



EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
Ambassador

EUROPAUDVALGET
Alm. del - bilag 1249 (offentligt)

11 August 2003

Dear Mr. Larsen-Jensen,

The Turkish Grand National Assembly has adopted the "Law on the Reintegration into Society" on July 29, 2003. The aim of this Law is the reintegration into society of the members of terrorist organizations established to commit acts of crime for political and ideological purposes and to reinvigorate and maintain social peace and solidarity.

The law, whilst not making reference to any specific terrorist organization, foresees a type of amnesty from which members of all terrorist organizations will benefit, within a period of 6 months. It will cover members of terrorist organizations who have or have not participated in terrorist acts and those who have assisted them. The law will not embody senior members of the terrorist organizations who have taken part in the highest administrative unit and have directed and commanded the organization with full authority over it.

There will be two types of beneficiaries from this law.

1) a) Those who will not be penalized at all:

In this case the law will apply to those members of terrorist organization who have not participated crimes by terrorist organizations and who surrendered without armed resistance, by themselves, through intermediaries or who have withdrawn from the organization with their own will.

b) Those terrorist organization members who have participated in crimes by the organizations but have, after the date this law entered into force, surrendered on their own will or through intermediaries without armed resistance or those who are found to have left the organization on their own will, shall be sentenced to reduced punishments in accordance with the nature and elements of the crime they have committed. Such

Mr. Claus Larsen-Jensen
Chairman of the EU Committee
Folketinget

reduction will be twelve years instead of life imprisonment commuted from the death penalty, to nine years of imprisonment instead of life imprisonment and other verdicts shall be handed with a reduction to a fifth. The preconditions are that the terrorist organization members have to declare their wish to benefit from this law and that they should provide the Turkish authorities accurate information relevant to their position and activities within the organization, on the structure the activities and other suspects within and the crimes committed by the organization.

c) Those who are apprehended after the entry into force of this law, irrespective of their participation or non-participation in crimes committed by the terrorist organization prior to the entry into force of this law, will benefit from punishment reductions, if they declare that they wish to benefit from this law and if they provide information, consistent with their position and activities with the organization that will help the dissolution or unearthing of the terrorist organization or help the prevention of a crime planned to be committed by it, by providing informative documents and personal involvement.

As seen from its provisions, the law thus intends to reintegrate members of the terrorist organizations into the Turkish society, by giving this last opportunity of repentance to members who have been involved with them at different levels a) without having committed crimes b) having committed crimes or c) having been seized by enforcement authorities.

It is believed that this law will help to minimize terrorist activities in Europe and in the Middle East, if a comprehensive compliance can be assured with the assistance of all related countries.

In fact, up to present date, around 600 members of terrorist organizations have returned to Turkish authorities with the intention of benefiting from this law.

Hoping that the above information might contribute to your deliberations relating to terrorism, I remain,

Yours Sincerely



Fügen Ok