



TÜRK-İŞ

TÜRKİYE İŞÇİ SENDİKALARI KONFEDERASYONU

CONFEDERATION OF TURKISH TRADE UNIONS
CONFEDERATION DES SYNDICATS D'OUVRIERS DE TURQUIE
TÜRKSCHER GEWERKSCHAFTSBUND



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Sayı : 2019-849 / 12.03

Ankara, 15. Ekim 2019

Ref :

Ms. Sharan BURROW
General Secretary
ITUC

Dear Sister BURROW,

I would like to share with you the TÜRK-İŞ perspective on “Operation Peace Spring” launched by the Turkish Armed Forces on 9 October 2019.

The conflict in Syria has created a breeding ground for various terrorist organizations, posing a wide range of threats to Turkey and the Syrian citizens in the region. In particular, PYD/YPG units close to Turkish borders in the northeast of Syria, continue to be a source of direct and imminent threat as they opened harassment fire on Turkish border posts, by also using snipers and advanced weaponry such as anti-tank guided missiles. Among other terrorist activities, they have been smuggling explosive devices, weapons and ammunition into Turkey with the aim of empowering PKK-affiliated units inside not only Turkish territories, but also in Afrin and El-Bab region to commit deadly terrorist attacks against innocent Syrian and Turkish citizens alike.

As a result of war and conflicts, 5.7 million Syrian refugees were forced to leave their homes. Our country was left alone with the burden of the biggest migration flow in history. The number of Syrian refugees living in Turkey has reached 4 million. Our Confederation shares the position of ITUC and the ETUC within the basis of human rights. Despite its negative effects on the work life, we have always advocated that the right to decent work and decent life of the Syrian refugees must fully be respected. Our Confederation organized a visit to the Refugee Camps with a delegation from the international trade union movement. The treatment of the refugees in these camps were appreciated by ITUC General Secretary Sharan BURROW. However the refugees cannot be kept in these camps forever. It has become impossible both in terms of Turkish economy and in terms of human rights.

To counter the imminent terrorist threat, to ensure Turkey’s border security, to neutralize terrorists especially the PKK PYD / YPG and ISIS starting from along the border regions adjacent to Turkish territory, Turkey has initiated Operation Peace Spring, on October 9 to ensure the return of refugees including 300 thousand Syrian citizens of Kurdish origin.

As in previous anti-terrorism operations, Turkey has announced that it would carry out the operation in a proportional, prudent and responsible manner and within the framework of the international law, UN resolutions and UN Charter's Article 51 in accordance with the right to

self-defense. Turkey shows sensitivity at the highest level to avoid damage to civilians and targets only the terrorist groups.

Turkey's struggle against terrorism and efforts to resettle the displaced Syrians to their homes or other place of their choice in Syria safely and voluntarily in accordance with international law and in coordination with the relevant UN agencies should be supported by the whole international community.

Once again I want to stress that Turkey launched the Operation Peace Spring¹ with full respect to Syria's territorial integrity and political unity. Turkey aims to contribute and promote these fundamental principles. This operation also targets all initiatives that threaten the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria.

Our citizens and non-governmental organizations, who have lost more than 40,000 citizens to terrorism and have paid the entire bill of the Syrian refugee crisis have united and support the Operation Peace Spring.

Since October 9, when the operation began, the towns of Nusaybin, Ceylanpınar, Kiziltepe and other settlements close to the Syrian border of our country were attacked by terrorists. The importance of the operation is evident considering the citizens who lost their lives and injured as a result of hundreds of mortar shells and rockets. It is important that our international organization know all the realities and support Turkey in its fight against terrorism and its effort to find a permanent solution to the Syrian refugee crisis.

Best regards,



Ergün ATALAY
President



Pevrul KAVLAK
General Secretary



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Sayı : 2019 - 850 / 12.03.01

Ankara, 15 Ekim 2019

Ref :

Mr. Shoya YOSHIDA
General Secretary
ITUC-AP

Dear Brother YOSHIDA,

I would like to share with you the TÜRK-İŞ perspective on “Operation Peace Spring” launched by the Turkish Armed Forces on 9 October 2019.

The conflict in Syria has created a breeding ground for various terrorist organizations, posing a wide range of threats to Turkey and the Syrian citizens in the region. In particular, PYD/YPG units close to Turkish borders in the northeast of Syria, continue to be a source of direct and imminent threat as they opened harassment fire on Turkish border posts, by also using snipers and advanced weaponry such as anti-tank guided missiles. Among other terrorist activities, they have been smuggling explosive devices, weapons and ammunition into Turkey with the aim of empowering PKK-affiliated units inside not only Turkish territories, but also in Afrin and El-Bab region to commit deadly terrorist attacks against innocent Syrian and Turkish citizens alike.

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Best regards,



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Sayı : 2019 - 848 /12.04

Ankara, 15 Ekim 2019

Ref :

Mr. Luca VISENTINI
General Secretary
ETUC

Dear Brother VISENTINI,

I would like to share with you the TÜRK-İŞ perspective on “Operation Peace Spring” launched by the Turkish Armed Forces on 9 October 2019.

The conflict in Syria has created a breeding ground for various terrorist organizations, posing a wide range of threats to Turkey and the Syrian citizens in the region. In particular, PYD/YPG units close to Turkish borders in the northeast of Syria, continue to be a source of direct and imminent threat as they opened harassment fire on Turkish border posts, by also using snipers and advanced weaponry such as anti-tank guided missiles. Among other terrorist activities, they have been smuggling explosive devices, weapons and ammunition into Turkey with the aim of empowering PKK-affiliated units inside not only Turkish territories, but also in Afrin and El-Bab region to commit deadly terrorist attacks against innocent Syrian and Turkish citizens alike.

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Best regards,



Ergün ATALAY
President



Pevrul KAVLAK
General Secretary

Sayın Kardeşim BURROW,

Türk Silahlı Kuvvetlerinin 9 Ekim 2019 tarihinde başlatmış olduğu "Barış Pınarı Harekâtı" ile ilgili olarak TÜRK-İŞ görüşlerini sizlerle paylaşmak isterim.

Suriye'de yaşanan savaş ve çatışmaların sonucunda çeşitli terör örgütleri bölgeye yerleşmiş, ülkemiz ve bölgede yaşayan Suriye vatandaşları açısından tehdit haline gelmiştir. Özellikle Suriye'nin kuzeydoğusundaki Türkiye sınırlarına yakın olan PYD / YPG birimleri, keskin nişancılar ve tanksavar destekli silahlar gibi gelişmiş silahlar kullanarak, Türkiye sınır mevkielelerinde taciz ateşi açtıkları için doğrudan ve yakın bir tehdit kaynağı olmaya devam etmektedirler. Diğer terörist faaliyetlerinin yanı sıra PKK'ya bağlı birimleri güçlendirmek amacıyla Türkiye'ye patlayıcı cihazlar, silahlar ve mühimmat kaçakçılığı yapmakta ve yalnızca Türk topraklarında değil, Afrin ve El-Bab bölgesinde de masum Suriyelilere ölümcül terörist saldırılar düzenlemektedirler.

Savaş ve çatışmaların bir diğer sonucu olarak 5,7 milyon Suriyeli mülteci ülkelerini terk etmiştir. Tarihin en büyük mülteci krizinin faturasını ülkemiz ödemektedir. Türkiye'de yaşayan Suriyeli mülteci sayısı yaklaşık dört milyona ulaşmıştır. TÜRK-İŞ, Suriyeli mülteciler konusuna ITUC ve ETUC'un açıklamalarına uygun bir anlayışla insan hakları temelinde yaklaşmıştır. Çalışma hayatına olumsuz etkilerine rağmen Suriyelilerin insan onuruna yakışır çalışma ve yaşama haklarına saygı duyulması gerektiğini açıklamıştır. Bugüne kadar Suriyeli mültecilere elinden gelen yardımı gösteren Konfederasyonumuz uluslararası sendikal hareketin mensuplarından oluşan bir delegasyonla birlikte Türkiye'de oluşturulan kampları ziyaret etmiştir. Kamplarda Suriyeli mültecilere uygulanan muamele her ne kadar ITUC Genel Sekreteri Sharan Burrow'un ziyaret sonrasında övgüyle anlattığı şekilde olsa da bu insanları sonsuza kadar kamplarda tutmak ekonomik açıdan olduğu kadar insani açıdan da mümkün değildir.

Türkiye, yaklaşan terör tehdidine karşı koymak, ülkemizin güvenliğini sağlamak amacıyla sınır bölgelerinden başlayarak PKK, PYD/YPG ve DEAŞ başta olmak üzere terör örgütlerini etkisiz hale getirmek ve aralarında 300 bin Kürt asıllı Suriye vatandaşlarının da bulunduğu mültecilerin evlerine geri dönmelerini sağlamak amacıyla 9 Ekim'de Barış Pınarı Operasyonu başlatmıştır.

Türkiye, önceki terörle mücadele operasyonlarında olduğu gibi orantılı, ölçülü ve sorumlu bir şekilde yürüteceğini açıkladığı operasyonu BM Tüzüğü'nün 51. Maddesinde çerçevesinde kendini savunma hakkı doğrultusunda, evrensel hukuka ve BM kararlarına uygun bir zeminde başlattığını açıklamıştır. Türkiye sadece terör örgütlerini hedef aldığı operasyonlarda sivillerin zarar görmemesi için en üst seviyede hassasiyet göstermektedir.

Türkiye'nin teröre karşı verdiği mücadelenin ve yerinden edilmiş Suriyelilerin evlerine veya Suriye'deki seçtikleri diğer yerlere uluslararası hukuka uygun olarak ve ilgili BM kurumları ile koordineli olarak güvenli ve gönüllü olarak geri dönmelerini sağlamak amacıyla sürdürdüğü çalışmaların tüm uluslararası toplum tarafından mutlaka desteklenmesi gerekmektedir.

Bir kez daha vurgulamak isterim ki, Suriye'nin toprak bütünlüğüne ve siyasi bütünlüğüne kesin ve kuvvetli bir şekilde bağlı olarak, Türkiye bu temel ilkelere katkıda bulunmak ve ilerletmek amacıyla Barış Pınarı Harekâtını başlatmıştır. Bu operasyon aynı zamanda Suriye'nin egemenliğini ve toprak bütünlüğünü tehdit eden tüm girişimleri de hedef almaktadır.

Terör konusunda bugüne kadar 40 binin üzerinde vatandaşını kaybeden ve Suriyeli mülteci krizinin tüm faturasını ödeyen vatandaşlarımız ve sivil toplum kuruluşlarımız tek vücut olmuş ve Barış Pınarı Harekâtını desteklemektedir.

Operasyonun başladığı 9 Ekim'den bugüne kadar ülkemizin Suriye sınırına yakın Nusaybin, Ceylanpınar, Kızıltepe ve diğer yerleşim yerlerine yapılan saldırılar, atılan yüzlerce havan mermisi ve roket sonucu hayatını kaybeden veya yaralanan vatandaşlarımız dikkate alındığında operasyonun önemi açıkça ortaya çıkmaktadır. Uluslararası üst kuruluşlarımızın yaşananları tüm gerçekliği ile bilmesi ve desteklemesi Türkiye'nin teröre karşı verdiği mücadele ve Suriyeli mülteci krizine kalıcı çözüm bulmak için sürdürdüğü çalışmaların başarıya ulaşabilmesi açısından büyük önem arz etmektedir. .

Saygılarımla,