

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 409

Requesting information on Turkey's human rights practices in Syria pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 6, 2019

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Requesting information on Turkey's human rights practices in Syria pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

1       *Resolved,*

2       **SECTION 1. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON TURKEY'S**

3                       **HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES IN SYRIA.**

4           (a) STATEMENT REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days  
5 after the date of the adoption of this resolution, the Sec-  
6 retary of State shall, pursuant to section 502B(c) of the  
7 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(c)),  
8 transmit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
9 Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
10 House of Representatives a statement, prepared with the

1 assistance of the Assistant Secretary of State for Democ-  
2 racy, Human Rights, and Labor and the Office of the  
3 Legal Adviser, with respect to Turkey.

4 (b) ELEMENTS.—The statement submitted under  
5 subsection (a) shall include the following elements:

6 (1) All available credible information concerning  
7 alleged violations of internationally recognized  
8 human rights by the Government of Turkey, its  
9 armed forces, and associated groups and persons, in-  
10 cluding the denial of the right to life in the context  
11 of their activities in Syria caused by indiscriminate  
12 or disproportionate operations, the infliction of civil-  
13 ian casualties, and the displacement of civilian popu-  
14 lations.

15 (2) A description of the steps the United States  
16 Government has taken—

17 (A) to promote respect for and observance  
18 of human rights as part of Turkey's activities  
19 in Syria and discourage any practices that are  
20 inimical to internationally recognized human  
21 rights; and

22 (B) to publicly or privately call attention  
23 to, and disassociate the United States and any  
24 security assistance provided for Turkey from,  
25 such practices.

1           (3) An assessment, notwithstanding any such  
2 practices, whether extraordinary circumstances exist  
3 that necessitate a continuation of security assistance  
4 for Turkey and, if so, a description of the cir-  
5 cumstances and the extent to which the assistance  
6 should be continued (subject to such conditions as  
7 Congress may impose under section 502B of the  
8 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304)).

9           (4) Other information, including—

10           (A) an assessment from the Secretary of  
11 State of the likelihood that United States secu-  
12 rity assistance, as defined in section 502B(d) of  
13 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
14 2304(d)), has been and will be used in Syria;

15           (B) a description of the extent to which  
16 the activities of the Government of Turkey, its  
17 armed forces, and associated groups or persons  
18 have—

19           (i) caused, assisted, or resulted in the  
20 release of ISIS fighters, supporters, and  
21 other extremists from detention; or

22           (ii) promoted conditions that support,  
23 assist or have resulted or could result in a  
24 strengthening of the military capabilities of  
25 such fighters and extremists within Syria,

1 including the practical control over terri-  
2 tory;

3 (C) a description of the extent to which  
4 such strengthening of such capabilities of ISIS  
5 and other extremist groups and persons could  
6 increase the threat to the United States, United  
7 States citizens, and United States interests,  
8 both in the United States and abroad;

9 (D) a description of efforts by the Sec-  
10 retary of State and other United States officials  
11 to persuade the Government of Turkey to cease  
12 its activities in Syria and commitments to sup-  
13 port United States and multilateral efforts to  
14 comprehensively defeat ISIS within Syria;

15 (E) a determination whether Turkey's pur-  
16 chase and acceptance of delivery of the S-400  
17 missile system from the Russian Federation  
18 constitutes a "significant transaction" pursuant  
19 to section 231 of the Countering America's Ad-  
20 versaries Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C.  
21 9525);

22 (F) a description of any actions by the  
23 Government of Turkey to forcibly repatriate  
24 Syrian refugees; and

1                   (G) an assessment of whether the Govern-  
2                   ment of Turkey is blocking humanitarian aid  
3                   from reaching communities in need of assist-  
4                   ance in northeast Syria.

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