
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW 49TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: TURKEY

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Submitted by

Human Rights Association – İHD / Turkey

Human Rights Association (*İnsan Hakları Derneği* - İHD) is a non-governmental, independent, and voluntary body. The association, which was founded in 1986 by 98 human rights defenders, today has 26 branches, 10 representative offices, and around 8,000 members. İHD is the oldest and largest human rights organization in Turkey and its sole and specific goal is to promote “human rights and freedoms.” İHD is a member of the International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH) based in Paris and of EuroMed Rights based in Copenhagen. İHD founded and is a member of the Human Rights Joint Platform (İHOP) in Turkey, while it founded the Turkish Coalition for the International Criminal Court and still serves as its speaker. İHD also founded the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT) with a group of physicians in 1990. İHD issues special reports on various human rights issues including annual reports on human rights violations in Turkey. These include but are not limited to freedom of speech, the legal system, impunity, enforced disappearances, murders by unknown assailants, extrajudicial executions, torture and ill-treatment, and notably gross human rights violations in places where curfews were declared. İHD is an organization that submits shadow reports before committees at the United Nations and the Council of Europe that Turkey is a party to. İHD works in cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the CoE Commissioner for Human Rights and special rapporteurs. Furthermore, İHD is an organization that is engaged in exchange of views with the diplomatic missions of countries emphasizing the protection of human rights in their foreign policies. İHD cooperates with bodies and institutions working for democracy in Turkey as well.

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