



Contributions Development

Children

- Turkey works assiduously to safeguard and enhance the rights and well-being of children, one of humanity's most profound responsibilities.
- Children's Day in Turkey - on April 23 - has been celebrated for almost eight decades and, since 1979, has become an international event with the participation of children from around the world.
- Turkey is a party to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; to the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; and to the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.
- In accordance with the objectives of the World Summit for Children, important steps have been taken in Turkey to ensure compliance with the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. A National Action Plan has been prepared.
- Turkey has been successfully implementing the ILO/IPEC/Ministry of Labor and Social Security time-bound project for the elimination of child labor for more than 10 years.

Human Rights

- Turkey is fully committed to achieving the highest standards in democracy, the rule of law and the promotion and protection of human rights.
- Turkey's resolve has been demonstrated by the adoption of substantial constitutional and legislative reforms aimed at fully aligning all of her laws - and their implementation - with international norms of fundamental rights and freedoms. Article 90 of the Constitution states that those provisions of international treaties on fundamental rights and freedoms take precedence over conflicting stipulations in national legislation.
- Turkey is party to major human rights instruments - inter alia, the seven principal UN human rights treaties. Turkey maintains cooperation with UN human rights mechanisms including the treaty bodies and special procedures. She is one of the 52 countries which has extended a standing invitation to thematic special procedures.
- Turkey has recognized the right of individual petition to the European Court of Human Rights in 1987 and the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court in 1990.