


EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS TURKEY PROGRAMME

The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) is a European Union programme that aims to promote democracy and human rights worldwide through support to civil society initiatives. Turkey benefits from the EIDHR since 2002 with an annual average of €2 million allocated through global call for proposals and of €500,000 allocated through a country based support scheme specific for Turkey. To date more than 100 projects have been supported addressing issues ranging from freedom of expression, to improved access to justice, to fight against torture and impunity, to women's rights, to protection and respect of cultural diversity. This support has been instrumental in complementing Turkey's reform efforts through enabling better participation of organised citizens in the reform process.

The funds for 2007 and 2008 country based support scheme were pooled together and a restricted call for proposals with a total budget of €1.2 million was announced on 10/04/2008. The priority issues announced in the guidelines were: (1) the pursuit of common agendas for human rights and democratic reforms, (2) building towards consensus on disputed or controversial areas of policy, (3) enhancing political representation and participation.




A total of 65 concept notes and 25 full proposals were received, from which 13 projects were selected to be funded. The total budget of the 13 projects is €1,481,55.90 with €1,159,021.12 financed by the EC. In addition, one more project on Turkey in the area of "Support to Human Rights and Democracy Actions on Torture and Other Forms of Ill-Treatment" was awarded a grant of €650,00 through global call for proposals managed by the Headquarters.

Below is information on the 14 new civil society actions funded through EIDHR in Turkey:



<p>Alevi Cultural Associations</p>	<p>Mobilizing Towards Equality and Non-Discrimination Duration: 18 months/ Start Date: 1 March 2009 Grant Amount: €110,444.54</p>
	<p>The project aims to mobilise and empower civil society organisations (CSOs), including Alevi CSOs, towards enhanced research-based advocacy for equality and non-discrimination in Turkey. A report on discrimination faced by Alevis in Turkey will be produced through a national survey and trainings delivered to key CSO stakeholders on data collection and advocacy concerning discrimination. For more information www.alevikulturdernekleri.org</p>
<p>Batman Association of Solidarity with the Poor and</p>	<p>Life and Hope House: A Project Towards the Urban Integration of IDPs in the Province of Batman Duration: 14 months / Start Date: 15 January 2009</p>

Struggle Against Poverty	Grant Amount: €65,850.58
	<p>The project aims to support 300 internally displaced families in Batman through an integrated intervention addressing their social and economic exclusion. Among the components of the intervention are adult literacy courses, activities strengthening awareness of social and political rights, employment guidance services, psychosocial support services and community health visits. Local NGOs, municipality and governorship will collaborate in implementing the various components of the project. Project outputs include a documentary and a poverty impact study report. For more information www.ymder.org</p>
Beyoğlu Jewish Rabbinat Foundation	Improving the Present Perception about the Jewish Community of Turkey Duration: 12 months / State Date: 17 December 2008 Grant Amount: €86,382.77
BEYOĞLU MUSEVİ HAHAMHANESİ VAKFI	<p>The project aims to fight misperceptions and to promote an attitude of non-discrimination among young generations vis-à-vis Jews in Turkey. Main activities involve a perception survey on Jews in Turkey at the national scale, seminars in three big universities in Istanbul, cultural events and tours of Jewish sites for the general public, and special educational organizations for the professors and students of the three theology faculties in Istanbul. For more information www.musevicemaati.com</p>
Civil Society in the Penal System Association	Preventing Human Rights Abuses in F-Type High Security Prisons in Turkey Duration: 12 months / Start Date: 1 January 2009 Grant Amount: €77,400.00
	<p>The project aims to contribute to the protection of human rights of prisoners in F Type Prisons in Turkey, through establishment of a sustainable model for improved prison conditions, including the enhancement of the role of civil society in independent monitoring; reducing the isolation conditions of the inmates and proper implementation of existing regulations and laws concerning the right to use communal space in prisons. An expert group will visit the F type prisons and prepare recommendations for improving current conditions, cultural workshops will be held with inmates and local civil society organisations will be invited to organise similar activities in the prisons. The project will be implemented in all 13 F type prisons in Turkey (Adana, Ankara, Bolu, Edirne, İzmir, Kırıkkale, Kocaeli, Tekirdağ, Van) with the cooperation of the Ministry of Justice. For more information www.cezaevindestk.org/devameden_projeler.aspx</p>

<p>Helsinki Citizens' Assembly</p>	<p>Envisioning Secularism Duration: 18 months / Start Date: 1 January 2009 Grant Amount: €79,282.51</p>
 <p>HELSINKİ YURTTAŞLAR DERNEĞİ</p>	<p>The project aims to initiate a constructive and inclusive dialogue on the issue of secularism. The focus will be on the impact of secularism on an individual's daily life with a view to safeguarding cultural rights, freedom of religion and belief, and respect for minorities. Intra-group discussion meetings on different spheres of daily life will be held in three provinces, as well as an international meeting in Istanbul. The main output of the project will be an edited book of articles synthesising the issues taken up at the discussion meetings. For more information www.hyd.org.tr</p>
<p>History Foundation</p>	<p>Role of Education as a Means to Reconciliation in Societies Experiencing Social and Political Conflicts Duration: 18 months / Start Date: 2 February 2009 Grant Amount: €119,235.66</p>
 <p>TARİH VAKFI</p>	<p>The project aims to contribute to developing the role of education in establishing and institutionalising social compromise. Towards building consensus among socio-politically conflicting groups through the use of education, the project will develop an inventory of individuals' perspectives belonging to different ethno-cultural groups, and organise discussion meetings and an international symposium. The main output of the project will be a recommendations report to be presented to the Ministry of National Education. Other outputs include a research report, draft educational materials, and publication of international symposium proceedings. For more information, www.tarihvakfi.org.tr</p>
<p>Human Rights Foundation of Turkey</p>	<p>Project Concerning the 5 different Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres for Torture Survivors in Ankara, Adana, Diyarbakır, Istanbul and Izmir Duration: 24 months / Start Date: 1 December 2009 Grant Amount: €650,000.00</p>
 <p>İNSAN HAKLARI VAKFI 1990 YERLİ TURKEY 0661 İKİ HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION OF TURKEY</p>	<p>The project aims at providing medical and psychiatric care free of charge for torture survivors and their relatives; social and legal assistance for torture survivors; carrying out scientific research to increase the quality of treatment and rehabilitation services; increasing the quality of treatment and rehabilitation services by training the health personnel, improving investigation, documentation and reporting on torture, and promoting public debate to raise awareness of torture. For more information www.tihv.org.tr</p>
<p>Human Rights in Mental Health Initiative</p>	<p>Creating a Community Based Mental Health Model for Social Inclusion of People with Mental Disabilities Duration: 12 months / Start Date: 1 January 2009</p>

Association	Grant Amount: €100,000.00
	<p>The project aims to create a pilot community based mental health model for enhancing the rights of persons with mental disabilities. Based on a needs assessment, a community based mental health model will be developed and implemented in collaboration with local agencies and NGOs. The outputs of the project will include a documentary and a comprehensive evaluation report on the model, both of which will be used for local and national advocacy purposes. For more information www.rusihak.org</p>
International Hrant Dink Foundation	Media Watch Against Hate Speech Duration: 18 months / Start Date: 1 February 2009 Grant Amount: €95,777.36
	<p>The project aims at combating hate speech and discrimination in the media against ethnic and religious minorities in Turkey. Towards achieving this objective, the project will also contribute to raising awareness on hate speech, bringing hate speech on the agenda of the public and the jurists and promoting respect for human rights and minorities in the media. 5 national and 5 local newspapers will be scanned for 10 months and report will be published on articles/news that contain discriminatory or hate language. Workshops on hate speech, the language of the media and ways to prevent the hate speech in the media will be organized for legal experts, media professionals, and students at communication faculties. Finally, an international conference on hate speech and best practices on media watch will be organized. For more information www.hrantdink.org/tr</p>
Istanbul Bilgi University Human Rights Law Research Center	Combating Discrimination in Turkey through Documenting and Reporting Duration: 18 months / Start Date: 1 February 2009 Grant Amount: €84,713.00
	<p>This project aims to contribute to the identification of ongoing discrimination practices and to strengthen the mechanisms that work towards combating discrimination in Turkey, through enhancing the role of civil society in addressing the issue of discrimination based on race or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, and sexual orientation. Activities will involve a mapping exercise on CSOs and trade unions that conduct work to fight discrimination, a networking seminar with the purpose of encouraging and enhancing networks and establishing partnerships among CSOs and trade unions, a training needs assessment of the target group, development of training curriculum, toolkit and hand-book on anti-discrimination, training seminars for CSOs, trade union representatives and lawyers, development of guidelines and standards for preparation of monitoring reports on discrimination and the publication of</p>

	<p>monitoring reports on discrimination in Turkey, separately on four grounds of discrimination i.e. race or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability and sexual orientation, for a period of six months. For more information http://insanhaklarimerkezi.bilgi.edu.tr</p>
<p>Journalists' Union of Turkey</p>	<p>Freedom of Expression in Turkey: Empowering Journalists' Unions to Make a Change Duration: 20 months / Start Date: 1 January 2009 Grant Amount: €92,027.20</p>
	<p>The project aims at improving the freedom of expression in the media through promoting freedom of association for journalists and independent journalism. Under the project, quarterly monitoring reports on violation of journalists' rights and rights violations in the media will be prepared, meetings on freedom of expression and trade union building will be organised, and training workshops on human rights reporting will be held. The outputs of the project will include an action plan on promoting freedom of expression in the media, booklets on human rights journalism and journalists' rights, and quarterly monitoring reports on rights violations. For more information www.tgs.org.tr</p>
<p>Sabancı University Education Reform Initiative</p>	<p>Human Rights in Education Duration: 18 months / Start Date: 1 February 2009 Grant Amount: €94,846.00</p>
	<p>The project aims to contribute to the enhancement of protection and fulfilment of human rights in education in Turkey through strengthening the existing legal framework and expanding the space for constructive dialogue on three highly controversial issues: (i) religion and education, (ii) mother-tongue education, (iii) school autonomy. Three technical workshops and six dialogue meetings will be organized on these issues. Information briefs will be published on all three issues. Furthermore, a set of indicators to monitor the rights in education will be developed. Data collection based on these indicators will take place in two South-Eastern provinces of Turkey. Throughout the project, advocacy-oriented communication materials regarding problematic issues in education legislation or other legislation affecting rights in education will be produced, and advocacy work targeting policy makers will be continued. For more information www.erg.sabanciuniv.edu</p>
<p>Third Sector Foundation Turkey</p>	<p>Preparation of Methodology for Monitoring the Freedom of Association in Turkey Duration: 12 months / Start Date: 1 January 2009 Grant Amount: €64,180.80</p>

 <p>Türkiye Üçüncü Sektör Vakfı Third Sector Foundation of Turkey</p>	<p>The project aims at developing a monitoring system for freedom of association in Turkey. Towards this end, surveys, workshops and trainings will be held to build consensus on problem areas and issues to monitor regarding freedom of association. Networks of NGOs will be established and information will be collected in a database infrastructure to be developed to test the monitoring system. A baseline report on freedom of association and a guidebook on the monitoring system will be the main outputs of the project. For more information www.tusev.org.tr</p>
<p>Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation</p>	<p>Disrupting the Shield of Silence: Bringing Forth Narratives of Displacement towards a Reconciliatory National Dialogue Duration: 18 months / Start Date: 5 January 2009 Grant Amount: €88,877.70</p>
 <p>TESEV Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation</p>	<p>The project aims at contributing to the national dialogue on the Kurdish question. Towards this end, narratives of IDPs and public officials on the Compensation Law will be collected and analysed. Through meetings, workshops and monitoring targeting local and national media representatives, a dialogue-promoting reporting on the Kurdish question will be promoted. The outputs of the project include a book analysing the narratives of IDPs and public officials on the Compensation Law, a media handbook on peace journalism, and a media monitoring report. For more information www.tesev.org.tr</p>