



H.E. Mr Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey

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Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) we would like to express our full support to the Turkish physicians coming to the aid of those injured by the authorities' use of force in responding to the protests in Taksim square and across the country.

We are deeply saddened by reports of the Turkish government's attempts to discourage and sanction physicians delivering medical services and strongly condemn any such measures undermining international standards of medical neutrality.

Physicians must be allowed to put into practice their professional ethics to deliver to each patient the best possible care to treat his or her condition, regardless of external interests. Similarly they must not be obstructed in their ethical obligation to maintain patient confidentiality and respect professional secrecy.

We call upon the Turkish government to remove all direct or indirect measures which stand in the way of physicians treating those injured or otherwise affected by the protests.

We also strongly condemn the use of excessive force against protesters.

We will be monitoring developments closely and will continue to liaise with the Turkish Medical Association in the hope of a peaceful resolution to the situation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Katrin Fjeldsted
CPME President

Ms Birgit Beger
CPME Secretary General