



**Fourteenth
United Nations Congress
on Crime Prevention and
Criminal Justice**

5 March 2021

English only

Kyoto, Japan, 7–12 March 2021

Pre-Congress consultations

**Letter from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the
United Nations (Vienna)***

* This conference room paper is reproduced as received by the Secretariat.



Vienna, 26 February 2021

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

Turkey attaches utmost importance to the international cooperation in the context of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ). We fully support international collaboration in combating and preventing organized crime and terrorism, which are the challenges of major importance before the international community. We expect that the 14th Crime Congress, which will be held in Kyoto, between 7–12 March 2021, will provide an important contribution and impetus to this cooperation.

I hope you will recognize the constructive contributions of my country for ensuring the success of the Kyoto Crime Congress, including in the context of the drafting of the Political Declaration.

On the other hand, I would like to repeat and register our objection to the participation of the following two intergovernmental organizations (NGOs) in the Kyoto Crime Congress.

- Japan Federation of Bar Associations
- John Jay College of Criminal Justice

We consider that some of the actions of these two NGOs are supportive of the terrorist organizations, “PKK” and “Fetullah Gülen Terrorist Organization (FETÖ)” respectively.

Since we did not receive the complete/final list of NGOs (with or without ECOSOC status) which are supposed to be invited to the Kyoto Crime Congress, we are not able to make a complete assessment. Therefore, I reserve the right of coming back to this issue after the Congress. Please also note that this issue constitutes a matter of substance which should not be addressed only against the background of procedural rules.

H.E. Ambassador Alessandro Cortese
Permanent Representative of Italy
to the International Organizations in Vienna
Chairman of the CCPCJ

Cc:

- H.E. Ambassador Takeshi Hikihara, Permanent Representative of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna
- Mr. John Brandolino, Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs of the UNODC

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

Turkey recognizes and values the contribution of NGOs to this process. Our objection is limited to those conducting activities which are supportive of the above-mentioned terrorist organizations and terrorism in general. Their presence in the Crime Congress cannot be considered as a contribution to the international cooperation on combating and preventing organized crime and terrorism. On the contrary, as far as we are concerned, it discourages my authorities in fostering our contributions to the international cooperation under the framework of the CCPCJ.

I therefore kindly request, Your Excellency, to acknowledge the receipt of this letter, which I copy to the Permanent Representative of the host country, Japan and to the Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs of the UNODC. If you deem it necessary, I will have no objection to the circulation of this letter to all the States that will be participant to the Kyoto Crime Congress.

I also request that this letter be attached to the report of the Preparatory Committee and also to the final report of the Kyoto Crime Congress.

Your Excellency, I take this opportunity to renew the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmet Muhtar GÜN
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Republic of
Turkey to the United Nations Office and
Other International Organizations in Vienna
