COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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## CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN JUDGES (CCJE)

## Statement

The European Association of Judges (EAJ) and the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ), during the plenary meeting of the Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE), held in Strasbourg on 8-10 November 2016, submitted to the CCJE their request, which they had previously communicated to the delegations, and provided more information in support of taking measures concerning the critical situation affecting the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary in Turkey.

The CCJE, recalling its own statement dated 20 July 2016, carefully listened to the information provided by the Turkish delegation in the course of the above-mentioned plenary meeting.

After consideration of the issue and discussion in the plenary:

- the CCJE takes note of the concerns and the request of the EAJ and the AEAJ that action be taken, and encourages all judges' associations, observers and entities enabled to submit information and requests concerning the situation of justice in Turkey to do so, in order to coordinate efforts and information;
- in spite of the information provided by the Turkish delegation, the CCJE fully shares the concerns expressed by its members and observers;
- the CCJE welcomes the attempts of the PACE and the Venice Commission to obtain further reliable information about the situation of the rule of law in Turkey;
- it declares that the CCJE is available to support any useful action;
- it entrusts its Bureau to closely follow the developments, to deal with priority all future requests which might be addressed to the CCJE in this regard, and to report to members within six months, if necessary appointing a select committee under its Terms of Reference.