

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW
21st Session – 21 January 2015
STATE UNDER REVIEW: SPAIN

(Intervention by Turkey)

Mr. President,

We welcome the Spanish delegation and thank them for their comprehensive presentation.

As the national report clearly indicates in terms of legal framework and practices with regard to human rights, we commend the fact that promoting and defending those rights constitute a priority of Spain's internal and foreign policies.

Turkey would like to express its appreciation regarding the declarations underlining the multiculturalism of Spain at the highest political level.

We believe that the Alliance of Civilization, a UN initiative co-sponsored by Turkey and Spain, has become more relevant these days witnessing a rising wave of xenophobia and Islamophobia. Turkey believes that the national plan prepared by Spain within the framework of this initiative will further foster its efforts to combat racism and xenophobia and help to counteract polarization, exclusion and extremism.

Furthermore, we support and take part in the International Commission against Death Penalty (ICDP) initiated by Spain.

Turkey would like to make **following recommendations** for the kind consideration of the Government of Spain:

Firstly, we **recommend** that Spain takes further measures to enhance the rights of regular and irregular migrants alike. Turkey further **recommends** that Spain ratifies the ICMRW.

Finally, while appreciating the amendments made by Spain to the Education Act, Turkey **recommends** that necessary measures should be taken to reduce the early school leaving rate.

I thank you, Mr. President.