

Human rights defenders and the rule of law in Turkey

Friday 1 March, 14.00-15.00
Room XXIV, Palais des nations

The situation of the rule of law in Turkey and of human rights defenders who promote it continues to be of serious concern. Following the attempted coup of 15 July 2016, the two-year state of emergency and security legislation enacted thereafter, human rights defenders face harassment and are subject to pressure by authorities, including by unfounded criminal charges of terrorist offences. Lack of accountability for gross violations of the rights of human rights defenders is also a particular problem.

The panel discussion at this side event will also focus on the situation of human rights defenders for the rule of law in Turkey and the lack of accountability for human rights violations against them, including for the killing of the head of the Bar Association of Diyarbakir three years ago.

The event is organized by the International Commission of Jurists jointly with the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute.

Speakers:

- **Michel Forst**, UN Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders
- **Feray Salman**, Coordinator of the Human Rights Joint Platform (IHOP)
- **Kerem Altiparmak**, ICJ Legal Consultant
- **Jurate Guzeviciute**, International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute

Chair:

Saman Zia-Zarifi, Secretary General, International Commission of Jurists

The event will be live-streamed on:

<https://www.facebook.com/ridhglobal>

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