

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN ANKARA

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**COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN ANKARA**  
**BUREAU DE PROGRAMME DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE A ANKARA**  
**AVRUPA KONSEYİ ANKARA PROGRAM OFİSİ**





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The Council of Europe Programme Office in Ankara was established in April 2004. Since then the Council of Europe has been implementing various projects and programmes, which aim to support Turkey in fulfilling the Council of Europe standards in the fields of human rights, rule of law and democracy.

Turkey as one of the longest- standing members of the Council of Europe is party to the Council of Europe's major treaties, conventions and protocols, the European Convention on Human Rights and European Social Charter, inter alia. Turkey has continuously reaffirmed its commitment to the Organisation and its values over the years.

Turkey, the Council of Europe and the European Union work together through the joint projects/ programmes implemented by the Council of Europe, in co-operation with relevant national institutions, to strengthen the capacities of the Turkish authorities and to improve the application of European standards at the national level. Through these co-operation projects, the Council of Europe and the European Union facilitate the transfer of knowledge and skills to the national partners and pay special attention to ensuring local ownership and sustainability.

The Council of Europe also encourages States to provide financial/technical support to its members by means of various embedded mechanisms. As one of these prominent mechanisms, the Human Rights Trust Fund aims to promote the implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights at national level through support given by the Council of Europe programmes implemented in various member states including Turkey. Individual member and observer states also contribute to the efforts in Turkey with financial and technical facilities.

Through the Council of Europe projects implemented in Turkey for the last 15 years, thousands of civil servants, academics and civil society representatives have gained insight into the principles and application of the European Convention on Human Rights, including the case law of the European Court of Human Rights, as well as the European best practices of judicial and democratic systems. These activities, such as training seminars, study visits, placements, awareness raising actions, round tables and a number of useful publications, most of which were translated into Turkish, have given support to the Turkish institutions by addressing their needs.

The Council of Europe Programme Office in Ankara plays a major role in enhancing existing close ties between the Council of Europe and Turkey by means of continuous cooperation programmes. The Office carries a strong commitment to maintain this goal with its full endeavor and energy for today and the future.

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECTS IN TURKEY

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Joint Project 'Supporting the Individual Application to the Constitutional Court in Turkey'</b> <a href="http://www.anayasa.gov.tr/bireyselbasvuru">http://www.anayasa.gov.tr/bireyselbasvuru</a>
<b>Budget</b>	<i>This Project is co-funded by the Republic of Turkey, the European Union, and the Council of Europe.</i> EUR 6 382 228 - 64% by EU, 28% by TR, and 8% by CoE
<b>Duration</b>	45 months (19.12.2015 – 30.09.2019)
<b>Main Beneficiary Institution</b>	Constitutional Court of the Republic of Turkey
<b>Objective</b>	<i>To contribute to supporting and strengthening the individual application system in Turkey.</i> Project supports better functioning of the individual application mechanism and better implementation of fundamental rights and freedoms through changes in the judgments of the first instance courts and high courts in line with the case laws of the Constitutional Court and the European Court of Human Rights. It aims to increase the knowledge level of the judges, prosecutors and lawyers about individual application proceedings and fundamental rights and thus decrease the number of administrative inadmissibility decisions. More than <b>8000</b> judges, prosecutors, lawyers and academics have participated in project training activities, round table meetings and study visits. A wide scale awareness raising strategy has been pursued, and around <b>100000</b> copies of handbooks prepared under the project have been distributed to participants, stakeholders and law faculties throughout Turkey and made available online in the website of the project.



## SUCCESS STORY

### Developing Mediation Practices in Civil Disputes in Turkey (2014-2017, financed by SIDA)

- **First mediation bureaus in the Turkish judiciary system were established in** Ankara, İstanbul/Çağlayan, İzmir, Bursa, Kayseri and Mersin courthouses.

By the end of the project:

- The number of mediations **has increased from 85 to 13470**.
- The number of registered mediators in pilot jurisdictions **has increased from 483 to 4209**.
- **52%** of registered mediators have been **women** while the remaining **48% have been men**.
- **CoE/CEPEJ (European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice) Guide** on pilot mediation practices was **implemented for the first time in Europe**.

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECTS IN TURKEY

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Joint Project 'Strengthening the Capacity of Bar Associations and Lawyers on European Human Rights Standards'</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<i>This Project is co-funded by the Republic of Turkey, the European Union, and the Council of Europe. EUR 3 890 000 – 80.98% by EU, 8.99% by TR, and 10.3% by CoE</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>36 months (01.04.2018 – 31.03.2021)</i>
<b>Main Beneficiary Institution</b>	<i>Union of Turkish Bar Associations</i>
<b>Objective</b>	<i>To contribute to the effective implementation of European human rights standards in Turkey</i>  Project aims to strengthen the capacities of Turkish bar associations and lawyers in the implementation of human rights standards. It supports the bar associations in seven pilot provinces by enhancing the institutional capacities of their Human Rights Centres and by improving the coordination among these Centres. It also foresees the development of the capacities of lawyers to apply European human rights standards in their daily work and fostering the cooperation and regular communication between the Union of Turkish Bar Association and local bar associations. <b>5000</b> lawyers are to be trained by the project in <b>200</b> sessions by the trainer lawyers who are to be selected by the project. By means of several study visits and placements to the European countries/institutions, the project will introduce the best practices in Europe to the Human Rights Centres of pilot bar associations.



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Joint Project 'Strengthening the Criminal Justice System and the Capacity of Justice Professionals on Prevention of the European Convention on Human Rights Violations in Turkey'</b> <a href="http://www.cigm.adalet.gov.tr/">http://www.cigm.adalet.gov.tr/</a>
<b>Budget</b>	<i>This Project is co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe. EUR 5 000 000 – 90% by EU and 10% by CoE</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>36 months (15.03.2019 – 14.03.2022)</i>
<b>Main Beneficiary Institution</b>	<i>Ministry of Justice and Justice Academy of Turkey</i>
<b>Objective</b>	<i>To further strengthen and make the Turkish judiciary more efficient, effective and visible by ensuring its compliance with the international and European standards in the field of criminal justice.</i>  Project aims to contribute to the improvement of criminal justice system in Turkey in applying European Convention on Human Rights and enhance the capacity of criminal justice institutions and legal professionals in applying the Convention and European Court of Human Rights case law. It envisages to raise awareness and knowledge in the field of human rights law by means of training activities, round table meetings, international workshops and placements in European institutions. More than <b>3000</b> judges, prosecutors and other experts within the criminal justice system will be targeted by the project activities and publications to be produced.



# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECTS IN TURKEY

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Joint Project ‘Strengthening Democratic Culture in Basic Education’</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<i>This Project is co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe . EUR 4 000 000 – 90% by EU and 10% by CoE</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>36 months (03.08.2018 – 02.08.2021)</i>
<b>Main Beneficiary Institution</b>	<i>Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Turkey</i>
<b>Objective</b>	<i>To contribute to the improvement and strengthening of democratic culture in basic education</i>  Project aims to integrate a democratic school culture that corresponds with universal core values as well as fundamental rights and freedoms into the Turkish national education system. For the purpose of achieving this goal, the project foresees the development of policy recommendations for decision makers to integrate the Council of Europe’s Reference Framework for Competences for Democratic Culture into the basic education system and school practices. Approximately <b>49000</b> students enrolled in <b>110</b> pilot schools are to be provided with relevant education materials to be developed under the project. Additionally, <b>5500</b> teachers of the selected pilot schools will receive in-service trainings on developing the competences for democratic culture. Project also tests new “Whole School Model” in <b>30</b> pre-schools, <b>40</b> primary schools and <b>40</b> middle schools to increase the understanding of democratic culture amongst the school administrations, students, parents and general public through a holistic method.



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Horizontal Facility II: Supporting the Implementation and Reporting on the Action Plan on the Human Rights in Turkey</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<i>This Project is co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe under the co-operation framework Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey (Horizontal Facility II) 2019-2022 EUR 1 200 000 - 85% by EU and 15% by CoE</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>18 months (02.09.2019 – 01.03.2021)</i>
<b>Main Beneficiary Institution</b>	<i>Ministry of Justice of Republic of Turkey</i>
<b>Objective</b>	<i>To strengthen the protection of human rights in Turkey</i>  Project aims to strengthen the protection of human rights in Turkey by increasing the institutional capacity of Turkish authorities, primarily of the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Justice to better implement and monitor the “Action Plan on the prevention of violations of the European Convention on Human Rights” in Turkey. In line with European human rights standards, it focuses on three thematic areas: right to liberty and security, right to fair trial, and freedom of expression. It contributes to the Ministry of Justice and other stakeholders to better assess and report on the implementation of the human rights actions in good cooperation. It also envisages the delivery of trainings and awareness raising activities to increase the understanding and knowledge on human rights issues in Turkey.





# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECTS IN TURKEY

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Joint Project 'Improving the Effectiveness of the Administrative Judiciary and Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the Council of State'</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<i>This Project is co-funded by the European Union, Republic of Turkey and the Council of Europe. EUR 3 335 000 – 80.95% by EU, 8.99 TR, and 10.05% by CoE</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>36 months (21.12.2018 – 20.12.2021)</i>
<b>Main Beneficiary Institution</b>	<i>Ministry of Justice of Republic of Turkey</i>
<b>Objective</b>	<p><i>To foster public confidence in the administrative judiciary by further strengthening its independence, impartiality and effectiveness and increasing its public awareness</i></p> <p>Project aims to support the reforms in the administrative justice system by increasing the effectiveness of the administrative justice courts and contributing to the institutional capacity of Council of State. It envisages to deliver trainings to <b>800</b> administrative judges, lawyers and court staff of administrative justice in Turkey. Additionally, 60 court staff from the administrative courts and the Council of State are to be trained to increase their analytical capacities. To observe the best practices in the field of administrative justice system, including the alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, several study visits and placements are planned to be organised to European countries/institutions.</p>

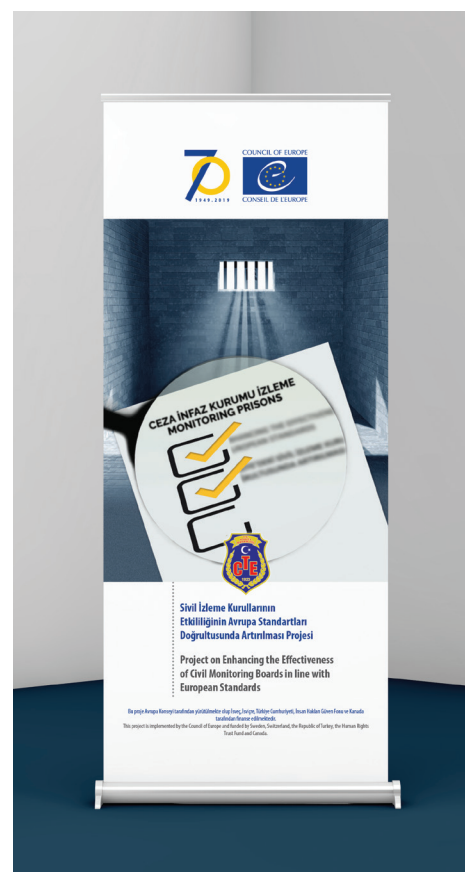


<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Joint Project 'Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of Court of Cassation'</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<i>This Project is co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe. EUR 3 000 000 – 90% by EU and 10% by CoE</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>36 months (21.02.2019 – 22.02.2022)</i>
<b>Main Beneficiary Institution</b>	<i>Court of Cassation of Turkey</i>
<b>Objective</b>	<p><i>To further strengthen and make more concrete and visible the independence, impartiality, efficiency and administration of the judiciary</i></p> <p>Project aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Court of Cassation and enhance its role in preserving the uniform application of the law throughout the country. It is to provide technical support in revising the legal framework governing the appeal process, structure and functioning of the Court of Cassation, introducing new working procedures and tools, as well as improving the quality of training programmes and policies. Project targets to produce a road map for changes in the normative framework, a national case-law forum and central case-law database, new assessment tools and standards, as well as various online and face-to-face training modules and materials. Within the scope of the project, a total of <b>360</b> judges, prosecutors and administrative staff of the Court of Cassation are planned to be trained by use of advance training materials.</p>



# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECTS IN TURKEY

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project on 'Enhancing the Effectiveness of Civil Monitoring Boards in line with European Standards'</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<i>This Project is co-funded by the Republic of Turkey, Sweden, Switzerland, Canada, and Human Rights Trust Fund (HRTF). EUR 1 600 000 – 50 % by Sweden, 24.4% by Switzerland, 12.5% by Republic of Turkey, 3.1% by Canada, and 10% by HRTF</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>36 months (01.06.2019 – 31.05.2022)</i>
<b>Main Beneficiary Institution</b>	<i>Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Turkey</i>
<b>Objective</b>	<i>To contribute to a safer society that provides full protection of the rights and dignity of persons deprived of their liberty</i>  Project aims to strengthen the independence and efficiency of the Civil Monitoring Boards and to improve the objectiveness and transparency in prison monitoring by means of establishing sustainable trainings and internal coordination mechanisms among the Board members. Project targets existing <b>146</b> Boards by supporting them with around <b>1200</b> training materials and several interactive trainings to be delivered by the trainers who are certified by the project. It also enables the Ministry of Justice and the Civil Monitoring Boards to observe the best practices in European prison monitoring standards, methods and tools by study visits to Europe.



## SUCCESS STORY

### DEMOCRACY

#### Generation Democracy: Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education in Turkey (2011-2015, financed by the EU and the CoE)

- The curriculum of the **elective course "Human Rights and Democracy" for high schools** was revised and a **new compulsory course "Human Rights, Citizenship, and Democracy"** was developed **for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade**.
- **550 teachers** were trained to be trainers and **3220 teachers** were trained on the content and methodology of the courses.
- **Democratic School Culture was promoted** alongside with the courses and the education materials in 22 pilot schools in 10 provinces: **Edirne, Elazığ, İstanbul, Konya, Manisa, Mardin, Mersin, Sakarya, Samsun and Yozgat**.
- With other schools volunteering to become part of the process, **in total 120 schools** were involved.
- Delegation of the European Union to Turkey (EUD) presented the project as a **best example in education at Europe Day Fair** in May 2014.
- The **immediate positive impact of democratic school culture implementation** was acknowledged by World Forum for Democracy and the project won the **Democracy Innovation Award** in November 2014.

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE **PROJECTS COMPLETED IN TURKEY** SINCE 2004

*15 of the projects completed until now were the European Union-Council of Europe Joint Projects and the rest was financed by the voluntary contributions of the member states.*

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Judicial Modernisation and Penal Reform Programme in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 7 000 000</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>36 months (01/04/2004 - 31/04/2007)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Support for Implementation of Human Rights Reform in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 1 254 145</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>12 months (30/11/2006 - 30/11/2007)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Cascaded Training for Turkish Lawyers on the European Convention on Human Rights</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 1 300 000</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>24 months (01/12/2006 - 31/12/2008)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Support to Court Management System in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 3 141 350</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>24 months (01/12/2007 - 30/11/2009)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Ethics for Prevention of Corruption in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 1 350 000</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>24 months (01/12/2007 - 30/11/2009)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Dissemination of Model Prison Practices and Promotion of Prison Reform in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 4 175 589</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>42 months (01/02/2009 - 30/09/2012)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Enhancing the Role of the Supreme Judicial Authorities in respect of European Standards</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 3 300 000</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>30 months (09/01/2010 - 31/10/2013)</i>

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECTS COMPLETED IN TURKEY SINCE 2004



# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECTS COMPLETED IN TURKEY SINCE 2004

<i>Project Name</i>	<b>Training of Military Judges and Prosecutors on Human Rights Issues in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	EUR 2 000 000
<i>Duration</i>	24 months (03/11/2010 - 31/12/2012)

<i>Project Name</i>	<b>Strengthening the Court Management System Phase 2</b>
<i>Budget</i>	EUR 5 500 000
<i>Duration</i>	24 months (19/05/2011 - 31/10/2013)

<i>Project Name</i>	<b>Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education</b>
<i>Budget</i>	EUR 6 100 000
<i>Duration</i>	36 months (29/03/2011 - 31/05/2015)

<i>Project Name</i>	<b>Improving the Efficiency of the Turkish Criminal Justice System</b>
<i>Budget</i>	EUR 3 550 000
<i>Duration</i>	33 months (13/03/2012 - 12/12/2014)

<i>Project Name</i>	<b>Project on Consolidating Ethics in the Public Sector in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	EUR 1 310 000
<i>Duration</i>	24 months (29/03/2012 - 30/06/2014)

<i>Project Name</i>	<b>Freedom of Expression and the Media in Turkey/Facilitating the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights</b>
<i>Budget</i>	EUR 2 800 000
<i>Duration</i>	27 months (01/12/2012 - 31/04/2014)

<i>Project Name</i>	<b>Strengthening the Coordination of Anti-corruption Policies and Practices in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	EUR 1 400 000
<i>Duration</i>	24 months (28/12/2012 - 28/05/2014)

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE **PROJECTS COMPLETED IN TURKEY** SINCE 2004

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Supporting the Individual Application to the Constitutional Court in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 660 000</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>12 months (01/11/2013 - 30/04/2015)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Strengthening the Capacity of the Turkish Judiciary on Freedom of Expression</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 2 800 000</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>27 months (02/09/2014 - 01/04/2017)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Developing Mediation Practices in Civil Disputes in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 1 342 760</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>35 months (01/12/2014 - 30/11/2017)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Strengthening Judicial Ethics in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 3 711 111</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>24 months (19/12/2015 - 18/12/2017)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Protection of Rights of Refugees and Migrants in Turkey</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 250 000</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>12 months (01/12/2017 - 31/01/2019)</i>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Improving the Effectiveness of Investigation of Allegations of Ill-treatment and Combating Impunity</b>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>EUR 500 000</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>18 months (01/12/2017 - 30/05/2019)</i>

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECTS COMPLETED IN TURKEY SINCE 2004



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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

