



Turkmenistan

By Theodor Babusiaux

POSITION OF TURKMENISTAN REGARDING RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN THE DRC

General information

Women in Turkmenistan have long faced patriarchal discrimination that persisted through Soviet-era formal equality and after 1991.[1] Despite women gaining Soviet-era voting and election rights in 1927 and Turkmenistan ratifying CEDAW in 1996, systemic reforms for women only became a presidential priority in the 2010s. [2] The Constitution guarantees men and women equal civil rights and freedoms and makes gender inequality punishable by law.[3] In practice, however, abortion is legal only through the fifth week and unofficial dress codes require unmarried women to wear yellow headscarves and married women yellow dresses at work, with dismissal for non-compliance. [4]

Position on the matter

Formal diplomatic relations between Turkmenistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo have not been established. This absence is reflected in the diplomatic infrastructure: Turkmenistan maintains no embassy or consulate in the DRC, and the DRC has no resident mission in Turkmenistan. Turkmenistan has made no specific statement on women's rights in the Democratic Republic



of

the Congo.

Proposed solutions

Turkmenistan has not proposed any solution to the situation concerning Women's Rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. A delegate representing Turkmenistan may face the dilemma between wanting to ally with Russia's position and the classical position of Turkmenistan of neutrality pushing it towards abstention and dialogue.

Potential Blocks

Turkmenistan is geographically distant from the DRC, so no direct blocking role is apparent. Its close relations with Russia and Turkey could, in principle, create pressure to align with one of their diplomatic positions, but there is no evidence that this has influenced its stance on women's rights in the DRC.

[1] [Turkmenistan | Equal Future](#)

[2]

[Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women Session 1085](#)

[3]

[UNHCR Turkmenistan CEDAW](#)

[4]





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[The silent crisis: Abortion and reproductive rights in Turkmenistan | Eurasianet](#)

[5]

[Diplomatic relations Turkmenistan | UN Mission](#)

