
Advance Unedited Version

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Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**Concluding observations on the initial report of Turkey*****I. Introduction**

1. The Committee considered the initial report of Turkey (CRPD/C/TUR/1) at its 439th and 440th meetings (see CRPD/C/SR.439 and 440) held on 13 (afternoon) and 14 (morning) March 2019, respectively, and adopted the following concluding observations at its 460th meeting, held on 28 March 2019.

2. The Committee welcomes the initial report of Turkey, which was prepared in accordance with the Committee's reporting guidelines, and thanks the State party for its written replies (CRPD/C/TUR/Q/1/Add.1) to the list of issues prepared by the Committee (CRPD/C/TUR/Q/1).

3. The Committee appreciates the fruitful dialogue held with the State party's delegation and commends the State party for the strength of its delegation which included representatives of relevant Government Ministries and the Public Investigation Institution (Ombudsman).

III. Principal areas of concern and recommendations

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B. Specific rights (arts. 5–30)

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Accessibility (art. 9)

19. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The limited standards and legislation on accessibility and the reported lack of progress to meet the deadlines set by the law of the National Plan of Action on Accessibility;

(b) The lack of publicly available, comparable, reliable and comprehensible data on financial sanctions and fines for non-compliance of accessibility standards, in electronic mass media, e-government services and banking services;

(c) The reports that the Accessibility Monitoring and Audit Commissions are not fulfilling their legal obligations and the sanctions imposed by these commissions are not applied.

* Adopted by the Committee at its twenty-first session (11 March – 5 April 2019).

20. The Committee, recalling its general comment No. 2 (2014) on accessibility, recommends that the State party develop a comprehensive accessibility roadmap based on detailed data, which sets benchmarks for the removal of existing barriers, and promotes universal design for built environment, public services, such as transportation, information, and communication. It also recommends that the State party allocate sufficient resources for the monitoring of the implementation of accessibility standards with an updated national database throughout all provinces and local governments, including establishing enforceable and effective dissuasive sanctions for non-compliance.

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Liberty and security of the person (art. 14)

29. The Committee is concerned about:

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(c) Reports of detentions of persons with disabilities without accessible conditions at the police and law-enforcement institutions.

30. The Committee recommends that the State party:

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(c) Ensure that detention facilities, and police and law enforcement institutions are accessible for persons with disabilities.

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Freedom from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (art. 15)

32. The Committee is concerned about:

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(b) Insufficient accommodations available for persons with disabilities in prisons and reports of ill treatment against persons with disabilities therein, and the limited access to remedies in case of ill treatment and risks of reprisals;

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33. The Committee recommends that the State party:

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(b) Take measures to provide persons with disabilities with individualized accommodations and accessibility in prisons, ensuring awareness raising and training of personnel working in mental health facilities and prisons about the rights of persons with disabilities and ensure access for persons with disabilities to legal aid and an attorney during custodial interrogation, adopt a protocol and establish a mechanism to prevent and address reprisals against persons with disabilities in cases of ill treatment, and systematically collect information about measures taken for protecting victims;

(c) Ensure transparency and effectiveness of the existing monitoring mechanisms of detention and residential facilities, the publication of their findings, and collect information about measures taken to address cases of ill treatment and establish and disseminate information in accessible formats, about complaint mechanisms and remedies available, and ensure access of independent monitoring by civil society organizations, including organizations of persons with disabilities.