

## **Abduction of Seven Turkish Nationals, Including a Minor, Under UN Protection in Nairobi**

Northern Justice Watch is deep concerned over the recent abduction of seven Turkish nationals, including a minor, in Nairobi, Kenya. These individuals are now at serious risk of being unlawfully transferred to Turkish authorities, where they may face grave human rights violations. This disturbing incident mirrors an ongoing pattern of enforced disappearances, abductions, and illegal deportations orchestrated by Türkiye, which primarily targets individuals alleged to be associated with the Hizmet/Gülen Movement. Those subjected to such practices often experience arbitrary detention, ill-treatment, and, in some cases, torture.

Türkiye's actions violate several key international treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which prohibits arbitrary detention and torture. Similarly, Türkiye's actions contravene the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), which prohibits the extradition or transfer of individuals to countries where they are likely to face torture. Türkiye's conduct also undermines its obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), particularly the right to liberty, protection from torture, and the right to a fair trial.

Kenya, as a member of the international community, is bound by its own human rights obligations. Kenya is a party to the ICCPR and the CAT, both of which prohibit arbitrary detention, torture, and the transfer of individuals to jurisdictions where they face a significant risk of such treatment. As a state party to the CAT, Kenya is obligated to uphold the principle of non-refoulement, ensuring that no individual under its jurisdiction is returned to a country where they are likely to be subjected to torture or inhuman treatment. Kenya is also a signatory to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which guarantees the right to personal liberty, dignity, and protection from cruel or degrading treatment. Additionally, under international refugee law, Kenya has a duty to protect individuals under UN protection from forced return or deportation to countries where their safety is at risk.



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We call on the Government of Kenya to honor these obligations by ensuring the immediate and safe release of the abducted individuals and preventing any illegal transfer to Türkiye. Kenya must ensure that its territory is not used for abductions or unlawful renditions that violate international law. We also urge the United Nations and human rights bodies to take swift action to investigate this case and provide protection to those affected.

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