

Record of the Visit and Institutional Engagement

of His Excellency Mr. Kadir Özkaya President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Türkiye with the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan

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Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan.

The Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan had the distinct honour of hosting a high-level delegation led by Mr. Kadir Özkaya, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Türkiye, on 7th April, 2026. The visit constituted a significant milestone in strengthening judicial diplomacy, enhancing institutional dialogue, and fostering structured cooperation between the two constitutional courts.



The esteemed Turkish delegation comprised Mr. Recai Akyel (Justice), Mr. Rıdvan Güleç (Justice), Dr. Abdullah Çelik (Chief Rapporteur-Judge), Ms. Gizem Ceren Demir Koşar, Ms. Sümeyye Kocaman, Ms. Özge Ulukaya (Rapporteur-Judges), Mr. Murat Azaklı (Secretary General), and Mr. Ahmet Durmaz (Security Officer). The delegation was accompanied by H.E. Ambassador İrfan Neziroğlu, along with senior diplomatic officials.



The delegation was formally received at 1:00 PM at the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan by Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan Yaya Afridi, Mr. Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi, and Mr. Muhammad Hafeez Ullah Khan, Registrar, Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan, along with protocol officials.

Composition of the Pakistani Delegation

The proceedings were attended by:

- **Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan**
- **Mr. Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi**

- **Mr. Justice Aamer Farooq**
- **Mr. Justice Ali Baqar Najafi**
- **Mr. Justice Muhammad Karim Khan Agha**
- **Mr. Justice Rozi Khan Barrech**
- **Mr. Justice Syed Arshad Hussain Shah**



Also present were:

- **Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Sardar Muhammad Sarfarz Dogar, Islamabad High Court.**
- **Mr. Mansoor Usman Awan, attorney General for Pakistan.**
- **Mr. Azam Nazeer Tarar, Federal Minister for Law and Justice**
- **Barrister Aqeel Malik, Minister of State for Law and Justice.**
- **Mr. Muhammad Hafeez Ullah Khan, Registrar, Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan**
- Senior officers and officials



Proceedings of the Meeting

Following the formal reception, the delegation proceeded to the Hon'ble Chief Justice's Chamber at 1:05 PM, where a comprehensive and structured interaction was held.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice welcomed the delegation and highlighted that the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan, comprising a total of seven judges, is functioning with a specialized mandate to adjudicate constitutional matters and to strengthen constitutional governance within the country.

A documentary presentation at 1:12 PM provided an overview of the Court's institutional evolution, jurisdictional framework, and its emerging role within Pakistan's constitutional architecture.



Discussion on Constitutional Court & Institutional Collaboration (Principal Highlight)

A central and substantive focus of the engagement remained the development of the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan and prospects for structured bilateral collaboration.

The Hon'ble President of the Constitutional Court of Türkiye expressed his willingness to host a Pakistani delegation in Türkiye, emphasizing that meaningful cooperation must be anchored in clearly defined institutional objectives. He observed that Federal Constitutional Court should articulate its mission, operational priorities, and constitutional mandate, upon which Türkiye would extend targeted and technical assistance.

In response, Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan underscored that Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan is already advancing towards a purely constitutional adjudicatory framework, with emphasis on constitutional specialization, categorization of cases, and institutional strengthening. His Lordship expressed a clear intent to formalize cooperation through

a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), recognizing the value of Türkiye's experience in this domain.

It was further emphasized by Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan that a key prerequisite for effective functioning lies in the clear delineation of jurisdiction between the Supreme Court of Pakistan and the Federal Constitutional Court. In this regard, it was noted that the Supreme Court would continue to function as an appellate forum for subordinate courts, while the Constitutional Court would focus on specialized constitutional questions.

The Hon'ble President highlighted that once institutional parameters and responsibilities are clearly defined, Türkiye would be in a position to assist on specific areas of reform, and both sides would benefit from a structured framework of cooperation. He further emphasized the importance of establishing a sustainable system for collaboration, enabling continuity in institutional engagement.

Both sides agreed upon the necessity of continuous interaction, coordinated engagement, and prior preparation, with the Hon'ble President stressing that any future visit to Türkiye should be undertaken with full institutional clarity. The Hon'ble Chief Justice assured that all necessary groundwork and documentation would be completed in advance.

Exchange of Gifts and Cultural Diplomacy

At 1:15 PM, a formal exchange of gifts took place, symbolizing goodwill, respect, and cultural diplomacy.

On behalf of Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan Pakistan, the Hon'ble President was presented with a Hunza gemstone encased in a silver box, accompanied by an authentication card, reflecting Pakistan's natural heritage, along with a Markhor-themed decorative piece, commemorative shield, and official souvenirs. The Hon'ble President graciously acknowledged the gesture and expressed appreciation.



Members of the Turkish delegation were presented with commemorative shields, gemstone sets, diaries, calendars, and souvenir bags, distributed by the Hon'ble Judges including Mr. Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi and Mr. Justice Aamer Farooq.

In reciprocation, the Hon'ble President presented a handcrafted pure silver Turkish coffee set, originating from his home city, as a distinguished cultural gift for the family of the Hon'ble Chief Justice, along with traditional Turkish tea, symbolizing warmth, hospitality, and enduring friendship between the two nations.



Luncheon and Informal Engagement (Concluded at 1:47 PM)

A luncheon was hosted in honour of the delegation, attended by all participants. The interaction reflected warmth, mutual respect, and cultural affinity.

The Hon'ble President expressed his sincere appreciation for the warm hospitality extended by Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan, and remarked upon the richness and diversity of Pakistani cuisine, acknowledging the generosity and cultural depth of Pakistani traditions. In a lighter vein, the Hon'ble President observed that during official visits to certain regions, particularly in parts of Africa, it often becomes challenging to adapt to local cuisine; however, on this occasion, the delegation thoroughly enjoyed the culinary experience in Pakistan. Adding to the cordial atmosphere, Mr. Rıdvan Güleç, Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Türkiye, humorously remarked that *"if you truly care for us, do not offer us more food,"* reflecting the abundance and warmth of the hospitality extended.



The Hon'ble President further shared a traditional Turkish saying that rainfall is regarded as a sign of blessing and goodwill, noting that the day's rain symbolized auspicious beginnings. He observed that commencing the engagement with sweets was particularly meaningful, as it reflected a positive and prosperous start to institutional collaboration. In response, the Hon'ble Chief Justice emphasized the shared identity of both nations as brotherly Muslim countries, expressing confidence that the evolving cooperation between the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan and the Constitutional Court of Türkiye would prove to be constructive, enduring, and mutually beneficial. The exchange was marked by warmth, mutual respect, and a deep sense of cultural and institutional affinity between the participants.

Institutional and Regional Cooperation

The dialogue further extended to regional and multilateral cooperation among constitutional **courts**, particularly within Islamic jurisdictions, reflecting a shared commitment to strengthening constitutional governance through collective engagement and knowledge exchange.

During the course of discussion, the Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan apprised the delegation of the institutional structure of the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan, highlighting that the Registrar serves as the administrative head of the institution, thereby ensuring effective coordination, management, and operational continuity within the Court.

The Hon'ble President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Türkiye shared valuable insights into Türkiye's established framework of judicial cooperation, noting that the Turkish Constitutional Court maintains active and structured collaboration with the constitutional courts of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. He further observed that Azerbaijan, being at a developmental stage comparable to Pakistan, has also demonstrated a keen interest in fostering institutional linkages and participating in collaborative initiatives.

In this context, the Hon'ble President extended a formal and gracious invitation to the Hon'ble Chief Justice and his esteemed team to visit Türkiye, emphasizing the importance of direct institutional engagement, exchange of expertise, and sustained judicial dialogue. He underscored that such interaction would provide an opportunity to develop a practical and structured framework for cooperation, enabling both institutions to work closely on identified areas of constitutional development.

It was further noted that an upcoming international engagement scheduled in July 2026 would bring together constitutional courts and apex courts from various Islamic jurisdictions. The

Pakistani side expressed its keen interest in becoming an active participant in such multilateral forums, recognizing their significance in advancing comparative constitutional jurisprudence and institutional cooperation. The Turkish side welcomed this interest and encouraged Pakistan to actively engage, prepare, and integrate into these collaborative platforms, reaffirming its support for Pakistan's evolving constitutional court system.

Tea Session and Informal Exchanges

During the tea session, discussions extended beyond judicial matters to areas of cultural and economic cooperation. It was noted that while Pakistani tea is sourced from Sri Lanka, Turkish tea originating from the Hon'ble President's region holds distinctive cultural value.

The Federal Minister for Law and Justice highlighted potential collaboration in agriculture and regional development, particularly in areas such as Naran and Kaghan, and noted the popularity of Turkish tea within Pakistan.

The Minister further observed that Türkiye's judicial system has evolved into a balanced and structured model, offering valuable lessons for institutional reform. Mr. Justice Ali Baqar Najafi remarked that beyond symbolic similarities, both countries share deeper institutional and cultural commonalities.

Closing Observations and Way Forward

In his concluding remarks, the Hon'ble President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Türkiye expressed his sincere appreciation for the invitation extended to him and his delegation, as well as for the warm and gracious hospitality accorded by the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan. He commended the depth of engagement, the quality of discussions, and the spirit of cooperation that characterized the visit.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan reciprocated these sentiments, observing that it was a distinct honour to host a delegation from a brotherly Muslim country and reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to strengthening institutional linkages and advancing constitutional dialogue between the two Courts in a meaningful and sustained manner.



At approximately 2:13 PM, the proceedings formally drew to a close with concluding ceremonial interactions. The Attorney General for Pakistan appreciated the constructive and forward-looking nature of the engagement, while the Federal Minister for Law and Justice underscored the importance of continued collaboration and active participation in the evolving work of the Constitutional Court.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice noted that Pakistan has derived valuable insights from the experience of the Constitutional Court of Türkiye and emphasized that avenues of communication would remain open beyond formal engagements to ensure continuity of institutional coordination. He further observed that the establishment and functioning of the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan reflects a collective institutional endeavour undertaken with dedication and resolve, even at its formative stage, and acknowledged the support extended by Mr. Azam Nazeer Tarar, Federal Minister for Law and Justice. Lastly, the documentary presentation, including its Turkish-language component, was appreciated by the Attorney General for Pakistan and the Federal Minister for Law and Justice, who noted the effort made to ensure meaningful engagement of the visiting delegation.

A group photograph was taken to commemorate the visit, reflecting the shared commitment of both institutions towards constitutional governance, judicial cooperation, and continued engagement.



The Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan, Chief Justice of the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan, further placed on record his deep appreciation for the staff and officers of the Federal Constitutional Court of Pakistan, acknowledging their diligence, professionalism, and coordinated efforts in ensuring the seamless organization and successful conduct of the visit.