



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4302

December 21, 2012

His Excellency Namik Tan  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of the Republic of Turkey  
2525 Massachusetts Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

We are writing to express our serious concerns regarding reports that two victims of child sex tourism in your country are being threatened and intimidated into dropping their allegations against Joris Demmink, former Secretary General of the Dutch Ministry of Justice in the Netherlands. According to reports, the victims have been offered money and have had their lives and families threatened. The lawyer for the victims indicates that the threats and intimidation have been relayed to the prosecutor in Diyarbakir, but the victims have not yet received protection or any form of relief.

As members of the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, we are very concerned that these vulnerable individuals are being openly harassed and denied access to justice by Turkey's failure to respond both to the charges as well as to the victims' need for protection.

The victims have courageously made their claims against a powerful government official in another country, Joris Demmink. The victims (Mustafa and Osman) and the law enforcement official, who allegedly brought the boys to Demmink, have come forward in Turkey accusing Demmink, in great detail, of raping the boys on visits to Turkey in the late 1990's. The Dutch investigation into this matter has stalled based on Mr. Demmink's claims that he was not in Turkey after 1987. However, numerous governmental and non-governmental witnesses have come forward in Turkey to contradict Demmink's claim.

We respectfully urge Turkey to ensure that the threats against the victims are investigated and that the victims' rights to pursue justice in Turkey's courts are fully protected.

Sincerely,

Ted Poe  
Member of Congress

Jim Costa  
Member of Congress

Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress