



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA

Z-2025/62441669/39387614 - URGENT

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Türkiye to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the Joint Communication from Special Procedures dated 13 December 2025 (AL TUR 7/2024), has the honour to present the reply of the Government of the Republic of Türkiye hereinbelow.

The Government believes that hasty press releases by Special Procedures mandate holders on matters that are already subject of a communication without receiving the response of the concerned State on the issue, hence without giving the concerned State the opportunity of responding, is neither useful nor helpful for pursuing a constructive dialogue as well as cooperation for the promotion of human rights.

Such an approach damages the sense of dialogue that the Special Procedures mandate holders are to engage in with Governments through the communications process before resorting to a press release, as stated in the Manual of Operations of the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council.

It is also not in line with the principles of objectivity, impartiality, non-selectivity, reciprocal constructive dialogue, and cooperation as framed by core documents, namely the Institution Building of the UN Human Rights Council (Resolution 5/1), and the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council (Resolution 5/2).

Türkiye recalls that Special Rapporteur Mary Lawlor resorted to issuing press releases on 20 May 2021 and 31 October 2022 regarding communications AL TUR 9/2021 and AL TUR 8/2022, respectively, before waiting for the Government's responses.

Special Rapporteur, yet again, resorted to such a hasty press release on 16 January 2025 without waiting for the reply of the Government on the communication AL TUR 7/2024. The Government observes that the Special Rapporteur displayed a prejudging attitude on the issue without hearing the observations of the Government and reached a unilateral conclusion.

These procedures are too important to be disregarded randomly by any Special Rapporteur to express their preconceived opinions.

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais Wilson
Rue des Pâquis 52
1201 Geneva

The Government believes that such an approach is neither useful for constructive dialogue and protection of human rights nor in line with the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council. Rendering opinions without hearing the concerned State makes the communication process dysfunctional. For these reasons, the Government has decided to refrain from providing further information on the communication AL TUR 7/2024.

Furthermore, as the Special Rapporteur continues to act in violation of the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, the Government is reassessing its cooperation with Special Rapporteur Lawlor and considering to suspend such cooperation.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Türkiye avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 21 January 2025

