



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF TURKEY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY,  
AMBASSADOR TACAN ILDEM  
888<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
17 NOVEMBER 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to bring to the attention of the Permanent Council the uncovering of the existence of a far right-wing terrorist cell operating until recently in Germany.

The evidence gathered so far shows that the cell was responsible of the murder of a number of innocent people, eight of whom were of Turkish origin between the years 2000 and 2006.

We would like to commend the determined action of law enforcement agencies of Germany that made it possible to establish the connection between members of the cell and the so-far non elucidated crimes. Evidence retrieved also shows the motivations of members of the cell, which are far right extremism and hatred against foreigners. It is obvious that the victims of the cell were killed indiscriminately.

We also welcome the reactions in Germany in condemning firmly the fact that such a cell could have operated for such a long time. We are confident that the German authorities will take all necessary measures vis-à-vis extremist groups and continue investigating crimes related to xenophobic factions regardless of where the investigation may lead to.

On the other hand, the discovery of this terrorist cell, once again accentuated the rightful sensitivity shown and concerns voiced by Turkey after the murders had taken place.

There may be many sources of terrorism. Extremist ideologies, including ethno-nationalism, racism, chauvinism, xenophobia and Islamophobia can also lead to terrorism. The recent tragic events in Europe are a reminder of that. This requires all of us, in the whole OSCE area, to be vigilant and take appropriate measures to prevent the spread and radicalization of such extremist ideologies. Violent extremism and radicalization that leads to terrorism should be tackled in a broad manner, both in terms of geography and of scope. This, we believe, is relevant in term of our work in the run-up to Vilnius Ministerial meeting especially with respect to combating terrorism and promotion of tolerance.

Finally, let me express and hope that this welcome development will set an example to other countries concerned to follow suit.

Thank you.