

TOKİ

THE REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS (UN) ON THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING

INFORMATION NOTE ABOUT "ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR THE RIGHT TO HOUSING"

The fact that housing is a human right is included in Article 56 of the Constitution of Republic of Turkey as *"Everybody has the right to live in a healthy and balanced environment"* and in Article 57 of the Constitution as *"Our State shall take measures to meet the housing need within the framework of a plan to observe the characteristics and environmental condition of the cities"*.

The Housing Development Law numbered 2985 that took effect in 1984 to produce solutions at national scale to problems regarding housing and urbanization is a "framework law" defining the fundamental principles to bring a solution to the housing problem in Turkey.

The Housing Development Administration (TOKİ) established with that law, fundamentally pursues its activities toward construction of adequate, accessible and quality housing in healthy and habitable urban environments in Turkey.

The field of activity of TOKİ was enhanced, its authorities were increased, and a wide land portfolio was formed for its use as financial resource with various legal arrangements to meet the housing need throughout Turkey.

The main suggestion of the Housing Development Administration (TOKİ) for the implementations is that the housing problem should not just be perceived as a problem of accommodation but also meet fundamental health and education needs of people within the framework of human rights and fundamental freedoms and provide better living environments to those in need.

Every citizen who does not own a house has a right to apply for social housing projects under equal terms of payment and all projects are publicly announced.

Low- and medium income families constitute the main target and separate quotas are allocated for the "disadvantaged groups" including the handicapped, martyr families, the disabled and the retired people. The legislation of these implementations has also been established.