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nhanamov@yahoo.com

Address

of the Republican Party of Turkmenistan (in exile)

to the Leaders of the EU countries and the USA

Since Turkmenistan got independence in 1991 and became a member of the UNO, as well as of the OSCE, it took on obligations to comply with a number of international rules, including protection of human rights.

Nevertheless, during the last 25 years Turkmenistan was the most secluded, closed and repressive country of the world. The freedoms of speech, religion, press, assembly, and movement, and the rights to work, to a private and family life, to protection from the forced disappearance and a number of other rights, written in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, are violated.

According to the recent data, Turkmenistan takes the 2nd place in the world incarceration rate (prisoners per 100.000 population). The penitentiary facilities of the country are overcrowded, the living conditions of the prisoners are inhumane, the imprisoned people, men and women, suffer tortures and humiliation.

An issue of great concern is the way the dissidents are treated, people who are charged with the attempts of coup d'état and attempted assassination of the president Niyazov on November 25th, 2002. Many of the dissidents are sentenced to 20-25 years of imprisonment, four of them are life-sentenced prisoners. They are mostly the former members of the Government and Parliament, military officers, businessmen, who expressed disagreement with the economic and political policy of the state, were against violation of human rights and opposed the cult of personality and the growing personal power of Niyazov.

These people have been kept in isolation from the world for over 13 years. The officials of Turkmenistan keep the information about the place and the health conditions of the dissidents a secret. The responsible people do not react to the requests of the dissidents' relatives and the human rights organizations, the representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross are not given a possibility to monitor the prisons.

There is no information about health conditions and even death of the prisoners. There were rare cases when the bodies of the dead prisoners were given to the relatives in closed coffins; the instructions were given not to have mourning procedures and/or to announce the death of the person. Nevertheless, in July – August, 2016, we found out about the death of two political prisoners - Annadurdy Annasahatov and Vekil Durdyev.

The UN Human Rights Committee, OSCE, and the European Parliament condemned the practice of the forced disappearance in Turkmenistan, adopted a number of resolutions about the situation of political prisoners in Turkmenistan, gave recommendations and pressed the demands. However, the officials of Turkmenistan and its President Berdimuhamedow deliberately ignore all these.

The Republican Party of Turkmenistan (in exile) appeals to the Leaders of the EU countries and the USA:

Dear Sirs/Madams!

If it is in your power to alleviate the sufferings or save the life of at least one person, please, use the authority of your country! Press the authorities of Turkmenistan and personally the President Berdimuhamedow for an access of the international monitors, doctors and lawyers to the penitentiaries, demand to stop tortures and humiliating, inhuman treatment and punishments, to make the living conditions of the political prisoners better and to give them the right to communicate with their relatives!

Chairman of the Republican party of Turkmenistan (in exile)

Nurmuhammet Hanamov

