

COMMITTEE : Human Rights Council

TOPIC : Addressing Human Rights Violations and the Lack of Democratic Governance in Turkmenistan: Balancing Sovereignty and Global Responsibility.

STUDENT OFFICERS : Calliopée Hugé

POSITIONS : President

Table of contents

Personal Introduction	2
Introduction	2
Definition of key words	3
General overview	4
Concerned countries and organizations	11
Latest Developments	12
UN involvement	13
Previous attempts to solve the issue	14
Possible solutions	16
Annex	
Bibliography	17

Personal Introduction

Dear delegates,

My name is Calliopée Hugé, I am 17 years old and I have the honor to serve as president of the Human Rights Council for this year's MUN. This will be my first year as a chair, after three participations to the LFH MUN and a participation to the Berlin EuroParliament. I am thrilled you have chosen this committee and can only hope I will get to know you all more during this unique experience. The MUN is a great learning opportunity and I hope you will be able to deepen your understanding of international issues, specifically the ones concerning human rights, over the course of your preparation.

Before and during the MUN my vice-president, Lorina Lepouras, and I will be there to guide and help you, starting with this study guide, which I advise you to read as it contains relevant information that will help your later personal research. If you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Good luck to you all and I hope to see you soon!

Introduction

Turkmenistan, a Central Asian nation rich in natural resources, has long been criticized for its authoritarian governance, severe restrictions on civil liberties, and widespread human rights abuses. Already entrenched in conservatism during the 1980s, since gaining independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, the country has been dominated by authoritarian rulers who have maintained one of the most repressive political environments in the world. Previously a Soviet official, Saparmurat Niyazov ruled from 1991 until his death in 2006 and established a highly personalized dictatorship, elevating himself to a godlike status, suppressing political opposition and controlling all aspects of public life. His successor, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow, continued many of these policies after taking power in 2007, reinforcing state control over media, restricting free speech, and persecuting political dissidents. In 2022, he was succeeded by his son, Serdar Berdimuhamedow, in an election widely regarded as neither free nor fair, further entrenching dynastic rule. Despite international calls for reform, the government continues to operate with little transparency, shielding itself from external scrutiny through a policy of strict state control.

This study guide will explore the challenges of addressing human rights violations and democratic deficiencies in Turkmenistan while navigating the complexities of national sovereignty and international intervention. It examines the role of global institutions, regional actors, and geopolitical interests that often hinder effective international responses. Furthermore, it offers potential strategies for promoting democratic governance and human rights in Turkmenistan without infringing on its sovereignty, weighing the responsibilities of the global community against the principles of non-interference.

Key Words

Human Rights Violations: Violations of internationally recognised standards relating to human rights, whether or not these have yet been incorporated into national laws.

Authoritarianism: Political regime where strict obedience to authority is enforced at the expense of personal freedom and political pluralism is rejected.

Sovereignty: The authority of a state to govern itself or another state.

Civil Liberties: A person's rights to be subject only to laws established for the good of the community.

Freedom of Speech: Principle that supports the freedom of an individual or a community to articulate their opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship, or legal sanction.

Media Censorship :Supervision and control of the information and ideas circulated within a society.

Rule of Law: The restriction of the arbitrary exercise of power by subordinating it to well-defined and established laws

Non-Interference Principle: Involves the right of every sovereign State to conduct its affairs without outside interference

Cult of Personality: A deliberately created system of art, symbolism, and ritual centred on the institutionalized quasi-religious glorification of a specific individual.

Propaganda: Dissemination of information; facts, arguments, rumours, half-truths, or lies to influence public opinion.

Arbitrary Detention: Arrest and detainment of an individual by a government without due process and protection of a fair trial or without any legal basis.

Novemberists: Those who were charged with involvement in an alleged coup attempt against President Niyazov in November 2002.

Enforced disappearance: The arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person.

General Overview

Causes

Historical context:

Already under the power of Saparmurat Niyazov in 1985, Turkmenistan was already a conservative state. In 1991, according to a referendum, the population had no desire to break away from Moscow and the state remained a conservative one-party political system after its independence, simply going from communism to nationalism.

Entrenched Authoritarianism:

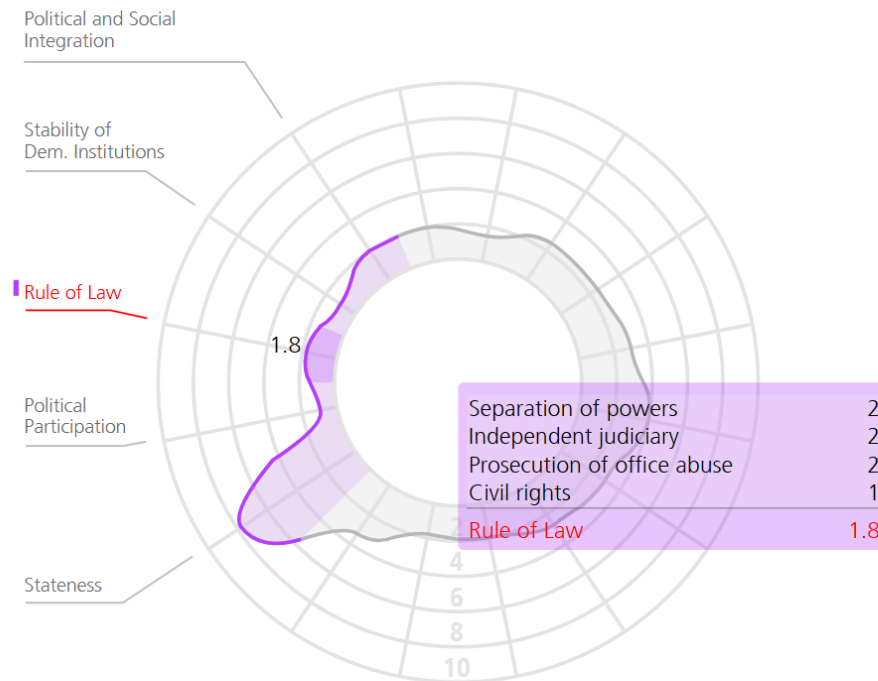
Niyazov quickly installed a highly authoritarian regime, repressing civil liberties and installing a personality cult, mainly through propaganda and control of information and education. In 1999, he was proclaimed president for life, doing away with elections until his death in 2006.

Lack of Judicial Independence:

The new Turkmen constitution, adopted in 1992, established legislative, executive and judicial branches of the government. The judiciary operates under

the influence of the executive branch, undermining the rule of law. Trials often lack transparency, and defendants are frequently denied legal representation, leading to convictions based on coerced confessions.

Democracy Status | Rule of Law 1.8



Turkmenistan's Rule of Law status on the BTI Index

Permanent neutrality as a shield:

In 1995, Turkmenistan officially adopted permanent neutrality, putting the focus exclusively on internal threats. All dissent being brutally repressed. It also helped the regime avoid membership of Russian-sponsored projects such as the Eurasian Economic Union. It is the only Central Asian state to not be part of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

Consequences

Human Rights Abuses:

The authoritarian governance has led to widespread human rights violations, including arbitrary detention, torture, political, religious and ethnical repression as well as a lack of freedom of information and civil liberties. The

government exercises strict control over all print and electronic media, effectively eliminating independent journalism. Furthermore, access to the internet is also heavily controlled and censored, with more than three quarters of global IP addresses being blocked. Freedom of movement is also highly restricted, despite visa requirements for citizens to travel abroad being lifted by Niyazov's successor, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, it was only replaced by a 'blacklist' that barred access to travel for almost forty thousand Turkmenistani.

International Isolation:

Turkmenistan's refusal to cooperate with international human rights mechanisms has resulted in diplomatic isolation. The government's non-engagement with bodies like the United Nations Human Rights Council limits avenues for external influence and assistance. Under Niyazov's regime, all external influences, particularly Russian, were targeted. The use of the Russian language was discouraged, Russian schools closed and Russian media blocked. In 2003, citizens holding dual Turkmen-Russian citizenship were forced to renounce Russian citizenship to avoid property confiscation and deportation. Since 2021, Turkmenistan has involved itself more in UN activities, signing the UN Sustainable Cooperation Framework. According to the Turkmen Ministry of Foreign Affairs their official foreign policy consists of:

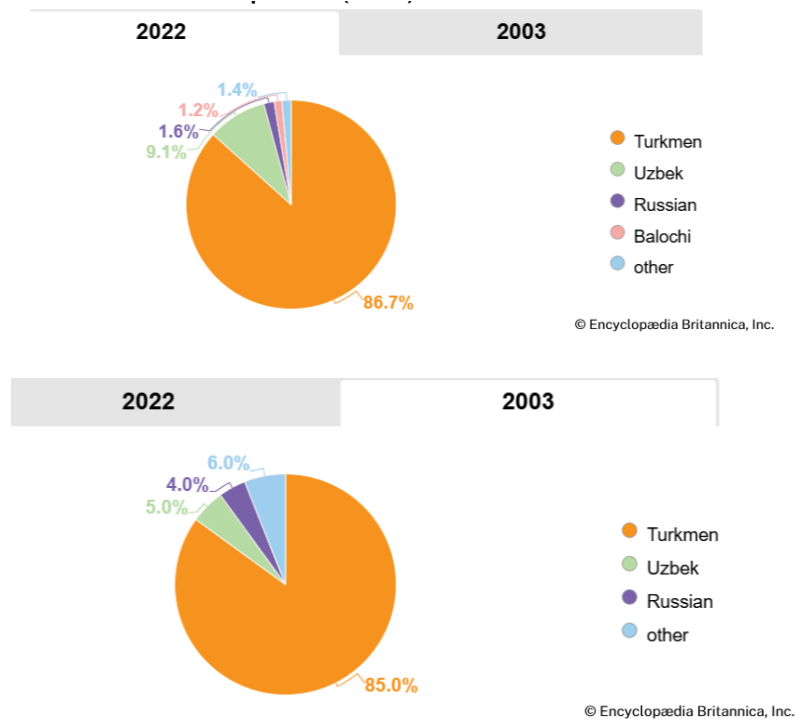
“international cooperation based on the principles of good-neighborliness, equality, mutual respect, and mutual benefit, considering the long-term and short-term goals and objectives of foreign policy development as determined in the “National Program for the Socio-Economic Development of Turkmenistan for 2022-2052” and derived from the key initiatives of the President of Turkmenistan and the priorities of the Government of Turkmenistan.

By pursuing broad international cooperation and upholding noble goals such as peace, security, and the promotion of supreme humanistic values, Turkmenistan aims to contribute to maintaining peace and security, promoting its Permanent Neutrality status globally, expanding and diversifying foreign economic relations, and fostering sustainable development and more humanitarian international relations.”

Stifled Civil Society:

The oppressive environment has stifled the development of civil society. NGOs and independent activists operate under constant threat, and many have been forced into exile or silenced through intimidation and legal harassment. Under Niyazov, secondary school was reduced by one year and qualifications for

graduates were weakened, reducing the quality of education. Furthermore, access to education outside of Turkmenistan is extremely difficult. The health department also suffered, with 15 000 professionals being replaced in 2004 by military conscripts as well as the closure of regional hospitals the following year. This led to a massive brain drain of ethnic Russians and Russian-speaking elites, causing friction with Moscow.



Turkmenistan ethnic composition in 2003 and 2022 according to Britannica

Case Study: Ogulsapa Muradova



Journalist Ogulsapar Muradova at her son's wedding party in Ashgabat in 2002.

Ogulsapar Muradova was one of the few journalists who dared to report on the state of human rights in Turkmenistan. Mother of three children, she joined RadioFreeEurope/RadioLiberty in 2006. She would be arrested in June 2006 for espionage, along with her brother Sapardurdy Khajiev, journalist Annakurban Amanklychev and her three children. Her children would be released but the three activists remained detained. On August 25, 2006 they would be charged with up to seven years in prison for illegal possession of ammunition at a closed trial. While her brother and Amanklychev went on to serve their full sentences, Muradova died shortly after her sentence, in September of 2006. Turkmen authorities first refused access to the body to Muradova's family as well as the exact location and date of her death and the results of the government autopsy. According to her children, her body showed "*marks on the neck*" and a "*large wound*" on the head. Per the opinion adopted by the UN Human Rights Committee on May 24, 2018: "*The injuries on her body indicated that she had died violently. The following marks were observed on her body (a) a deep vertical red cut in the middle of her forehead, which was 5 cm long; (b) a dark mark around her neck suggesting strangulation, about 1 cm wide; (c) three open red wounds on one of her hands; (d) swelling and bruising to the ankle of one of her legs; and (e) a large bruise on one of her lower thighs.*"

While her exact cause of death can not be determined, it is highly suspected Muradova died following torture, despite the Turkmen authorities affirming she died of natural causes. Muradova's location at the time of her death would only be released in 2016, revealing she was being

held in Owadan-depe, a maximum-security facility located in the Karakum desert. According to a report by the Prove They Are Alive organisation: *“Beatings and other methods of torture are widespread practices in Ovadan Depe. Such beatings are indiscriminate and often done en masse, leaving inmates unconscious or unable to walk.”* Based on the personal account in their report, the existence of burial grounds near the facility is suspected, the beatings and torture having resulted in deaths before.

Case Study: *The Ovadan Depe prison*

There is little information to be found about the Ovadan Depe prison but we know according to satellite imagery that it was already under construction in 2002, and was completed around 2009.



Ovadan Depe under construction in 2002. Source: Image DigitalGlobe| Analysis AAAS

There has not yet been an official acknowledgment of the prison by the government, who refuses to give any information on the conditions in the prison and of the prisoners incarcerated there. International organisations such as the Federation of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent have never been allowed inside. The prison was built to house high level politicians and “people of importance” but also political prisoners and people convicted of religious extremism, its first prisoners being the Novemberists. From the account of Akmuhammed Bayhanov, which he gave to the Prove They Are Alive! Organisation, Ovadan Depe contained over a thousand inmates in 2006. Political prisoners such as previously high-ranked officials or Novemberists often serve their sentence in complete solitary confinement, with no access to anything outside their cells. Conditions have been said to have improved after the death of Niyazov, under President Berdymukhamedov, the prison even receiving a medical inspection in 2014. The prison is also said to have undergone renovations and improvements in the end of 2014, with the maximal number of prisoners per cell being reduced to five and the quality of infrastructures being better. However, Ovadan Depe still remains a torturous place, beatings being commonplace: *“On one occasion Bayhanov witnessed a mass beating of prisoners, in which each was made to strip and go into the hall, one by one. Prisoners were beaten on their forearms, knees and kidneys. They were forced to squat as they were beaten, until they fell.”* The prison defies not only international but also national laws, violating the prohibition of torture and the UN prohibition against enforced disappearances. From 2002 to 2019, there have

been 162 documented cases of enforced disappearances in Turkmenistan's prisons, particularly Ovadan Depe. 29 of the disappearances have resulted in confirmed death, while 72 are still ongoing. 36 of the cases have either been released or granted family visits but the rest remain relatively unknown.

Concerned countries and organizations

Countries

China: As the largest buyer of natural gas from Turkmenistan, China plays an essential role as a strategic economic partner. Furthermore, its focus is not humanitarian, facilitating cooperation.

Russia: While both states are competing for influence in Central Asia and the repression of ethnic Russians has strained relationships, Russia continues to maintain ties to Turkmenistan. This cooperation operates mainly on the security front and Russia has not spoken out in any way against the authoritarian regime or human rights violation.

Iran: Neighbour to Turkmenistan, the two states have previously engaged in gas trade and now entertain a pragmatic relationship. Both being authoritarian regimes rich in resources, Iran has not spoken out against the regime.

Afghanistan: Central to the TAPI (Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India) gas pipeline project, Afghanistan's relation with Turkmenistan is more technical and infrastructure-focused.

Pakistan & India: Both part of the TAPI project, they mainly engage in energy diplomacy, avoiding criticism of Turkmenistan's internal governance.

United States: The US' promotion of democratic values and freedom goes completely against what the Turkmen regime stands for. However, Washington supports energy corridors that are able to bypass Iran and Afghanistan. Yet still, the US regularly expresses concerns over disappearances and political prisoners.

EU countries: Despite the EU's criticism of the regime, and its civil society and human rights initiatives strategy through Central Asia, the EU still maintains ties to Turkmenistan in hopes of importing gas through the Trans-Caspian pipeline, although challenges with Russia and Iran have complicated the project.

Turkey: Turkey views Turkmenistan as a fellow Turkic state and therefore a strategic partner. Preferring to avoid public criticism of human rights, it focuses

on economical, cultural and energy ties. It also supports the entry of Turkmenistan in the Organisation of Turkic States.

Kazakhstan: Neighbour to Turkmenistan, they cooperate on water management, energy and anti-extremism measures. Its' priorities are regional stability and economic partnership.

Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch: Monitor and report on rights violations as well as advocating for reforms and press freedom

Prove They Are Alive!: Records and monitors disappearances in Turkmenistan, with the goal of finding out the status of the missing, whether it be dead, imprisoned or alive.

Latest Developments:

February 11, 2007	Election of Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov as President after Niyazov's death.
February 12, 2012 & 2017	Second and third election of Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov.
December 2013	First Multiparty Parliamentary Elections, however, all participating parties were loyal to the president and the elections were criticized for their lack of true opposition.
2016	Constitutional amendments that extend the presidential term and remove the mandatory retirement age of seventy for the president.
March 19, 2022	Election of Serdar Berdimuhamedov.
January 2023	Abolition of the upper chamber of parliament and establishment the Halk Maslahaty (People's Council) as the supreme representative body. Former President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow was appointed as its chairman and granted the title "National Leader of the Turkmen People," allowing him to

	retain significant influence.
--	-------------------------------

UN Involvement

UN Resolutions:

In March 2005, the United Nations adopted the resolution 59/206, Situation of Human Rights in Turkmenistan. This resolution expressed concern over the serious human rights violations in Turkmenistan in its second article, especially: “(a) *The persistence of a governmental policy based on the repression of all political opposition activities; (b) The continuing abuse of the legal system through arbitrary detentions, imprisonment and surveillance of persons who try to exercise their freedom of expression, assembly and association, and by harassment of their families; (c) Further restrictions on the freedom of expression and opinion, including the loss of local retransmissions of Russian language programmes on Radio Mayak, and serious harassment endured by local correspondents and collaborators of Radio Liberty; (d) Continued restrictions on the exercise of the freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief; ”*. It also calls for the respect of fundamental freedoms, specifically freedom of expression, association, and religion. Finally it urges the Turkmen government to cooperate with the OHCHR and to release all political prisoners: “4(d) *To release immediately and unconditionally all prisoners of conscience; ”*.

A year later, resolution 60/172, Situation of Human Rights in Turkmenistan was adopted by the General Assembly. The UN reaffirmed once again its’ concern over human rights abuses in TURkmenistan, focusing on the treatment of prisoners; “*The continuing abuse of the legal system through arbitrary detentions, imprisonment and surveillance of persons who try to exercise their freedom of expression, assembly and association, and harassment of their families; (c) The poor conditions in prisons in*

Turkmenistan and credible reports of ongoing torture and mistreatment of detainees; (d) The failure of the Government of Turkmenistan to grant access to detainees to the International Committee of the Red Cross, according to the usual terms of the Committee, as well as to international monitors; ”. It continued to condemn Turkmenistan’s lack of freedom of thought and expression, as well as ethical discrimination. Finally, it urged once again the government to cooperate and follow UN recommendations and to comply with international law.

Human Rights Committee:

In 2008, the HRC issued a decision in the case of *Komarovski v. Turkmenistan*, (Communication No. 1450/2006) as a monitor of the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*. Leonid Komarovski had submitted a complaint to the UN HRC alleging some of the following: “2.5.[...]he was put into the back seat of a car where he continued to be beaten every time he dared to ask for explanations for his arrest.”, “2.7. [...]he was never brought before a judge or tried in court and was not given the opportunity to contact a lawyer of his choice.”, “3.5.[...] conditions of detention in the MNB inner jail were inhuman and degrading, in violation of article 10, paragraph 1. The cell was very small, lacked natural light and water in the toilet and was infested by roaches.”. The Turkmen government in turn, denied all allegations of arbitrary detention and torture. Komarovski also alleged that the Government had issued a book in his name, where he confessed all his crimes, without his knowledge, fueling the State’s propaganda machine. In its ruling, the UNHRC demanded the prosecution of those responsible, a full reparation and compensation for the victim, and a public retraction of the forged confessions of Komarovski. However, Turkmenistan failed to comply with the recommendations, further entrenching itself in its non-cooperation and systematic injustice.

Previous attempts to solve the issue

UN efforts

Resolutions

As stated previously, the UN has adopted two resolutions urging Turkmenistan to release political prisoners, reform their legislation, and cooperate with the UN. However, Turkmenistan has only considered it as

interference in domestic affairs and has therefore failed to comply with any of the UN's resolutions.

UN Treaty Bodies

As Turkmenistan is part of multiple UN human rights treaties, they have an obligation to report regularly to UN treaty bodies such as the Human Rights committee, Committee Against Torture or CEDAW. These bodies have previously issued recommendations to the turkmen government on ending arbitrary detention, torture, giving access to lawyers and fair trials, and ensuring judicial independence. The turkmen obligatory reports have often been delayed and the recommendations largely ignored once again or addressed only superficially.

UPR

Turkmenistan has also undergone multiple Universal Periodic Reviews, the latest being in 2023, which recommended the end to enforced disappearances, the increase of media freedom, and the to allow the visits of UN Special Rapporteurs. These recommendations have been accepted in principle, but their implementation remains almost absent.

Special Rapporteurs

UN Special Rapporteurs have requested access but no visits have been allowed since 2003.

NGOs and External Pressure

NGO campaigns

Organizations like Human Rights Watch or Amnesty International have submitted multiple shadow reports to the UN treaty bodies and keep public dossiers on disappeared persons, persecutions, and human rights violations in Turkmenistan, spreading awareness internationally about the state of Human Rights in Turkmenistan.

EU Pressure

Trade and partnership negotiations have often been marked with the EU's concern over the Human Rights issues, the European Parliament delaying the ratification of an EU-Turkmenistan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement over these issues. Yet, this pressure has been often reduced due to gas reserves and geopolitical neutrality Turkmenistan preserves.

Possible Solutions

1. UN Special Rapporteur Mandate

A dedicated UN Special Rapporteur for Turkmenistan could be created by the Human Rights Council. This mandate would allow an independent expert to investigate human rights abuses, engage with stakeholders, and report publicly to the international community. While Turkmenistan has previously denied access to special procedures, the creation of a country-specific mandate would maintain diplomatic and media pressure.

2. Conditionality on Aid and Trade

International actors such as the European Union, UNDP, and World Bank can tie economic cooperation and development aid to specific human rights improvements. Conditions could include access for international monitors, reforms in detention practices, and the release of political prisoners. This strategy incentivizes compliance without direct confrontation.

3. Ratification of OPCAT and Establishment of a National Preventive Mechanism

Encouraging Turkmenistan to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT) would require the country to permit regular inspections of its detention facilities. Establishing a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) would institutionalize internal oversight and serve as a step toward transparency.

4. Stronger Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Follow-Up

The UN should develop a task force or reporting framework to track Turkmenistan's progress on accepted UPR recommendations. This mechanism would include timelines, verification metrics, and regular updates to the Human Rights Council, ensuring that commitments lead to measurable outcomes.

5. Civil Society and Diaspora Support

Since domestic NGOs are heavily restricted, international bodies can support exiled journalists, whistleblowers, and human rights defenders. Secure platforms can be created to collect testimonies, publish reports, and build international awareness while protecting contributors from retaliation.

Bibliography

Human Rights Watch. "Turkmenistan: Events of 2023." *Human Rights Watch*, 4 Jan. 2024,

www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/turkmenistan

Amnesty International. "Human Rights in Turkmenistan." *Amnesty International*, 2023,

www.amnesty.org/en/location/europe-and-central-asia/eastern-europe-and-central-asia/turkmenistan/report-turkmenistan/

"Democratization and Human Rights in Turkmenistan." *Human Rights Watch*, 21 Mar. 2000,

www.hrw.org/news/2000/03/20/democratization-and-human-rights-turkmenistan

"BTI 2020 Turkmenistan Country Report." *BTI 2020*,

bti-project.org/en/reports/country-report/TKM

"Turkmenistan - United States Department of State" *State.gov*, 2024,

www.state.gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/turkmenistan/

"Turkmenistan: Country Profile." *Freedom House*,

freedomhouse.org/country/turkmenistan

"Turkmenistan: Power, Politics and Petro-Authoritarianism.", *Annette Bohr, Russia and Eurasia Programme*, March 2016,

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/default/files/publications/research/2016-03-08-turkmenistan-bohr-summary.pdf>

"Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan : Resolution / Adopted by the General Assembly." *United Nations Digital Library System*, 12 Dec. 1995,

digitallibrary.un.org/record/284240

"Turkmenistan at Twenty-Five: The High Price of Authoritarianism."

Carnegieendowment.org, 2017

carnegieendowment.org/research/2017/01/turkmenistan-at-twenty-five-the-high-price-of-authoritarianism?lang=en

"Turkmenistan | People, Geography, Government, & History." *Encyclopedia Britannica*,

www.britannica.com/place/Turkmenistan

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT *Turkmenistan: Severe Restrictions on Freedom of Movement Remain*. 2010.

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/eur610022010en.pdf>

“The United Nations in Turkmenistan | United Nations in Turkmenistan.”

Turkmenistan.un.org,

turkmenistan.un.org/en/about/about-the-un.

“Foreign Policy”, *Ministry of Foreign Affairs*, 2025,

www.mfa.gov.tm/en/articles/3

Service, RFE/RL’s Turkmen. “Ogulsapar Muradova: After 15 Years, Still No Probe of Turkmen Journalist’s Death in Custody.”

RadioFreeEurope/RadioLiberty, RFE/RL, 27 June 2021,

www.rferl.org/a/turkmenistan-muradova-death-15-years-unexplained-rferl-hrw/31328294.html

“Views adopted by the Committee under article 5 (4) of the Optional Protocol, concerning communication No. 2252/2013* , **”, *UN Treaty Body Database*, 24 May 2018,

https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CCPR%2fC%2f122%2fD%2f2252%2f2013&Lang=en

“Ogulsapar Muradova.” *USAGM*,

www.usagm.gov/news-and-information/threats-to-press/ogulsapar-muradova/

RFE/RL. “RFE/RL, HRW Welcome UN Finding on Turkmen Activist’s Death in 2006.” *RadioFreeEurope/RadioLiberty*, RFE/RL, 9 Aug. 2018,

www.rferl.org/a/rferl-turkmenistan-activist-died-in-custody-niyazov/29424810.html

“The Ovadan Depe Prison: Medieval Torture in Modern Turkmenistan.”, *Prove They Are Alive*, 2014.

<https://provetheyarealive.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/FInal-O-D-Report-September-2014-compressed.pdf>

“Turkmenistan: Further information on Arbitrary detention/Fear of torture”, *Amnesty International*, 14 September 2006

<https://www.amnesty.org/es/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/eur610132006en.pdf>

“An Evaluation of Ovadan-Depe Prison Using High-Resolution Satellite Imagery.” *American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)*, 2025, www.aaas.org/resources/evaluation-ovadan-depe-prison-using-high-resolution-satellite-imagery

“OHCHR | about Enforced Disappearance.” *OHCHR*, www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-disappearances/about-enforced-disappearance.

“Updated Report Documents 162 Cases of Enforced Disappearances in Turkmenistan” *Prove They Are Alive*, Dec. 2021, provetheyarealive.org/disappeared_list_2021/

“59/206. Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan ”, *United Nations General Assembly*, 11 March 2005, <https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/59/206>

“60/172. Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan ”, *United Nations General Assembly*, 9 March 2006, <https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/60/172>

Komarovski v. Turkmenistan, *Comm. 1450/2006*, *U.N. Doc. A/63/40*, Vol. II, at 209 (HRC 2008). https://www.worldcourts.com/hrc/eng/decisions/2008.07.24_Komarovski_v_Turkmenistan.htm

“Submission to the Universal Periodic Review of Turkmenistan”, *Human Rights Watch*. (2023). <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/04/05/submission-universal-periodic-review-turkmenistan?>

