

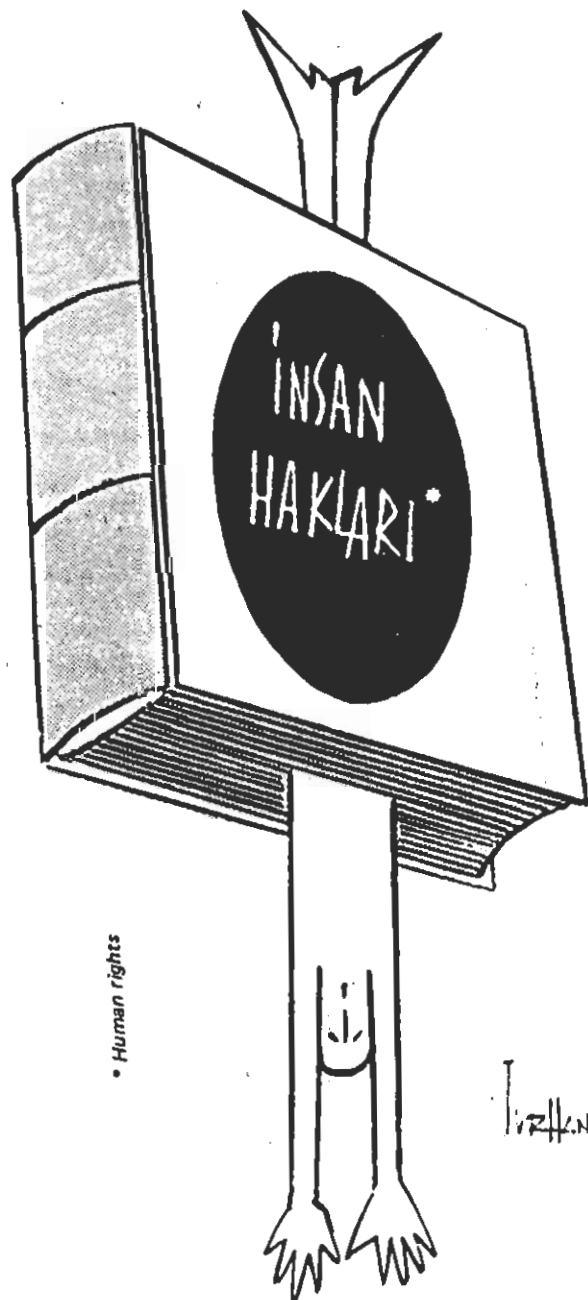


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• Human rights

Dissatisfied with the situation
of human rights in Turkey

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HAS LAID DOWN FIVE CONDITIONS FOR THE RESUMPTION OF THE RELATIONS WITH ANKARA

Turkish regime's reply to the European
Resolution: "Liars"... "Traitors"...
"Crooks"... "Lackeys of the Greco-
communist plot"... "Enemies of Turk"...

The European Parliament's stand concerning the
Turco-European relations was confirmed once more
at the meeting of October 23, 1985, in Strasbourg:
The situation of human rights in Turkey is not yet
sufficiently satisfactory to justify the reopening the
relations between the European Parliament and the
Grand National Assembly of Turkey.

Adopting a resolution very critical regarding the
situation of human rights in Turkey, the European
Parliament has laid down the following five prerequi-
sites for reopening its relations with the Turkish par-
liament:

- Abolition of the capital punishment for political
crimes committed without violence and an amnesty
for the prisoners detained for opinion offenses;
- Stop to torture of prisoners and prosecution of
all torturers;
- End to mass trials, by replacing them by fair
trials;
- Possibility for each Turkish citizen to apply to
the European Commission of Human Rights (of the
Council of Europe);
- Lifting of all restrictions on political, social and
opinion freedoms.

This position of the European parliamentarians
constitutes a new democratic blow to the militarist
"democracy" set up by the army generals in Turkey.

Angry at this decision, the Turkish Government
as well as the pro-governmental Turkish press have la

launched a new campaign of slander against the European democratic forces by accusing them of being "liars", "traitors", "arrogant people", "enemies of the Turkish nation", "lackeys of the Greco-communist plot"....

However, this resolution which also constitutes a great act of solidarity with the democratic fight of the people of Turkey has been welcome with a great satisfaction by the country's democratic forces, who are always for a complete restoration of Turco-European relations, on the basis of a full respect to the human rights defined by the European Convention on Human Rights of which Turkey is one of the first signatories.

In fact, the official relations between the European Parliament and Turkey have been frozen since the military coup d'état of September 12, 1980. This unilateral act of the European Parliament was followed by the expulsion of the Turkish regime's representatives from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, of which Turkey is one of the founding members.

Nevertheless, following the legislative and local elections held respectively in 1983 and 1984, the Parliamentary Assembly of 21 European countries approved, at its plenary session of May 8, 1984, the credentials of the Turkish delegation and reintegrated the representatives of the militarist "democracy" in the hemicycle of Strasbourg, after a 3-year interval.

Encouraged by this premature decision of the Council of Europe, the Turkish regime has hoped since then that the European Parliament, too, would put up with the disrespect for human rights in Turkey, by reopening its relations with the new Turkish Parliament.

Before putting this matter on its agenda, the Political Affairs Committee of the European Parliament charged the British Labour Deputy, Mr. Richard Balfe, with carrying out a fact-finding mission to Turkey. During his visit to Turkey from May 12 to 17, Mr Balfe was not authorized to visit prisons and to have talks with the officials of the regime.

MOTIVES OF THE RESOLUTION

In his report drawn up in the name of the Political Affairs Committee the rapporteur Richard Balfe exposed the summary of the facts he had found as follows:

"A considerable volume of evidence, written and oral was received by your rapporteur during the enquiry. In particular, it was clear from the outset that it would be impossible to complete the report without making a visit to Turkey in order to obtain an up-to-date properly informed picture of the human rights situation. This decision was authorised by the Bureau of the Parliament on 12th March 1985. The decision specified that there should be no impediment to your rapporteur making whatever contacts he wished. No difficulty was experienced in this respect, as a communication from the Turkish Ambassador to the Communities dated 10 May 1985 makes clear. However, your rapporteur has to record that, equally, no facilities were given by the Turkish government comparable to those accorded to previous rapporteurs and even to individual Members of the Parliament visiting Turkey under their own auspices. These facilities were requested well in advance of the visit by your rapporteur who was given to understand, particularly at a meeting with a visiting Delegation of Turkish Parliamentarians to Strasbourg in April, that such facilities would be accorded. It was only at the very last moment, on the eve of the visit, that a Telex message was received from the Turkish Ambassador to the

Communities saying that it would not be feasible for these facilities, such as meetings with Ministers and Civil Servants, to be granted.

However, despite these difficulties a full programme for the visit was carried out between 13th and 17th May by your rapporteur who was accompanied by Mr John Taylor, Director General of the Human Rights Service of the Parliament. For the successful arrangement of this programme, much credit must go to Mr Gwyn Morgan, who spared no effort to make high-level appointments covering the whole of this complicated subject at very short notice. Your rapporteur would like to convey his gratitude both to Mr Morgan and to the Commission who made his services available. As a result, your rapporteur was able to hold talks with the leaders of all five major political parties in Turkey, including the ruling Motherland Party. A most important exception to the political contacts, however, was any representative from the Turkish Communist Party. This party is banned; most of its leaders are in prison and trials of its members are still continuing. For similar reasons, other political parties, particularly, the Turkish Workers Party (TIP), were unable to have the opportunity of making representations to your rapporteur when he was in Turkey. However, representations from these parties have since been received on their behalf from Holland and Britain respectively. Meetings were also arranged with trade union leaders, again both recognised and not recognised and in some cases banned by the régime; together with lawyers, journalists, international and national civil servants, members of diplomatic missions, ex-prisoners and relatives of prisoners, and with numerous other witnesses. Altogether, a total of over 100 separate groups and individuals in Turkey were interviewed. It should be recorded that many of the witnesses inside Turkey expressed serious concern to your rapporteur about the consequences to themselves and their families should this material become known to the Turkish authorities and should their identities be revealed. For this reason references to these sources have been omitted from the report."

During the plenary session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, the facts exposed by Mr. Balfe (even the fact that Turkey, with an average of 171 political detainees for 100,000 inhabitants, holds a European record on the matter of repression) did not prevent the representatives of the European Right from demanding the restoration of the relations with Turkey, under the pretext that "some sensible development was accomplished in that country". "Do not we maintain relations with the COMECON countries or with Uganda, where the violation of human rights has surpassed the imagination," said a British conservative Mr. Prag. If his arguments were taken into consideration, the Resolution would be transformed into a text of passionate congratulations to the Turkish régime.

In fact, the Liberals, the Christian-Democrats and the Conservatives, during the voting, tabled many amendments with the purpose of reopening relations with the Turkish régime, in one way or another. All these efforts of the European Right corresponded to the will of some European governments, especially to that of the FRG and the Great Britain.

However, in spite of these propositions of amendments and the lobbying of the representatives of the Turkish régime, the European Parliament adopted the Resolution on the situation of human rights in Turkey, without any important changeament. Out of 287 present members of Parliament, 159 voted for the Resolution, 119 against and 10 abstained. The result of the voting has been a rout for the Turkish régime as well as for the European Right.

RESOLUTION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN TURKEY

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the following motions for resolutions:

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs Van Hemeldonck on the imprisonment of Süleyman Yasar (Doc. 2-556/84)

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Kuijpers and Mr Vandemeulebroucke on the trial of 56 intellectuals in Turkey (Doc. 2-568/84)

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Staes on the fourth anniversary of the coming to power of the military regime in Turkey and events there condoned or instigated by the Turkish Government (Doc. 2-595/84)

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Simpson on torture and death sentences in Turkey (Doc. 2-1492/84)

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs Lizin on the imprisonment in Turkey of Mr Tamer Kayas (Doc. 2-1521/84)

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Vandemeulebroucke and Mr Kuijpers on the fate of the Kurdish minorities in Turkey (Doc. B 2-63/85)

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Ulburghs on the alarming situation of Kurdish prisoners in Turkey (Doc. B 2-89/85)

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mr De Gucht on the abolition of the death penalty in Turkey (Doc. B 2-413/85)

- motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs Hoff and Mr Fellermaier on the death of Fikri Sönmez, Mayor of Fatsa, Turkey (Doc. B 2-530/85)

- having regard to the report of its Political Affairs Committee (Doc. A 2-117/85)

A. recalling that no fewer than 11 resolutions expressing concern about the human rights situation in Turkey have been passed by the Parliament since the 'coup d'état' in September 1980, and that more than 20 motions for resolutions to this effect have been tabled during the same period by Members from many different political groups,

B. recalling also the decision of the Parliament of 11 October 1984, sponsored by all the political groups, 'that the Delegation of the European Parliament/Grand National Assembly of Turkey Joint Committee will not be set up until the Association Agreement is implemented once again and until the European Parliament has reconsidered the situation in Turkey' (See OJ No. C 300, 12.11.1984, p. 49-50)

C. noting also that allegations of breaches of the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights by Turkey have been formally tabled, under Article 24 of the Convention, by five countries (Denmark, France, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden), of which three are members of the European Communities; and that these allegations have been referred to the European Commission on Human Rights, which has not yet reached a decision on this matter, but in an interim ruling on 6 December 1983, without in any way prejudging the merits of the case, declared the applications admissible,

D. recalling that a rapporteur appointed by the Political Affairs Committee visited Turkey, under the authority of the Bureau of the Parliament, to prepare a report on the human rights situation, and had full discussions there with leaders of political parties and members of the Grand National Assembly as well as with other leading politicians, and with trade union leaders, lawyers, journalists, international and

national civil servants, members of diplomatic missions ex-prisoners and relatives of prisoners and with numerous other witnesses,

E. welcoming the rapporteur's finding that some progress has been made towards the restoration of human rights in Turkey and that there appeared to be a widespread recognition of the need for further such reforms,

F. regretting, however, that these improvements did not appear to amount to the return to democracy and respect for human rights called for in the aforementioned resolutions passed by Parliament, and furthermore that safeguards have not even been restored for those human rights consistently regarded by the European Parliament as the most basic and elementary (See Annual Reports of the Parliament on Human Rights for 1983 and 1984 and the resolution adopted following the report by Mr von Hassel on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee in July 1982 —OJ No. C 238, 13.09.1982, p.51— and the resolutions adopted by Parliament under urgent procedure on 24 May 1984 —OJ No. C 172, 2.7.1984, p. 128-129—, namely the right to life, the right to integrity of the person and the right to a fair trial on charges brought,

G. noting, in particular, that as regards the right to life, while a most welcome reduction in the number of executions has taken place in the past eighteen months, the death penalty is still being imposed and occasionally carried out,

H. noting, further, that as regards the right to integrity of the person, the Parliament's rapporteur was repeatedly informed by distinguished political leaders, lawyers and academics, among others, that torture, particularly in police stations, was still endemic and systematic and that its incidence did not seem to be diminishing significantly, and that furthermore the Prisons Committee of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, while its establishment is clearly a laudable development, did not seem to be having a significant impact in controlling this grave abuse of human rights,

I. noting, further, that as regards the right to a fair trial on charges brought, the unsatisfactory procedures and practices noted in the Parliament's previous resolutions referred to above were continuing, notably infringements of the rights of prisoners to an adequate legal defence and to fair legal procedures,

J. deploring, in this connection, the continuance and the protracted procedures of the mass trials of various bodies such as the Turkish Peace Association and the trade union confederation DISK and its affiliated unions, and of various groups of academics and intellectuals, for offences which seem to amount to no more than the peaceful and non-violent expression of political opinions,

K. recalling, in particular, its resolution of 13 June 1985 (OJ No. C 175, 15.07.1985, p. 222) on the trial of members of the Turkish Peace Association which called on the Foreign Ministers of the European Communities meeting in political cooperation to request the Turkish authorities to bring this trial to an end immediately to abandon future such trials and to free immediately the accused,

L. welcoming signs of relaxation in the strict and repressive censorship of writing and publishing, but concerned that a number of authors and publishers are still being prosecuted for expressions of non-violent opinions and that new legislation gives the police wide powers to seize films and video cassettes of a non-violent and non-pornographic character, to

/..

prohibit or control cultural activities without prior authority and to detain without a warrant persons whose behaviour they believe does not conform to the moral standards of society,

M. regretting also that widespread violation of the human rights of the Kurdish minority is still occurring in Turkey and, even more so, of those who are politically active as Kurds,

N. welcoming, in the field of freedom of association and the right to engage in democratic politics, the holding of local elections in 1984 for the first time since the 'coup d'état', with a wider representation of political parties than had been permitted in the general election of 1983,

O. recognizing, nevertheless, that political democracy cannot yet be considered to exist in Turkey while major political parties, particularly the Social Democratic Party on the left and the True Path Party on the right, remain unrepresented in the country's parliament, while leading political figures such as Mr Demirel and Mr Ecevit remain excluded from active political life, while the Turkish Communist Party remains under a total ban with many of its members in prison, and while other political parties have been harassed and their members prosecuted and imprisoned,

P. recalling, in this connection, Parliament's decisions of 22 January and 8 July 1982 not to renew the mandate of its Members on the Joint Parliament Committee of the EEC-Turkey Association until such time as the Turkish Grand National Assembly has been freely elected, as well as the decision referred to above of 11 October 1984,

Q. regretting that trade union rights continue to be severely restricted, with one major trade union confederation, DISK, a body affiliated to the European Trade Union Confederation and one of those recognized by the European Communities, forbidden to function in Turkey, and with its funds and assets sequestered,

R. noting that martial law still remains in force in some areas of the country, including the largest city, Istanbul, and covers a large section of the population, that this involves severe restrictions on human rights, and that even where martial law has been lifted, it has been replaced by states of emergency in many areas with similar severe controls,

S. noting, further, with concern that there are some developments, notably in the recently acquired power of the police to remove, without the legal authority previously required, prisoners from prisons to police stations for further interrogation, and in new legislation giving the police substantially more extensive powers in the field particularly of censorship, powers of arrest and search without prior authority, incommunicado detention and the use of firearms by the police, the use of which may result in a worsening rather than an improvement in the human rights situation.

T. noting that the Turkish authorities violate the rights of ethnic minorities even when they are protected by international treaties,

1. Expresses deep concern at the continuing seriousness of the situation with regard to human rights observance in Turkey and strongly condemns all forms of violence against the person practised in that country;

2. Calls on the Turkish Government to move rapidly towards a restoration of human rights in the country particularly as regards:

a) the right to life, including the abolition of the death penalty and an amnesty for prisoners of conscience;

b) the right to integrity of the person, including the prosecution of those responsible for torture, the compensation of victims of torture and an end to all forms of inhuman and degrading treatment of prisoners;

c) the right to a fair trial, including the removal of restrictions on the conduct of the defence of prisoners and court procedures which are in conformity with accepted practices of fairness to the accused;

d) the discontinuance of the mass trials of the Turkish Peace Association, of the trade union confederation DISK and its affiliated unions, and of various groups of academics and intellectuals, and the immediate release of those still detained in connection with these trials;

e) the granting of the right of individual appeal to the European Commission of Human Rights under Article 25 of the European Human Rights Convention (now accorded by 17 out of the 21 signatories of the Convention);

f) the removal of the restrictions on freedom of political activity, trade union rights and expression of opinion;

g) the rights of minorities, notably as regards religion, language and history and their right to take part in cultural and social activities;

3. While fully recognizing the difficult political and economic circumstances faced by Turkey, is of the opinion that the human rights situation does not justify a reversal of the previous decision referred to in recital B of this resolution, and that the appointment of the European Parliament delegation to the EEC-Turkey Joint Committee should remain in abeyance;

4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Council, the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation, the governments of the Member States, the Council of Europe, the Turkish Government and the Turkish Grand National Assembly.

REACTIONS OF ANKARA

Ankara has called the Resolution of the European Parliament a new proof of the "European hostility against Turkey" and even the most optimistic Turkish commentators have declared that this European position means that the relations between the EEC and its associated member in the East will not be reopened at least until 1988, the date of the next legislative elections in Turkey.

We are reprinting below the different reactions which appeared in the Turkish press:

Tercüman, 24.10: GRECO-COMMUNIST PLOT. During the debates on Turkey at the European Parliament, all evil forces took a common position. The Turkish parliamentarians who went to Strasbourg for lobbying have declared in a press release that Europe had been manipulated by the separatists taking refuge in foreign countries.

RICHARD BALFE, deputy of the Labour Party since 1979, fights for the defence of human rights throughout the world. But he has a special concern for Turkey because of his daily relations with the Turkish living in his constituency, South London. He is a member of Amnesty International and, since 1981, of the Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey.

Tercüman, 25.10: **NEW PREMIUM TO THE ENEMIES OF TURKEY. WE HAVE RECEIVED A NEW BLOW.** The German socialist Ludwig Fellermaier: "We do not wish that Turkey be the 13th member of the European Communities. It is for this reason that we adopted the Resolution proposed by Mr. Balfe." The Christian Kepsch: "This is a scandal. Turkey has been punished for the first time for having manifested her respect for Human rights." The Liberal Simone Veil: "We have parliamentary relations even with communist countries. Why does Turkey become the only country with whom we have cut all our relations?" The British deputy Pierce: "It is the Greeks who deceived us. We have been duped by them. Now they are laughing at us in their corner." The German deputy Wedekind: "Those who voted for this Resolution are the enemies of Turkey." The Belgian Liberal Luc Beyor: "What a hypocrisy! Are you masochists?"

Milliyet, 25.10: **TURKEY SNUBS EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.** In a written statement the Turkish Foreign Ministry called the resolution and Balfe's report "one-sided, ill-affected and based on preconceived ideas". It said: "A study of the report and the resolution shows that its primary aim is to prevent the improvement of relations between Turkey and the rest of Western Europe. With this objective in mind, basic facts concerning Turkey are distorted, groundless accusations are made and moreover, all positive developments in Turkey are deliberately ignored... The resolution is a vivid example of the erroneous approach of relying on the report of prejudiced third persons in assessing the situation in Turkey, rather than seeking direct information from the Turkish parliamentarians. The adoption of this report and resolution is a blow to the prestige and credibility of the European Parliament..." On the other hand, British Conservative Leslie Marshall said: "When we alienate Turkey we help the Russians." However, the former President of the EC legislature Piet Dankert said his own news conference in Ankara last spring "was censored" and charged that police stations "are equipped for torture". He said Balfe's "is a pure statement of fact."

Hürriyet, 26.10: **INSOLENCE DISGUISED BEHIND THE MASK OF DEMOCRACY**

Tercüman, 26.10: **RELATIONS WITH THE EEC CUT OFF.** The spokesmen of the Socialist Group, Mr Piet Dankert, Mr Richard Balfe and Mr David Blackburn said: "This is a victory. Even the right-wing deputies supported us, why do the Turkish parliamentarians come here though their presence is not desired?"

Hürriyet, 27.10: **BALFE IS A LIAR!** The spokesman of the Turkish Foreign Ministry denied Balfe's claim that the Turkish Ambassador with the CEE, Mr. Bulat Tacer, had refused to give him information: "If the Turkish authorities had not received him, no doubt, there is a reason: We knew very well that he had prejudices against us," he said.

Tercüman, 27.10: The spokesman of the Turkish delegation at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Mr. Kamran Inan: "Turkey was judged by a Parliament of which she is not a member. The Greeks played the role of prosecutor and the Communists and the Socialists, acting as judges, adopted such a partial resolution. While Turkey is estimated in Brussels as the most valuable ally of the NATO and considered as the guard of the economic welfare of the West, such a condemnation in Strasbourg is not comprehensible. These two attitudes are not compatible."

Hürriyet, 28.10: **"BALFE IS A CROOK!** The prime Minister Turgut Ozal, during his talks with the Turkish journalists in New York, said: "It is a crook named Balfe who prepared that report. The relations have never been reopened, then it is nonsense to say

that the relations were suspended. We do not have need of 600 million dollars from the EEC. This resolution does not have any political or economic importance for us."

Hürriyet, 28.10: **UGLY MORGAN.** It is reported that a certain part of Balfe's report had been drawn up by Gwynn Morgan, the CEE representative in Ankara. Following the adoption of the Resolution by the European Parliament, Morgan was seen embracing with his friends in a big joy.

Hürriyet, 28.10: **EUROPEAN TREASON.** Angry at the fact that Turkey had given the business of constructing the second suspension bridge on the Bosphorus to a Japanese firm by refusing the British offer, the British conservatives did not defend us at the European Parliament. Some Christians as well as some British Conservatives such as Lord Bethell acted against Turkey as the Crusaders had done.

APPEAL OF 200 PARLIAMENTARIANS

While the European Parliament was condemning the Ankara regime in Strasbourg, another parliamentary initiative with a view to defending human rights in Turkey appeared in the European press.

On the initiative of Mr. Jean-Pierre Fourre, Vice-Speaker of the French National Assembly, many representatives of European countries have launched a campaign in favor of the detained members of the Peace Committee of Turkey.

200 parliamentarians of 21 European countries have already signed the following appeal:

"The trial opened against the officials of the Turkish Peace Committee ended.

"Six out of 18 leaders of this committee, of whom the Chairman, former ambassador Mahmut Dikerdem, and the Vice-chairman, former president of the Bar of Istanbul, Orhan Apaydin, have been condemned to prison terms of 5 and 8 years.

"However, thanks to the solidarity of all peace partisans and of the defenders of human rights, Mr Dikerdem and Mr Apaydin have recently been released temporarily, after many months of detention. While the defense was appealing to the Military Court of Cassation, a second trial has been opened against 48 former members of the Peace Committee of Turkey. According to the formal charge from the military prosecutor, this second trial will be enlarged and will concern 501 persons.

"These men have been placed in the dock merely an offense of opinion: defending a just and everlasting peace, disarmament and the respect to the Final Act of Helsinki. They have never participated in any terrorist action, they have never committed any crime.

"In solidarity with their action, we, undersigned parliamentarians, ask the Turkish authorities to take every measure for putting an end to the trials and for assuring the liberation of the members of the Turkish Peace Committee."

On the other hand, the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee and 30 members of the US House of Representatives have acted in the same sense by sending a letter to General Evren, asking him to intervene in favour of the members of the TPC.

AT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

It is the first time, since the military coup d'état, that the situation of human rights in Turkey did not take place in the agenda of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, which met from September 25 to October 3, 1985, in Strasbourg.

During this meeting, the European Trade Unions

Confederation addressed a letter to the Speaker of the Parliamentary Assembly, in which it contested the participation of the so-called "parliamentarians" of Turkey to the parliamentary session. "By allowing their participation to the Parliamentary Assembly, the Council of Europe has been deficient in solidarity with the victims of the violation of human rights in Turkey," said this message, which demanded an immediate end to the trials against the trade union officials of the DISK and the expulsion of Turkey from the Council of Europe if the government of that country does not restore democracy.

On the other hand, on occasion of the anniversary of the proclamation of the Turkish Republic, the Chairman of the ETUC, Mr Breit, addressed a letter to General Evren. "The trade union movement impatiently waits for you to announce the end of the trials against the DISK, its affiliate unions and officials," said Mr Breit.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe treated this time another affair concerning Turkish citizens: Obligation of entrance visas imposed by European countries to the holders of a Turkish passport.

The discussion was based on the recommendations of the Committee of Migration, Refugees and Demography.

The European Agreement NO.25 of 1957 abolished all kinds of visa for the citizens of all members of the Council of Europe. However, concerning Turkey, this agreement has been suspended by many member countries.

The rapporteur of the Committee declared that this was a very difficult question, taking into consideration the unemployment in Europe and illegal immigration caused by it. Nevertheless, he was of the opinion that the visa obligation can not be acceptable for all immigrants regularly inhabiting a member country and that such a practice is against the principles and aims of the Council of Europe.

During the debates, many Turkish parliamentarians declared that these unilateral measures are diametrically in contradiction with the political, humanitarian and moral principles of the Council of Europe.

In his Recommendation NO. 1014 adopted at the end of the debates, the Assembly recommended to the governments of the member countries that they abolish the visa imposed on the Turkish migrant workers and their families who are in a regular situation in any of the member countries.

Another report was on the situation of the ethnic and Moslem minorities —mainly the Turkish minority— in Bulgaria. In the Resolution adopted at the end of the debates, the Assembly called on the Bulgarian Government "to put an immediate end to this repressive policy, and to restore their rightful names to all members of the Turkish minority who have been obliged to change them by threat or by force; to put an end to the violation of the rights of members of the ethnic and Moslem minorities in Bulgaria in social, cultural and religious matters; to allow the members of these minorities to enjoy fully the rights stipulated in international agreements and in the Bulgarian Constitution."

During the vote on the Resolution, the Greek delegation abstained from the vote. The spokesman of the Greek representatives, Lady Fleming, said that despite its strong stance on human rights, Greece believed that Turkey was using the plight of minority groups for its own political and expansionist purposes.

QUOTATIONS FROM GENERAL EVREN

While the regime that he has set up in Turkey is always being criticized by the European circles, General -President Kenan Evren, taking no heed to what they say, continues to treat his opponents as "communists" and "traitors".

Below, we are reprinting some quotations from his recent speeches:

"The youth should take into account the fact that the illegal organizations have restarted their subversive activities." (9.10.1985)

"Communism can arrive here by hiding its face behind different kinds of masks. Perhaps one day in the future, we shall be able to attain the level of GNP per head of 15,000 dollars (Today, it is about 1,000 dollars - Editor's note), then we can tolerate the existence of a communist party." (18.10.1985)

"Communists always dream of dividing the country. They collaborate with Armenians, even with Greeks in Cyprus. They demand the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from the Island." (19.10.1985)

"We have not been able to make the Europeans accept the fact that there is not any community called Kurdish in Turkey. There are many Turkish communities in the world. As for the Kurds, they have been crowded between Iran and the Arabs.. In their language, there are many Turkish words. They are not a minority, but pure Turks." (26.10.1985)

DEATH SENTENCES: 561

One of the prerequisites laid down by the European Parliament for the resumption of the Turco-European relations has been the abolition of capital punishment. However, the military tribunals in Turkey go on giving death sentences of which the total number rose to 521 at the end of October 1985.

The recent condemnations to death or to prison are listed below in chronological order:

12.9, in Istanbul, five militants of Dev-Sol condemned to prison terms of up to 11 years.

18.9, in Istanbul, a militant of the Union of Action to 10 years.

19.9, in Diyarbakır, 16 members of the Organization for the Liberation of Turkey and Turkish Kurdistan (TKKKO) to prison terms up to 24 years.

20.9, in Ankara, following the cassation of their first condemnations, 22 Jehovah's Witnesses condemned again to different prison terms of up to 8 years.

21.9, in Izmir, a US citizen condemned to 5-year prison term for having used pejorative words against Atatürk, founder of the Turkish Republic.

25.9, in Izmir, 3 member of TKP to 5.5 year prison terms each.

8.10, in Adana, 5 militants of Dev-Yol to capital punishment and 48 others to prison terms of up to 24 years.

10.10, in Diyarbakır, 6 members of the Kurdish organization Rızgari to prison terms of up to 8 years.

11.10, in Adana, a left-wing militant to capital punishment and 20 others to prison terms of up to 20 years.

16.10, in Istanbul, 10 members of a right-wing organization to prison terms of up to 30 years.

19.10, in Diyarbakır, 30 members of the Liberation Movement of Kurdistan (KUK) to prison terms of up to 20 years.

20.10, in Izmir, following the cassation of their premier condemnation, 14 members of TDKP condemned again to prison terms totalling 69 years.

23.10, in Istanbul, 4 members of TKEP to prison terms of up to 10 years and 8 months.

29.10, in Istanbul, 6 members of a right-wing organization to prison terms of up to 6 years and 9 months.

At the end of October, beside the execution of 42 condemned persons 73 other death sentences were at the National Assembly for ratification. As for 406 other sentences given by military tribunals, they are still being studied by the Military Court of Cassation.

NEW POLITICAL TRIALS

19.9, in Istanbul, a mass trial against 10 presumed members of the Revolutionary Union of the People (DHB). Each faces 24-year prison term.

21.9, in Istanbul, 23 presumed members of TKP/ML were brought before a military tribunal. Protesting against the ill-treatment in prison, 12 defendants entered the court room wearing only underclothes and refused to reply to the questions of the Judge. Thereupon, they were ousted from the court room.

15.10, a new trial against 18 members of TKP/ML. Each faces a 20-year prison term.

16.10, in Ankara, 10 persons were brought before the State Security Court, on the charge of having assassinated a Jordanian diplomat.

22.10, in Istanbul, a new trial against 7 militants of the Urgent Action group. Four face capital punishment.

23.10, in Diyarbakır, 9 Kurdish militants were brought before a military tribunal on the accusation of having committed an armed attack in Sırnak. All of them are liable to receive capital punishment.

29.10, in Ankara, two trials against 48 members of "Kurtulus". The prosecutor requested prison terms of up to 20 years.

30.10, in Diyarbakır, 15 members of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (KDP) were brought before a military tribunal, Each faces a prison term of up to 25 years.

MAN-HUNTINGS

13.9, in Istanbul, a militant of TKP/ML was shot dead by the security forces while 20 others were being captured.

18.9, in Sırnak, two Kurdish militants were shot dead by the security forces while 10 others were being arrested in Mus.

23.9, police arrested 13 left-wing militants in Antalya.

24.9, in Ankara, 19 members of an Islamic group, "Hizb-üt-Tahrir", were detained by police.

25.9, security forces shot dead two Kurdish militants in Sırnak.

26.9, in Istanbul, 35 persons were arrested for having attempted to found a left-wing organization.

27.9, police arrested 6 presumed members of Dev-Yol.

2.10, on the denunciation of a "repentant," 10 persons were arrested in Ankara on the charge of having worked for Dev-Yol.

7.10, on another denunciation, 21 left-wing militants were arrested in İzmir.

12.10, in Ankara, 4 left-wing militants were arrested on denunciation.

13.10, in Sırnak, a soldier was shot dead in an armed conflict with Kurdish militants. The same day, 5 Kurdish militants were arrested in Mardin.

15.10, Arrest of 12 left-wing militants in Ankara.

16.10, Arrest of 8 Kurdish militants in Kars; 6 militants of Dev-Yol in İzmir and 5 militants of Dev-Sol in Istanbul.

17.10, in Mütki (Bitlis), an armed attack of Kurdish militants ended with 2 deaths and 6 wounded.

20.10, on the denunciation of a repentant, 54 presumed members of PKK were arrested and brought before a military tribunal in Diyarbakır.

23.10, a Kurdish militant was shot dead in Kızıltöpe (Mardin).

25.10, police announced that 41 persons were arrested in Adana on the denunciation of a repentant.

27.10, in Cukurca (Hakkari), a group of Kurdish militants shot dead 9 soldiers during an attack on a gendarmery station.

According to the Turkish press, since the beginning of the armed clashes between Kurdish militants and security forces, over a 14-month period, 102 militants and 73 army or police officers had been shot dead, 361 Kurdish militants had been arrested.

CONTROVERSY ABOUT GENERAL AMNESTY

While the European Parliament was adopting a resolution which requests amnesty for political prisoners, Turkish Justice Minister Necat Eldem said that, even if the Turkish Parliament adopts an amnesty bill, the prisoners who had been condemned for the "crimes against the State" would never be included in it.

However, despite the categorical refusal of General Evren and of Ozal's Government, the social-democratic opposition carries on its campaign in favor of a general amnesty (See: *Bulletin* of September).

On October 26, Vice-president of SODEP, Mr. Muzaffer Saraç held a press conference in the presence of the families of political prisoners and said that the two social-democrat parties, SODEP and HP will do their best for the adoption of a general amnesty at the National Assembly.

On the other hand, a delegation of the families of political prisoners have presented a petition to the "President of the Republic", to the Chief of General Staff and to the Justice Minister and asked them to stop ill-treatment and torture in police centers and prisons, to grant a general amnesty and to abolish capital punishment.

POLEMICS ON TORTURE

Despite the complaints of the families of political prisoners and the criticisms of European institutions following the adoption of the new law on the police powers, many new cases of torture have been revealed even in the Turkish press and given way to polemics between the Left and the Right. Furthermore, many responsible for the torture practice who had been prosecuted and condemned still keep their functions in the security forces.

According to the daily *Hürriyet* of 15.9.1985, Superintendent Kemal Kartal who had been condemned to a 13-month prison term for having tortured to death a person and handicapped two others, has not yet been incarcerated. What is more, he has recently been named as the Deputy-Director of Security in the city of Eskisehir.

On September 17, in Fethiye, Mrs Cilan Yülük reported that her husband, Halil Yülük, 41, had been killed at a police center while he was being interrogated for a traffic infraction. Police has claimed that this driver, father of 5 children, committed suicide.

On October 2, in Sebinkarahisar, two teachers, Nuri Tan and Seref Kalas, and six other persons alleged that they had been detained without any reason at the police center and subjected to torture during 32 hours by 8 police officers.

On October 9, at the trial against the Socialist Workers' Party of Turkey (TSIP), Mr Cagatay Anadolu,

member of the Central Committee, declared that he had been tortured during his detention at the police center of Istanbul.

According to the daily *Cumhuriyet* of October 7, in Gölhisar (Burdur), high school teacher Adil Kasap had been tortured at the police center by three policemen for his anti-establishment opinions.

On October 23, police authorities announced that one of the Dev-Yol Trial defendants, Kenan Özcan had committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell. He faced capital punishment. His comrades claimed that his suicide had been provoked by the unsupportable conditions of his solitary confinement.

On October 24, a populist deputy, Cüneyt Canver revealed that a minor girl had been raped by policemen at the police center of Sarıyer in Istanbul.

Responding to the torture allegations, Justice Minister Necat Eldem has claimed that, since the military coup, 5,138 policemen or military have been prosecuted on the charge of having tortured detainees; 439 out of them have been condemned, 2,052 acquitted; the cases of 410 others have been withdrawn.

As for the right-wing parties represented in the National Assembly, their spokesmen publicly defend the torture practice. On October 9, at the National Assembly, a deputy of the Motherland Party (Anap), Mehmet Budak, answering to the opposition, said: "Is there any country in the world where torture is not applied? If a guy is a traitor, why should they not torture him?"

On October 29, the founder of the Nationalist Democracy Party (MDP), former army general Turgut Sunalp, who was one of the martial law commanders during the period of 1971-73, defended, in an interview accorded to the weekly *Nokta*, the "necessity" of physical pressure on detainees during his interrogation and claimed that this is not torture.

BEKİR CELENK'S DEATH IN PRISON

Concerning ill-treatment in prison, one of the most controversial examples has been the death of Bekir Celenk, famous Turkish "godfather" whose name has been involved in the affair of assassination attempt against the Pope in 1981.

After being released by the Bulgarian authorities, Celenk was incarcerated in Turkey from July 1985. During his interrogation, he was kept in a prison cell instead of a hospital despite the fact that he was suffering from a cardiac illness.

The daily *Cumhuriyet* of October 16, 1985 accused the judicial authorities of having provoked his death and thus prevented the clarification of many obscure points relative to the arms and drugs smuggling as well as to the attempt against the Pope.

VICTIMS OF MARTIAL LAW

According to the daily *Milliyet* of October 27, since the military coup, 4,484 public servants have dismissed on the orders of martial law commanders. Although 3,377 among them have been found "innocent" by the judicial authorities, the public services still refuse their retaking former posts.

BAN ON TRAVELS ABROAD

In the preceding Bulletin, we published information concerning the dramatic consequences of banning distinguished intellectuals such as Aziz Nesin and Ruhi Su from traveling abroad.

Recently, the famous musical critics, Mr Hayati Asilyazıcı declared that he was refused a passport for participating in a musical festival in Prague.

On September 12, populist deputy Cüneyt Canver revealed that even the relatives of the persons wanted by the authorities are systematically refused passports.

27 OPPONENTS ABROAD SUMMONED

On October 7, the Interior Ministry announced that 27 accused of carrying out anti-State activities abroad would be deprived of Turkish nationality if they do not return to Turkey and surrender to security authorities. Among them are also writers Nihat Behram, Demir Özlü, Mahmut Bakır, journalist Kamil Taylan and architect Sait Kozacıoğlu.

PROSECUTION OF THE PRESS

On September 14, in Ordu, the editor of the daily *Metanet*, Cevabi Sönmez was condemned to a 8-month prison term for having published a poem in his newspaper and he was immediately incarcerated.

On October 4, university professor Yalçın Küçük was condemned by a military tribunal in Istanbul to a 18-month prison term for his book entitled "For a New Republic".

Previously, he had already been condemned twice to a 15-year prison term for the same book, but this sentence had been overruled each time by the military court of Cassation. Since he has already stayed in prison for 10 months and 16 days during his trials, he will not serve this sentence.

On the other hand, in Istanbul, the responsible editor of the political review "Militan Gençlik", banned after the coup d'état, was condemned on October 10 by a military tribunal to a prison term of 11 years and 9 months for several articles published in the review.

ANTI-MIGRANT ACTS AND SUICIDES

13.9, in Bonn (FRG), four Germans attacked the local of a Turkish association and broke into pieces the windows. It is reported that three of the assailants are police officers.

4.10, in Copenhagen, 400 Danes held a xenophobic demonstration by chanting racist slogans and assailed a group of Turkish immigrants.

5.10, in Frankfurt (FRG), the Administrative Court refused the demand of political refugee status of a Turkish citizen, Mustafa Kerecin, of Kurdish origin. The court justifies its decision by claiming that "Kurds are not subjected to repression in Turkey and all political trials are carried on with the purpose of defending the security of the State".

8.10, in Zaandam, a Turkish woman, Mesibe Razaki, who has been in Holland for 20 years, committed suicide by burning herself as a result of a nervous breakdown.

12.10, in Copenhagen, a candidate to the political refugee status, Kemal Akpınar, 25, committed suicide by throwing himself from the third floor as a result of a nervous breakdown provoked by the prolongation of the procedure.

19.10, in Gent (Belgium), the dwelling of a Turkish worker, Ibrahim Can, was set on fire in the early morning by unidentified persons.

27.10, in Remscheid (FRG), a house inhabited by 15 Turkish immigrants was set on fire by unidentified persons.

30.10, in Regensburg (FRG), a 46-year old Turkish worker, Hüseyin Canakçı committed suicide as a result of a nervous breakdown. After having worked for 13 years, he fell sick, but his treating doctors obliged him to work despite his illness.