

A Glimpse at the IRPT's Ban

Equal enjoyment of rights and equal participation in political and public life is very important in a democratic country, but there are countries (including my country, Tajikistan), where peaceful and democratic political parties are not only banned, but labeled as terrorist and extremist organization.

The Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan is a moderate party that promotes democratic values. Unfortunately, the IRPT was banned and labeled as terrorist organization in 2015, a move criticized by OSCE, United Nation, European Union, United State of America, Norway and international organization as politically motivated and undemocratic.

Following ban of IRPT, the worst human rights record has taken place in Tajikistan, as more than 150 leading members were sentenced to long term imprisonment, hundreds of activists with their families migrated mostly to Russia, Turkey and Europe.

Mr. David Kaye, United Nations Special Rapporteur visited Tajikistan in March 2016. He criticized the government's steps to silence voices of the peaceful political opposition at home and abroad. He also voiced concern over ban on the Islamic Revival Party.

In April 2016, during the United Nations Universal Periodic Review, the representative of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and several Western states, including Norway, Denmark, the USA and others have raised concern surrounding IRPT. The statements from these countries are available on the UN website, condemning the crackdown on IRPT as unwarranted and undemocratic.

Thanks for your attention!

