

PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

*Ambassador*

ACTION

COPY

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NEW YORK

**MOST URGENT**

2015/10157319

21 November 2015

Excellency,

Upon instructions from my Government, I am writing to you with regard to the latest developments in Syria.

Since 2011, Turkey has been seriously exposed to the risks and threats emanating from the crisis in Syria, which is the result of the Syrian regime's violent oppression of the legitimate and democratic aspirations of the Syrian people.

We are gravely concerned by the most recent bombing of and land offensive against the Turkmen villages in the Bayır Bucak Turkmen area near Turkmen Dağı (Jabal Al Turkman) in northwest of Syria, which is in the immediate vicinity of Turkey's Yayladağı border crossing.

The ongoing intense aerial bombardment which reportedly included use of cluster bombs by the Russian air forces and the land offensive by the Syrian regime forces, supported by Hizbullah militias have caused heavy civilian casualties.

These attacks have triggered a new influx of 10 thousand people towards the Turkish border. Two thousand of them already entered Turkey.

H.E. Mr. Matthew Rycroft  
Ambassador  
President of the Security Council  
United Nations  
New York

Cc: H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary General of the United Nations  
New York

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These deplorable actions targeting civilians can in no way be justified under the pretext of combating terrorism, since the area is void of terrorist groups, such as DAESH, Al Nusra Front, and all other groups associated with Al-Qaida.

The continuing grave violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including the most recent offensive, are unacceptable and bound to further deepen the crisis in Syria.

In view of the above, Turkey calls on the UN Secretary-General, the UN Security Council and the UN agencies to fully assume their responsibilities without further delay, to take all necessary measures to prevent the targeting of civilians.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be urgently brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Y. Halit Çevik  
Permanent Representative

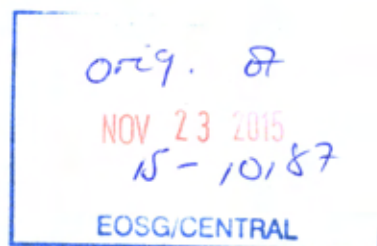
CENTRAL

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2015/1031001



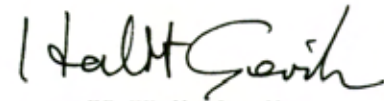
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Halit Çevik', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Y. Halit Çevik  
Permanent Representative

**Turkey cc SG**

EOSG-CRU-DUTY OFFICER-EFAX to: Hazel Foster, Christopher Ostros,  
Katherine Bernabe

23/11/2015 09:29 AM

Sent by: Jill Annitto

Dear Colleagues,

Received via e-fax. Forwarding for your attention / action.

Sincerely,

Executive Office of the Secretary-General  
Central Records Unit (CRU)  
New York, NY 10017  
Fax: (212) 963-2155  
Email: SGCentral@un.org

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