KEY FINDINGS

Preventing torture and investigating disappearances in Türkiye

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1. The submission challenges whether the domestic definition and application of torture adequately address intimidation, coercion and psychological suffering. It distinguishes the existence of criminal prohibitions from evidence that allegations are recorded, investigated and prosecuted effectively.

2. Reported obstacles include delayed legal assistance, examinations in the presence of law-enforcement officers, inaccessible medical records and unofficial detention locations. These conditions can obstruct both prevention and subsequent proof of abuse; a general assurance of lawful procedure does not answer a specific complaint.

3. The report discusses alleged abductions and disappearances, including the cases of Ayten Öztürk, Orhan İnandı and Yusuf Bilge Tunç. It asks for case-specific investigative information rather than relying on general denials or announcements of transfers from abroad.

Priorities for action

Authorities should promptly and independently investigate credible allegations, preserve custody and medical records and explain investigative outcomes to victims and families. The Committee should request concrete information about the cases identified in the submission.

This summary concerns the June 2024 submission and its cited material. Reported allegations are not converted into new judicial findings, and subsequent investigations or current whereabouts are not independently updated here.

SRL Swiss, Submission to the Committee against Torture, Report 1, June 2024, pp. 5–16.

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