition has been introduced in their constitution through an amendment in 2010, which allows for positive discrimination for women. Turkey was the first to sign and ratify Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention. The Law 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women has been put in force with provisions compatible with the Convention. The "National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence" has been updated for the period 2012-2015. Turkey considered honor killings abhorrent violations of human rights which cannot be justified on social, cultural or religious grounds. The TPC penalizes honor killings with aggravated life imprisonment.

143. The head of delegation updated that the Law on the Persons with Disabilities has been revised in accordance with the approach and the obligations envisaged by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Improvements have been made in schools for children with disabilities. Turkey has signed the ILO conventions nos. 167 and 176 in 2014. Both conventions are at the final stage of ratification.

144. The head of delegation updated that the Law on Foreigners and International Protection entered into force on 11 April 2014 and the principle of non-refoulement has gained legal basis. The procedure relating to humanitarian residence permit and subsidiary protection mechanisms have been defined and “temporary protection” to be provided in cases of massive influx has been codified for the first time. Work is underway for drafting the Law on the Prevention of Human Trafficking and Protection of Victims.

145. The delegation highlighted that the “National Strategy Document and Action Plan on the Rights of the Child” 2013- 2017, focuses on keeping girls in the education system with an aim to prevent early marriages. The illiteracy rate of women and girls in Turkey has been decreasing for the last decade. Turkey has approved the ILO agreement numbered 182 to prevent child labour. “The National Strategy Document and Action Plan on the Rights of the Child” includes critical measures on the prevention of child labour.

146. The delegation noted that Turkey is a safe harbor for more than 1.6 million Syrians. With others, this figure reaches 2 million. In conformity with its international obligations, Turkey has pursued an open door policy for all Syrians and Iraqis who had to flee the conflicts in their countries during the past 4 years. The amount disbursed for its humanitarian response has reached 5 billion US Dollars, whereas total bilateral and multilateral support has remained at 300 million US Dollars. In reply to certain allegations, the delegation stated that accusing Turkey of mistreating Syrians or not doing its share in addressing their needs is equal to failing to acknowledge the huge burden and the great sacrifices by Turkey.

147. The head of delegation thanked everyone who attended the UPR review of Turkey and the questions asked and recommendations made during the session have been noted and will be considered with diligence.

## **II. Conclusions and/or recommendations\*\***

148. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined by Turkey and enjoy its support:

148.1. Pursue its policy in acceding to international and regional conventions and mechanisms on human rights and freedoms (Kuwait);

148.2. Continue the consideration of its accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Hungary);

148.3. Ratify swiftly the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal);

148.4. Accelerate the ratification processes of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on Communications Procedure, which it signed in 2009 and 2012, respectively (Zimbabwe);

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Conclusions and recommendations will not be edited

- 148.5. Further fulfil the internationally taken obligations as well as implement the ratified international treaties (Kazakhstan);
- 148.6. Continue with the fundamental legislative amendments related to human rights (Kuwait);
- 148.7. Continue its efforts in its legal reform process to further promote and protect human rights in the country (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 148.8. Continue to align its national legislation with international human rights instruments to which it is a State party (Nicaragua);
- 148.9. Continue the process of enacting new laws that will ensure that the rights and freedoms granted under its amended constitution can be fully enjoyed by its people (Philippines);
- 148.10. Adopt a law against different types of discrimination and for equality in the public and private sector, and the monitoring of complaints (Albania);
- 148.11. Speed-up the finalisation of the draft law on combatting human trafficking and the protection of victims (Bahrain);
- 148.12. Adopt the Act on the Prevention of Human Trafficking and Protection of Victims (Kyrgyzstan);
- 148.13. Promote amendments in the current laws to envisage the prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators of violence against women, in particular domestic violence (Panama);
- 148.14. Continue its efforts to ensure that the national laws protect freedom of expression online and offline (Latvia);
- 148.15. Continue its efforts to adopt the law on the Human Trafficking and protection of Victims (Sudan);
- 148.16. Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination Law and effectively implement it (Czech Republic);
- 148.17. Continue adopting comprehensive legislation to combat discrimination, including against women (State of Palestine);
- 148.18. Accelerate the adoption of the draft laws on Equality and Anti-discrimination and the Enforcement Monitoring Bodies (Lithuania);
- 148.19. Expedite the completion, and followed by enactment of the draft "Law on the Prevention of Human Trafficking and Protection of Victims" (Indonesia);
- 148.20. Establish the National Human Rights Institution in line with the Paris Principles (Nicaragua);
- 148.21. Undertake the necessary measures to obtain the 'A' accreditation for the Ombudsman and the National Human Rights Institution (Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- 148.22. Consider applying for an "A" status accreditation of the National Human Rights Institution (Hungary);
- 148.23. Strengthen the National Human Rights Institution in order to ensure its independence and effectiveness in accordance with the Paris Principles (Chile);

- 148.24. Implement all necessary measures in order to ensure that its national human rights body be in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Comoros);
- 148.25. Take necessary measures to ensure that the National Human Rights Institution is brought into compliance with the Paris Principles (Kenya);
- 148.26. Further strengthen the capacities of the Human Rights Institution in line with the Paris Principles (Niger);
- 148.27. Continue its efforts to develop training programs within the framework of the project entitled ‘Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights’ (Yemen);
- 148.28. Undertake further measures in accordance with the “National Strategy on Children’s Rights and its Action Plan” at ensuring the rights of the children and combat early marriage (Albania);
- 148.29. Intensify its efforts to implement the National Action Plan for Gender Equality for 2013-2015 (Equatorial Guinea);
- 148.30. Continue further improvement of the promotion and protection of human rights in the country (Azerbaijan);
- 148.31. Continue the efforts in order to set up the independent committee to monitor the implementation of laws (Qatar);
- 148.32. Strengthen internal mechanisms for the implementation of the OP-CAT (Spain);
- 148.33. Strengthen the various monitoring mechanisms established for effective enforcement of the new legislations and action plans, in particular those targeting the inclusion of the most marginalized segments of the population (Mauritius);
- 148.34. Accelerate the process of adopting the National Strategy and Plan of Action on violence against children (Benin);
- 148.35. Continue its efforts for proper implementation of the constitutional reforms concerning the protection of children and older persons (Ecuador);
- 148.36. Renew its commitment to a comprehensive reform of legislation aimed at guaranteeing the rule of law, the freedom of thought, religion, expression and of the media, in compliance with international standards (Italy);
- 148.37. Continue developing the institutional framework with respect to the promotion and protection of human rights (Jordan);
- 148.38. Continue its efforts to strengthen the framework for the protection and promotion of human rights (Kazakhstan);
- 148.39. Continue to work to fully secure the rights of the child (Russian Federation);
- 148.40. Continue its policies in improving Women rights (Jordan);
- 148.41. Step up efforts to prevent organised crime networks (Lebanon);
- 148.42. Further strengthen the work of the Committee for the Prevention of Early and Enforced Marriages (Myanmar);
- 148.43. Adopt the draft National Strategy and Action Plan on Violence against Children (Bangladesh);

- 148.44. Continue implementing the National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Children's Rights (Myanmar);
- 148.45. Continue to implement Democratization Package 2013 (Pakistan);
- 148.46. Pursue the development of enforcement mechanisms so that the National Action Plan for Combating Domestic Violence against Women is consistently implemented (Portugal);
- 148.47. Continue efforts for gender equality in the context of the (NPAGE) (Algeria);
- 148.48. Complete the work toward the establishment of a national strategy on combating violence against children (Somalia);
- 148.49. Continue the implementation of the National Strategy and Plan of Action for the rights of the child (Algeria);
- 148.50. Continue its efforts in the area of human rights training, particularly for staff of penitentiary establishments (Senegal);
- 148.51. Strengthen publicity campaigns on the non-acceptability of any human rights violations (Tajikistan);
- 148.52. Continue active cooperation with human rights mechanisms (Azerbaijan);
- 148.53. Further strengthen its international human rights commitments to the principle of cooperation and dialogue with the UN human rights mechanisms (Kazakhstan);
- 148.54. Continue its cooperation with the UN, other international organizations and human rights mechanisms to overcome remaining constraints and challenges (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 148.55. Step up cooperation with the Special Procedures mandate holders by responding positively to the pending visit requests (Latvia);
- 148.56. Continue to ensure the equality of all its citizens, in particular the minorities, through fair legislative and regulatory means (Singapore);
- 148.57. Continue its commendable efforts to empower women in social, political, economic and public life, including by continuing its positive measures to improve women's employment (Malaysia);
- 148.58. Continue to work on the protection of women's rights and the implementation of the National Plan of Action for Securing Gender Equality. (Russian Federation);
- 148.59. Allocate adequate resources to implement its policies and programmes aimed at ensuring that equality between men and women are realized in practice (Philippines);
- 148.60. Take further measures on anti-discrimination and equality to address gender stereotypes and discriminatory practices that fuel domestic gender-based violence (Ukraine);
- 148.61. Take necessary measures, in putting law into practice, to further ensure the implementation on gender equality (Sweden);

- 148.62. Continue with the efforts to improve the status of women, including measures for gender equality at all levels in society with a view to enhancing their contribution to the national development processes (Sri Lanka);
- 148.63. Continue its efforts in the promotion and protection of women's rights through the implementation of the various national action plans (Brunei Darussalam);
- 148.64. Implement the National Action Plan for Gender Equality, in particular on the enhancement and awareness of the gender equality in different fields such as education, public life, employment and health (Albania);
- 148.65. Continue taking temporary special measures to accelerate the improvement of the situation of women (Togo);
- 148.66. Strengthen the actions taken to combat discrimination against women in all areas (Ecuador);
- 148.67. Exert concrete efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Republic of Korea);
- 148.68. Take necessary measures to ensure gender equality in all spheres, and ensure women's protection against domestic violence (Honduras);
- 148.69. Strengthen measures to guarantee gender equality as well as actions to prevent violence against women (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 148.70. Continue its efforts for empowering women to better improve their participation at the decision-making level (Myanmar);
- 148.71. Strengthen gender equality policies, particularly the promotion of employment of women in all fields (Angola);
- 148.72. Accelerate efforts to increase the number of women in public life and to eliminate and prevent violence against women (Austria);
- 148.73. Continue to combat violence against women and ensure gender equality (Pakistan);
- 148.74. Continue efforts to promote the rights of women and combat violence against them (Morocco);
- 148.75. Make available all the necessary needs to guarantee the success of (NPAGE 2015-2020) (Qatar);
- 148.76. Continue its efforts to promote the rights of women by providing them access to posts of responsibilities (Benin);
- 148.77. Vigorously pursue reforms towards redressing gender inequalities in secondary schools (Djibouti);
- 148.78. End the two-year regulatory gap and promulgate new electoral regulations so that Turkish citizens belonging to non-Muslim communities be able to manage their charitable foundations (Greece);
- 148.79. Additional steps be put in place to protect women's rights more effectively in rural areas in particular (Japan);
- 148.80. Carry on the efforts for the empowerment of women and raise women with employment opportunities for women (Oman);
- 148.81. Carry on intensifying programs and activities aiming at raising human rights awareness (Oman);

- 148.82. Step up efforts to prevent violence against children (Belarus);
- 148.83. Better identify and assist trafficking victims and implement systematic training for government officials on human trafficking crimes, gender-based violence, and gender equality (United States of America);
- 148.84. Continue combating human trafficking (Senegal);
- 148.85. Take concrete actions to fight against human trafficking and illegal migrants, to implement international obligations and defend normal order of international migration (China);
- 148.86. Adopt legal measures to prevent child labour and trafficking accompanied by effective monitoring mechanisms (Montenegro);
- 148.87. Take measures in law and in practice to decrease child labour, most notably regarding hazardous work (Sweden);
- 148.88. Adopt additional measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labor and bring the minimum age of access to employment into line with international standards (Togo);
- 148.89. Continue taking steps to prevent violence against children, child labour and trafficking (Ukraine);
- 148.90. Pursue measures targeted at preventing trafficking in human beings and ensuring effective protection to victims, including by adopting a comprehensive anti-trafficking law (Republic of Moldova);
- 148.91. Pursue efforts to combat human trafficking and adopt a law to prevent this phenomenon and protect victims as soon as possible (Lebanon);
- 148.92. Redouble its efforts to combat trafficking in persons and protect its victims, in particular children (Honduras);
- 148.93. Intensify efforts to combat trafficking in persons and persecute perpetrators (Sierra Leone);
- 148.94. Explore further steps with a view to strengthening domestic measures to combat human trafficking and child labour (Sri Lanka);
- 148.95. Continue to combat all forms of violence against women (Belarus);
- 148.96. Strengthen the implementation effectiveness of Turkey's 2012 domestic law on preventing violence against women (Iceland);
- 148.97. Continue its effort in combatting violence against women, especially domestic violence, by effectively enforcing its law and undertaking necessary legislative review, and ensure the protection of the rights of the victims (Thailand);
- 148.98. Design long-term strategy and awareness-raising programmes to eliminate harmful practices such as domestic violence and early marriages in particular (Lithuania);
- 148.99. Take measures in law and in practice to decrease child marriage most notably among girls (Sweden);
- 148.100. Strengthen efforts to eliminate child, early and force marriage (Maldives);
- 148.101. Continue its efforts on the prevention of violence against women (Somalia);

- 148.102. Pursue the implementation of effective measures to protect women and children against domestic violence and ill-treatment in all its forms (Luxembourg);
- 148.103. In accordance with the Action Plan for Children's Rights (2013-2017), to apply legal and administrative measures to effectively prevent early marriages (Equatorial Guinea);
- 148.104. Increase measures to provide judges with continuous training on the areas of principles, jurisprudence and international human rights principles, in line with the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers (Chile);
- 148.105. Pursue its work on reforms with a view to ensure the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and provide judges with adequate human rights training (Slovakia);
- 148.106. Foster an independent judiciary and consult with civil society, OSCE/ODIHR, and the Venice Commission on any judicial reform (United States of America);
- 148.107. Continue to take steps to strengthen the rule of law by ensuring the effective implementation of legal reforms (Singapore);
- 148.108. Continue strengthening the steps taken to ensure the protection of children in conflict with the law, including considering adopting restorative justice principles (Indonesia);
- 148.109. Step up efforts to combat impunity and carry out rapid, impartial, effective and in depth inquiries for all past or present allegations of human rights violations committed by security forces and ensure that such violations are not remaining unpunished (Switzerland);
- 148.110. Pursue the process already undertaken of children's civil registration (Equatorial Guinea);
- 148.111. Ensure effective implementation of its domestic laws on the protection of the family and prevention of violence against women and children (Israel);
- 148.112. Implement effectively the Law to Protect Family and Prevent Violence against Women (Italy);
- 148.113. Continue strengthening the family and family values, including by protecting and ensuring the welfare of the family members particularly children (Malaysia);
- 148.114. Continue dialogue among faiths groups to strengthen and consolidate the spirit of co-existence (South Sudan);
- 148.115. Continue efforts to strengthen freedom of expression and belief (Lebanon);
- 148.116. Take measures to ensure full enjoyment of freedom of expression, particularly freedom of the press, and bring to an end the restrictions on internet access (Luxembourg);
- 148.117. Strengthen protection of the freedom of expression by allowing discourse and greater access to information, both online and offline, and ensure the penal code and anti-terror laws are consistent with international obligations (United States of America);

- 148.118. Guarantee the right to freedom of expression, online and offline, to fully ensure that journalists can pursue their profession without harassment and fear of reprisals, and review its legislation to bring it in line with international human rights standards (Austria);
- 148.119. Limit the provisions on restrictions of freedom of expression in conformity with the international standards (France);
- 148.120. Guarantee the right to freedom of expression, including freedom of the press, association and peaceful assembly and align its legislation with its obligations and commitments based on relevant international law (Switzerland);
- 148.121. Take steps to ensure she upholds her international obligations on freedom of expression and freedom of assembly (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 148.122. Take measures to further ensure the independence and freedom of the media (Sweden);
- 148.123. Strengthen freedom of assembly and expression, ensuring adequate access to internet (Costa Rica);
- 148.124. Strengthen measures to ensure the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression (Botswana);
- 148.125. Continue to modify and implement its legislation on freedom of expression and freedom of assembly and association in order to fully meet its international human rights obligations by, inter alia, simplifying notification requirements for planned demonstrations in the spirit of peaceful freedom of assembly (Finland);
- 148.126. Continue the measures in favour of different religious groups for the exercise of freedom of religion and conscience (Angola);
- 148.127. Make efforts aimed at broadening the scope of application of freedom of expression (Angola);
- 148.128. Ensure that civil society actors, including marginalized groups like those representing LGBT persons, are included in the implementation and follow-up of human rights obligations, including UPR recommendations (Norway);
- 148.129. Increase the representation of women in decision-making positions (Rwanda);
- 148.130. Apply comprehensively the practice of implementing human rights monitoring at the national level through direct communication with the population. (Tajikistan);
- 148.131. Contribute to the social integration of the rural populations by actively engaging them in all spheres of activity (Tajikistan);
- 148.132. Increase the number of labour inspectors, especially in the rural provinces (Italy);
- 148.133. Establish a national action plan aimed at reinforcing the participation of women in the labor market (Luxembourg);
- 148.134. Continue taking measures to uplift education, particularly in rural areas and increase the enrolment in schools in these regions (State of Palestine);

- 148.135. Continue strengthening its successful national education policy, with a view to achieve full school inclusion at all levels, so as to advance towards greater social welfare for its people (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 148.136. Continue taking the necessary measures keep girls in schools, and guarantee that they continue their official and higher education (Bahrain);
- 148.137. Continue its efforts to promote school attendance and to eliminate child labour, particularly in rural areas (Japan);
- 148.138. Take further measures to promote education in rural areas (Bangladesh);
- 148.139. Continue to implement the necessary measures to ensure the right to education for all citizens (Cuba);
- 148.140. Strengthen efforts to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, especially focusing on the implementation of the CRPD (Maldives);
- 148.141. Continue to develop inclusive education for the sake of children with disabilities (Belarus);
- 148.142. Maintain the commitment to increasingly support the rights of persons with disabilities (Cuba);
- 148.143. Establish a mechanism for monitoring public policies that protect the rights of persons with disabilities, especially in the areas of education, health and employment (Mexico);
- 148.144. Strengthen participation by persons with disabilities in social life (Morocco);
- 148.145. Intensify the inclusion and integration of children with disabilities into the society and the education system (Panama);
- 148.146. Reinforce efforts aimed at safeguarding rights of persons with disabilities including guaranteeing their access to inclusive education (Ukraine);
- 148.147. Take necessary measures to eradicate difficulties facing persons with disabilities in exercising their rights and improve their access to public places, services and social security benefits (Republic of Korea);
- 148.148. Continue to address the inequalities affecting particularly the Roma community (Slovakia);
- 148.149. Continue to strengthen the protection of vulnerable groups, such as disabled children and Romas in less developed cities and rural areas (China);
- 148.150. Continue efforts to efficiently combat discrimination against non-Muslims minorities (Togo);
- 148.151. Reopen the Greek minority High School in Imvros island (Greece);
- 148.152. Tackle the ongoing issues of irregular migrants and seriously prosecute traffickers who prey and take advantage of those vulnerable persons (Thailand);
- 148.153. Continue providing generous support to the Syrian refugees in Turkey (Djibouti).
149. The following recommendations enjoy the support of Turkey which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:

- 149.1. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ghana);
- 149.2. Fully implement the international obligations emanating from the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);
- 149.3. Guarantee full implementation of all European Court of Human Rights rulings within an adequate time frame (Germany);
- 149.4. Comply with the judgements of the ECtHR concerning the rights of the Greek citizens to inherit immovable property in Turkey (Greece);
- 149.5. Comply with international treaties and standards for the full enjoyment of the rights of members of non-Muslim communities and their institutions (Greece);
- 149.6. Criminalize domestic violence (Timor-Leste);
- 149.7. Enforce legislation criminalising gender-based violence and prosecute all cases of violence against women (Sierra Leone);
- 149.8. Set up a national mechanism for preventing torture (France);
- 149.9. Implement Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights and abolish all legal or other restrictions for the release of sick or terminally sick inmates (Germany);
- 149.10. Implement the provisions of the six “Judicial Reform Packages” encompassing various rights and freedoms, in particular the freedom of expression and the media online and offline (Hungary);
- 149.11. Bring the laws regulating the use of force by law enforcement officers in line with international standards, particularly taking into account components of proportionality and necessity; to create an independent oversight mechanism with respect to complaints against criminal conduct by the police (Lithuania);
- 149.12. Monitor and report on the compliance with the recommendations put forward by the Special Rapporteurs on the independence of judges and lawyers, migrants and extrajudicial executions (Mexico);
- 149.13. Promote the adoption of measures to combat discrimination against women and promote gender equality (Panama);
- 149.14. Implement a national plan of action that would abolish discrimination against women, which is fostered by gender inequality (Serbia);
- 149.15. End all limitations on participation of non-Muslim Turkish citizens in the organized life of their communities and enjoyment of their cultural and religious heritage (Greece);
- 149.16. Consider the adoption of the specific legislation prohibiting all forms of corporal punishment of children (Poland);
- 149.17. Prohibit all forms of violence against children, including corporal punishment (Slovenia);
- 149.18. Strengthen measures to combat violence against women, including through the effective implementation of existing legislation and the National Action Plan (Brazil);

- 149.19. Criminalise child marriage (Sierra Leone);
- 149.20. Take as soon as possible the necessary legislative and political measures to end early and forced marriages (Belgium);
- 149.21. Consider the establishment of budgetary allotments to improve the conditions of the prison population (Mexico);
- 149.22. Guarantee full independence of the judiciary (Luxembourg);
- 149.23. All areas of the judiciary be completely independent from the executive (Denmark);
- 149.24. Protect the judiciary against all interference from bodies belonging to other branches of government (Switzerland);
- 149.25. Take steps to ensure the total independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Namibia);
- 149.26. Ensure the independency and impartiality of the judiciary (Uruguay);
- 149.27. Conduct effective investigation on the case of murder of Hrant Dink, Editor-in Chief of the Turkish language Armenian weekly “Agos” (Armenia);
- 149.28. Address concerns about increasing interference by the executive in the judiciary (Australia);
- 149.29. Guarantee an independent and impartial judiciary, including by refraining from undue interference by the executive (Austria);
- 149.30. Establish a truly independent mechanism to investigate complaints of police violence and provide it with the necessary financial and administrative resources to make it effective and transparent to prosecute the perpetrators and compensate victims (Belgium);
- 149.31. Investigate allegations of torture and excessive use of force and take appropriate measures to punish perpetrators (Botswana);
- 149.32. Ensure the investigation, prosecution and punishment of any act of discrimination or violence motivated by the victim’s sexual orientation or gender identity (Slovenia);
- 149.33. Take all necessary measures to solve the problems of non-Muslim minorities caused by the closing of the Halki seminary (Greece);
- 149.34. Refrain from censoring social and conventional media and ensure that freedom of expression is safeguarded in all forms, including the arts (Norway);
- 149.35. Respect the right to freedom of assembly as well as to carry out investigations into excessive use of force by security forces against peaceful protesters (Austria);
- 149.36. Guarantee freedom of assembly and association, including by protecting protestors from ill-treatment and by investigating allegations of abuse by officials promptly, thoroughly and independently (Germany);
- 149.37. Guarantee freedom of expression to all media, particularly to journalists (France);

- 149.38. Revise the practice of excessive use of force to dissolve crowds and protect its inhabitants' rights to freedom of assembly and of association (Norway);
- 149.39. Facilitate holding peaceful protests, protect all peaceful demonstrators from violence and arbitrary arrest and fight impunity for the use of excessive force against protestors by law-enforcement personnel (Czech Republic);
- 149.40. Implement the policy of return of the confiscated properties to the Armenians and other religious minorities, such as places of worship, including monasteries, church properties and religious and cultural sites through close consultations with their legal owners (Armenia);
- 149.41. Guarantee freedom of peaceful assembly (France);
- 149.42. Reaffirm its commitment to freedom of assembly, a proportional and legitimate response to protest activity, and to a free media (Australia);
- 149.43. Take into consideration the views of the civil society and respect EU standards when elaborating the security law package (France);
- 149.44. Ensure in practice that all women are able to exercise their legal right to a safe abortion, without discrimination of any kind (Slovenia);
- 149.45. Take appropriate measures to provide school education to refugee children and to avoid discrimination of non-camp refugee children (Italy);
- 149.46. Prevent use of its territory by foreign terrorist fighters who are engaged in massive human rights violations (Armenia).
150. The following recommendations will be examined by Turkey which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council in 15 June – 3 July 2015:
- 150.1. Ratify the international instruments that have not been ratified yet (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 150.2. Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and harmonise its national legislation with it, including the integration of the provisions to fully cooperate with the Court, and to investigate and prosecute genocide, crimes against humanity and crimes of war before their national courts (Madagascar);
- 150.3. Accede to and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC (Estonia);
- 150.4. Accede to the statute of the International Criminal Court and ratify the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions (Honduras);
- 150.5. Accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC (France); Accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC (Uruguay); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Timor-Leste); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Poland); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Portugal); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Luxemburg); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Ghana);
- 150.6. Accede to and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the ICC (Latvia);
- 150.7. Accede to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC (Madagascar);

- 150.8. **Accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC and implement it fully at national level and accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Slovakia);**
- 150.9. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Uruguay);**
- 150.10. **Consider ratifying ILO Convention 189 (Philippines);**
- 150.11. **Abolish any statutory limits on crimes by government officials, like torture, extrajudicial killings, and disappearances, both in respect to legal investigations as well as prosecutions (Netherlands);**
- 150.12. **Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including a clear definition of discrimination against women (Iceland);**
- 150.13. **Amend the provisions on libel and defamation so that they cannot be abused to prosecute human rights defenders and journalists (Czech Republic);**
- 150.14. **Amend Law No. 5651, widely known as Internet Law, to ensure the right to seek, receive, and impart information in the exercise of freedom of opinion and expression (Canada);**
- 150.15. **Amend Article 26 of the Constitution to ensure that the permissible grounds for restricting the right to freedom of expression are consistent with international human rights norms (Spain);**
- 150.16. **Favourably consider revising the new Internet Law in order for its citizens to enjoy better access to the Internet thereby further ensuring their right to freedom of expression and opinion (Republic of Korea);**
- 150.17. **Amend the Internet Law in order to guarantee the free exercise of freedom of expression, among others, by ensuring that the Telecommunications Authority cannot block websites without judicial authorization (Spain);**
- 150.18. **Repeal those provisions of the Criminal Code which unfairly limit freedom of expression, including Articles 301, 318, 215 and 125, to bring the law in line with international standards on freedom of expression (Ireland);**
- 150.19. **Bring relevant provisions of the Criminal Code in line with Article 19 of the ICCPR repealing the restrictions of freedom of expression (Lithuania);**
- 150.20. **Fully align the Internet law with international and European standards (Iceland);**
- 150.21. **Revise the Internet Law so that the powers of the authorities to block or remove the Internet content are exercised strictly in line with international standards on the right to freedom of expression and ensure that the internet can serve as a platform for free exchange of information, including dissenting views (Czech Republic);**
- 150.22. **Reform the law on counter terrorism in order to prevent imprisonment of journalists (France);**
- 150.23. **Explicitly recognise the right to peaceful assembly by redrafting the Law on Meetings and Demonstration to remove provisions that criminalise peaceful participation in demonstrations (Ireland);**

- 150.24. Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including a prohibition on discrimination on grounds of ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity (Israel);
- 150.25. Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation to prevent all forms of discrimination on the basis of ethnic, religious, sexual orientation or gender identity grounds (Chile);
- 150.26. Take further measures to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, aiming at eliminating discrimination against women especially women from minority groups, women with disabilities, migrant women and women asylum seekers (Namibia);
- 150.27. Review relevant legislation to ensure that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity is prohibited (Croatia);
- 150.28. Strengthen anti-hate and anti-discrimination legislation in the TPC, specifically Article 122, by prohibiting hate crimes and discrimination based on sexual orientation (Canada);
- 150.29. Take effective measures to ensure that the National Human Rights Action Plan fully embraces the recommendations already accepted by Turkey within the framework of the UPR (Kenya);
- 150.30. Adopt measures to prohibit and prevent discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Uruguay);
- 150.31. Promote measures against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, including the investigation, and, where appropriate, the sanction of those responsible of acts of discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons (Argentina);
- 150.32. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation and take measures to prevent and combat discrimination on any grounds, including based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and religion (Brazil);
- 150.33. Deal with cases of violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation, both in law and in practice, by publishing disaggregated data on complaints of violence against LGBTI persons (Chile);
- 150.34. Focus on the overall implementation of its non-discriminatory provisions and to extend them to include the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. The implementation of overall anti- discrimination policies in Turkey should include all forms of discrimination (Finland);
- 150.35. Intensify its commitment to working constructively with religious and other minorities, to address their grievances, including those of Alevi groups and the status of cemevis (Australia);
- 150.36. Put an end to mandatory religion courses for the “allevi” (France);
- 150.37. Overcome the continuous lack of legal personality for non-Muslim organized religious communities and to ensure the necessary respect for the beliefs of religious minorities , especially following the introduction of compulsory religious education in Turkish schools (Italy);
- 150.38. Remove restrictions on freedom of expression under Article 26 of the Constitution (Canada);

- 150.39. Bring relevant provisions of the Turkish Criminal Code in line with article 19 of the ICCPR, to ensure freedom of expression and to create an environment conducive to free journalism and media (Poland);
- 150.40. Align its legislation and practices with international standards on freedom of expression, particularly regarding the restrictions imposed to freedom of expression in article 26 of the Constitution (Belgium);
- 150.41. Guarantee free access to media without any discrimination to all institutions which require specific accreditation (France);
- 150.42. Bring the Internet Law in line with International and European standards, including case law of the European Court of Human Rights on the rights to freedom of expression and to privacy (Estonia);
- 150.43. Decriminalize defamation and to ensure that the restriction of the right to freedom of expression, also the freedom of peaceful assembly and association, are consistent with international human rights standards (Estonia);
- 150.44. Amend or repeal all policies that restrict the rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and the right to access information and free press (Israel);
- 150.45. Amend the criminal legislation in order to eliminate obstacles to freedom of expression and to freedom of association (Uruguay);
- 150.46. Continue to actively prevent discrimination of minorities through enacting comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including a prohibition on discrimination on grounds of ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity (Denmark);
- 150.47. Implement legislation that increases protection of the rights of persons belonging to minority religious groups, including the status of their places of worship (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 150.48. Allow children of Greek citizens working in Istanbul to attend the Greek minority schools as fully-fledged students (Greece);
- 150.49. Consider teaching of minority languages in public schools (Slovenia);
- 150.50. Adopt legal and administrative measures aimed at eliminating from the law on Immigration and International Protection the geographical restrictions in the asylum procedure, guaranteeing adequate and fair treatment to persons seeking international protection (Argentina);
- 150.51. Take further efforts to curb discriminatory treatment of non-European refugees and asylum-seekers (India);
- 150.52. Exercise restraint using anti-terrorism legislation in legal procedures against journalists and to ensure the proportionality of measures that limit access to the internet (Netherlands).
151. The recommendations listed below did not enjoy the support of Turkey:
- 151.1. Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);
- 151.2. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Montenegro); Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);

- 151.3. Sign and ratify the ICPPED and recognize the competence of its Committee (France);
- 151.4. Consider the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- 151.5. Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and to the Agreement of Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Cyprus);
- 151.6. Consider ratifying the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Rwanda); Consider ratifying the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Latvia);
- 151.7. Ratify UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Ghana); Ratify the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Portugal);
- 151.8. Ratify the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (Armenia);
- 151.9. Ratify Additional Protocols I and II to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 (Cyprus);
- 151.10. Comply with the judgements of the ECtHR concerning violations of human rights in the areas of Cyprus that are under effective control of Turkey (Greece);
- 151.11. Implement without further delay all relevant judgements of the ECHR including those in which grave human rights violations by Turkey have been established in the occupied areas of Cyprus under effective control of Turkey (Cyprus);
- 151.12. Adopt laws recognizing and regulating the right to conscientious objections and ensure that civilian alternative to military service has no punitive or discriminatory effects (Croatia);
- 151.13. Adopt laws that recognize and guarantee the right to conscientious objection to military service, ensuring that any genuinely civilian alternative is not punitive in length (Germany);
- 151.14. Recognize the right to conscientious objection and to offer a civilian alternative to military service (Slovenia);
- 151.15. Amend or revoke legislation, such as the ‘Anti-Terror Law’ and the ‘Law on Meetings and Demonstrations’, ensuring their provisions cannot be misused (Cyprus);
- 151.16. Take steps in order to enhance and promote gender equality in all walks of life (Cyprus);
- 151.17. Ensure that senior State officials refrain from public statements degrading to women and inconsistent with the Turkish constitution and Islamic values (Egypt);
- 151.18. Abolish all statutory time limits pertaining to the investigation of and prosecution for serious human rights violations (Cyprus);
- 151.19. Allow all religious or belief communities to train their religious instructors in accordance with their own dogma and traditions (Cyprus);

- 151.20. Grant the Ecumenical Patriarchate an adequate legal personality (Greece);
- 151.21. Ensure the protection of all components of the right to freedom of religion or belief, as protected under the ICCPR, including by withdrawing its reservations to article 27 on minority rights. (Canada);
- 151.22. Ensure the rights of religious minorities, to enhance access to education in the language of minorities, to withdraw the reservation to article 27 of ICCPR regarding minorities and to ratify the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (Austria);
- 151.23. Undertake adequate steps concerning the property claims of persons from Bulgarian identity from eastern Thrace as previously recommended (Bulgaria);
- 151.24. Control its borders, effectively, to prevent the movement of terrorist groups, including those benefiting from transnational organized crime (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 151.25. Genuine and full commitment to international treaties and resolutions combating terrorism, especially Security Council Resolutions S/RES/2170 and S/RES/2178 (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 151.26. Refrains from undertaking actions beyond its borders that contribute to violations and abuses of human rights, including through immediate termination of any relevant form of political, military, logistical or financial support in this regard (Egypt);
- 151.27. Put an end to the unilateral economic coercive measures including blockade against Armenia, which violates human rights including social, economic and cultural rights (Armenia).
152. The recommendations in paragraphs number 151.5, 151.9, 151.11, 151.15, 151.16, 151.18, and 151.19 did not enjoy the support of Turkey, as Turkey does neither recognize Republic of Cyprus nor accept its claims to represent the whole island.
153. The recommendation 151.10 did not enjoy the support of Turkey, as Turkey stressed that its presence in the island stems from the rights and obligations within international treaties.
154. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Turkey was headed by H.E. Mr. Bülent Arınç, Deputy Prime Minister and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Mehmet Ferden Çarıkçı, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the UN Office in Geneva;
- Ms. Nesrin Çelik, Undersecretary, Ministry of Family and Social Policies;
- Mr. Aziz Yıldırım, Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Basat Öztürk, Ambassador, Director General of Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Adnan Ertem, Director General of Foundations, Prime Ministry;
- Ms. Kıvılcım Kılıç, Deputy Director General for the Council of Europe and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Yavuz Evirgen, Deputy Director General, Foreign Policy Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister;
- Mr. Berk Baran, Deputy Permanent Representative of Turkey to the UN Office in Geneva;
- Mr. Halil İbrahim Dizman, Head of Department, Directorate General of Prisons and Detention Houses, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Arif Çangal, Head of Security Department, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Zekai Erdem, Deputy Head of Department, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Olgun Altundaş, Deputy Chief Legal Adviser, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Ahmet Ulutaş, Counsellor (Legal Affairs), Permanent Mission of Turkey to the UN Office in Geneva;
- Mr. İbrahim Hakkı Beyazıt, Judge, Department of Human Rights, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Hüseyin Kök, Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister;
- Mr. Umut Deniz, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the UN Office in Geneva;
- Mr. Hasan Emre Uygun, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the UN Office in Geneva;
- Mr. Selçuk Özcan, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the UN Office in Geneva;
- Ms. Muzaffer Uyav Gültekin, First Secretary, Deputy Directorate General for Council of Europe and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Handan Sayer, Expert, Ministry of Family and Social Policies;
- Ms. Gözde Özkorul, Assistant Expert, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Yusuf İzzettin Çelebi, Press Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister;

- Ms. Zeynep Bekdik, Interpreter;
  - Ms. Hande Güner, Interpreter.
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