

CETIM ACTIVITIES AND TURKEY

The activities carried out by the CETIM are multiple and therefore not easily quantifiable. However, some figures given below can help to provide an answer.

From 1998 to 2010 (during which period three quadriennial reports were submitted to the Committee on NGOs) the CETIM has :

- published 70 books and brochures, the majority of them in French, as well as some in English and in Spanish; among the books (see: <http://www.cetim.ch/en/publications.php>), almost all in French, the great majority were about international law, the UN, the Third World debt, the WTO, the situation of the peasantry situation, migration issues, etc.; none of these titles was about Turkey; among the brochures (see : http://www.cetim.ch/en/publications_brochures.php), each of these available in French, English and Spanish, all have focused on economic, social and cultural rights and on the right to development; none of these brochures was focused on Turkey.
- organized (or has been involved in) some **135 conferences, round table discussions and seminars**; In the context of these activities, the human rights situation in Turkey was evoked only **4 times**.
- made, or submitted, to the several United Nations human rights bodies the CETIM regularly attends, **267 oral or written statements** (231 excluding the working groups), among which 53 (20%) focused specifically on the human rights situation of one particular country, and among these last **only 24 (9%)** addressed the Turkish human rights situation.

It is therefore obvious that, among all the activities carried out by the CETIM, the human rights situation in Turkey constituted a very modest part.

STATEMENTS

More precisely, in regard to the oral and written **statements** focusing on the human rights situation in Turkey, the CETIM made a statement, or sometimes a joint statement, about once a year (except in 2007) in relation to the events taking place in this country. This is a fact. It is pertinent however to consider that:

- from 2006, **all** its statements were made **jointly** with the following NGOs: MRAP, WILPF, AIJD, WFTU and France-Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand most of the time.

Statements, sessions	Co-signatory*								
	MRAP	AJD-IADL	WILPF	LIDLIP	FRANCE-LIB	WFTU	GAWF	IED	N-SXXI
Note : Since 2006 all CETIM statements have been joint statements									
HRC, 2nd session, 2006, item 2, oral	x			x					
HRC, 7th session, 2008, item 4, oral	x		x	x	x				
HRC, 9th session, 2008, item 4, oral	x		x			x			
HRC, 10th session, 2009, item 3, oral	x	x	x						
HRC, 11th session, 2009, item 4, oral	x		x						
HRC, 12th session, 2009, item 4, oral	x								
UPR, submitted in 2009, distributed in 2010, written	x	x	x						
HRC, 13th session, 2010, item 3, oral	x		x		x	x	x	x	x
HRC, 13th session, 2010, item 4, oral	x		x		x				
HRC, 13th session, 2010, item 4, written	x		x						

***Legend :**

MRAP: Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples (list)

AIJD-IADL: International Association of Democratic Lawyers (special consultative status)

WILPF: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (special consultative status)

LIDLIP: Ligue internationale pour les droits et la libération des peuples (special consultative status, since dissolved)

France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand (special consultative status)

WFTU: World Federation of Trade Union (general consultative status)

GAWF : Geneal Arab Women Federation (special consultative status)

IED : International Educational Development (list)

Nord-Sud XXI (special consultative status)

- most of the statements denounced human rights violations committed against Turkish citizens of Kurdish origin, **but this was not always and not only the case** (violations of constitutional provisions, of the Lausanne Treaty, reform of the Penal Code etc.);
- although **there have been some positive trends**, the human rights violations we denounced have continued throughout the years,: violations of minority rights, arbitrary detentions, cases of ill-treatment of detainees, torture, forced displacements of peasants, sacked and destroyed villages, mining, repression of local politicians and trade unionists, violations committed by militias (village guards) etc.;
- these statements usually cite **precise cases and facts** and call for the authority in charge to request the Turkish government to investigate and put an end to these violations, sometimes by the means of an emissary;
- the CETIM relied on the **reports** of the Turkish Human Rights Association (IHD), on the Turkish Foundation on Human Rights (TIHV), and also on the recommendations made by the European Court for Human Rights and on several Special Rapporteurs and other UN human rights bodies' documents;
- if we examine the precise references made to the Kurdish issue from a **terminological** point of view, one can discern the frequent use of certain expressions:
 - often, population or Kurdish population, Kurdish peasants; rarely Kurdish students, Kurdish children, Kurdish leaders, Kurdish activists, Kurdish refugees, Kurdish sympathizer;
 - Kurdish movement, Kurdish issue, Kurdish reality, Kurdish fact, Kurdish guerrilla, Kurdish party, PKK;
 - often Kurdish language ; rarely Kurdish identity, Kurdish New Year;
 - quite often Turkish Kurdistan – terminology eliminated from our recent statements;
 - occasionally, Kurdish region, villages and hamlets, Kurdish provinces, South East Anatolia predominantly composed of Kurdish people.

**COMPLETE FILE ON CETIM DEFENCE IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATION
MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON NGOs TO SUSPEND ITS CONSULTATIVE STATUS ON :**

http://www.cetim.ch/en/cetim_ecosoc.php
