

## **ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO TURKEY**

### **BELGIUM**

- Is the Government of Turkey considering ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance?
- Is the Government of Turkey considering accepting the individual complaint procedures under the human rights conventions to which it is already a State party?
- Is the Government of Turkey considering ratifying the Rome Statue of the ICC?
- What schedule has the Government of Turkey foreseen to handover its answers to follow-up requests by the HR Committee on discrimination and violence against LGBTs, 'honour killings', and non-recognition of conscientious objection to military service?
- What steps has the Government of Turkey taken to address reports of abuses against Syrian refugees at the border by Turkish officials, sanction perpetrators and ensure effective remedy to the victims of these violations?
- Is the Government of Turkey considering bringing the Penal Code as well as the Internet Law and Anti-Terrorism legislation in line with international and European standards?
- What has the Government of Turkey done to address the concerns regarding the lack of accountability related to excessive use of force by security and law enforcement forces and the non-compliance of policing of demonstrations in Turkey with international human rights law?
- What steps has the Government of Turkey taken to ensure that human rights defenders and journalists can pursue their profession without fear of prosecution or other forms of harassment?
- What legal provisions has the Government of Turkey taken to ensure that violence against children is prevented in all environments, be it school, family, detention centres or other and that adequate sanctions and remedies are given to perpetrators and victims respectively?
- Would the Government of Turkey consider adopting legal arrangements to prevent child labour and trafficking accompanied by effective monitoring mechanisms?
- What has the Government of Turkey done to address various treaty body concerns regarding the lack of a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation? What measures is it considering to take to safeguard the right of women to equal representation in political, social and economic life?

- What measures has the Government of Turkey taken to ensure that effective policies are put in place to eliminate violence against women, whereby perpetrators are sanctioned and victims are provided with appropriate remedy and rehabilitation?
- What steps has the Government of Turkey taken to ensure proper investigation of hate crimes, appropriate sanctioning of perpetrators and remedy for victims?
- What does the Government of Turkey do to ensure the issue of independence/ impartiality of the judiciary and judges in higher courts receive training on international human rights standards?

## **NETHERLANDS**

### **Effectiveness of the National Ombudsman**

Research shows that only 25% of the recommendations of the National Ombudsman are implemented by the Turkish government. Which concrete steps will be taken by the government to ensure that in future more recommendations will be implemented?

### **Effectiveness of the National Human Rights Institute**

When will the government clearly define the mandate for the National Human Rights Institute to enable the institute to play a meaningful role in improving the human rights situation in Turkey?

### **Freedom of Expression**

What guarantees does the Turkish government provide, following the recent enactment of a law that allows the judiciary to issue arrest warrants based only on “reasonable doubt”, that such arrests warrants will not be issued lightly, with the risk of the law being abused to suppress the free media?

## **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

- What steps will Turkey take to ensure occupational health, safety, and labor inspectors have adequate resources and training to effectively enforce labor laws, improve workplace safety and combat the worst forms of child labor?
- What steps is Turkey taking to address discrimination against members of religious minorities? Is Turkey planning to recognize Alevi places of worship and permit the

Ecumenical Patriarchate to reopen the Halki Seminary on acceptable terms? Will Turkey also condemn anti-Semitic statements promptly and forcefully?

- During the first cycle the government supported recommendations on adopting comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation and ensuring non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. What steps have been taken to follow up on these recommendations? Would the government be willing to work with civil society organizations to conduct trainings for government employees to help ensure equal treatment for LGBT persons?