

Antwort der Bundesregierung

The Federal Government has taken note of the Committee's Opinion regarding Communication No. 48/2010, received on 8 April 2013.

The Opinion, together with the attached Individual Opinion, has been translated into German. It has been forwarded to the *Länder* ministries of Justice, which in turn are responsible for disseminating the Opinion and its attachment to the courts and public prosecution offices for their information.

The public prosecution office of the *Land* of Berlin, as the competent authority for the original case, has been informed of the decision separately and has been asked to examine any possibility of reconsidering the decision to terminate the investigation.

The Federal Minister of Justice, Ms. Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, has met with representatives of the *Türkische Gemeinde in Deutschland* (Turkish Community in Germany) in order to discuss the Committee's opinion. In this context, additional measures against racist propaganda and the importance of fighting "mainstream racism" have been discussed.

The Federal Government is currently examining the German legislation concerning criminal liability for racist statements in light of the Committee's views. This evaluation will have to take into account the importance of freedom of speech, which is guaranteed by the German Basic Law and by international human rights law.

The Federal Government will keep the Committee informed of further developments and looks forward to maintaining its dialogue with the Committee as it prepares for the presentation of its current State Report.