## **Media** Advisory

### **Directorate of Communication**

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# Fighting discrimination based on racial, ethnic, religious or other bias: ECRI seminar in Turkey

Dates: 10 - 11 January 2011

Location: Ankara (Turkey) – Ankara Hilton SA Hotel

**Organisers:** the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, in the framework of the Turkish Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

**Description**: The seminar will bring together national and international experts to discuss implementation of ECRI's recommendations to combat discrimination based on racial, ethnic, religious or other bias. It is also intended as a discussion-oriented forum for exchanging information, experiences and ideas on ECRI's mandate, and to explore ways to increase synergy between ECRI and its international partners.

The seminar will examine the following issues in four main sessions:

- ECRI and its international partners
- Freedom of speech and the fight against racism and racial discrimination
- Specialised bodies and the fight against racism and racial discrimination
- New challenges in combating discrimination.

The meeting will be opened by the Chair of ECRI, Nils Muiznieks, and Birnur Fertekligil, Deputy Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey. The event will bring together representatives of Council of Europe member states and states with observer status, representatives of international organisations, as well as ECRI members and representatives of NGOs.

The opening session of the seminar is open to the press. The seminar will start at 9:00 am on Monday 10 January and end at 1:00 pm on Tuesday 11 January.

### Link to the programme

### Background documents

ECRI is a human rights body of the Council of Europe, composed of independent experts, which monitors problems of racism and intolerance, prepares country specific reports and issues recommendations to member States. For more information: www.coe.int/ecri

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