



AST STATEMENT ON TORTURE ALLEGATIONS IN TURKEY, KONYA

For the last two years, starting from the false flag coup attempt on July 15, 2016, almost entire democratic and fundamental human rights have been suspended in Turkey.

Erdogan Government has been completely out of control in terms of accessing to basic human rights, equality and respect for human dignity, in the sense that the western civilization stipulates, and in this sense it has completely broken it's ties with the modern world, as is clearly stated in other reports prepared by many internationally recognized human rights institutions such as on October 2017, the Human Rights Watch published a report about kidnapping and torture about Turkey (In Custody Police Torture and Abductions in Turkey), then in March 20 2018 United Nations published a report on experienced widespread human rights violations during the state of emergency in Turkey (Turkey: UN report details extensive human rights violations during protracted state of emergency) Amnesty International's human rights report was released on February 22, 2018.

As Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, High Commissioner for UN Human Rights, mentioned during the state of emergency period, about 160,000 people were detained in Turkey; 152,000 state officials, including teachers, judges and lawyers, among whom the vast majority were arbitrarily expelled or investigated; nearly 200 journalists were arrested, 201 media outlets and hundreds of websites were closed. There were many cases of torture, rape and kidnapping, which were only partially reflected in the reports. As a result of the criminal announcements regarding these issues, the limited investigations in Turkey provided no positive result.

Similarly, as the UN rapporteur has expressed 100 old, pregnant or newborn women were taken into custody, severely separated from their children or children on the grounds that they were "affiliates" with their husbands or children suspected of being linked to terrorist organizations, and this situation remains unfavorable. "This is not merely excessive, but entirely cruel" by the expression of the UN rapporteur!

One of the last examples of cruelty in Turkey was a police operation on April 13, 2018, in Konya, one of the largest cities in Turkey. Last night due to oppression, 77 people were taken into custody for their potential affiliations with Hizmet's non-profit organizations. It is reported that among the detainees there are many young women. The person who manages the aforementioned operation is Prosecutor Durmuş Ali Karakoca, whose tortures and inhumane treatments were documented in the Turkish province of Bayburt in the past. According to witness statements, the prosecutor Karakoca has been personally leading the inhuman treatment to both men and women including beating and torturing the men they detained in Konya.

We urge all the international bodies and human rights organizations to take all necessary steps to stop TORTURE in Turkey and make the perpetrators accountable before rule of law.