

nos

SÜDWIND

Entwicklungspolitik

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Turkey is outstanding for the small number of recommendations it has accepted. Turkey's unwillingness to withdraw its reservation to Article 27 ICCPR on minority rights is a grave cause for concern. Moreover Articles 301 and 318 of Turkey's penal code still legitimize acts of harassment and persecution of human rights defenders. Missing and killed people are still not accounted for, as Serdar Calabi called for, while ample documentation would exist and awaits being used.

162 NGOs and civil society petitioned the Turkish army to stop shows of strength – as in Inegöl district of Bursa and Dörtöyl. Südwind would urge Turkey to devote still more attention to regular and participatory political processes to resolve conflicts in peace and end aggression against the Kurds.

The situation of refugees in Turkey is crucial. After troublesome presidential elections in neighboring Iran, fixed an unfair as they appear to the people, a new wave of refugees began to arrive. Those without proper documentation termed "illegal" are sent to border cities Wan and Agri, the others to around Ankara. So if the UNHCR application for Asylum to a third country fails, they will be sent back by the police in force without any further judicial process, typically to Iraq or Iran. Turkey has limited the 1951 Convention to Europeans only. It does not give the right of Asylum or permanent stay in the country to non-Europeans. Period. Südwind suggests non-Europeans need it more, in the spirit of humanity.

Most Asylum seekers are without property, having left in pure poverty, and barely acquire the minimum daily food needs of a human being. Nevertheless "ground money" has to be paid to the host state of Turkey, around US\$ 300 per person per month, or else their children will not even be able to attend school.

The addendum further notes the less than unconditional ratification of the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the lifting of restrictions regarding the freedom of expression, freedom of the press and free use of Internet, unfortunate shortcomings Südwind regrets.