



Unitatem et Libertas

Association of Iranian Human Rights & Allies

124 City Road, London EC1V 2NX

UNHCR Turkey
Azizye, Enis Behic
Koryurek Sk. No 15, 06690
Cankaya / Ankara

14th November 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

Following our appeal to you on 18th of October Mr Farzin Soroorfar was freed from deportation camp in Turkey, but he is still under threat of deportation.

Mr Soroorfar is a registered asylum seeker under the international protection of UNHCR in Turkey. He fled Iran after being persecuted for her peaceful activities in defense of human rights and democracy. He has been involved in various campaigns and protests against the Iranian regime's violations of civil and political rights, especially the rights of women, ethnic minorities, and prisoners of conscience.

Mr Soroorfar appealed to UNHCR for urgent intervention and protection. However, he fears that he could be deported at any moment without due process or access to legal counsel.

We urge UNHCR to take immediate action to prevent the deportation of any political refugee and to ensure his safety and security in Turkey. We also request UNHCR to expedite his resettlement process to a third country where he can enjoy his rights as a refugee and continue his peaceful activism.

The deportation of Mr Soroorfar would be a flagrant violation of the principle of non-refoulement, which prohibits the forcible return of refugees or asylum seekers to a country where they face persecution or serious harm. It would also contravene Turkey's obligations under the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, as well as the European Convention on Human Rights and other international human rights instruments.

We appeal to UNHCR to uphold its mandate and responsibility to protect refugees and asylum seekers in Turkey, especially those who are at risk of being deported to Iran or other countries with poor human rights records. We also call on UNHCR to work with the Turkish government and civil society to improve the conditions and prospects of refugees and asylum seekers in Turkey, who number at least 3.9 million according to UNHCR's own statistics¹.

We appreciate your attention and action on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Dr Nazak Tavakoli

Mr Afshin Payravi

Directors of Association Of Iranian Human Rights And Allies