SRL

EVALUATION OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S 2022/23 TURKEY REPORT

Letter to Amnesty International Türkiye Branch

The Security Studies and Rule of Law Association (SRL), established in Geneva, Switzerland in January 2023 by law-enforcement professionals and lawyers who had to leave Türkiye due to political pressure and security concerns, works to defend democratic rights and freedoms, promote human rights and the rule of law, and document serious violations and injustices.

We are writing regarding the Türkiye section of Amnesty International's 2022/23 report, *The State of the World's Human Rights*. While we welcome the report's attention to political and ethnic grievances, gender discrimination, freedom of expression and individual cases, we are concerned that the report does not adequately reflect the scale and range of human rights violations experienced by people affected by measures adopted after the 2016 coup attempt.

According to figures cited from the Inquiry Commission on the State of Emergency Measures, measures adopted under emergency decrees included 125,678 dismissals from public service, 3,213 removals of rank, the termination of 270 overseas student statuses and the closure of 2,761 institutions and organisations, amounting to 131,922 measures in total. We believe that the human-rights consequences of measures affecting such a large number of people deserve greater attention in Amnesty International's reporting.

We also draw attention to allegations and findings concerning detention and imprisonment, the situation of children whose mothers were imprisoned, discrimination affecting people dismissed by emergency decree, and difficulties experienced by earthquake victims with KHK backgrounds in accessing scholarships, accommodation and other forms of assistance.

At the international level, our letter refers to findings of the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention concerning alleged violations including torture and ill-treatment, liberty and security, fair-trial rights, freedom of expression and freedom of association. It also refers to judgments of the European Court of Human Rights concerning the detention of judges and prosecutors dismissed following the coup attempt. We ask why developments of this scale have received limited attention in Amnesty International's Türkiye reporting.

The letter further raises the issue of people allegedly transferred to Türkiye from foreign countries by the National Intelligence Organization and asks why these cases have not been addressed more comprehensively in the 2022/23 report.

SRL therefore requests information from Amnesty International Türkiye Branch, in the interest of transparency, on the criteria used to determine which human-rights developments are included in its annual reports. We also ask whether steps will be taken to reflect the above-mentioned issues in future reporting. SRL intends to raise the same concerns with Amnesty International's International Secretariat and International Board.

Board of Directors
Security Studies and Rule of Law Association
Geneva, Switzerland

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This English text is an editorial account of correspondence about Amnesty International Report 2022/23. The report-year label is not a verified date of the letter; the original correspondence date is not stated in this PDF. Numerical comparisons and criticism reflect that historical record, not a newly verified current dataset. The original letter and precise Amnesty Turkey-page passages are needed for a complete source comparison.