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## 1. BACKGROUND OF THE BARAN TURSUN FOUNDATION

### 1.1 Baran Tursun (Who is he?)

Baran Tursun is a 20-year-old university student.

, while driving home after a birthday celebration with friends at a cafe in Alsancak, İzmir , Baran Tursun passed by police officers waiting on the roadside. As he drove away, the police flashed their headlights at him. This flashing of headlights from a distance of 250 meters is recorded in court documents as **"Baran Tursun was given a stop warning ."** The press ran headlines asking , **" Is this how a stop warning is given?"** [https://barantursunvakfi.org/Basin\\_Medya/](https://barantursunvakfi.org/Basin_Medya/)

Realizing that a stop order couldn't be given in this way, the suspect police officers concealed the shooting, destroyed evidence, and fabricated false evidence to make it look like a traffic accident, and then prepared a **'Traffic Accident Report' at the scene .** (Court records)

Baran, who was believed to be dead, was handed over to the hospital by the police as a **" citizen involved in a traffic accident,"** and the police and emergency room doctor, Özgür Ç., prepared a **"Traffic Accident Report ."** (Court records)  
Emergency room doctors revive Baran by performing CPR on his heart, causing it to beat again. A brain scan is then performed, revealing a gunshot wound to Baran's head. The police's attempts to conceal the shooting end after the discovery of the bullet. The presence of a bullet belonging to a police officer in the scan reveals that the Baran Tursun incident was not a traffic accident, but a murder committed by the police.

### **Mehmet Tursun is the only father in the world who "thanked" his son's killer.**

The police officers who shot Baran, unaware of the bullet found in his brain scan, informed Baran's family that same night.

**"Baran had an accident, we rushed him to the hospital, unfortunately..."** they said.

Baran's father touched the killer policeman's shoulder and said , **"You undoubtedly did everything you could, thank you."**

**The Trial Process:** Turkish courts acquitted 11 police officers who concealed the shooting, falsified a traffic accident report, destroyed evidence, and gave perjured testimony, while finding a 2-year sentence sufficient for police officer **Oral Emre Atar**, who killed Baran, and closed the case.

## 2. BARAN TURSUN FOUNDATION

### 2.1. Establishment

**The Baran Tursun Foundation** was established in Izmir in 2010 with the aim of protecting life , reducing violations of the right to life, improving human rights, and strengthening the culture of freedom, democracy , peace, and coexistence .

. <https://barantursunvakfi.org/>

### 2.2. Reason for Establishment

The foundation was established in an environment where ill-treatment, violence, and violations of the right to life by law enforcement are normalized, and where policies of impunity, retaliation, and silencing are widespread. The goal was to guide victims and their families in accessing justice, advocate for their rights, draw public attention to these issues, and prevent similar cases from occurring in the future, driven by a search for a strong NGO.

aims to create **a systemic transformation** in Turkey in the areas of the right to life, the rule of law, transparent security policies, and strengthening victim support mechanisms .

The foundation has transformed from a focus solely on Baran Tursun's case into a broad, national and international rights-based struggle organization aimed at raising awareness of violations of the right to life perpetrated by law enforcement in both public and private settings in Turkey, as well as the injustices suffered by individuals and groups subjected to discrimination and exclusion. Its goal is to strengthen **a culture of freedom, democracy, peace, and solidarity** .

### 2.3. Struggle Organization

- Making visible and discussing in society the human rights violations caused by state forces.
- Providing guidance, legal, rehabilitation, and adaptation support to individuals and groups who experience discrimination, exclusion, and institutional violence in both indoor and outdoor settings as they seek justice.
- Developing and contributing to policy recommendations that will prevent the recurrence of human rights violations.
- Monitoring, reporting, and advocating for solutions to arbitrary actions by security forces.
- The loss of Baran Tursun should become a part of the collective memory to prevent similar incidents.

### 3. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

The Baran Tursun Foundation's corporate policy is to carry out its work in the areas of fundamental human rights, the right to life, access to justice, and social peace through 10 policies that are transparent, consistent, and sustainable to all stakeholders.

#### 3.1. Fundamental Principles

- Commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Unconditional respect for the right to life.
- Children, youth, and adults have equal value.
- Transparency and accountability
- Anti-discrimination
- Data and evidence-based work
- Social peace and coexistence approach

#### 3.2. Management Structure

- Board of Trustees
- Board of Directors
- Monitoring and Reporting Unit
- Legal Support Unit
- Psychosocial Support Unit
- Child and Youth Programs Unit
- Advocacy and Policy Development Unit
- Communications and Media Team

#### 3.3. Child and Youth Protection Policy

- The principle of "the best interests of the child" is applied in all activities.
- When handling images of children, consent, privacy, safety, and ethical considerations are taken into account.
- Children actively participate in decision-making processes.

#### 3.4. Risk Management Policy

- Conducting risk analysis for field operations to assess security risks.
- Protecting the privacy of victims and witnesses.

- Data security policy and secure digital infrastructure.
- Maintaining a rights-based and independent stance in NGO-public relations.

### 3.5. Corporate Sustainability Policy

- Multi-source funding strategy (EU, UN, foundations, individual donations).
- Creating volunteer and youth networks.

### 3.6. Gender Equality Policy

- The foundation's policy is based on equal representation and equal pay.
- Ensuring equal participation of women and LGBTQ+ youth in the processes.

### 3.7. Environmental Sustainability Policy

- A paperless office approach.
- Low-carbon transportation preferences for intercity travel.
- Waste reduction and recycling at events.

### 3.8. Communication Policy

- Rights-based language use in all publications.
- Providing accurate, verifiable, and ethical information in media relations.
- Emotional exploitation of victimized families and children should be avoided.
- Implementing the principles of transparent digital communication and open data.

### 3.9. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Policy

- LogFrame for all projects .
- Establishing performance indicators (KPIs) and measurable outcomes.
- Annual impact assessment report.
- A regular feedback mechanism with young people, families, and stakeholders.

### 3.10. Code of Ethics and Accountability Policy

- cooperate with individuals or organizations that advocate torture, ill-treatment, discrimination, or hatred .
- The foundation is not the backyard of any political party; all its work is independent and based on rights.
- All donations and funds are shared transparently with the public.

## 4. CORPORATE FOCUS OF ACTIVITY

The Baran Tursun Foundation carries out its activities along five main axes:

### 4.1. Evidence-Based Monitoring Data Collection and Reporting

- A systematic record of cases of law enforcement violence, arbitrary detention, ill-treatment, and the use of deadly force.
- Standardized case tracking forms and the use of a secure database.
- Preparing regular reports to be shared with national and international institutions.

### 4.2. Legal and Psychosocial Support

- Free legal advice and guidance for victimized families.
- Psychological first aid, trauma support, grief counseling.

### 4.3. Advocacy and Policy Development

- Advocacy through the Turkish Grand National Assembly, ministries, human rights organizations, and international mechanisms.
- Preparing proposals that will contribute to the rights-based transformation of public policies.

### 4.4. Training and Capacity Development

- Human rights training for young people, NGOs, lawyers, and educators.
- Developing training models for security forces to prevent human rights violations.

### 4.5. Awareness Activities

- Commemorative programs, campaigns, media work, interviews.
- Strengthening social movements on the issues of the right to life, social peace, and a culture of justice.

## 5. STRATEGIC ROADMAP

### **5.1. Mission**

The Baran Tursun Foundation is an independent civil society organization established to prevent violations of the right to life, strengthen access to justice, and increase accountability in the use of public power. The foundation's core mission can be summarized under the following headings.

#### **5.1.1. Protection of the Right to Life**

- Preventing law enforcement violence and arbitrary use of force.
- Advocating for law enforcement to act in a lawful, transparent, and accountable manner.

#### **5.1.2. Support for Victims and Their Families**

- To the families of those who lost their lives or were injured as a result of police violence, unsolved cases, or unlawful use of force:
  - Legal advice
  - Psychosocial support
  - Providing guidance in access to justice processes.

#### **5.1.3. Monitoring and Reporting Human Rights Violations**

- To document violations of the right to life associated with law enforcement.
- To make violations visible.
- To provide regular reporting to national and international mechanisms.

#### **5.1.4. Development of Rights-Based Security Policies**

- Supporting internal security reforms based on human rights norms.
- Advocating for strengthening democratic oversight, transparency, and accountability mechanisms.

#### **5.1.5. Promoting a Culture of Social Peace and Justice**

- Young people, families, and society in general:
- A sense of justice

- culture of living together
- To conduct training, workshops, and activities aimed at raising awareness of rights.

#### 5.1.6. Short-Term Goals

- Strengthening the monitoring and database system.
- Expanding support centers for victimized families.
- Development of youth rights programs

#### 5.1.7. Medium-Term Objectives

- Supporting the alignment of law enforcement policies with human rights.
- Increasing cooperation between NGOs, bar associations, and academia.
- Establishing human rights violation monitoring networks in different cities

#### 5.1.8. Long-Term Goals

- Contributing to structural security reform.
- Making rights-based public policies permanent.
- To contribute to guaranteeing the right to life in Türkiye.

### 5.2. Vision

**The vision of the Baran Tursun Foundation** is to create a society where everyone's right to life is guaranteed, law enforcement agencies are accountable, transparent, and operate in accordance with human rights; and where justice, equality, and social peace are strengthened.

The foundation's long-term goal is;

- **Where violations of the right to life have been eliminated ,**
- **Human rights-based security policies are established** in all state institutions ,
- **Victim families can access justice quickly and effectively .**
- **Young people, children and adults are aware of their rights ,**
- **Our vision is to see a country and a world where nonviolent communication and a culture of peace are widespread** in all segments of society .



includes **leading the creation of a human rights monitoring and advocacy ecosystem** that is independent, impartial, and based on scientific data, while adhering to international standards.

#### 5.2.1. Our Operating Principles

- Full commitment to human rights.
- Transparency and accountability
- Anti-discrimination
- Sensitivity to children's and youth rights.
- Independent and impartial stance
- Data and evidence-based work

#### 5.2.2. Why Do We Exist?

- Making discrimination, exclusion, and violations of the right to life visible.
- Preventing law enforcement violence and arbitrary use of force.
- Supporting families who experience injustice.
- Strengthening justice, security and a culture of coexistence.

#### 5.2.3. Our Program Areas

- **1. Monitoring and Reporting**  
Data collection, analysis, and annual reports on human rights violations.
- **2. Legal and Psychosocial Support**  
Free legal guidance and trauma support for victim families.
- **3. Advocacy and Policy Change**  
Working with the Turkish Grand National Assembly, local governments, human rights organizations, and UN mechanisms.
- **4. Education and Youth Programs**  
Rights-based youth work, capacity building, workshops.
- **5. Social Awareness**  
Campaigns, panels, media work, and educational materials.

#### 5.2.4. Our Areas of Influence

- More visible human rights violations
- Stronger victim families
- Increasing young people's awareness of their rights and advocacy capacity
- Policy recommendations for public institutions

A culture of accountability within the security forces.

### **5.2.5. Our Activities for Establishing Connections and Developing Relationships with Civil Society Organizations**

collaboration , partnership, and joint activities with civil society actors and organizations such as networks/platforms and initiatives , and advocate for improvement, innovation, development, and transformation.

## 6. TARGET AUDIENCE

### 6.1. Scope of the Target Audience

The scope generally includes individuals and families who are subjected to mistreatment and violations of their right to life by law enforcement while walking, strolling, going to school or work, sitting in a park, or going about their normal daily lives.

These violations occurred despite the absence of any violence or assault against law enforcement officers, any armed action against state authority, and no threat to the life or property of others relating to public law.

### 6.2. Target Audience of the Baran Tursun Foundation

The target audience of the Baran Tursun Foundation consists of individuals directly affected by discrimination, exclusion, ill-treatment, and violations of the right to life; institutions that play a role in preventing these violations; and actors who can contribute to building a rights-based society.

#### Primary Target Audience (Directly Targeted Groups)

- Individuals and families whose right to life has been violated as a result of law enforcement interventions.
- People who have been subjected to police violence, disproportionate use of force, torture and ill-treatment.
- Victims and their relatives who experience difficulties in accessing justice due to these violations.

The foundation's legal support, monitoring, reporting, and advocacy work primarily targets these groups.

#### Secondary Target Audience (Groups Intended for Empowerment)

- **Children and young people**, especially those with low awareness of their rights and who are exposed to discrimination or exclusion.

**Civil society organizations** working in the fields of human rights, the right to life, and a culture of peace.

- **Media workers and journalists** who play a role in making human rights violations visible.

Training, capacity-building, and awareness-raising activities are carried out for these groups.

### **Third Target Audience (Political and Social Influence Sphere)**

- Law enforcement and public institutions
- Local and central governments
- Bar associations, lawyers, and relevant actors in the justice system
- Rights-based NGOs

The foundation's advocacy and policy recommendations aim to help these actors develop human rights-based practices.

### **4. General Assessment**

The target audience of the Baran Tursun Foundation is;

- Addressing the grievances,
- Prevention of human rights violations,
- It has been determined through a multi-layered and inclusive approach with the aim of establishing an accountable and transparent security system .

This approach serves the foundation's goals of both direct support and long-term social transformation.

## 7. BENEFICIARIES

Groups that directly and indirectly benefit from the activities of the Baran Tursun Foundation are defined as follows, according to their needs in the areas of human rights, the right to life, access to justice, and social peace:

### 1. Direct Beneficiaries

#### 1.1 Families Who Lost Relatives or Suffered Human Rights Violations as a Result of Law Enforcement Interventions

- Families of those who have suffered violations of the right to life during law enforcement or gendarmerie interventions
- Individuals and their relatives who were injured or suffered harm as a result of the intervention of security forces.
- These families benefit from legal counseling, psychosocial support, and access to justice services.

#### 1.2 Children and Young People

- Young people participating in training in the fields of human rights, children's rights and nonviolent communication.
- Children and young people from diverse ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds who experience discrimination, hate speech, or exclusion.
- Those involved in youth workshops, rights education programs, advocacy training, and participation mechanisms.

#### 1.3 Civil Society Organizations and Human Rights Advocates

- NGOs working in the areas of right to life, police violence, human rights monitoring and reporting.
- Organizations that utilize capacity-building training, policy recommendations, and field data.
- Local and national NGOs participating in joint advocacy activities

## 2. Indirect Beneficiaries

### 2.1 Local and National Public Institutions

- Law enforcement agencies, municipalities, governorates, youth centers, bar associations
- They utilize data, reports, and policy recommendations produced to develop human rights-based practices.

### 2.2 Educational Institutions

- Universities, law schools, social work departments
- They benefit from research prepared in the areas of youth rights, access to justice, and police violence.

### 2.3 Media Professionals

- Journalists who are informed by having access to accurate terminology, data, and reports on human rights violations.
- Media organizations with a strengthened capacity to make human rights violations visible.

### 2.4 General Society

- a broad segment of society with increased awareness of the right to life, and a strengthened democratic culture and understanding of peaceful coexistence
- Individuals with increased awareness of their rights and developed sensitivity to violence.

## 3. The Ultimate Beneficiaries

**All citizens living within a fair, transparent and accountable security system.**

The foundation's monitoring, reporting, advocacy, and education activities benefit all members of society in the long term:

- To enable him to live a safer life,
- To protect against human rights violations,

It aims to contribute to increasing the accountability of state bodies .

NOTES