AMENDMENT - VICTIMIZED TURKS IN SWITZERLAND

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Analyst (2015-2017)

In my article published in 17.11.2015 titled Victimized Turks in Switzerland[1], I had written that Ali Mercan, Ethem Kayalı, and Hasan Kemahlı, who were convicted by Swiss courts for calling the Armenian genocide a historical and international lie, did not appeal to the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). However, I was later informed that they appealed to the ECtHR in 2010 and the case file is in the Court. There is no judgement by the Court announced yet, but it is expected to be similar to the final judgment on the Perinçek v. Switzerland case, since it is binding and establishes a case law for the members of the European Council. We, as AVİM, will inform our readers in the event of any development regarding this issue. Nevertheless, my point in the aforementioned article still remains valid: in the light of the ECtHRs final judgement on the Perinçek v. Switzerland case, we expect the Swiss government to apologize to Turks for restricting their freedom of expression and silencing them for all these years. The apology should extend also to Ali Mercan, Ethem Kayalı, and Hasan Kemahlı without waiting for an ECtHRs judgement.

[1] http://www.avim.org.tr/analiz/en/VICTIMIZED-TURKS-IN-SWITZERLAND---Ali-Murat-TASKENT/4277

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To cite this article: TAŞKENT, Ali Murat. 2026. "AMENDMENT - VICTIMIZED TURKS IN SWITZERLAND." Center For Eurasian Studies (AVİM), Commentary No.2015 / 130. November 29. Accessed November 22, 2026. https://avim.org.tr/public/en/Yorum/AMENDMENT-VICTIMIZED-TURKS-IN-SWITZERLAND

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