

Dear President,

The Turkish Society of Green Crescent was founded by patriotic people from a diverse set of backgrounds in 1920 in response to the British attempts to distribute booze free of charge in Istanbul in an effort to undermine the resistance against the occupation.

Our society is a non-profit organization sponsoring events and activities against drug abuse and human trafficking as well as addictions including TV and Internet addiction, alcoholism, gambling and smoking.

We are happy to hear from news reports on Feb 2, 2011 that you quitted smoking as of Feb 10. Our society would like to congratulate you for this decision.

Our society upholds that one addiction instigates and promotes another, that addictions inflict great harm upon a society and its future and that the children and the young people, the greatest assets of the future, would become unhealthy and unstable because of the harm it does.

Furthermore, our society is aware that drug addicts are considered slaves by the manufacturers and sponsors of harmful substances including heroin and cigarette and that the slaves are treated as property under the Western legal tradition.

Therefore, we believe that addiction takes freedom away, leading to unpleasant situations similar to those caused by human trafficking in the past.

The campaign raised against alcoholism in Poland uses the motto, "alcohol steals our freedom." Cigarette and other drug addictions steal the freedoms of the society. You are one of the finest examples to appreciate the value of freedom and a leading figure to agree that people whose freedom are taken away are considered dishonorable by those who deprive them of their liberties.

From a different perspective, sponsoring and promoting drug abuse should be considered a crime against humanity. What makes an offence a crime against humanity is its commission and infliction against human body and honor. Some are regarded as crime against humanities because they have massive impact.

Cigarette, alcohol, human trafficking, gambling and heroin pose greater challenges and threats than the weapons of mass destruction do. 120,000 people die of lung cancer due to smoking every year in our country; this figure 5 million in the world. Is there any greater massacre than this? The number of victims by genocides still remains below the casualties in connection with drug abuse.

Dear President,

I sincerely call you to act together to ensure that the actions of the producers and sponsors of drugs are defined as crimes against humanity under international law. We believe you'll commit yourself to contribute to this humanely endeavor seeking to eliminate drug addiction.

We are asking you to spread your message for the entire world, considering that the liberties you acquired in near past are still fresh. We are asking you to stress that even if it is a dream, we should fight for elimination of drug use and we should fight for our freedoms. We are

aware that we are addressing a great leader who is aware that dreams come true. The fight your nation put on has served as a guide for us.

We are sure that your message and your voice does greater influence for the people in the world.

With warmest regards,

Muharrem BALCI, Esq.
President, Turkish Society of Green Crescent