

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

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> Responses to Information Requests

Responses to Information Requests

Responses to Information Requests (RIR) respond to focused Requests for Information that are submitted to the Research Directorate in the course of the refugee protection determination process. The database contains a seven-year archive of English and French RIRs. Earlier RIRs may be found on the UNHCR's [Refworld](#) website. Please note that some RIRs have attachments which are not electronically accessible. To obtain a PDF copy of an RIR attachment please email Basededonnees.DatabaseUnit@irb-cisr.gc.ca.

23 February 2009

TUR103063.E

Turkey: Documentation that male students need forment from military service; documentation required for students to travel abroad; whether a Canadian student visa would entitle the student to continuement of military service for academic purposes

Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa

A 1 July 2001 report published by the Netherlands Directorate for Movements of Persons, Migration and Consular Affairs on military service in Turkey notes that requests forment of military service by students "must be backed up by documents from ... the university" (Netherlands 1 July 2001, Sec. 5.1). This was corroborated by an executive assistant at the Turkish Education Office at the Consulate of the Republic of Turkey in New York, who stated in a 13 February 2009 telephone interview with the Research Directorate that male Turkish post-secondary students must submit proof of academic registration to a Turkish military service office in order to obtain ament of military service (Turkey 13 Feb. 2009a). A consular official at the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Ottawa indicated that Turkish students studying in Canada must send their documents to the Turkish Education Counsellor in New York (Turkey 30 Jan. 2009). Students must re-apply for permission to military service every year (*ibid.*; Netherlands 1 July 2001, Sec. 5.1). Military authorities maintain records on the registration status of eligible recruits who havered their military service (Turkey 30 Jan. 2009). Turkish students whose military status is not in order cannot obtain a Turkish passport; persons evading military service may be detained at a Turkish border control (*ibid.* 13 Feb. 2009b).

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection. Please find below the list of sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

References

Netherlands. 1 July 2001. Directorate for Movements of Persons, Migration and Consular Affairs, Asylum and Migration Division. "Turkey/Military Service." (UNHCR)
<<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/467010bd2.html>> [Accessed 17 Feb. 2009]

Turkey. 13 February 2009a. Consulate of the Republic of Turkey in New York City, Turkish Education Office. Telephone interview with an executive assistant.

_____. 13 February 2009b. Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Ottawa. Telephone interview with a consular official.

_____. 30 January 2009. Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Ottawa. Telephone interview with a consular official.

Additional Sources Consulted

Internet sites, including: Amnesty International (AI); Aviationsecuritynews.com; British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) ; Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers; Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Washington, DC; Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Ottawa; European Country of Origin Information Network (ecoi.net); Factiva; Human Rights Watch (HRW); *Hurriyet* [Istanbul]; International Civil Aviation

Organization (ICAO); International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (IHF); Istanbul International Ataturk Airport; Istanbul University; Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA); *Travel Information Manual* (TIM); Turkish Ministry of Defense; Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Turkish Ministry of Interior; United Kingdom Home Office; United States Department of State; War Resisters' International (WRI).

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