



PERMANENT MISSION OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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The Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations-Office of Legal Affairs and with regard to the latter's Note Verbale LA/COD/4 of 29 June 2018, concerning a request of information under paragraph 10(b) of resolution 71/145, has the honor to convey hereafter the elements provided by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Questions related to the security of Diplomatic and Consular Missions in Italy are handled by the relevant national Authorities, in consultation with the Diplomatic Protocol. ~~The merits and needs of each situation are assessed on a case-by-case basis.~~ Communications from accredited diplomatic offices are monitored 24/7 by the Diplomatic Protocol, in close coordination with the competent domestic Authorities at national and local level, so as to swiftly ensure appropriate responses in constant contact with the concerned diplomatic or consular mission.

With regard to the events referred to in the above mentioned Note Verbale and its attachment, the following information is provided.

(1) As for the 20 January 2018 episode regarding the Embassy of Turkey, it is worth noting that already on 18 January the Diplomatic Protocol informed the Interior Ministry that the said Embassy had expressed concerns over possible attacks on their offices, requesting increased security. Police Headquarters in Rome promptly issued instructions to strengthen vigilance and security around potential Turkish targets in Rome, to prevent that protests in front of them could grow out of control. As reported in the attachment to the Secretariat Note Verbale, protesters were not allowed to approach the Turkish Embassy building.

(2) With regard to the 14 March episode concerning the Honorary Consulate in Venice, the Diplomatic Protocol, upon receipt of communication from the Turkish Embassy, immediately informed the Police Headquarters and the Prefecture of Venice, as well as the Interior Ministry. According to the latter "about 20 people had entered the offices of the Honorary Consulate to protest some policies of the Turkish Government. Police officers were immediately dispatched to the scene and the situation was kept under control. The activists left the offices and no acts of violence against persons are known to have been committed". Investigations are currently underway to identify the culprits. The Honorary Consul of Turkey and the Turkish Embassy in Rome were duly and promptly informed.

*United Nations Secretariat
Office of Legal Affairs
Codification Division
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(3) With regard to the 23 March episode, as soon as the Turkish Embassy informed the Diplomatic Protocol that 15 demonstrators wanted to chain themselves to the gates, the Diplomatic Protocol contacted the Ministry of the Interior. The said Ministry reported that following an intervention by the Police approximately 20 protesters were in the process of leaving the premises and that the chains had been removed.

The three reported episodes were promptly addressed, and any further activity directed against the relevant diplomatic and consular missions was effectively prevented.

The Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations seizes this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the United Nations-Office of Legal Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration. *WJ*



New York, **AUG 16 2018**