

Date: 26.01.2023 Ref.No: 189-76

To whom it may concern;

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Chairman of the Human Rights and Equality Institution of Türkiye, which has been established on 20.04.2016 to operate as national human rights institution, national preventive mechanism and equality body.

In the print and visual media, it was reported that the leader of the far-right Hard Line Party (Stram Kurs) in Sweden was allowed to burn the Holy Quran in front of the Turkish Embassy in Stockholm. After this event, it was also reported that the same person will also burn the Holy Quran in front of a mosque in Dortheavej, Copenhagen.

Defending hatred based on religion, ethnicity or race is incompatible with fundamental human rights principles. Such archaic fascist discourses and actions targeting human dignity and sacred values incite violence, xenophobia and marginalization in democratic societies based on pluralism.

Our Institution, whose main mission is to protect and promote human rights, prevent discrimination and raise awareness on this issue, strongly condemns this action which was reflected in the media. Respectfully yours,

Prof. Dr. Muharrem KILIÇ Chairman

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