

Syrian refugees, M.F. and J.B. (names withheld for security reasons) were informed at the beginning of June that their asylum applications had been dismissed by the Greek Appeals Committee, becoming the first known refugees at risk of being forcibly returned to Turkey under the illegal EU-Turkey deal. Both men have challenged the Appeals Committee's decisions on their asylum application before the Greek courts but this does not guarantee the halt of the deportations.

The EU-Turkey deal enables Greece to return asylum-seekers and refugees to Turkey on the assumption that Turkey is safe for them. However, Amnesty International's research has shown that Turkey is not a safe country for refugees and asylum seekers. Refugees and asylum seekers, including Syrians, have been forcibly returned from Turkey to their home countries where they are at risk of serious human rights violations.

Therefore, I urge you to ensure that M.F and J.B. are not returned to Turkey and to examine the substance of their asylum claims in Greece.

I also call on you to immediately halt the return of all asylum-seekers and refugees to Turkey who would be returned on the grounds that Turkey is safe for them.

Thank you for your prompt attention to the above.

Sincerely yours,