



Strasbourg, 10 November 2016

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN JUDGES (CCJE)

Statement

During the plenary meeting of the Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE), held in Strasbourg on 8-10 November 2016, the European Association of Judges (EAJ) and the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ) submitted a request to the CCJE, previously communicated to delegations and subsequently distributed more widely, for measures to be taken in view of the critical situation affecting the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary in Turkey.

The CCJE, recalling its own statement dated 20 July 2016, listened carefully to the information provided by the Turkish delegation in the course of the above-mentioned plenary meeting.

After consideration of the issue and discussion in the plenary, the CCJE:

- takes note of the concerns and the request of the EAJ and the AEAJ that action be taken, and encourages all judges' associations, observers and entities entitled to submit information and requests concerning the situation of justice in Turkey to do so, in order to coordinate efforts and information;
- in spite of the information provided by the Turkish delegation, fully shares the concerns expressed by its members and observers;
- welcomes the attempts of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Venice Commission to obtain further reliable information about the situation of the rule of law in Turkey;
- declares that the CCJE is available to support any useful action;
- entrusts its Bureau to follow closely the developments, to deal with all future requests which might be addressed to the CCJE in this regard as a matter of priority, and to report to members within six months, if necessary by appointing a select committee in conformity with its terms of reference.